

MEET AET VOLUNTEER

Juli Bowman



Level of AET membership:

ET/P (anticipated BCET in the coming months!)

Type and location of practice: (City, State)

Principal and Founder of a Group Practice
Falls Church, Virginia

Leadership roles held in AET:

AET Representative for the National Joint Council on Learning Disabilities (NJCLD)
Member of the AET Public Policy Committee

How long have you been an educational therapist?

In practice over 20 years. Discovered and joined AET in 2019.

Areas of expertise:

Assessment and strengths-based counseling of neuropsychological evaluation findings and next steps, Consultation and support of learning disabilities, Structured interventions for Dyslexia, Dysgraphia, and Dyscalculia, Executive Function (ADHD) Counseling / Therapy, Supporting social-emotional aspects of learning, Curating evidenced-based curriculum and instructional sequences

What is the best career advice you can give to new ETs?

Schedule in time for regular professional inquiry and reflection. Consider a weekly practice of planning and evaluating students and methods, reflecting on your own goals, researching, and collaborating with others. Most of all, trust yourself and know that as an ET, you bring a unique perspective to clients and allied professionals.

Describe a challenge you have faced as an educational therapist:

It took me a long time to set boundaries with parents. Like many service providers, I aim to please and tend to accommodate, which taken too far, undermines my work. I've since adopted intentional parent care, communicating client boundaries and providing student-centered rationale for those persistent parents - who actually appreciate boundaries themselves!

Describe a highlight of your educational therapy career:

I literally dream of having educational therapists in every school. I think we're finally seeing a shift in education toward acknowledging the many intersections of learning, the science behind learning, and the need to bridge theory with practice. Truthfully, though, time and resources are limited for schools, and I think there will continue to be a growing need for ETs.

What do you think the future of the educational therapy profession will look like?

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How have you benefited from your membership in AET?

I remember attending my first AET Workshop and feeling an overwhelming sense of gratitude for finally finding "my people." From workshops to committees and mentoring to professional networking, I'm continually benefiting from associating with fellow AET members and contributing to the field as a whole. Ours is an important work, and I'm honored to be part of it.

Hobbies/Leisure Activities:

I'm a bit of an endorphin junkie. I love to get my hands dirty, and thrive in the outdoors. I love to be active- running, hiking, backpacking, kickboxing, and gardening. I grew up spoiled by the mountains of the PNW and to this day, one of my favorite places to be is to stand at the peak of a mountain I've climbed and take in the panoramic view.

