

**Thursday Integrated Pediatric Therapy Volunteer Job Description**

**Purpose:** To help with a preschool readiness and socialization group for children who may have difficulties communicating, following a group plan, and socializing with peers. Due to the nature of the struggles these children are dealing with, they tend to have a lot of energy and are building up skills necessary for positive interactions with others. While families are working on separating, parents will be outside the room in case of emergencies but will not be within the room while activities are taking place.

**Site & Time:**

- Takes place at the Abe and Ida Cooper Center at 6639 N Kedzie Ave, Chicago, IL 60645.
- The group meets every Thursday.
- The group is from 9:15AM – 10:30AM, but volunteers are asked to arrive at 9:00AM to help with setup and stay until 10:45AM to help clean up.

**Traits**

- Ability to display an energetic and positive attitude.
- Personable with the ability to exhibit strong interpersonal communication skills.
- Comfortable working with children with a wide range of disabilities.
- Volunteers must be 18 years or older.
- Able to keep a level head when a child gets overly energetic or has a change in mood.
- Creativity when it comes to activities and games.
- Can be direct in communication and able to voice what they don't understand.

**Responsibilities**

- Walking children to and from the lobby and waiting in the waiting room while they use the bathroom.
- Helping with passing out snacks.
- Help with cleaning up between activities.
- Sit one on one with a child who may need more attention.
- Helping children one on one with projects if they are struggling.
- Help arrange therapy equipment/materials for setting up sessions.
- Some physical touch like sitting in laps, pointing/touching the limb or ligament that needs to move, and provide vocal cues as needed.

**Key Interactions**

Clients	Staff		
Caregivers	Volunteers		

If interested, please contact Benjie Weiss, Volunteer Coordinator, at [benjaminweiss@jcfs.org](mailto:benjaminweiss@jcfs.org) or (773) 467-3821.