

# **CORA SERVICES**

## **School Services Division**

### **Charter School**

**PROGRAM OFFERINGS**



# GREETINGS FROM CORA SERVICES!

CORA is a multi-faceted community service agency located in Philadelphia. Originally founded by Charity Kohl, a Sister of the Good Shepherd, CORA is nondenominational but continues with the mission of developing and adapting programs based on the unique needs of children and families within the broader community. For 50 years CORA has had clinical teams within nonpublic schools across Northeast Philadelphia as well as various charter and public schools throughout Philadelphia, Delaware County and Camden, New Jersey. CORA is also a provider of Early Intervention services in Philadelphia.



# CHILDREN ARE THE HEART OF THE MATTER.

## Our Mission Statement

“Rooted in a tradition of care and compassion, the Mission of CORA Services is to assist children, youth and families experiencing emotional, academic and social challenges which impede their development and productivity. A private, not-for-profit service organization located in Philadelphia, PA, CORA Services provides an array of comprehensive professional services focused on prevention, intervention, remediation, and referral assistance.”

## THE CORA SCHOOL SERVICES LEADERSHIP TEAM

### Administration .....



**Nora Cooper, M.Ed**  
Managing Director



**Erica Dura, M.Ed, LBS**  
Director of Program  
Operations

### Clinical Directors .....



**Eric Smith,**  
**MA CCC-SLP**  
Speech Therapy



**Maren Haas-Mahoney,**  
**OTD, OTR/L**  
Occupational Therapy



**Pamela Vassilikos,**  
**PT**  
Physical Therapy



**Dr. Michelle Lodise,**  
**Psy.D.**  
Psychology



### Experience Working With and In Schools

Since 1980, CORA Services has provided services in many schools across the City of Philadelphia. CORA has been working within and alongside several charter schools in Philadelphia since 2008, and has also worked within public schools in Delaware county and charter schools in Camden, NJ. Collaborative work has occurred between CORA and partnering school systems allowing the organizations to define best practices in all areas of service as it pertains to each school climate community and student population's unique strengths and challenges.

CORA's Clinical, Early Childhood and Community Service Divisions support schools in Philadelphia by providing additional programs such as Behavioral Health Assessments, Drug and Alcohol Intervention, Truancy program and Out-Of-School-Time school services. Additionally, CORA has three Star 4 Early Years Preschool programs located in three Philadelphia locations - Fox Chase, Huntingdon Mills and at La Salle University. CORA's newest center, Huntingdon Mills, includes an advanced curriculum with emphasis on inclusion for children with a variety of needs.

CORA's reach is broad; providing a team approach to service delivery in well over 200 public, charter, and private schools.





# **AN ALL INCLUSIVE SERVICE MODEL WORKING FOR YOU.**

## **CORA BY THE NUMBERS**

CORA Services is not a staffing agency. CORA's philosophy is to deliver multidisciplinary teams composed of the Psychologists, Speech and Language Pathologists, Occupational Therapists, Physical Therapists, their respective supervisors and administration, along with subcontractors for other related services. CORA's service model involves four clear phases: the screening process involving parents, school personnel, and, in some cases, the students themselves; the assessment phase, where data is gathered for effective program planning; the actual intervention phase where the student receives appropriate intervention services; and the final closure phase. The multidisciplinary team model places emphasis on consultation with parents, school personnel, and other members of the student's support network to maximize effectiveness of service delivery. Imperative to success is the ongoing consultation with principals, teaching staff, and other disciplines to complete the assessment process; and regular participation in Multi-Disciplinary Team (MDT) meetings and other relevant meetings related to the assessment and ongoing therapeutic support. CORA follows a traditional recruiting and onboarding process to allow us to welcome our clinicians as true CORA employees, ensuring they are surrounded by clinical support, supervision, resources and aligned to our mission and values.

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**5,429**

Current service enrollments

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**2,425**

Students being serviced in charter schools by CORA

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**100%**

Percentage of recently surveyed school administrators that stated they would recommend CORA Services to other school leaders and networks.

# Program Offerings

## All services include:

- A pragmatic service approach focusing on prevention, active intervention or remediation cohesively implemented in your school's culture based on your needs.
- Dynamic staff dedicated to the school community that are traditionally recruited, hired and full employees of CORA.
- Staff are highly qualified, experienced and state certified staff in alignment with our mission and values.
- An entire supervisory team that is strictly focused on each angle of service delivery whether it's clinical supervision for staff, operational logistics, compliance or strategic problem solving.
- A multi-disciplinary approach to service that is sensitive and responsive to the changing needs of your student population, school culture and faculty.

## Psychology Services

**CORA Psychologists have extensive experience providing assessments across multiple disabilities including Autistic Support and Life Skills Classrooms, clinical assessments of students placed off-campus or students transitioning to Kindergarten.**

- Comprehensive initial and re-evaluation reports
- Coordination of information from parents, teachers and other clinicians
- Regular consultation with administrative staff to coordinate referrals
- IEP meeting and/or other SPED meeting attendance or protocol needs
- Direct consultation and /or training for school personnel on a wide range of topics such as: understanding IDEA classifications, Functional Behavior Assessments and Positive Behavior Support Plans.

