

SWWC Staff Present at Charting the Cs Conference

Tami Hellewell and Carrie Kesteloot from SWWC presented at the **Charting the Cs Cross Categorical Conference** held April 22-24 at Arrowwood Resort in Alexandria. Their presentation was entitled: Back to the Basics: How Primitive Reflexes Affect Academic Performance and How to Incorporate Practical Occupational Therapy Tricks into the Classroom.

Tami, an Occupational Therapist, and Carrie, a Certified Occupational Therapy Assistant, explained that infant reflexes that don't integrate successfully can lead to developmental delays and contribute to coordination and academic difficulties down the road. Understanding what primitive reflexes are, how they are integrated, and recognizing them when they are still present, can dramatically impact the success of your therapy or teaching sessions. Through many years of experience working with infants and school aged students, Tami and Carrie shared many simple OT adaptations and modifications that can be easily applied to help kids be more successful in the classroom.

This was the 37th year of the Charting the Cs Conference and the 10th year of the subtitle: Cross Categorical Conference. The "Cs" in Charting the Cs stands for Collaboration, Cooperation, Communication. Spending time together and attending sessions that are focused on 'needs' rather than 'disability' is a great way to open respectful communication, collaboration, cooperation and a feeling of shared voice as people discuss and draft a child's educational program. It takes all of the knowledge from multiple team members coming together to make a wonderful and robust educational program for students.

Learn more about SWWC's occupational therapy services by visiting www.swsc.org.



Tami Hellewell



Carrie Kesteloot