



The Family Center 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 Family Center serves families of all children with special needs. The Family Support Network of Michigan (FSN) is the Family Center's parent-to-parent support arm.

Mary J. Marin
Executive Director

Lisa Cook-Gordon
Transition Consultant

Lisa Huckleberry
Training Consultant

Valerie Smith
Office Manager

Randy Krause
FSN Coordinator

Dianna Rigato
CSHCS Program Specialist

Deborah Schaller
Administrative Assistant

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

A Word from Mary

We have exciting news concerning our CSHCS youth population. In 2011, the first ever Youth Consultant, Chelsea Perry was hired through a grant. Working closely with Chelsea, CSHCS is once again taking the opportunity to gather young adults together and continue the efforts put forth by the Early Adult Transition Task Force (EATTF). Chelsea has developed a Facebook page for young adults with special health care needs. The Facebook page is another avenue of support for young adults and any others who need support and questions answered about transition to adulthood. We'll also announce when we are looking for new members of the EATTF. Some of the issues young adults will face that will be discussed by the Transition Task Force are:

Healthcare Transition Issues, such as financing, finding adult healthcare providers and adopting appropriate healthcare skills

Educational Transition Issues, such as transitions in special education, moving beyond high school and employment assistance

Adult Independent Living Transition Issues, such as adopting appropriate independent living skills, locating adequate housing options, managing money and guardianship options

The young adult Facebook page is at <http://www.facebook.com/EATTF>.

Mary J. Marin

Staff Updates

Lonnie D. Barnett has been appointed to fill the position of CSHCS Division Director. Please join us in welcoming Lonnie. Lonnie joined MDCH in 1998 and had been the Section Manager for the MDCH Health Planning and Access to Care (HPAC) Section for the past 13 years. As the HPAC Section Manager, he served as the State Primary Care Office Director and was the state contact for Health People 2020 and Michigan's County Health Rankings. Lonnie coordinated the State Planning Project for the Uninsured, the development of the State Rural Health Plan and Michigan's plan for implementing the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act, (a.k.a. PPACA or National Health Care Reform). To a large degree, his work focused on enhancing access to health care for vulnerable populations in Michigan through

recruitment and retention of health care providers and through support and development of the health care safety net. Prior to his time at MDCH, he worked for the Kent County Health Department as a Community Health Planner. Lonnie graduated from the University of Michigan, School of Public Health with a Master of Public Health degree in 1993 and from Emory University with a BA degree in Biology and Economics in 1989. Lonnie says he is looking forward to the opportunities that lie ahead. Welcome to the team Lonnie!

The Family Center also has a new staff member. Debbie Schaller was hired to fill Jean Rennie's position. She is a retired health/fitness educator from the Grosse Ile Township School system. Deb is also the parent of the 29 year old daughter with cystic fibrosis. Deb has worked with both Children's Hospital of Michigan, and now the University of Michigan Cystic Fibrosis Center, as her daughter's care facilities. Deb brings years of knowledge and experience to the Family Center and is excited to do her part in "giving back" to parents who have children with special needs.

****It's that time of year again****



Flu Vaccine: For Everyone, Every Year

Contact your Local Health Department or your child's physician's office to schedule an appointment to receive the influenza vaccine.

Remember: The single best way to protect against the flu is to get vaccinated each year.

Resources

Assistive Technology (AT) Xchange
www.atxchange.org

CSHCS Courses
http://www.training.mihealth.org/course_detail.htm#CSHCS

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

Wrightslaw
<http://www.wrightslaw.com/>

Autism Resource Network of Northwest Michigan
<http://www.autismresourcenetwork.org/>

Syndromes Without A Name-USA
<http://www.undiagnosed-usa.org/>
1-269-692-2090-or-1-888-880-SWAN(7926)

SNApps4Kids
<http://www.snapps4kids.com/>

bridges 4 kids
www.bridges4kids.org

iPhone, iPad and iPod touch Apps for (Special) Education
<http://www.bridges4kids.org/iPhone%20and%20iPadded%20Apps%20for%20Special%20Education.pdf>

Wellness and Epilepsy Conference - November 11-12, 2011, at the Diamond Center, Suburban Collection Showplace (formerly Rock Financial Showplace), 46100 Grand River Avenue, Novi, MI 48374.

The Epilepsy Foundation of Michigan's Wellness & Epilepsy Conference promises to be one of Michigan's premier educational and networking opportunities for people with epilepsy, family members, and professionals who serve them. The Foundation is proud to have very talented and knowledgeable speakers within the fields of epilepsy, neurology, and psychology, offering both pediatric and adult perspectives. Please consider joining the Foundation at this event that will focus on managing the physical, psychosocial, and cognitive aspects of epilepsy. For more information, please go to www.epilepsymichigan.org or call (800) 377-6226.

Young ICD Connection, A New Beginning: October 22, 2011
The Ann Arbor City Club, 1830 Washtenaw, Ann Arbor, MI 48104.

Come join us for an all day event celebrating and educating those touched by implantable cardioverter-defibrillators (ICD). This event provides support and education for young ICD recipients. There will be activities for children, teens, young adults and families. Our goal is to educate in a festive yet relaxed atmosphere while connecting with others who share similar experiences. This event is free of charge and graciously provided by Medtronic Inc.

For Registration and more information please go to:
<http://www.mottchildren.org/congenital/news/icd-event.html>



It's a great time of the year to take the whole family out to see the beautiful autumn colors! What better way to do it than to visit one of the many cider mills in the state of Michigan. For a listing of cider mills throughout the state please visit: **<http://www.oaklandweb.com/recreation/cidermills.htm>**