



## CANDIDATE BIOGRAPHY & CONSENT FORM

**NAME:** Karen Sivils, PT, DPT

**POSITION RUNNING FOR:** Board of Directors

**CITY/TOWN OF RESIDENCE:** Las Cruces, NM

**APTA MEMBERSHIP (years):** 18 years

**APTA New Mexico MEMBERSHIP (years):** 18 years

**SECTION MEMBERSHIP(S):** Pediatrics

**EDUCATION:**

1988 - Bachelor of Science in Physical Therapy  
University of New Mexico

2019 - Transitional Doctor of Physical Therapy in Pediatric Science  
Rocky Mountain University of Health Professionals

**PREVIOUS BOARD EXPERIENCE:** None

**PERTINENT EXPERIENCE:**

- Current: Regional Representative for Region 7 for the School-based Special Interest Group of the Pediatric Section
- Current: Co-Facilitator for a Community of Practice for working with children with complex needs through the Pediatric Sections networking site
- Participated in writing the APTA Pediatric Section Fact Sheet: *Joint Statement on Interprofessional Collaborative Goals in School-Based Practice*

**GOALS AND OBJECTIVES: (please provide some specific examples of projects that you'd like to participate in)**

1. Communities of Practice (COPs) – I would like to see New Mexico develop COPs that link providers across the state with other providers who share interests, work in similar areas, or who simply want to network to share ideas with others across the state. I currently co-facilitate a COP at the national level through the Pediatric Section to support providers who work with children with complex needs and this has been such an amazing source of current developments in best practices as well as a place to find other providers who can encourage and support each other. I would love to see similar networking at the state level, not just between pediatric PTs but also in other specialty areas and, as appropriate, facilitating conversations that include other providers: physicians, occupational therapists and speech therapists, etc. My vision is that each COP would

be facilitated by 1 or 2 PTs who have identified an area that they are passionate about and would like to facilitate conversations with other PTs across the state.

2. Increased participation of PTs in the southern part of the state – we currently have a lower level of engagement of PTs in southern NM and I would like to see resources and ideas flow more freely between providers in the Albuquerque and Santa Fe areas and the more rural areas. While this goal could be addressed by a Community of Practice, I also believe that we can do more to share educational opportunities, support volunteer opportunities, and to make sure that we have representation of all voices at the state level.

**Consent to Serve Statement:**

I acknowledge that the duties of the above position have been provided to me and I agree to serve in the stated position should I be elected. I am willing and able to attend the APTA New Mexico Board meetings and conference calls as needed per the position description. I agree to be responsive to electronic communications as part of conducting the business of APTA New Mexico.



Signed \_\_\_\_\_

8.21.24