



# SPECIAL KID'S CORNER

## News and Updates from Ottawa County CSHCS

### February 2020

[www.miottawa.org/cshcs](http://www.miottawa.org/cshcs)

### From the Desk of Leslie Ver Duin BSN, RN CSHCS Program Coordinator

Dear CSHCS Families,

We are excited to announce that due to the ever-growing population in Ottawa County, we have hired a new part-time Program Nurse! Aimee Dekker, BSN, RN, is a wonderful and welcomed addition to our team. Aimee will be finished with her extensive training and ready to work directly with CSHCS families soon. The Program Nurse coverage areas have been planned, but in the meantime, Aimee continues her orientation with Leslie, Kelsey and Rachel until the full transition happens. You can 'meet' Aimee on page two of this newsletter, and find an updated CSHCS contact list on page three. Each of our (three) Program Nurses are wonderful, knowledgeable and compassionate and I am confident that you will all be in great hands.

This edition of Special Kids' Corner newsletter is also bursting with many exciting grant opportunities and amazing events for special needs families. We are especially excited that Sibshops will be coming to Ottawa County (see page nine). Finally, know that the whole CSHCS team wishes your family a Happy Valentine's Day! We are thankful to be a part of your journey and inspired by your tremendous love that shines brightly every day.

With care,

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'Special Kid's Corner' is brought to you by Ottawa County CSHCS with funding from The Family Center for Children and Youth with Special Health Care Needs

## *Introducing Our New CSHCS Program Nurse, Aimee Dekker BSN, RN*

*Ever since I was a little girl I can remember wanting to be a nurse! Throughout high school and college I worked at a local nursing home. I am from Holland and graduated from the Hope-Calvin College of Nursing. I love Holland!*

*My first career job was as a Public Health Nurse and now I am excited to have come full circle and returned back to Public Health. In the past, I've also worked in several doctors offices, at the InterCare Community Health Center, and I was the director of In-Home Services at Evergreen Commons. I am excited to meet with families and work with the team in Children's Special Health Care Services.*

*My husband and I met on my grandpa's farm and the rest is history! We've been married 26 years and have 2 children, Brad and Nicole. Brad recently bought a house and is engaged to marry Emma in August. Nicole attends GRCC and works at Evergreen Commons Adult Day Care Center, she is a CAN working to be a Physical Therapy Assistant. She's been dating Andrew for 3 years.*

*I enjoy traveling and being outside. We have a large garden which we share with anyone who will take vegetables, there's always plenty. We also enjoy having laying chickens and sharing our eggs. As a family, we like to kayak, play volleyball, 4 square, darts, and bean bag toss (corn hole).*

*I look forward to assisting with all your Children's Special Health Care needs!*



*Our new CSHC team member, Program Nurse, Aimee Dekker with her beautiful family!*

## Brenda Kempf, Program Representative

616-393-4445

[bkempf@miottawa.org](mailto:bkempf@miottawa.org)

### Contact Brenda for:

- enrollment and renewal
- billing and insurance issues
- income changes
- travel and lodging
- provider additions or changes

## Irene Atwood, Program Clerk

616-393-4439

[iatwood@miottawa.org](mailto:iatwood@miottawa.org)

### Contact Irene for:

- insurance updates
- name, address, phone, and email changes

## Amy Fontaine, Parent Consultant

[afontaine@miottawa.org](mailto:afontaine@miottawa.org)

### Contact Amy for:

- Special Families' Corner Facebook Group
- feedback on local CSHCS services
- presentations by the CSHCS team

## Leslie Ver Duin, BSN, RN

### CSHCS Program Supervisor

616-393-4444

[lverduin@miottawa.org](mailto:lverduin@miottawa.org)

### Contact Leslie for:

- issues other staff have been unable to answer
- feedback on CSHCS customer service

