

2024-25 Faculty Listing – KANSAS CITY

Wendy Acker, AS, CMA, earned her Associates Degree as a Medical Assistant from North Hills School of Health Occupations in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. She is a Certified Medical Assistant that has been working in the medical field over 25 years, for the last 18 years in the field of Neurology. Wendy holds her certification through National Health Association. She actively seeks CME opportunities through on-line and lectures. She brings with her many years of experience in different fields. Wendy has the belief that with her job, she is here not only to help educate in the field of medicine, but to be an advocate for the patient. She is a part-time adjunct instructor.

Erik Bertz, CPT, CES, NSCA, NCCSF, has been in the Fitness world since the mid 90's. With 30 years of experience as a gym owner, investor, educator and Personal Trainer, Erik has covered all aspects of this incredible industry. Erik started out as a gym owner, owning a chain of small town family fitness centers and then moving up to being a partner of a mega gym in 2004. During these years, Erik began to develop his own style of Personal Training that focused on the client, their needs, goals and even dreams. In 2010, Erik started Flex In Home Personal Training offering his clients an In Home experience. At that time, he was also teaching course work for NSCA and NASM curriculum. He spent 10 years in the education sector before returning to Flex full time. Now Erik enjoys training a handful of clients, focusing on event activity goals that he participates with the clients. Erik is a part-time instructor.

Bryan M. Bond, DC, MS, PHD, received his B.S in Kinesiology from the University of Waterloo in Ontario. He earned a B.S in Human Biology and Doctor of Chiropractic degrees from the National University of Health Sciences and spent several years in private practice before joining Cleveland Chiropractic College (CCC) in 2002. Dr. Bond holds a Master of Science in Biomechanics from The University of Kansas Medical Center. Also, he is currently working towards a completion of a Rehabilitation Diplomate from the American Chiropractic Rehabilitation Board. Dr. Bond is a part-time adjunct instructor.

Tyler Bowling, LMT, began his career in bodywork with teaching yoga where he was inspired to pursue a career that would allow him to help individuals on a more personalized level. He recognized massage as a powerful tool to help patients take charge of their health and well-being. Tyler earned his associates degree in Master of Massage Therapy from WellSpring School of Allied Health in 2021. He is currently training Swedish massage, deep tissue neuromuscular, facilitated stretching, manual lymphatic drainage, and reflexology. Tyler is a part-time adjunct instructor.

Bobbi Brown, LMT, has over 15 years in the healthcare industry, working with different populations in a multitude of settings and sectors. She has been in private practice doing Applied Kinesiology, Orthopedic Manual Therapy, Sports Rehabilitation and Holistic Health Coaching for the last 7 years. Bobbi received her massage therapy training at Heritage College and graduated with an associate's degree in occupational health studies. She holds a multitude of certifications, to bring experience and practical application into the classroom. Bobbi has been a team member at WellSpring since 2019 and is currently the massage therapy program and clinical manager.

Dr. Ashley Carter, DC, holds a bachelor's degree in human biology and a Doctorate in Chiropractic from Cleveland University-Kansas City, where she graduated in April 2022. Shortly after completing her studies, Dr. Carter established her own practice. However, she soon chose to dedicate her time at home to raising her young children. With a heartfelt commitment to the future of health and wellness, she strives to inspire students to make a positive impact in the world. As a part-time instructor, Dr. Carter fosters an engaging and enjoyable classroom atmosphere, making learning both effective and fun. Ashley is a part-time instructor

Judy Collins, BFA, LMT, graduated from WellSpring (formerly MTTI), in 2000 with a certificate in Massage Therapy. She also holds a BFA in Graphic Design, from Missouri State University (formerly Southwest MO State University). Judy was MBLEx certified in 2017, and has owned Healing Touch Therapeutic Massage from April 2001-present. Her passion is medically-based massage, inclusive of Compassionate Touch certification and Oncology Massage certification. Judy is an adjunct instructor for the Massage Therapy certificate and Associates Degree programs.

