

Rieppe Hendrick

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Professional Summary

Certified Speech Language Pathologist, Certified Master Gardener, holds Certificates in Therapeutic Horticulture and Animal Assisted Interventions. Within the fields of Speech Language Pathology and Therapeutic Horticulture experience working across medical, residential, and community settings. Experience with adult populations in acute care hospitals, rehabilitation hospitals, long-term care facilities, assisted living and retirement communities, home health services, outpatient medical facilities, day programs for life engagement/participation of individuals with acquired disabilities (cognitive, communicative, and visually impaired), day programs for individuals with mental illness, day programs for individuals experiencing homelessness, vocational and wellness programs for young adults with Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities, and college mental health outreach services. Experience with adolescents within the traditional and special educational school settings, from preschool to high school ages; includes working with incarcerated juveniles.

Experience providing graduate level educational internship supervision in the field of speech-language pathology and educational internship supervision in the area of therapeutic horticulture.

Licenses, Certification & Certificates

- Certified with American Speech-Language-Hearing Association, 1996 to present
- Licensed Speech-Language Pathologist, State of North Carolina, 1996 to present
- Certified NC Cooperative Extension Master Gardener, September 2015 to present
- Certified NC Environmental Educator candidate, expected to be awarded 2025
- Certificate in Animal Assisted Therapy, awarded December 2019
- Certificate in Therapeutic Horticulture, awarded January 2020
- Garden and Landscape Certificate of Mastery candidate, expected to be awarded April 2024

Skill Highlights

An organized, creative problem solver. Skilled in developing and implementing collaborative comprehensive treatment plans and providing participant/client/caregiver education. Skilled in interdisciplinary work environments with a team approach to services and providing staff

education/in-services. Skilled in developing new programs, policy and procedure, coordinating and leading colleagues in execution of programs and services. Skilled in budget development and management, including funding through facilities/organizations, grants, and program specific self-sufficient fundraising. Skilled in introducing professional concepts and practices through hands-on training in the areas of speech-language pathology and therapeutic horticulture. Skilled at leading teams of volunteers ranging in size of up to 50 people. Skilled at supervising internships within varied disciplines, including speech language pathology, social work, and therapeutic horticulture.

Professional Experience

- **Surcee Farm, Founder and Program Director** **September 2019 to present**

Chapel Hill (Chatham County), NC

Responsible for developing and facilitating therapeutic horticulture, animal-assisted, and nature based programs on a universally designed farm and 11 additional acres of old hardwood forest; also responsible for developing and facilitating therapeutic horticulture and nature based programs at partnering organizations. Serving diverse special populations ranging from preschool aged children to adults..

- **NC Department of Public Safety, Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention**

Chatham Youth Development Center, Siler City NC

May 2021 to present

Therapeutic Horticulturist. Developed therapeutic garden from barren field to therapeutic space encompassing fruit, vegetable, and herb beds, movement/yoga lawn area, meditative labyrinth formed from living plant material, and circular group gathering area. Facilitated student design and design implementation of the garden. Facilitates ongoing weekly programming 11 months out of the year. Collaborates with traditional educational staff to carry over classroom concepts into the garden group activities. Collaborates with kitchen staff to facilitate produce and herbs being incorporated into the student meals, as well as eaten straight out of the garden during groups.

- **North Carolina Botanical Garden, contract position** **November 2021 to May 2022**

Chapel Hill, NC

Therapeutic Horticulturalist leading weekly Garden Group at the Farm of Penny Lane, under the direction of the Farm Program Manager, focused around promoting overall health and well-being for adults living with serious mental health challenges.

- **Carolina Meadows, continuum of care retirement facility** July 2021 to July 2022

Chapel Hill, NC

Therapeutic Horticulturalist leading Garden Groups, under the direction of the activities department, with residents of the assisted living community and the memory care community.

