

MEMORANDUM
DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY HEALTH
LANSING, MICHIGAN 48909-7979



DOSE
OF HUMOR

<http://www.ahajokes.com/>

New Year's Resolution:
While I'm not always the best
at keeping them, I'm
consistent, and I'm sure this
year will be better than ever
before.

February 2009

DATE: Families of Children with Special Needs
TO: Mary J. Marin, Executive Director, Family Center (FC)
FROM: Nancy Deising, Parent Communications Consultant Specialist,
Children's Special Health Care Services (CSHCS) Division



SUBJECT: Heart-to-Heart Updates



A Word from Mary...

On behalf of the staff of the Family Center, **Happy New Year!** *Mary J. Marin*♥

The Family Center (FC) is a section of the Children's Special Health Care Services (CSHCS) Division of the Michigan Department of Community Health (MDCH). CSHCS is part of MDCH's Bureau of Family, Maternal and Child Health.

CSHCS primarily provides medical specialty care to children with a qualifying diagnosis. The FC serves families of all children with special needs. The Family Support Network of Michigan (FSN) is the FC's parent-to-parent support arm.

Mary J. Marin
Executive Director

Lisa Cook-Gordon
Transition Consultant

Nancy Deising
Parent Communications Consultant

Randy Krause
FSN Coordinator

Jean Rennie
Administrative Assistant

Dianna Rigato
Information & Resource Specialist

Leah Waters
Secretary

CSHCS Family Phone Line
1-800-359-3722
8 a.m.-5 p.m., Monday- Friday

Events and resources are compiled by the Family Center from a variety of sources. A listing does not stand for endorsement.

Position Opening:
Southeastern Michigan Health Association

Position Title:
Training and Curriculum Development Consultant

Location:
Lansing, MI

Essential Function: Oversee, develop, conduct, and/or evaluate training and development or other informational programs. The primary focus of the position is to provide training to various populations for the purpose of promoting and understanding of CSHCS.

Requirements:

- Minimum of five years of experience working with programs that serve the target population especially as related to planning and implementation of initiatives.
- Extensive experience in collaborating with families, professionals, organizations and provide service to the target population.
- Knowledge of the family-centered health care model.
- Knowledge of systems integration and professional collaboratives for Children and Youth with Special Health Care Needs (CYSHCN).
- Significant travel may be required.

Skills:

- Extensive experience in collaborating with families, professionals, and organizations to provide service to the target population.
- Have demonstrated commitment to the concept of integrated community system of CYSHCN.
- Excellent communication, written and verbal skills.

Applicants must presently be authorized to work in the United States on a full-time basis. E.O.E. Mail resume and cover letter to: Southeastern Michigan Health Association, ATTN: Mary Marin, 3011 W. Grand Blvd., 200 Fisher Bldg., Detroit, MI 48202, Fax: 313-873-6504 (No phone calls, please).

Children's Special Health Care Services (CSHCS) & Family Center (FC) for Children & Youth with Special Health Care Needs Updates

Hospice Benefit, Effective December 1, 2008: provides assistance to a client/family when end of life care related to the client's CSHCS qualifying diagnosis is appropriate. Hospice is intended to address the medical needs of the client with a terminal illness whose life expectancy is limited to six months or less. Hospice service must be prior authorized with supporting medical documentation. Requests for hospice must be made in writing to CSHCS. Any questions regarding this benefit should be directed to Provider Inquiry, Department of Community Health, P.O. Box 30731, Lansing, Michigan 48909-8231, or e-mail: ProviderSupport@michigan.gov ♥

Insights about Parenting! Janice Fialka, Parent and Licensed Michigan Social Worker "Nudging the Network" are one of Fialka's heartfelt stories of her son, Micah who has cognitive disabilities. Fialka knows first hand in order to have our children included in meaningful ways in school and in our communities, "We need to nudge our networks of neighbors, friends, and family. We as parents of children with disabilities often allow ourselves to get trapped by our discomfort and inexperience, which sometime results in silence, anger, withdrawal, curtness, or aloneness." Fialka's past experience has taught her and her family to intentionally talk with our networks on how to engage our children with disabilities in all aspects of daily living. This does not happen because we want it, it will happen if we think and talk about it. Fialka's suggestions to parents are to not be silent; speak the truth to others and ask them to think about some tough issues. Nudge in a respectful manner that is tolerant of their unawareness of the issues. Also, let others know about the wishes and dreams of your sons or daughters – to participate in a basketball team or go to the prom. People want to get involved but don't know how to sometimes and it takes a bit of nudging but it is worth it!

