CLINICIAN TASK FORCE

CTF Administrative Assistant Kim Koole Strengthens Organizational Impact

WRITTEN BY: Leslie Jackson, OTD, OTR/L, ATP, CEAS III, LSVT BIG Certified

Kim Koole joined the Clinician Task Force in January 2026 as the organization's administrative assistant, bringing extensive experience and enthusiasm to the role. She supports Executive Director Tamara Kittelson, the executive board, CTF members, prospective members and the public.

Her responsibilities include coordinating virtual meetings, managing communications, responding to inquiries, overseeing financial processes and assisting with funding requests. Since joining CTF, Koole has embraced the organization's mission and applied her professional and personal strengths to support its ongoing growth and impact.

Midwest Roots

Originally from the Midwest, Koole earned a degree in business management from Central College in Pella, Iowa.

She and her husband, Dan, relocated to Colorado more than 25 years ago and have embraced the state's natural beauty and opportunities. Their son, Caden, recently graduated from Dordt University, a private university in Sioux City, Iowa, with degrees in finance, economics and accounting while also competing on the university's golf team. Their daughter, Joy, is a sophomore at Dordt University and competes in cross-country, indoor track and outdoor track.

Professional Background

Koole's professional experience includes work in nonprofit organizations and the healthcare sector, where she developed an appreciation for rehabilitation technology and its impact on people's lives.

In January 2020, she joined the Center for Innovative Design and Engineering at the University of Colorado Denver. During her time there, she developed a deeper understanding of how Complex Rehab Technology helps individuals with disabilities overcome barriers and participate more fully in home, work and community life.

She also gained firsthand insight into the challenges clinicians, suppliers, manufacturers, consumers and families face when seeking funding and timely access to CRT and other assistive technologies.

Those experiences strengthened her respect for the field and the multidisciplinary professionals who support it, including occupational therapist and CTF member Becky Breaux, Ph.D., MS, OTR/L, ATP, whose work at the center further shaped Koole's understanding of the industry's opportunities and challenges.

Kim Koole and her husband, Dan, hiking the Wild Basin in Colorado's Rocky Mountain National Park. *(Photo courtesy of Kim Koole)*

Lessons Learned

Koole said her work with nonprofit organizations, particularly volunteer-driven groups, taught her the importance of the behind-the-scenes coordination required to keep organizations operating effectively.

Reflecting on funding challenges within the CRT industry, she acknowledged the difficulties many organizations face while working with limited resources. At the same time, she noted that constraints often encourage innovation and collaboration.

"If I can make the work of CTF members easier, that is what is rewarding for me," Koole said.

One of her greatest strengths is her ability to view projects from a broad perspective. She believes this approach helps improve efficiency, strengthen communication and promote good stewardship.

When asked what advice she would offer someone entering a similar nonprofit role, Koole emphasized the importance of paying attention and remaining engaged.

"Be observant. A lot of good things are happening," she said.

Listening and observation, she added, are essential to understanding organizational needs, supporting workflows and communicating effectively.

Kim, Dan, Caden and Joy Koole at Dordt University's commencement in May. *(Photo courtesy of Kim Koole)*

Dan, Kim, Joy and Caden Koole at Joy's cross-country race last fall. *(Photo courtesy of Kim Koole)*

Commitment to CTF's Mission

When discussing the CTF's strengths, Koole pointed to the dedication and passion of its members.

"I see how invested CTF members are," she said. "They are passionate about Complex Rehab Technology and helping their patients live their best lives. They are deeply compassionate and interested in finding new ways to advance their work and generate excitement about this important field."

Since joining the organization, Koole has seen strong collaboration and momentum. With ongoing efforts focused on advocacy, education and membership growth, she believes CTF is well-positioned for continued success.

As membership expands and the organization works toward representation in every state, she is encouraged by the increasing awareness of CTF's mission and impact throughout the CRT community.

"For those involved with CTF, it is a labor of love," she said.

Life Outside of Work

When she is not supporting CTF or cheering on her children at collegiate sporting events, Koole enjoys traveling, hiking and spending time outdoors.

Family remains one of her greatest priorities. She also enjoys baking and sharing homemade sourdough bread with family and friends.

Reading is another favorite pastime. One recent book she recommends is "Water from My Heart" by Charles Martin.

Final Thoughts

Koole brings a unique blend of professional experience, organizational expertise and dedication to service to her role with the CTF.

Her background in healthcare, nonprofit leadership and inclusive design has given her a strong understanding of the CRT industry and the collaboration required to advance it. Through her focus on communication, efficiency and strategic thinking, she helps support CTF's mission and serves as a valuable resource for the organization's leadership and members.

Inspired by the commitment of CTF clinicians and energized by the organization's continued growth, Koole views her work as an opportunity to contribute to a mission that improves lives and strengthens the CRT community nationwide.

CONTACT THE AUTHOR

Leslie may be reached at
OTRJACKSON@YAHOO.COM

Leslie Jackson, OTD, OTR/L, ATP, CEAS III, LSVT BIG Certified, has more than 25 years of experience as an occupational therapist in outpatient care, acute care, home health, acute rehabilitation and higher education. She currently leads the Outpatient Seating and Mobility Clinic at Marion Health, in Marion, Indiana, and serves as an occupational therapist for the Department of Veterans Affairs.

Jackson earned her Assistive Technology Professional credential in 2008 through RESNA, the Rehabilitation Engineering and Assistive Technology Society of North America. She is also certified in ergonomics and in LSVT BIG, a treatment program for individuals with Parkinson's disease. In addition, Jackson serves on the executive board of Services for the Visually and Hearing Impaired, a nonprofit that provides assistive technology and educational services. Jackson is proud to support the CRT industry through the Clinician Task Force's advocacy and educational initiatives.