- **Triangle Aphasia Project Unlimited** October 2012 to December 2022

Raleigh, Durham, Chapel Hill NC and outlying area

Group Leader in Life Participation Approach to Aphasia community program. Lead/Facilitated comprehensive communication groups based on geographical location and life interests. Built a multi-collaborative Garden Group with 6 organizations supporting the development and continuation of the group; lead clients in holding annual plant sale which now provides full financial support of the group; manage a group blog/website which is client led with entries made by clients.

- **PruittHealth** *Craven and Carteret Co NC* November 2018 to June 2019

Provided comprehensive speech, language, voice, and swallowing evaluations and treatment in a home health setting; includes collaborative treatments with multi-disciplinary teams.

- **UNC Rex Healthcare** *Raleigh and Cary NC* January 2009 to December 2009

Provided comprehensive speech, language, voice, and swallowing evaluations and treatment in an outpatient setting; includes collaborative treatments with multi-disciplinary teams.

- **WakeMed Health and Hospitals** September 2006 to June 2008

Wake County NC and some outlying counties

Provided comprehensive speech, language, voice, and swallowing evaluations and treatment in a home health setting; includes collaborative treatments with multi-disciplinary teams.

- **Smart Start** *Charlotte NC* August 2002 to June 2006

Provided speech and language screenings and evaluations to preschool aged children.

- **Alamance Regional Medical Center** June 1996 to June 1999

Burlington NC and outlying area

Provided comprehensive speech, language, voice, and swallowing assessments and treatment across the entirety of organization; settings included inpatient, outpatient, long-term care, and home health; includes collaborative treatments with multi-disciplinary teams.

- **Horizons** *Durham NC* June 1995 to June 1996

Clinical Fellowship; provided comprehensive speech, language, voice, and swallowing assessments and treatment in acute/sub-acute rehabilitation center for Traumatic Brain Injury; includes collaborative treatments with multi-disciplinary teams.

Relevant Volunteer Experience

- **NC State Extension Master Gardener**

September 2015 to present

Wake County

Member of Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion team, December 2022 to present. Team member in charge of collecting demographic data on county wide EMG programming and county demographics; using data to develop interactive maps.

Chair of the Therapeutic Horticulture Program from 2015 - 2022. Program utilized approximately 50 volunteers across 12 sites using plants and plant-related activities to provide therapeutic programs across a variety of settings, including rehabilitative, Veterans Affairs Clinics, mental health, addiction recovery, assisted living, long-term care, programs for individuals experiencing homelessness, vocational and wellness programs for young adults with Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities, community gardens and schools/classes for children with special needs. Provided management of current sites and oversaw growth of the program from 5 sites to 12, which expanded outreach to special populations beyond exclusively adult continuum of care facilities . Oversaw all aspects of the program including reporting operations to NC Cooperative Extension Agent, managing site leadership teams, establishment of new sites, establishment of policies and procedures, and program budget. In 2019 developed a leadership team consisting of 8 key areas to enable more comprehensive oversight, support, and diverse growth of the program. Oversaw the transition of program management operations from sole chair leadership structure to a management team approach. From April 2020 into 2023 oversaw the development and implementation of virtual gardening programs to continue providing services through COVID-19 restrictions.

In addition to program chair responsibilities, part of program team leading monthly therapeutic horticulture group at Veterans Affairs Visually Impaired Garden Group, lead bi-weekly therapeutic horticulture program at the Women's Center, a multi-service crisis intervention and assessment center for women experiencing homelessness; lead weekly language stimulation therapeutic horticulture group for individuals with Aphasia and their carepartners.

Lead of Program Chair Committee, 2017 to 2020. Organized collaboration between all programs offered at county level, among themselves and in communication with the Management Team.

Member of County EMG Management Team, 2015 to 2018. Team responsible for assisting in the overall direction of the Extension Master Gardener Volunteer program.