Micha has too learned to nudge his own network and build community. Watch Micha and his peers in action at: http://scripturn.com/video_EhgWPOAmvUY.html. Read more of Janice Fialka's story in the [Center for Educational Network, Leading Change, 2007/08, Vol. 6, Issue 2](#). Or visit <http://www.cenmi.org>. Other suggested websites visit: <http://www.danceofpartnership.com> and <http://www.throughthesamedoor.com>. *The Fialka-Feldman Family will honored at the Family Voices Gala in Washington, DC in February for making humanity more human. See below for more details of the Gala!* ♥

Medical Home Updates

CSHCS Strategic Planning: Medical Home Work Group met for the first time in October! A lot of great information was discussed and three objectives are being worked on. The three objectives are:

1. Develop a consensus definition for Children and Youth with Special Health Care Needs (CYSHCN) family-centered Medical Home and all subsets of Medical Home such as care coordination in Michigan and involve family representation throughout the process.
2. Address Medical Home funding and reimbursement issues allowing for multiple billing strategies.
3. Develop mechanisms to educate the public and train professionals on the topic of Medical Home.

The meeting focused on objective number one. Background information and documentation were provided. Also discussed in length was the Joint Principles of the Patient-Centered Medical Home as detailed by the American Academy of Family Physicians, the American Academy of Pediatrics, the American College of Physicians, and American Osteopathic Association dated February 2007. The principles provide the basic definition and added footnotes on concepts of particular importance in Michigan. The principles document is available at: <http://www.pcpc.net/node/14>. The remaining five CSHCS Strategic Planning Workgroups also have met. Look for additional updates on all six workgroups in the coming months! ♥

Events & Opportunities

FREE Pediatric Wheelchair donated by Mrs. Linda Bendall from Grand Blanc, Michigan. If you are looking for a pediatric size wheelchair that has tilt and moveable features, contact Linda at (810) 694-3542 .

Watch Me Grow Calendar Available Being a parent is a tough job, wouldn't you agree? It is often tough to know who to turn to for information about parenting, nutrition, safety and many other issues that arise in families. Now there is something to help! The Watch Me Grow calendar is specifically designed for families with young children in Michigan. Each month highlights a different program - offering both program information and telephone numbers. Activities and tips for parents are also offered throughout the calendar providing information on health, safety, nutrition and parenting. For information visit: <http://www.watchmegrowcalendar.com/>. This site includes a copy (PDF) of the 2007-2008 calendar for people who want to see what it looks like, as well as an order form and contact information. ♥

February 23, 2009 Family Voices Gala: Marriott Wardman Park Hotel, Washington, DC, Family Voices will honor **The Fialka-Feldman Family** for helping make humanity more human, **Jim Kelly** for raising awareness of and promoting newborn screening and **Peter D. Wilson** for his work with Children's Hospitals on behalf of all children and their families. For information and/or sponsorship opportunities, contact Rachel N. Rodriguez at rrodriguez@familyvoices.org or call 1-888-835-5669. <http://www.familyvoices.org>. ♥

Families of Children with Special Needs: Meet other parents who understand the unique challenges and rewards of raising a child with special needs. A great way to share concerns, successes, information and support. There is **NO COST** involved. Dinner, respite and childcare provided. Allendale, MI Group meets the 1st and 3rd Wednesday of each month and the Holland, MI Group meets 2nd and 4th Tuesday of each month. For questions or to register, contact Kara Tiethof of Pathways at 616-895-1598 or e-mail: circleofparents@yahoo.com. ♥

Resources

Assistive Technology (AT) Xchange
<http://www.atxchange.org/>

CSHCS Course
www.training.mihealth.org/coursedetail.htm#CSHCS

Down Syndrome Guild
www.dsgsemi.org 248-827-9135

Family Center 1-800-359-3722 and
www.bridges4kids.org/f2f

Healthy Children Project Monthly e-News <http://www.LDAofmichigan.org/healthychild.htm>

Heart-to-Heart Updates www.michigan.gov/cshcs, click on "Family Center"
E-mail **Dianna Rigato** at RigatoD@Michigan.gov for electronic copies of the Updates.

Judson Center Autism Connections
<http://www.judsoncenter.org/>

Michigan Loan Funds
<http://www.michiganloanfunds.org/>

Teen Women with Diabetes & Their Parents!

Take a diabetes health education survey.

To find out more:

Contact us at BDRFollowup@michigan.gov

Call us toll free: **866-852-1247**

