

Children's Special Health Care Services (CSHCS) Newsletter – August 2022

CSHCS is a secondary insurance program designed to support children with eligible chronic health conditions and their families. CSHCS is also available for adults with cystic fibrosis, sickle cell disease, and bleeding disorders. Call the office for more information at 269-373-5015.



Paving the Way to Self Determination

Paving the Way to Self Determination is a new program developed by Disability Network Southwest Michigan to support children with developmental disabilities (ages birth-12) and their families raise expectations people have for them by introducing the concepts and tools they need to lead self-determined lives.

Paving the Way to Self Determination provides on-line educational opportunities for families and their children with developmental disabilities on topics that promote self-determination and independence, including history of the disability rights movement, disability pride and ally-ship, how to ask for an accommodation, supported decision-making and self-determination and how employment will impact social security benefits. The program also provides information and referral services to families on a statewide level and access to the Charting the Life Course program. For more information, please visit:

https://www.dnswm.org/services_menu/independent-living/paving-the-way-to-self-determination/

Michigan Child Protection Registry

Have you ever worried about how safe your children are while online? Thankfully, the State of Michigan offers a free program to stop adult advertisements from reaching emails, text messages, Instagram, Snapchat, and Twitter. The Michigan Child Protection Registry, like the federal Do Not Call List, is a free do-not-contact service for Michigan families. To register, visit:

<https://www.protectmichild.com/>

For next month's Newsletter, please go to <https://www.kalcounty.com/hcs/mch/cshcs/newsletters.php> . If you have questions or concerns, please call the Family Phone Line at 1-800-359-3722 or the Kalamazoo CSHCS Program Representative, Heather, at 269-373-5015.



Kalamazoo county Pre-K is now accepting applications for the 2022-2023 school year!

Children who attend high-quality Pre-K develop early literacy, math, and fine motor skills. They tend to be more social, more independent, and better behaved. Pre-K gives little learners a big boost, setting them on a path toward a lifetime of success.

Please be aware that all children must be:

■ **3 years old on or before December 1* in order to be age eligible for the 3-year-old programs.**

■ **4 years old on or before December 1* in order to be age eligible for the 4-year-old programs.**

*Placement may be prioritized for children who will be 3 or 4 years old on or before September 1.

If you have questions or would like to apply, call 269-250-9333 or visit

<https://www.kresa.org/Page/1368>

Mileage Reimbursement

CSHCS can help with your mileage reimbursement. The new rate for Non-Emergency Medical Transportation (NEMT) beginning July 1, 2022, is **\$0.625 a mile**. To request mileage reimbursement for an upcoming appointment, please contact the Kalamazoo CSHCS Admin. Assistant, Melissa, at 269-373-5104.

COVID-19: Vaccination Information

COVID-19 vaccines are offered at the Kalamazoo County Health & Community Services Department, 311 E. Alcott Street. There is no cost and no ID required.

The HCS COVID-19 vaccine clinic is open **Monday** through **Friday** from **8:00am to 4:00pm (closed from 12:00-1:00pm)** for ages 5 years and up. No appointment is needed. If you would prefer to make an appointment, please call 269-373-5203.

Kalamazoo County HCS Pediatric COVID-19 vaccines (6 months to 4 years) are scheduled by appointment only. Kalamazoo County HCS currently offers Pfizer for this age group. Please call 269-373-5203 to set an appointment. For more information, please visit:

<https://www.kalcounty.com/hcs/covid19.php>

CSHCS has been granted funds to assist CSHCS enrollees and their families as well as children with special needs in obtaining vaccinations of both COVID-19 and childhood immunizations. Please call **269-373-5010** if you are having difficulty in obtaining vaccines for your child or your family.



Children with Special Needs Fund

The Children with Special Needs Fund (CSNF) has announced special grant funding is available to assist with ceiling and stair lifts for children/youth with special health needs. Applications for ceiling and stair lifts received by **August 26, 2022**, will be reviewed in September. Please go to <https://www.michigan.gov/csnfund> to download an application. To ask for an application to be sent to you, please call 517-241-7420 or email csnfund@michigan.gov.

Kalamazoo County Health & Community Services is committed to providing equitable, culturally competent care to all individuals served, regardless of race, age, sex, color, national origin, religion, height, weight, marital status, political affiliation, sexual orientation, gender identity, or disability.

Navigating Healthcare for Parents of Children with Epilepsy

The CSHCS Pediatric Epilepsy Project is collaborating with MI Family to Family and the Family Center for Children and Youth with Special Health Care Needs to offer this **virtual** learning opportunity for parents of children with epilepsy (seizures) in Michigan.

This training was created to provide parents with the information, tools, and resources needed to navigate healthcare systems with a child with epilepsy or seizures. The training will be on **August 17 & 18, 2022** at **9:30am-12:30pm**, and is open to any Michigan parent or legal guardian of a child, birth to 18 years of age, with epilepsy (seizures). Upon completion of both days, receive a \$100 gift card. Space is limited, so reserve your spot early to receive your participation packet in time!

To register, please call Kristen Reese at 517-324-7396 or email at kreese@mphi.org.

August Awareness

Children's Eye Health & Safety Month –

<https://preventblindness.org/2022-childrens-eye-health-and-safety/>

MediAlert Awareness Month –

<https://www.medicalert.org/>

National Breastfeeding Month -

<https://www.usbreastfeeding.org/national-breastfeeding-month.html>

National Immunization Awareness Month –

<https://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/events/niam/index.html>

Psoriasis Awareness Month –

<https://www.psoriasis.org/>

Spinal Muscular Atrophy Awareness Month -

<https://www.curesma.org/>