

## **Neuromuscular Disorder Rehabilitation Program**

Dr. David Ditor is the Director of the Power Cord Exercise Program, offering highly specialized exercise programming to individuals with neuromuscular disorders. He has provided numerous placement and work opportunities to students.

Decisions in Providing an Opportunity	Students with a kinesiology background have a theoretical blend of physiology, health psychology, exercise rehabilitation, biomechanics, and often personal experiences that build their social and teamwork skills. This makes them great additions to an exercise facility or rehabilitation facility.  By bringing in student interns, costs can be allocated throughout the facility to better the experience for members.  Aside from providing placements, hiring students afterwards is helpful because students already have the experience, know how to use the facility equipment, and have built relationships with valuable members.
Roles & Responsibilities	Students have been given tasks to assist with designing, implementing, and supervising exercise programs for facility members.  As well, they work one-on-one with members, building an atmosphere of belonging, support, and encouragement.  Students are also trained and help with rehabilitation technologies and exercise equipment in the facility.
Outcome	Kinesiology students get a better understanding of what their future career may look like, whether it is within physical rehabilitation or not, they gain great exposure to many different possible career paths.  At our facility, Kinesiology students make these connections, and they get comfortable with people with disabilities where they're really putting their theoretical knowledge to practice.  Facility members also get to experience a warm, welcoming community that they are proud to be a part of every time they enter Power Cord.
Additional Comments	Alongside the benefits of taking on a student, it is also important to consider the amount of time and supportive environment that is needed to ensure an insightful learning experience is provided.  Ultimately, placement supervisors can help build the future of the kinesiology profession and offer students an experience they can't get in a classroom, and that is good for everyone.