Education and Training

- **North Carolina State University, Extension Gardener Program, Department of Horticulture Science** **May 2023 expected completion April 2024**

Garden and Landscape Certificate of Mastery candidate

- **North Carolina Botanical Garden** **September 2018 to January 2020**

Certificate in Therapeutic Horticulture

- **Harcum College, Pennsylvania** **August 2019 to December 2019**

Certificate in Animal Assisted Therapy

- **NC State University, Extension Gardener Program, Department of Horticulture Science** **September 2014 to September 2015**

Certified Master Gardener

- **Appalachian State University** **August 1993 to May 1995**

Master of Arts, Communication Disorders

- **Appalachian State University** **August 1992 to May 1993**

Bachelor of Arts, Communication Disorders

- **Appalachian State University** **August 1987 to May 1992**

Bachelor of Science, Business Administration

Presentation and Teaching Experience

- **Workshop Co-Instructor, State-wide NC Extension Master Gardener Volunteer Advanced Training** **August 2023**

Full-day lecture and hands-on event covering history of therapeutic horticulture, how to start and execute a sustainable new therapeutic horticulture program, and how to effectively grow an existing program.

- **Presentation, Virginia State University Extension State Association** **March 2021**

One of five speakers for Virginia Master Gardener State Association – Therapeutic Horticulture Roundtable (Diane Relf, PhD; Jan Lane, HTR; Rieppe Hendrick, MA; Linda Lucas; Phyllis Turner, RN)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=KWajXNO226o&list=PLfryJew78qPq70gaMvB6OqGHIwMe1Yjhw&index=12>

(Total video time 2 hrs. 11 minutes ;Rieppe Hendrick portion in video at 45 minutes 51 seconds – 1 hr. 14 minutes 25 seconds)

- **Presentation, Ohio State University Extension Master Gardener State Association**

January 2021

Introduction to therapeutic horticulture vs horticultural therapy and understanding where master gardeners fit in

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=d4LOmCs5tKo&list=PLfryJew78qPq70gaMvB6OqGHIwMe1Yjhw&index=13>

(Total video time 1 hr. 11 minutes)

- **Dig In Conference, Poe Center for Educational Health (previously hosted by Advocates for Health in Action) Annual conference for urban agriculture, community gardens, and edible gardens in schools and childcare settings**

March 2020

Gardens Nourishing Communities, Presentation on Intro into Therapeutic Horticulture and Universally Accessible Gardening Tips

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=mAjsK4jglEY>

(Total video time 11 minutes 35 seconds)

- **Presentation, National Aphasia Access Annual Conference**

March 2017

Incorporating therapeutic horticulture into speech-language pathology services

- **Teaching Assistant, Online Introduction to Therapeutic Horticulture class**
(Collaboration between NC Botanical Garden and NC State University)

<https://extensiongardener.ces.ncsu.edu/online-non-credit-courses/introduction-to-therapeutic-horticulture/>

Awards and Recognition

- **Article in ASHA Leader, highlighting development and operation of a speech therapy/therapeutic horticulture program**

January 2022

Official news magazine of the American Speech-Language-Hearing Association

<https://leader.pubs.asha.org/doi/10.1044/leader.MIW.27012022.32/full/>

- **Gold Gardener Award from NC State Extension Master Gardener of Wake County**

2020

Recognition of establishing and leading weekly virtual therapeutic horticulture program throughout COVID pandemic

References

- **Lucy Bradley, Ph.D.**

NC State University Horticultural Science - Associate Department Head and Department Extension Leader

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<https://cals.ncsu.edu/horticultural-science/people/lkbradle/>

- **Jeana Myers, Ph.D.**

NC Cooperative Extension Agent, Agriculture-Horticulture
Wake County Center, Retired

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- **Heather Kelejian, MSW candidate**

NC Cooperative Extension Agent, Agriculture - Therapeutic Horticulture
New Hanover County Center

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- **Matt Ballard, MSW, MDiv**

Farm at Penny Lane Program Manager

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<https://www.med.unc.edu/psych/cecmh/directory/matt-ballard-msw-mdiv/>

- **Jerry Dewitt, Ph.D.**

Professor Emeritus Iowa State University, College of Agriculture, Extension Specialist in Sustainable Agriculture

Holly Springs Food Cupboard Garden Director

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- **Laura White, MS**

Supervisor Hemlock Bluffs Nature Preserve, Retired

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