



A team approach.

Pediatric Therapy Services' Philosophy

Pediatric Therapy Services is currently a practice of **speech-language therapists** and **occupational therapists** all committed to an integrated team approach to healthy development in children. The foundations for this program began at the request of local pediatricians in 1985 as a pilot program for Los Gatos Community Hospital Rehabilitation Center. Christie Bacon, now our Director of Services, was hired to help develop the program within the speech-language department. Although the program grew and thrived, it was discontinued in 1989 due to the expansion of the adult rehab department. Dedicated to continuing the integration of speech/language and occupational therapies, Christie developed Pediatric Therapy Services in conjunction with her pediatric team in temporary office quarters at her home for 9 months. Since then, the team has steadily expanded in size and scope. Each therapist on staff has individual areas of expertise, enabling us to serve a broad based population of children. Pediatric Therapy Services has ties to the medical community as well as local school districts, allowing us to work closely with other professionals in order to best serve the needs of a child.

Pediatric Therapy Services' mission is to use the combined creative talents and energies of occupational and speech/language therapists to address each child's unique set of needs. Our team believes in building up weak areas by working through a child's strengths; making therapy fun. The following statements highlight our philosophy:

THERAPY IS A FUN PLACE TO BE. If therapy is fun, the child is involved and motivated; more progress is achieved and everyone views therapy as a positive process.

PARENTS AND CAREGIVERS ARE ACTIVE PARTICIPANTS. As such, they often observe or participate in the therapy session. Parent education and training are essential in order to maximize a child's progress. They are with the child all day, every day. When they utilize the same techniques we do, the child receives constant therapy and we find improved progress and carryover of skills.

PTS IS AN INTEGRATED TEAM EFFORT. The team includes anyone involved with the child (parents, nannies, extended family, teachers, physicians, psychologists, etc). Of particular significance is the unique approach PTS brings to the field of pediatrics, by combining speech-language therapy and occupational therapy into one practice. Many of our clients require both services, although the initial referral may be for one discipline. Children with significant articulation and/or language delays, for example, often exhibit deficits in sensory integration. When occupational therapy addresses these difficulties, speech therapy gains from the effects and more rapid progress is achieved.