

Date: March 23, 2022

To Whom It May Concern:

This letter of support serves as testimonial to my relationship with your university both as a former two (2) time graduate from Keiser University, a business owner of a pediatric therapy center that accepts students for FW Level I and Level II OTA students and OTR students, and now as a member of your Advisory Board.

Just to let you know a little bit about myself before I get into the rest of my testimony. I attended your Pembroke Pines campus for your OTA program and graduated back in 2012. The team of educators at this location at the time were truly inspiring and resourceful. I obtained my first job placement as a COTA/L from the pediatric fieldwork placement at I did my externship at, Dr. Claudius Galen Therapy Center in Hialeah, Florida. After working in several different pediatric clinics for a few years, I decided to go back to school and obtain a BS. I received my bachelor's in science in Occupational Health from your Fort Lauderdale campus in July of 2017. Furthermore, I have chosen to further enhance my professional career to help the special needs community at another university only because your school doesn't have the master's program that I am looking for which is a master's in science in Special Education with a Concentration in Applied Behavior Analysis (ABA) to obtain my Board-Certified Behavior Analysis (BCBA) certification.

In June of 2020, we, KidSpace Therapy Center, LLC, received the great news that my dream of owning an outpatient pediatric therapy clinic was approved. Since then, I have been very involved with helping not only the children of our community but also working closely with schools, Keiser University in particular, and serving those OTA students with a Fieldwork pediatric setting that will give them the opportunity to learn from a hands-on approach and the possibility of hiring based on their qualifications. Many of them were offered positions at my center and most have accepted based on their passion of pediatrics over the geriatric population.

On another note, KidSpace Therapy Center has held a one-day fieldtrip to your Pembroke Pines pediatric class for 4 times in a row at our facility. This has been truly a success to your students at your campus to have an early start and get their feet wet prior to going off to their FW Level II rotation. My team of therapists which include physical, speech, and occupational therapy are available on that "special day" to answer any questions about the client that is being treated and learn the reason why the therapist is using their style of approach on the treatment session.

Throughout the years I have noticed the "quality" in the OTA students and as COTA/Ls throughout their work experience in comparison to those of other campuses that offer the same program. I choose to hire any therapist that is a graduate from Keiser University. Not only are they getting the out most of their education, but they are well rounded in their overall performance and professional skills. It has been a pleasure to write greatness about your campus and I am looking forward in working together for many years to come.

Best always,

Paula Gonzalez, COTA/L Owner and Clinical Director