Kevin Deal, LMT, has been practicing massage since 2002 and has been an instructor at WellSpring School of Allied Health formerly MTTI since 2006. He is an active member in the American Craniosacral Association, the International Association of Healthcare Professionals, U.S. Trager Association, the European Trager Association, the Canadian Trager Association and the Upledger Institute where he holds a certification in Craniosacral Techniques. Kevin is a certified Trager Practitioner and has completed studies in Switzerland in movement reeducation modalities. His background also includes deep tissue techniques, myofascial release, somato emotional release work, and energy therapies. He is a Reiki Master/Teacher, studied Attunement with Chris Jorgensen and Pachacuti shamanism with Dan Baxley. In addition to his work here as an Instructor and Continuing Education Coordinator, he maintains a private practice and is employed by the Alpha Chiropractic Center.

Rachel George, LMT, teaches bodywork classes for the massage program, as well as CPR/First Aid classes for massage and fitness students. Rachel enjoys personalizing massages for her clients at a gym in Grain Valley and operating her own business since 2013. She graduated from WellSpring's massage program in 2011 and earned Ashiatsu Practitioner Certification from Deep Feet Oriental Bar Therapy in 2018.

Coty Gilliland, LMT, began his health and wellness career back in 2017 after receiving his massage therapy credentials after attending Pinnacle Career Institute in South Kansas City. His career has brought him all over the Midwest as a working massage practitioner. He has made the necessary arrangements to pursue a higher education providing an even wider skill set and more diverse ways to help other health and wellness enthusiasts feel better in their everyday lives. He is a part-time instructor.

Aaron Harris, LMT, has been in private practice since 2012. He started his career as a massage therapist operating a free clinic in conjunction with an acupuncturist for patients with HIV/AIDS. He specializes in working with clients with chronic illnesses or in hospice care. He has previously worked in many health care settings, including 4 years as a paramedic. Aaron holds massage therapy licenses in California, Missouri, and is nationally Board Certified. He is a part-time instructor.

Heather Hayes, CPT, CES, and PES, is an alumni of WellSpring School of Allied Health having graduated in 2019. She also is a certified Muscle Activation Technique practitioner. Heather has worked in the fitness industry for 15 years. Her experience includes working with a wide range of clientele from young athletes, Chief's players, senior citizens and Parkinson's clients. She is an enthusiastic, energetic leader that finds joy in helping people learn and succeed. Heather has a strong desire to inspire her clients to become their best. She is a part-time instructor.

Evan Ivery-Long, CES, LMT, is a US Air Force Veteran and graduate of the Fitness & Nutrition Programs and Massage Therapy programs at WellSpring School of Allied Health. Evan's passion for fitness comes from a background in the performing arts as well as having provided instruction to youth and adults in Dance/Choreography Group Fitness. Evan has a strong background in Reiki/Energy work practice and is committed to ongoing studies in various practices for Healing and Holistic Wellness. At this time, Evan is actively growing his private practice with Corrective Exercise, Coaching, and Bodywork/Massage Therapy. Evan is a part-time instructor.

Dr. Sean Kono, DC, received his Doctor of Chiropractic degree in 1997 from Cleveland Chiropractic College-Los Angeles. He had three practices in Southern California until 2014, when he decided to teach full time at Cleveland University-Kansas City. He received his Bachelor's in Human Biology from Cleveland University in 2021. Dr. Kono also teaches as an adjunct instructor for Johnson County Community College and the Southern California University of Health Sciences in Los Angeles, California. Dr. Kono has been an instructor with Irene Gold Associates National Chiropractic Board Reviews since 1998, which takes him to various chiropractic colleges throughout North America. He is also a professional magician, and performs at the Magic Castle in Hollywood, Calif. Dr. Kono is a part-time instructor.

