Volunteer Speech and Language Therapist

Overview:
Together, Nicaragua Christian Academy and Tesoros de Dios are seeking a volunteer speech and language therapist to serve our students with speech and language impairments. The SOAAR program at NCA (Students of All Abilities Recognized) allows English-speaking students with significant disabilities to attend NCA, and some students will require a variety of supports with speech and language development to ensure educational success. Tesoros de Dios provides a variety of therapies to Spanish-speaking children with a variety of disabilities, but does not currently offer speech therapy, an identified need. Some children at Tesoros de Dios attend NCA Nejapa, and school-based therapy may be beneficial for these students as well. Finally, many missionaries serving in Nicaragua also desire to have access to an English-speaking speech therapist for their children, but none exist in Managua. This position would be initially split accordingly: NCAI (40%), Tesoros de Dios and/or NCA Nejapa (40%), private consultations in missionary community (20%).

Possible responsibilities:
Although the following list is not exhaustive, and may be tailored to fit the abilities of the volunteer, it should help interested candidates know what type of involvement to anticipate:

- Assessing and evaluating students with speech and language needs using appropriate assessment tools
- Developing a program of therapy for students with identified needs
- Implementing regularly occurring one-on-one or small group therapy sessions
- Training classroom assistants and teachers on best practices to support student speech and language development
- Writing and monitoring goals in the domain of speech and language development for identified learners
- Attending and contributing to Individual Educational Programming team meetings
- Training and communicating regularly with the families of students
- Communicating and reporting to the SOAAR coordinator at NCA; reporting to programming director at Tesoros de Dios

Qualifications:
- Evangelical Christian testimony with active local church experience
- Sense of calling to serve in a developing country setting
- Complete fluency in English language, Spanish language experience preferred (willingness to learn a must)
- Certification in Speech and Language Therapy or comparable program