



HEALTH & COMMUNITY
SERVICES DEPARTMENT

Children's Special Health Care Services (CSHCS) Newsletter – February 2023

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 certain bleeding disorders. Call the office for more information at 269-373-5015.

Webinars Available through Disability Network Southwest Michigan

Paving the Way to Self Determination is a program being offered to families throughout Michigan to assist them in raising expectations family members have for their children with developmental disabilities. Webinars are interactive and participation is available through an internet connection or a phone call. Upcoming Trainings:

- **How to Ask for an Accommodation (Thursday, February 23, 2023)** – This webinar focuses on identifying a child's strengths and disability related needs to request appropriate accommodations in school or future employment.
- **Rise Up! Disability History, Pride & Allyship (Tuesday, February 21, 2023)** – Learn how to support your loved-one's journey to disability pride.
- **Problem Solving and Decision Making (Tuesday, March 14, 2023)** – Problem solving skills help children gain confidence and independence. Learning how to make decisions is a valuable life skill. These skills are necessary for all children, but even more important for children with disabilities. This fun, interactive training for youth up to age 12 will provide the opportunity to learn more about, and practice, problem solving and decision making.

For registration and/or to learn about all of the available trainings, please visit:

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

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.

Children with Special Needs Fund

The Children with Special Needs Fund (CSNF) has announced that 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 **February 23, 2023**, will be reviewed in March.

The Children with Special Needs Fund also assists with partial or full payment for items such as wheelchair ramps, vehicle accessibility devices, therapeutic tricycles, air conditioners for certain medical conditions, weighted blankets or vests, and adaptive recreational equipment.

Please go to <https://www.michigan.gov/csnefund> to download an application. To ask for an application to be sent to you, please call 517-241-7420 or email csnefund@michigan.gov.



Virtual Parent Connect Call

The Family Center for Children and Youth with Special Health Care Needs (Family Center) is excited to offer a series of free virtual Parent Connect Calls monthly. The March call is scheduled for **Wednesday, March 8, 2023**, at **4:00pm**. The topic for this call is transition. To register, please visit: <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/parent-connect-call-transition-tickets-412938589437?aff=ebdssbdestsearch>

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 Thursday from 8:00am to 4:00pm (closed from 12:00-1:00pm)** and **Friday from 8:00am to 12:00pm** for ages 5 years and up. Please call for an appointment: 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.



Camp Scholarships

Parents/Caregivers of a child/youth with special health care needs are encouraged to apply for up to \$250 for a camp scholarship from the Family Center for Children and Youth with Special Health Care Needs (Family Center). Camp scholarships are not just limited to face to face, virtual camps are considered as well. Applications are being accepted now through the end of **March 2023**. For questions or to request the application forms, please contact the Family Phone Line at 800-359-3722.

Flu Vaccine

Everyone 6 months of age and older should get a flu vaccine every season, especially people at high risk. This year, more than ever, it is important to get vaccinated to decrease the risk of serious disease from influenza and avoid the possibility of being infected by both influenza and COVID-19 at the same time. Kalamazoo County Health & Community Services is offering influenza vaccines. Call 269-373-5203 to schedule your appointment.



February Awareness

American Heart Month –

<https://www.nhlbi.nih.gov/education/american-heart-month>

AMD/Low Vision Awareness Month –

<https://nationaltoday.com/amd-low-vision-awareness-month/>

National Cancer Prevention Month -

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

National Children's Dental Health Month -

<https://wicworks.fns.usda.gov/resources/national-childrens-dental-health-month>

Duchenne Muscular Dystrophy Awareness Week (February 13-19, 2023) -

<https://www.holidaycalendar.com/event/duchenne-muscular-dystrophy-awareness-week/>

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.