MHA Evaluation; Transforming CARES Therapy Clinic

Over the past few months the MHA students of MUSC have collaborated with the CARES Therapy Clinic and have taken us by storm with many evaluations of each separate committee and took meticulous care to analyze the distinct way the student committees run the CARES Therapy Clinic. At the end of this long process, the MHA students then were able to give us a presentation of their findings and their final evaluation of our effectiveness as a multi-professional student-run free clinic. They found that while most things ran fairly smoothly, the abnormally large CARES Therapy executive board led to the breakdown in communication and hampered efficiency. Many students commented that they are glad to have a formally trained MHA student offer their valuable feedback on the CARES process. While most the suggested changes need a systemic and procedural touch, some have already been put into effect by trying to limit the number of students who attend the large scale board meetings that occur each a month. All of the students contacted are eager to apply the needed changes and to make the clinic function more smoothly, especially as it gains steam and enters into this new realm of EMR. At the end of the day, the students all want to help people and which ever ways allow us to do that best are a must.
Clinician Spotlight
Kelley Williams

Where did you get your undergraduate/Master's degree?
Graduated from East Carolina University with bachelors in rehab studies and masters in OT

Did you always plan on being an OT/PT? If not, down which career path were you initially headed?
I knew I wanted to be an OT as early as 10th grade, but doing my senior project and shadowing an OT sealed the deal.

What made you want to become an OT/PT?
I initially wanted to work with children to help with overcoming developmental delays after shadowing an OT in the school system.

What drives you to be a better OT?
Knowing that the success of someone's future and their ultimate quality of life lies in my hands makes me strive to always be a better clinician and do what I can to always learn new techniques and strategies.

Why is CARES so important to you?
CARES gives me the ability to give back to the community and to provide students with a unique learning opportunity that I was not afforded when I was in grad school. It's such a great service!

Do you work in with other medical professions at your practice? How much do you value that interprofessional experience?
I work in a rehab setting with various other professionals including PTs, SLPs, case managers, physicians, dieticians and respiratory therapists. I value their experience and truly rely on their expertise both in
areas I’m not familiar with as well as those that I am. A second opinion is always good to have, particularly when it comes to treating individuals with various comorbidities.

**What area of your chosen profession particularly interests you?**

My passion is working with individuals after neurological events such as stroke or spinal cord injury. There is so much variety in the way patients with the same diagnosis can present, and each patient provides a unique challenge.

**What does a perfect day look like for Kelley Williams?**

A perfect day for me would be spent lying on the beach reading a good book or with family.

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**OT Student Spotlight**

Christine Harris

**Where did you get your undergraduate/Master's degree?**

University of Georgia

**Do you see yourself staying in Charleston after you graduate? If not, where are you headed?**

No; Atlanta, GA

**What made you want to become an OT?**

I babysat for a child when I was in high school who was born with a heart defect. The OT came to work with him one day while I was there. It was amazing to see a profession make such a difference in the quality of life for a child while the child was still having fun!

**What drives you to be a better OT?**

Every person has their own story and life that they want to live to the fullest. Each of these people/children deserve my best efforts to enjoy the things in life they love that I often take for granted.

**Why is CARES so important to you?**
I spend a majority of my time at MUSC and studying, but CARES allows me to take a step outside of my school world to spend time with the people in the community of Charleston. I love being able to be a part of and help the community in this way!

**What area of your chosen profession particularly interests you?**

I want to work in Pediatrics and more specifically, maybe the NICU one day!

**What does a perfect day look like for Christine Harris?**

A perfect day for me would include hiking up to the top of a mountain in a foreign country with my fiancé and then worshiping Jesus with a guitar and singing at the top!

**Did you always plan on being an OT? If not, down which career path were you initially headed?**

I initially wanted to be an early childhood education teacher, but later realized I wanted to teach in a different way. I wanted to teach/help children to do their day to day activities that allow them to be a kid!

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**PT Student Spotlight**

Lauren Moore

**Where did you get your undergraduate/Master's degree?**

Wofford College in Spartanburg, SC (Go Terriers!)

**Do you see yourself staying in Charleston after you graduate? If not, where are you headed?**

I enjoy living in Charleston (can't beat the beach) but may also look for jobs in the Upstate closer to family and friends.

**What made you want to become an PT?**

After shadowing various health professionals, I finally saw the light and the impact I could have on patient's life as a PT...helping patients get back to doing
an activity/function in their daily life can make all the difference in the world to them!

**What drives you to be a better PT?**

The patients and my professors...seeing the happiness on a patient’s face when they make improvements is rewarding, plus our professors are amazing motivators to make a difference in the health care field.

**Why is CARES so important to you?**

Being able to serve the Charleston community through CARES has been a great joy. The experience that I've gained prior to going on clinical rotations is invaluable. I love getting to know the patients and families and seeing the improvements that they make while in CARES. The work we do is truly making an impact on the community and patient's lives.

**What area of your chosen profession particularly interests you?**

I enjoy all areas of Physical Therapy so it's difficult to just choose one, but currently I am interested in working in an outpatient ortho/neuro setting (I'll probably change my mind tomorrow.)

**What does a perfect day look like for Lauren Moore?**

Sleep in, go to the beach, eat a burger or at Fuel with friends, walk outside to the Battery, maybe enjoy happy hour with some friends followed by a Netflix marathon

**Did you always plan on being an PT? If not, down which career path were you initially headed?**

I considered medical school and PA before deciding that PT was the career path for me