

## Services Offered

**The Gift of Speech** offers a wide range of clinical speech and language services for both pediatric and adult populations. Services include consultation, evaluation, and intervention in the following areas:

### Adults

- Cognitive Rehabilitation
- Fluency
- Voice Disorders
- Neurologic Rehabilitation (Aphasia)

### Children

- Language Development
- Articulation Improvement
- Fluency
- Apraxia
- Voice Disorders
- Swallowing and Feeding
- Phonological Disorders

**Our Pathologists** have worked with adults and children, in diverse settings such as schools, skilled nursing facilities and hospitals. They specialize in the evaluation and treatment of speech and language disorders. Our practitioners hold valid, California state licenses.

**Fees and Services** are guided by the standards set by The American Speech-Language-Hearing Association (ASHA), a professional organization. **The Gift of Speech** accepts several types of insurance. Please call, email or go to our website for details.

*The Gift of Speech*

"If all my possessions were taken from me with one exception, I would choose to keep the power of communication, for by it, I would soon regain the rest."

— Webster

*The Gift of Speech*

A Professional Speech-Language  
Pathology Corporation

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## Our Mission

The mission of The Gift of Speech is to provide exceptional speech-language services and to offer fair and appropriate options for its clients. **The Gift of Speech** believes communication occurs in a variety of abilities and is vital to success in life.

[www.giftofspeechinc.com](http://www.giftofspeechinc.com)

## WHAT IS A SPEECH-LANGUAGE PATHOLOGIST (SLP)?

The Gift of Speech has developed a dynamic team of licensed speech-language pathologists (SLP) and speech-language pathology assistants (SLPA) to serve clients. An SLP is a licensed health care professional specializing in diagnosing and treating speech and language disabilities. SLPs screen, identify, assess, refer, and provide treatment to persons with (or at risk for) speech, voice, language, communication, swallowing and other speech/language related disabilities.

## HOW DOES AN SLP HELP CORRECT SPEECH DISABILITIES?

All Speech-Language Pathologists at **The Gift of Speech** are trained therapists specializing in evaluating speech-language disabilities. Our therapists work with clients to diagnose disabilities and create/carry out treatment plans. Treatment plans are determined by the specific disability and range from correcting or modifying a speech/language disorder to developing functional communication systems.

## WHEN SHOULD I CONTACT AN SLP?

Anyone at any age can have a speech or language problem. The earlier the problem is diagnosed and therapy is begun, the better the chances of successful treatment. Referrals can be made by the family, physicians or anyone concerned about an individual's communication development.

## WHY SHOULD I CONTACT THE GIFT OF SPEECH?

Communicating clearly is an essential life skill. Speech and language disabilities can lead to life-long struggles.

- Learning is more difficult and frustrating. Scholastic and professional performance can suffer as a result.
- People who have trouble communicating clearly, may: develop poor social skills; have trouble relating to others; and, their relationships may suffer. This can result in depression and isolation.
- Opportunities are limited for people with poor communication skills. They may have trouble leading independent, satisfying lives.
- People who have communication disorders may develop emotional problems as a result of embarrassment, rejection and poor self image.

Contacting **The Gift of Speech** for an assessment is the first step toward improving clarity in communication!



## TRACEY MCDONNELL

is a graduate of California State University, Fresno and received a Master of Science degree in Speech Pathology from University of the Pacific in 1993. Mrs. McDonnell has experience working in a variety of settings including: hospital, skilled nursing, and severely handicapped classrooms.



## KARA FERREIRA

is a graduate of California State University, Sacramento and received a Master of Science degree in Speech Pathology from University of the Pacific in 2003. Ms. Ulricksen has experience working within various diagnoses, and age groups, within school, hospital, skilled nursing and clinical settings.

The Gift of Speech was established in 2005 by Tracey McDonnell and Kara Ferreira. With their team, they have helped countless people improve their quality of life through improved speech-language skills.