Zach Nuss, CPT, lives in Lee's Summit, Missouri with his wife. He owns a traditional fitness business and is certified through NASM and ACE. Zach has been an entrepreneur with his wife for just under a decade as well as a published author with even more books on the way. He is the fitness and nutrition program manager who brings to the classroom a high level of professionalism through his experience in the world of fitness and business, being a published author and Eagle Scout. In his classes, you will experience that professionalism and enthusiasm as he aims to prepare you to be a future leader in the world of health and wellness.

Clay Reynolds, LMT, completed his Massage Therapist certification at WellSpring School of Allied Health in 2021. He is a member of the AMTA. Since graduation, he has actively pursued continuing education to elevate the quality his work, incorporating techniques from Eastern modalities including shiatsu, acupressure, Thai hand and foot massage, and lomi lomi, as well as the use of tools including cups, Kinesio tape, and percussion guns. Clay is passionate about education and committed to cultivating bodywork skills in his students, to spread the healing power and joy of therapeutic massage. He is a part-time instructor.

James Spikes, BS, earned his Bachelor's Degree in Kinesiology from Morehouse College. He has a diverse background within the allied health profession, working with the likes of college campus communities, county governments, and non-profit organizations. James recently joined the WellSpring staff in the Fall of 2020. He has experience working with diverse demographics, tailoring his work to the needs of the community he serves. His personable attitude paired with his multifaceted pedagogy ensures that every student has a chance to reach their full potential. He is a part-time instructor.

Dr. Dani Steffen, DC, MS, earned her bachelor's and master's degrees in Health and Human Performance from Fort Hays State University while competing in basketball and track. She then earned her Doctorate of Chiropractic degree at Cleveland University – Kansas City in 2018. Currently she is pursuing her Diplomate as a DABCN and DABCI; board certified chiropractic internist and nutritionist. She has certifications in dry needling, acupuncture, IASTM, FAKTR, and taping. She has been nominated “Best Chiropractor” many times. She is the KCA KC Metro President, and currently owns a multidisciplinary practice in Bonner Springs. She has taught Anatomy and Physiology since January 2021. Dr. Dani has experience with all ages of patients and a variety of health related conditions to compliment her hands on teaching style to created increased comprehension and excitement for learning. She is a part-time adjunct instructor.

Autumn Stuebner, AAS, earned her Associates of Arts degree in Medical Assisting from Vatterott College. She is actively pursuing additional course work in education through WGU. Autumn has been a Medical Assistant for over ten years and holds the RMA certification through the AMT. Autumn has taught a combined total of eight years during her career. This includes her time as a clinical preceptor, adjunct instructor, and substitute within the public school sector. She brings to the classroom a positive attitude and high energy. Autumn has a desire to make a difference in the lives of her students. She is the Medical Assisting program manager.

Karrie Turner, DC, LMT, earned her Doctor of Chiropractic degree from Cleveland University. Prior to attending Cleveland University, she attended Idaho State University in Pocatello, Idaho. There she received a Bachelor's of Science in music in 2008, and a certificate in Massage Therapy in 2014. She has practiced massage since 2014 in Idaho and in Kansas, and has been a active member of AMTA during this time. She has experience working in clinical and spa settings. She is enthusiastic about teaching and helping students to learn anatomy and skills to change their lives and those they will help in the future. She is a part-time instructor.

Dr. David Yoo, DC, graduated from the University of Nebraska with a B.S. in Pre-Medicine Biology. He continued his education at Cleveland Chiropractic College in Kansas City, MO graduating with his Doctorate in Chiropractic. Since then, he has completed many certifications including Certified Chiropractic Sports Physician, National Academy of Sports Medicine certification, and several Acupuncture and Traditional Chinese Medicine accreditations and certifications. He was in private practice for 18 years until retiring in 2014. He has been involved in teaching for the past 15 years. David has also taught many seminars across the nation on acupuncture and Traditional Chinese Medicine certifying many physicians and massage therapists. Teaching is his passion. Each class will be filled with lots of information, excitement, laughs, and most importantly passion. David strives to make each and every class the best. His knowledge and experience brings excitement and motivation to the students.