

SPEECH-LANGUAGE THERAPY

Professional Services for Kids and Teens



Get professional help as early as possible

When kids have speech impediments, they know it. Kids who talk differently from other children know they do, and this erodes their confidence. When it comes to the classic issues (lispings, turning Rs into Ws, stuttering) speech-language therapy will significantly improve your child's ability to communicate and boost their self-confidence.

The classic issues may be cute at five and younger, but at 10, they're not—they're problems. The earlier children receive speech therapy, the greater the probability of success.

FOR CHILDREN 5 AND OLDER, SPEECH SCREENINGS ARE FREE

We urge parents who suspect their child has a speech or language delay to schedule a speech screening as soon as possible. Call 708-599-9500 to schedule a screening for your child.

There's the usual advice you've received—from relatives, friends, anyone with an opinion—which suggests that your daughter is likely a late bloomer. She'll grow out of it.

Even so, you still wonder, Does my child need help? Is my child normal, or is there a problem?

You know your child better than anyone

If you have a concern, act on it. Seek help for your child. Why risk your child's intellectual and social development?

For example, suppose your child is having difficulty socializing. In that case, it might be a speech issue getting in the way. A speech screening will confirm whether this is the case. If it is, speech therapy will improve their communication skills and build self-confidence.

Speech therapy is challenging fun

Speech therapists design their sessions to be fun, devising therapeutic progressions that challenge children without frustrating them. Kids look forward to therapy because they're engaged and carefully guided by their therapist with positive reinforcement.

It's more difficult for adults, however. The passage of time makes it harder to respond to the demands of speech therapy. In other words, the earlier children get professional help, the better.

You are doing your child an enormous service by enrolling them in speech therapy as early as possible. It is when the neurological pathways associated with speech and language are the most responsive to treatment. Therefore, it is far more likely speech therapy will have lasting value.

Avoid irreversible, intellectual and social costs

Who wants to admit that their child has a speech issue? We understand. But when you do, you're taking a vital step for your child not only for success and happiness today but in the future too.

Speech therapy works

It increases kids' confidence, which increases their success in school and their ability to socialize with peers. And it gives children the tools they need to manage their speech issues for the rest of their lives.

We are experts in diagnosing and treating

- Speech and language delays or impairments
- Articulation and phonological disorders
- Autism spectrum
- Developmental delays
- Stuttering
- Brain injuries
- Swallowing, feeding impairments
- Voice disorders

Visit us at sertomacenter.org

Learn more about our professional services for speech and hearing disorders and get turn-by-turn directions to our Crest Hill and Palos Hills IL offices..

Sertoma Speech & Hearing Centers is a 501 (c)(3) nonprofit dedicated to communication healthcare since 1978.

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SPEECH-LANGUAGE THERAPY

Professional Services for Adults



Communication, vital for success in life

Adults unable to communicate their thoughts and feelings accurately experience high frustration and anxiety. Imagine all the standard transactions of daily living that require spoken language. If you or a loved one is having difficulty with speech, you understand this challenge.

Our speech-language pathologists have the skills and patience to improve adults' speech and language abilities, increasing their confidence and communication effectiveness.

SPEECH-LANGUAGE SCREENINGS ARE FREE

If you are concerned about the speech problems of a loved one or yourself, call 708-599-9500 to schedule a free, speech-language screening (21 and older) with a speech-language pathologist.

Our speech-language pathologists are experts at diagnosing and treating

APHASIA—an impairment of language, affecting the production or comprehension of speech and the ability to read or write.

APRAXIA—the loss of previously acquired speech skills. Apraxia describes a wide range of medical conditions involving the inability to perform complex movements.

DYSARTHRIA—problem with the muscles that help produce speech, making it very difficult to pronounce words.

Dysarthria occurs when the part of the brain that controls speech production is damaged. When this happens, the muscles needed to make certain sounds may become weak or paralyzed.

FLUENCY DISORDERS—interruptions in the flow of speech characterized by an unusual rate or rhythm of speech, hesitations, repetition of sounds or words, or prolongations of nouns, syllables, words, or phrases.

ARTICULATION DISORDERS—difficulty with the way sounds are formed and as-

sembled, often characterized by omitting, adding, substituting, or distorting sounds.

VOICE DISORDERS—vocal quality, pitch, loudness, resonance, or duration which is inappropriate for an individual's age or gender, or both.

DEMENTIA—broad category describing the loss of cognitive ability (Alzheimer's disease is the most common, about 75% of total dementia patients).

STUTTERING—is the condition in which the flow of speech is broken by abnormal pauses (no sound), repetitions (st-st-stuttering), or prolongations (sssstuttering) of sounds and syllables.

SWALLOWING IMPAIRMENT (dysphagia)—difficulty swallowing is a condition with many different causes. This condition can have an enormous impact on quality of life. For people who can't take in enough calories and fluids to nourish the body and maintain a healthy weight, dysphasia can be a severe challenge.

TRAUMATIC BRAIN INJURIES—devastating and complex condition with wide variations in both severity and types of trauma to the brain. Speech-language

therapy is an essential element of multidisciplinary rehabilitation plans.

Help for Parkinson Disease

PD patients typically speak with a soft, muted voice that sounds mumbled and monotone. A hoarse voice is not unusual either. The most effective way to treat these problems is with speech therapy, specifically LSVT LOUD or SPEAK OUT!®. Medicine and surgery rarely help speech disorders.

Research-based and clinically proven, LSVT LOUD and SPEAK OUT! improve vocal loudness, facial expression, speech intelligibility, and communication confidence.

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