# Program Offerings

## Speech Language Pathology

**CORA Speech Therapists have extensive experience providing services within Multiple Disabilities, Autistic Support and Life Skills Classrooms, typical classroom settings and typical kindergarten Whole Class Model classrooms.**

- Provision of individual screening and assessment, speech and/or language testing
- Preparation of student's goals for IEP
- Diagnosis of speech and/or language impairments
- Provision of direct service necessary to support each student's unique challenges
- Ongoing consultation and collaboration with school teams to support student needs

## Physical Therapy

**CORA Physical Therapists have extensive experience providing services in all types of classroom settings as well as within Multiple Disabilities, Autistic Support and Life Skills Classrooms as well as typical classroom settings.**

- Screening and evaluation to determine areas of need and level of service
- Determination of interventions to support student participation in school related activities
- Interventions are focused on motor control, self-care, daily living and mobility
- Provision of direct therapy following receipt of script



# Program Offerings

## Occupational Therapy

**CORA Occupational Therapists have extensive experience providing services within all classroom settings including Multiple Disabilities, Autistic Support and Life Skills Classrooms as well as typical classrooms.**

- Screening and evaluation to determine areas of need & level of service required
- Development of strategies based on needs assessment to support student participation in school related activities
- Consultation and collaboration with school teams
- Interventions related to sensory regulation, motor control, attention and organizational skills as well as social emotional needs.
- Presentations and programs introduced to classroom to support students' participation in school related activities.

## Augmentative Alternative Communication Support

**CORA's AAC Specialist works in charter schools in various classrooms and populations providing implementation, training and maintenance related to AAC devices. This specialist is able to quickly identify key areas of need, navigate insurance, work with families and provide evaluations.**

- Training for teachers, paraprofessionals, parents and additional staff outside of the classroom
- Consultation with teachers on making classrooms more accessible for communication such as classroom set up that allows for opportunities for communication
- Programming and troubleshooting devices
- Attending specials with students to discuss with teachers what students are working on; allowing for more opportunities for generalization across subjects

# Program Offerings

## Hearing Services

**CORA has a long-standing relationship with the Clarke Schools for Hearing and Speech. CORA subcontracts the Clarke Schools for hearing and audiology services including assessments, direct service and consultation.**

- Screening and evaluation of referred students to determine areas of need and level of service
- Assistance in identifying services that are consistent with state and federal laws for families and mainstream schools
- Trainings on issues related to hearing loss
- Effective communication with parents, faculty and students
- Provision of individual or group direct service in accordance to IEP
- Monitoring hearing aids and Cochlear implants as well as other assistive devices.

## Professional Development

**The CORA Training Center, housed at CORA's Fox Chase building, provides several credit bearing, relevant, professional workshops each year with in-person and virtual options. CORA has experience providing workshops within schools that are presented by CORA's own team of experts.**

- Workshops can be presented from CORA's existing library or customized for a school's specific needs or current events.
- CORA experts & Professional Development Committee are sensitive to topics relevant to current cultural, academic or school-specific needs at any given time and provide support for workshop learners and school personnel.
- The training center provides schools with support around logistics of workshop presentation, paperwork and credit issuance.

## STRAIGHT FORWARD BILLING

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## WE KEEP YOU UP TO DATE AND OURSELVES ACCOUNTABLE.

Expect intuitive monthly compliance reports to know exactly how much service each student has received.

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**5,906**

Current service enrollments

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**2,902**

Students being serviced in charter schools by CORA

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**100%**

Percentage of recently surveyed school administrators that stated they would recommend CORA Services to other school leaders and networks.



# FEE SCHEDULE

As a mission-driven provider focused on multi-disciplinary, quality services, CORA views each school as an individualized entity considering school size, budget, student population needs and academic model. With these considerations, CORA offers various contract options when planning service provision.

## Hourly Allocated Services

- Schools are billed an hourly rate based upon hours worked by their provider in their school.
- Hours worked is calculated prior to start of contract by measuring caseload needs collaboratively between school teams and CORA teams.
- All services we offer can be provided as allocated services and are always recommended to ensure the same therapist(s)/psychologist(s) work within the school during scheduled days. This is the most consistent and effective way in which we provide related services.

## Fee-For-Service

- Schools are billed a flat rate per service item
- Most services provided as fee for service are evaluations and additional services related to evaluation, (such as IEP meeting attendance) are billed as a flat “a-la-carte” rate
- We are happy to discuss when fee-for-service is applicable to your service needs

To discuss a fee schedule that would be applicable for your school needs, please email

Erica Dura: [edura@coraservices.org](mailto:edura@coraservices.org)

Please contact Erica Dura, [edura@coraservices.org](mailto:edura@coraservices.org) for information regarding contracts, service implementation or to get started in connecting with our clinical team. We are happy to help!

*Visit us online!*

[www.coraservices.org](http://www.coraservices.org)

## WE'D LOVE TO HEAR FROM YOU.

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# WHAT DO SCHOOL LEADERS THINK OF CORA?

When surveyed on their satisfaction with our services in their schools.

Overall Ratings	
General rating of CORA's service provision in schools	<div>★★★★★</div> <div>4.75 Average Rating</div>

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"I would not be successful at my job if it wasn't for our CORA team. She is super organized and writes thoughtful reports truly individualized. She has a great rapport with students and families and explains all reports in a parent friendly manner."

"I can't imagine PT without our therapist. She is so knowledgeable, takes initiative, and our parents love her. I know she is super busy but still manages to almost always make deadlines and responds to school tasks."

"I think that CORA has been wonderful in providing support and being solutions orientated. They remain in constant communication and have been wonderful to work with"

"Both of our OTs are fabulous and are great at working with our students. Our OT has truly joined and been such a great person to work with. She is super detailed, always responsive. I am super impressed with her authenticity and the way she support students."

"All psychologists who have helped with Test-a-Ramas have been a blessing and punctual."

"The therapists we have are great and fit in extremely well with our school culture."

"We love working with CORA! All of our providers have been great. Things are going well for us."

"Provider is responsive and always available"

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