

Children's Special



Health Care Services

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 the MDCH's Bureau of Family, Maternal and Child Health.

CSHCS primarily provides medical specialty care to children with 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

Randy Krause, FSN Coordinator

Jean Rennie, Administrative Assistant

Dianna Rigato, CSHCS Program Specialist

Leah Waters, Secretary

Robin Rennie, Communications Consultant

CSHCS Family Phone Line

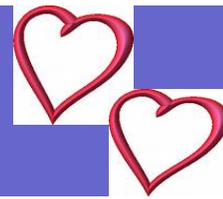
1-800-359-3722

8 a.m.—5 p.m., Monday - Friday

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

Heart-to-Heart

August 2009 Updates



From the Desk of
Mary J. Marin, Executive Director
Family Center (FS)

A Word from Mary.....

We have a busy month ahead as we prepare for [RElativEly SpEakinG 2009](#), which will be held October 2-4. This conference will allow children with special needs to enjoy fun, ability-appropriate activities. The brothers and sisters of special need children connect "heart-to-heart" sharing their experiences with other siblings of special-needs children, while having fun and making new friends. Featured speakers will include Geri Jewell, comedienne, Don Meyer, director of the Sibling Support Project, and Jane Moss, Director of Community Leadership and Advocacy from Oklahoma. Have you registered yet? This conference is only offered every-other year, so don't miss this opportunity!

Registration deadline is August 31.

Conference Fee: \$35 per family or professional.

Lodging: \$104.88 per night at the Crown Plaza, Grand Rapids, MI

Call 1-800-2CROWNE for reservations.

A limited number of parent stipends are still available!

For a stipend application or conference information, call the Family Phone Line, 1-800-359-3722. ♥

I want to welcome two new staff members. First, I am delighted to report that Marilyn O'Neill has accepted a position as a nurse consultant for the Children's Special Health Care Services. Marilyn has experience in Practice Management and Research at U of M and has been a nurse over 20 years.

I also want to introduce Robin Rennie, who has over 30 years experience in working on special projects, will take over editing this [Heart-to-Heart](#) newsletter. If you have information to [Heart-to-Heart](#) or suggestions on how we might improve getting information to you, please let Robin know at rennie@academicconsult.com. ♥

Mary J. Marin

Attention: Families who Use Private Duty Nursing (PDN) Services!

Effective August 1, 2009 all CSHCS clients who also receive the Medicaid PDN services will have a medical review period established according to the client's primary CSHCS diagnosis. Renewal periods are published on the Michigan Department of Community Health website at www.michigan.gov/medicaidproviders >> Billing and Reimbursement >> Provide Specific Information >> Children's Special Health Care Services . Diagnosis Code List. Please note that this policy change does not affect medical eligibility requirements for the Medicaid PDN benefit- you must continue to submit updated medical information according to the PDN policy requirements.

MDA Joins the World of Twitter

The Muscular Dystrophy Association (MDA) will now post its research, services, advocacy and Jerry Lewis MDA Telethon news on Twitter, the social networking tool, through its account @MDA news. Add yourself to the account by clicking to follow at www.twitter.com/MDAnews. MDA also hosts its own social network site, [myMDA](#), designed to provide people with muscle diseases, their family, friends and caregivers, a chance to make new friends while sharing experiences, helpful tips, and resources. For more information go to: www.mda.org

In today's economy, more and more families are struggling to make ends meet. The Michigan Assistance and Referral Service (MARS) is a pre-screening tool that helps families find programs offered by the State of Michigan that may help families in need of food, cash and medical assistance. The MARS website is: <http://www.mfia.state.mi.us/mars>

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/>

On the Spectrum: Autism Resources
www.myspace.com/on_the_spectrum

Syndromes Without A Name-USA
(SWAN-USA) www.undiagnosed-usa.org
Amy Clugston, President
amyclugstong@undiagnosed-usa.org
269-692-2090 or 888-880-SWAN (7926)

The Special Needs Store
www.thespecialneedsstore.com



We're on the Web:

www.michigan.gov/cshcs, click on "Family Center"



**Family Phone Line-
Important News!**

The Michigan House and Senate Appropriations committee has approved Executive Order 2009-22 to help eliminate a shortfall in the state budget. The Order requires six unpaid furlough days (temporary layoff) of state employees to achieve a savings. Upcoming furlough days are:

August 7 & 21 and September 4.

The Family Phone Line WILL be available. We encourage all families to contact staff prior for any transportation or other needs.

Upcoming Conferences

Epilepsy Today Conferences—CSHCS Staff will be presenting

Designed for individuals with epilepsy, their families and others whose lives are touched by epilepsy, this conference will help attendees manage epilepsy and the problems it causes.

The conference will be held at three locations:

September 18, 2009 Metro Detroit- Doubletree Hotel

November 7, 2009 Kalamazoo- The Fetzer Center

November 13, 2009 Port Huron- St. Clair County Community Mental Health Authority

CSHCS Executive Director Mary Marin will be participating in a panel at the Kalamazoo conference and CSHCS Program Specialist, Dianna Rigato will participate in panels at the Metro Detroit and Port Huron sessions. Registration cost is \$25 for individuals with epilepsy and their families and \$50 for others. For complete details on the conference and the many other events planned by the Epilepsy Foundation of Michigan visit:

<http://www.epilepsymichigan.org>

2009 Michigan Deaf Association Conference

The Biennial MDA Conference will be held August 26-29 at the Doubletree Hotel in Bay City.

For conference details go to www.mideaf.org

The Brain Injury Association of Michigan Annual Conference

The nation's largest brain injury conference will be held on September 24 & 25 at the Lansing Center, Lansing, Michigan. The conference will provide state-of-the-art information about brain injury treatment and therapies. The conference is targeted for those with brain injuries, families, and professionals. For more information go to the website: <http://www.biarni.org/events.htm>

Learning Disabilities Association of Michigan Annual Conference

The LDA of Michigan Annual Conference will be held November 16-17 at the Kellogg Center, Michigan State University, East Lansing. For more information go to www.ldaofmichigan.org

Association for the Education & Rehabilitation of the Blind and Visually Impaired

Registration is now open for the 2009 AER Regional Conference, featuring COMA's O & M Conference within a Conference. For more information or to www.aebvi.org/regionalconf/

A Dose of Humor

What kind of
Pop Music!
music scares balloons?

Use Your Feet to Defeat Diabetes!

In 2008, the Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation walks in East Lansing, Dexter, Warren and Alpena welcomed 9,000 people and raised over \$2.1 million to help find a cure for diabetes. Please save the date and participate. Walk for a cure in 2009!

East Lansing: August 8 from 8:30 am– 11:30 am. Contact Deb Wallace at: 248-355-1133 or

dwallace@jdrf.org.

Ann Arbor/Dexter: October 4 from 8:30 am– 11:30 am. Contact Rita Combest at 248-355-1133 or rcombest@jdrf.org

Warren: October 4 from 8:30 am– 11:30 am. Contact Rita Combest at 248-355-1133 or rcombest@jdrf.org

Alpena: Date and time to be announced. Contact Michelle Milbocker– 989-733-8381, Marchy Nunneley– 989-356-9423 or Celia Bade– 989-73407525.

The Birds, The Bees & Diabetes

Teens with diabetes need to be aware of the health issues that can arise as they mature. It is extremely important that they avoid unplanned pregnancy and understand the importance of diabetes control before becoming pregnant. A new information card is available at:

www.michigan.gov/geonomic under "What's new?"

Additional information for teens with diabetes and their parents can be found at:

www.migeneticsconnection.org/teensanddiabetes.shtml