## Sandra Lake, BSN, RN, MPH

### OCDPH Community Health Manager:

### CSHCS, MIHP, and Hearing & Vision Programs

616-393-5753

[slake@miottawa.org](mailto:slake@miottawa.org)

[www.michigan.gov/cshcs](http://www.michigan.gov/cshcs)

[www.miottawa.org/cshcs](http://www.miottawa.org/cshcs)

## Contact Your CSHCS Program Nurse for:

- Plans of Care (POCs)
- medical questions
- coverage questions
- adding a new diagnosis or provider

## Kelsey DeMull, BSN, RN, MPH

### CSHCS Program Nurse

616-393-4442

[kdemull@miottawa.org](mailto:kdemull@miottawa.org)

Kelsey is the Program Nurse for families in:

Byron Center, Allendale, Grandville, Hudsonville, Jenison, Macatawa, Holland Zip Code 49422, Grand Rapid Zip Code 49534 & all Grand Rapids Zip Codes located within Ottawa County

Kelsey is fluent in Spanish, so serves our Spanish speaking families

## Rachel Pohl, BSN, RN

### CSHCS Program Nurse

616-393-4436

[rpohl@miottawa.org](mailto:rpohl@miottawa.org)

Rachel is the Program Nurse for families in:

Grand Haven, Spring Lake, Nunica, Coopersville, Marne, Norton Shores, Fruitport, West Olive, Conklin, Casnovia, Ravenna, Holland—Zip Code 49424

## Aimee Dekker, BSN, RN

### CSHCS Program Nurse

616-393-4440

[adekker@miottawa.org](mailto:adekker@miottawa.org)

### Aimee's Part Time Office Hours:

Mon. & Thurs. 8:30—4:00

Wed. 8:30—3:00

Aimee is the Program Nurse for Families in:

Holland Zip Code 49423 & Zeeland Zip Code 49464

CSHCS Program Fax: 616-393-4435

## "CSHCS Information Update—You have received a secure message"

### *What does it mean when you see this message in your inbox?*

CSHCS takes your privacy seriously, so annually, when it comes time to verify your confidential information, you'll receive a **secure email from Irene Atwood**, Program Clerk for Ottawa County CSHCS.

The first time you receive this message, **you'll need to register** with Cisco Registered Envelope Services (CRES), the company that CSHCS employs to ensure that your personal information is kept confidential. To register with CRES, download /open the attachment and you will be prompted to create a password.

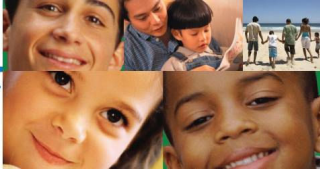
**Once you're registered, please review the information CSHCS has on file for you.**

Accurate insurance information ensures proper billing and enables us to help you with any billing issues that arise.

**If your primary insurance has changed, CALL** Irene Atwood, CSHCS Program Clerk, 616-393-4439. Sending insurance information via email may not keep your information safe and secure. **Note:** MiHealth and Medicaid Health Plans (MHP) changes do not need to be reported—they're updated automatically in our system.

### **Reminders:**

- ⇒ **Out of State Care** requires yearly authorization. Call your program nurse immediately upon receiving the above message to start this process.
- ⇒ **To add a provider**, call or email Brenda Kempf with: the provider's full name, address, specialty, and first date of service.
- ⇒ **If there are changes in your health care or medical needs**, notify your program nurse or Brenda Kempf.
- ⇒ **If financial and/or medical updates are required**, you'll receive written notification from the Lansing CSHCS office .



