

Shay Dawson, MA, CTRS resides in Martinsville, Indiana. Shay earned his BS in Leisure Services with an emphasis in Therapeutic Recreation and his Master of Arts in Exercise, Leisure and Sport with an emphasis in Therapeutic Recreation from Kent State University. He is currently the Director of Therapeutic Recreation at Bradford Woods, Indiana University's Outdoor Center. In this position, Shay directs disability specific pediatric summer camps through the Riley Hospital for Children, Muscular Dystrophy Association, Little Red Door Cancer Agency, People's Burn Foundation, and HEAR Indiana. His other responsibilities include facilitating adventure therapy programs for youth and families at-risk, coordinating an equine therapy program, instructing an undergraduate TR course, conducting research in therapeutic outdoor programs, and sitting on a therapeutic outdoor programs minor committee at IU. Each year he supervises 95 summer staff, 3-5 TR interns, and various students completing practicum and clinical pediatric placements at Bradford Woods. Shay's other TR experiences include supervising a therapy team on pediatric and adult inpatient psych units, directing a respite program for youth at risk, Board member for Cool Springs Retreat, habilitation assistant at the Hattie Larlham Foundation for children with profound disabilities, and an intern on the Behavioral Health / Chemical Dependency units of St. Thomas Hospital.

Candidate's Statement: "It is an honor to be listed on the ballot for the upcoming NCTRC election. My career working as a therapist and administrator in clinical and community TR provides me with a well rounded perspective for serving clients and practitioners from a variety of settings. Helping individuals with disabilities is my life calling and I would be honored to serve the CTRS profession and, most importantly, the clients that benefit from TR by promoting the high standards of the NCTRC. If elected, I will work diligently to protect the consumer by promoting the delivery of quality recreational therapy services across all settings."