



The Kamara Center

*for Learning and Communication*

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### **Fast ForWord (FFWD)**

These programs have a strong track record of improving a number of skills, including memory, phonologic processing, grammar, and attention. Perhaps you have seen WETA's 2009 fund-raising event that featured *FFWD* in the Brain Fitness Program series with Dr. Michael Merzenich who, with Dr. Paula Tallal, co-founded Scientific Learning. Please check Scientific Learning's website (<http://www.scilearn.com>) for *FFWD* research and marketing information to learn more about the brain training.

The programs are appropriate for a wide age range, from preschool to high school levels, and many adults and ESOL (English as a Second or Other Language) speakers have benefited from the programs as well. The Center has administered *FFWD* for several years and has found it to be as, or more, successful than the reported research findings. Therefore, we feel comfortable recommending and administering these programs.

It is probably best to have pre-testing completed for comparison to post-testing to verify results, but this is optional. Testing can be administered at different sites to allow objective comparison if that is preferred, or the Center can do pre- and post testing. If speech and language testing has already been completed, that information should be sufficient to select the appropriate program.

*FFWD* can be completed in the child's home (or any location that has internet access) or on-site at the Center. Certain criteria need to be met for the program to be successful when administered at home, for instance, the child's being able to work in a quiet room and play the games independently. Most children meet the criteria. The home program is considerably less expensive, and the travel logistics much simpler. Information is uploaded and downloaded between the home, Scientific Learning, and the Center on a daily basis. The Center provides a weekly call to the family to discuss progress, or more frequently if needed after examining the reports. The Center provides consultation for setting up and implementing the home program, and Scientific Learning is excellent in providing technical assistance.

#### **Fast ForWord (FFWD) Fee Breakdown (On-Site at The Kamara Center):**

Pre-testing\* 310 / Post-testing\* 310

Scientific Learning Software Licensing Fee 954

On-site Administration (based on a maximum of 6 weeks) 2428

Total \$4002

#### **Fast ForWord (FFWD) Fee Breakdown (Off-Site):**

Pre-testing\* 310 / Post-testing\* 310

Scientific Learning Software Licensing Fee 954

Off-site Administration (based on a maximum of 6 weeks) 1215

Total \$2789

### **Social Pragmatic Skills and Reading Group**

2 hours, twice a week (\$2307)

The Center will be offering a different kind of program this summer. We have a number of children with mixed language profiles who show particular need for growth in social pragmatic skills and reading. To meet this profile, we have designed a program that mixes social focus with reading and spelling. Each two-hour session will be split into a social activity, including walking-distance outings, and reading activities that will be couched in game structure so that there is more of a summer relaxation atmosphere. There will be contests and prizes but equal distribution of winners by structuring games to match each child's strengths. Each child will have a summer therapy plan that he or she helps design and includes goals that are mutually agreed upon.

#### **Individual Therapy**

amount varies depending on number of sessions (\$132/hour)

Summer is often a time to strengthen skills in a more concentrated effort, and it lessens the logistics problem of after-school scheduling. For instance, two, 2-hour sessions a week for 6 weeks can equal the number of sessions a child would receive in a whole school year of weekly sessions, and the concentrated focus has some advantages. The amount of therapy does not have to be this concentrated. Some families want to provide continuity during the summer and elect to continue regularly scheduled therapy over the summer months.

#### **Diagnostic Assessment**

The Center offers a variety of assessments, including:

Comprehensive (\$1941)

Auditory Processing (\$626)

Achievement Testing (\$626)

Intermediate, Limited, and Brief assessments are available if it is determined that less testing is required, for instance, if a recent school assessment provided current test findings.

*See The Kamara Center website, [www.kamara.net](http://www.kamara.net) for description of behavior associated with oral and communication problems.*

\* *FFWD*: If testing was administered by another site, pre- and post-testing does not apply, and those fees would be subtracted from the total fee. Pre- and post-testing at The Kamara Center involves 2 hours of testing for each procedure.