

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.

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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...

As you know, the diaper and incontinent supply coverage was cut due to the state budget, effective December 1, 2009. These changes have affected the lives of many of our families. J&B Medical has developed an option that offers parents and caregivers the opportunity to continue to use the same incontinence products for the care of their child(ren). The cost of these supplies will be 15% off standard pricing. You can call J&B Medical at 1-800-737-0045, extension 114 and ask for a Customer Service Representative to answer your questions and share pricing information. You may also visit their website at www.jandbmedical.com. Please share the coupon code – "CSHCS1" for the special price program.

Mary J. Marin

Spotlight on.....

Oakland County Health Department... hosted an H1N1 flu clinic for CSHCS enrolled clients. A total of 870 clients and family members attended the clinic over a two-day period in November 2009. Clients had the opportunity to tour the CSHCS unit, speak with staff and receive their H1N1 vaccination. All enrolled clients and family members received an invitation in the mail and were given a scheduled appointment time to decrease wait time. The clinic was a great success.

Great job Oakland!!!

Kent County Health Department... received a CSHCS mini-grant and used part of it to create a database with email addresses of enrolled and non-enrolled families who have family members with special needs. The health department set up a Groupwise email account for specialkids@kentcountymi.gov. A letter was sent out to all Kent County CSHCS families inviting them to sign up to receive emailed information about opportunities that may be beneficial to them. A parent of a CSHCS client was paid to facilitate a mailing. She copied, folded and stuffed nearly 2200 envelopes. She also worked to locate families whose mailing was returned and resent the letter. This mailing led to about 250 families sending in their email addresses. This letter is now sent to all newly enrolled Kent county clients and is used at various activities in Kent County. Within six months, the list expanded to over 400 families. Responses have been overwhelmingly positive. The health department has also been able to provide refreshments for families attending monthly Parent Support Group

meetings. Recycle bags were purchased (with the new CSHCS logo) that are being sent to all families new to CSHCS. Magnets with the state and local CSHCS contact information were also bought and are used as a handout at resource fairs. Expandable file folders are provided to families receiving case management services. The above items serve as a way to get the CSHCS name and logo into the community. **Kudos to Kent !!!!!**

Reminder

The 2010 Income Tax Guide for Tax Year 2009 – is prepared annually by Thomas F. Kendziorski, Esq., Executive Director of The Arc Oakland County. It is offered online at no charge in pdf. format. The guide may be printed without permission for use by members and friends of The Arc Michigan. You can access this information at www.arcmi.org. Click on *Information and Resources*.

OPPORTUNITIES

Conference scholarships for Youth/Young Adults (16–24 yrs) are available from the Family Center. We are fortunate to have been granted a small amount of funding from the Children with Special Needs Fund to assist youth/young adults to attend a conference related to their Children’s Special Health Care Services (CSHCS) eligible condition. We know that good, solid and current information is necessary to obtain the best possible care. It is just as important for youth/young adults to learn as much about their condition as it was for the parents. For youth/young adults we are also able to fund conferences related to advocacy and self-determination. We are also able to fund a parent or caregiver to travel with the youth/young adult.

We also have conference scholarships available for parents of children with special health needs. Most of us have had to learn about conditions, treatments and procedures that we never would have imagined. Sometimes the information is really hard to find. We know that we get the most helpful information by talking with people who live a similar lifestyle. These funds are awarded to assist families in attending conferences that relate to care of their child who has a (CSHCS) eligible condition.

We are not able to fund conferences that are mainly “educational and advocacy issues.”

The application process is the same for both scholarships.

Request an application. It will tell us the name, date and location of the conference. Send us the application along with a conference brochure, a short letter on why you want to go, as well as a budget with the exact amount of funding that you are requesting. We need this information 90 days before the conference dates. When the necessary information is received, it will be reviewed by a committee. A recommendation will then be made and the applicant will be notified.

For more information or for an application please call the Family Phone Line at (800)359-3722.

Resources

Assistive Technology (AT) Xchange
www.atxchange.org

CSHCS Courses
[www.training.mihealth.org/
course_detail.htm#CSHCS](http://www.training.mihealth.org/course_detail.htm#CSHCS)

Down Syndrome Guild
www.dsgsemi.org
1-248-827-9135

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

Healthy Children Project Monthly e-news
www.LDAofmichigan.org/healthchild.htm

Judson Center Autism Connections
www.judsoncenter.org

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

The Special Needs Store
www.thespecialneedsstore.com

EVENTS

March 25, 2010 The Northville Old Village and Cooke Schools are sponsoring a Community Resource Fair for Students with Special Needs. There will be representatives from mental health, post school vocational programming, housing & staffing, financial planning, advocacy, Social Security, Medicaid, leisure/recreation activities, legal services and respite. This event will include a brief presentation and overview with opportunity for direct conversation among participants.

Location Cooke School, 21200 Taft Rd., Northville MI 48167

Time: 6:30-8:30 pm.

RSVP: Holly Heath (248-344-8489)/Valerie Kaplanski (248-344-8460) by March 18 if planning to attend.

Attention Our new “Family Center for Children & Youth With Special Health Care Needs” brochure is included in this mailing. We are excited to have a brochure that explains our program, along with information about the services that we are able to provide for families of children with special health care needs. It also contains a section on “*How to Use the Family Phone Line.*”

If you would like to receive additional copies, please call the Family Phone Line (800)359-3722 or email Rigatod@michigan.gov

Spring Cleaning Tip- For efficient use of your time, consider commercial cleaning.
OR in other words, Clean during the commercials!!!!!!