



Health & Community Services

3299 Gull Road Kalamazoo, MI 49048

Phone: 269-373-5200 Fax: 269-373-5363 Website: www.kalcounty.com

News Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

CONTACT: Courtney Davis
Public Information Office
cldavi@kalcounty.com
(269) 373-5025

Financial Assistance Available for Children with Chronic Illness and Disabling Conditions

Kalamazoo, Mich. [December 6, 2016] – Confusion and hardship can accompany the coordination of medical services for families who have children with chronic illness or disabling conditions and the financial and emotional stress of caring for a child with chronic, severe, and disabling health problems can often times be overwhelming. In observing the International Day of People with Disabilities, which took place this past weekend on December 3rd, the Kalamazoo County Children’s Special Health Care Services (CSHCS) program wants to make sure that families in Kalamazoo County know there is support available to help them.

Children’s Special Health Care Services (CSHCS) is a state wide program that works with families to provide financial support, access, and guidance to health care and support services available, even assisting with paying for medical care and treatment for children with qualifying medical diagnoses. The CSHCS program specifically serves families with children who have chronic illnesses or disabling conditions that require specialty level care with a purpose of aiding in the initial steps to diagnosis and for continued treatment and support.

Program participation is available to families regardless of income. Fees are determined through a sliding scale fee based upon family size and overall household income, however there is no cost to Medicaid or MICHild eligible families. Children are eligible for services from birth to 21 years of age. For individuals with cystic fibrosis or blood clotting disorders such as hemophilia, there is no age cut-off; services can continue into adulthood.

The [International Day of People with Disabilities](#) is a day meant to promote a greater understanding of disability issues and to mobilize support for the dignity, rights, and well-being of persons with disabilities. It also seeks to increase awareness of gains to be derived from the integration of persons with disabilities in every aspect of political, social, economic, and cultural life. The Children’s Special Health Care Services program staff see the need for this raised awareness every day and are working to ensure children and families in the Kalamazoo community receive the care and support they need.

To learn more about the Kalamazoo County Children’s Special Health Care Services program please visit our website <http://www.kalcounty.com/hcs/cshcs.htm> or call the office at (269) 373-5010. You can also call the Family Phone line at 1-800-359-3722.

###

Children Special Health Care Services (CSHCS) is a program funded by the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services. Its Mission is to enable individuals with special health care needs to have improved health outcomes and an enhanced quality of life through the appropriate use of the CSHCS system of care. CSHCS goals include:

- Assist individual with special health care needs in accessing the broadest possible range of appropriate medical care, health education, and supports.
- Assure delivery of these services and supports in an accessible, family centered, culturally competent, community based and coordinate manner.
- Promote and incorporate parent/professional collaboration in all aspects of the program.
- Remove barriers that prevent individual with special health care needs from achieving these goals.

For more information: http://www.michigan.gov/mdhhs/0,5885,7-339-71547_35698---,00.html

Kalamazoo County Health & Community Services

Promoting Health for All



Follow us [@KzooHealth](https://twitter.com/KzooHealth)



[Like Kalamazoo County Health & Community Services](https://www.facebook.com/KalamazooCountyHealth)