## Special Families' Corner Facebook Group

**CSHCS invites you to join**  
our growing community of  
special needs parents & caregivers

Learn about news and issues that  
affect special needs families

Discover resources, services, and events  
for the special needs community

Get answers, support and encouragement  
from fellow special needs parents



**Here's the group link:**

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/480920718777204/>

Or search for Special Families' Corner on  
Facebook and request to join

**The Family Center**  
For Children & Youth with  
Special Health Care Needs  
The parent-directed section of CSHCS



## The Family Center Provides:

- ◆ Connection with a parent mentor from **The Parent-to-Parent Support Network**
- ◆ Help enrolling in or navigating CSHCS
- ◆ Health-specific and national, state and local resource and support information
- ◆ Disability related conference scholarships for a parent or youth
- ◆ Transition support for youth and families

*The Family Center serves all special needs families, regardless of CSHCS enrollment*

## The Family Phone Line & Parent-to-Parent Support Network

**1-800-359-3722**

Mon.—Fri. 8 am to 5 pm  
[cshcsfc@michigan.gov](mailto:cshcsfc@michigan.gov)

## Your Opinion Matters!

We welcome your feedback, so please tell us about your experiences with CSHCS by contacting any team member, or by sending a confidential e-mail to our Parent Consultant, Amy Fontaine:

[afontaine@miottawa.org](mailto:afontaine@miottawa.org)

If you've experienced outstanding customer service from any Ottawa County employee, we would love for them to be recognized. Nominate them here:

[https://www.miottawa.org/CustomerServicenominate\\_employee.htm](https://www.miottawa.org/CustomerServicenominate_employee.htm)

## Please Update Your Email Address

*—especially if you received this  
newsletter via regular mail*

CSHCS sends emails to families to announce special events or important program updates.

Families can also use email to ask questions, request forms information, , and more!

Please send your new e-mail address to:  
[iatwood@miottawa.org](mailto:iatwood@miottawa.org)

# Grant & Scholarship Opportunities

## Children with Special Needs (CSN) Fund Grants



**Ceiling and Stair Lift Grants**—With a generous grant from the Rollin M. Gerstacker Foundation, the CSN Fund has announced that they are now taking grant applications for ceiling and stair lifts.

If your child could benefit from a ceiling or stair lift, contact your local CSHCS office to learn who qualifies and to find out how to apply, or call the CSN Fund directly at (517) 241-7420.

The CSN Fund also provides financial assistance to children with special health care needs to purchase equipment when no other funding source is available. More detailed information can be found on the CSN Fund website or by contacting your local CSHCS office:

<https://www.michigan.gov/csnfund>

## Family Center Scholarships

The Family Center for Children and Youth with Special Health Care Needs, the parent-directed section of CSHCS, offers Camp and Disability-Related Conference Scholarships. **HURRY**, these scholarships go quickly!

### Link to Camp Scholarship Application:

[https://www.michigan.gov/documents/mdhhs/Camp\\_Scholarship\\_Application\\_679459\\_7.pdf](https://www.michigan.gov/documents/mdhhs/Camp_Scholarship_Application_679459_7.pdf)

### Disability-Related Conference Scholarships:

[https://www.michigan.gov/documents/mdhhs/Conference\\_Scholarship\\_Application\\_Packet\\_512751\\_7.pdf](https://www.michigan.gov/documents/mdhhs/Conference_Scholarship_Application_Packet_512751_7.pdf)

### The Family Phone Line

**1-800-359-3722**

Mon.—Fri. 8 am to 5 pm

[cshcsfc@michigan.gov](mailto:cshcsfc@michigan.gov)



CSHCS congratulates Lori's Voice on reaching the astounding milestone of giving away One Million Dollars to date to help special needs families!



**Lori's Voice** provides funding for equipment, educational resources, or expenses related to medical treatment of individuals up to the age of eighteen (18) who have neurological, muscular or other degenerative conditions resulting in permanent impairment or mobility issues.

### Application Overview—w/application:

<http://www.lorisvoice.org/app-for-assistance.html>

### Lori's Voice Walk for the Challenged

June 13, 2020. Click here for details:

<http://www.lorisvoice.org/events.html>

To contact Lori's Voice: [lorisvoice@gmail.com](mailto:lorisvoice@gmail.com)

## Family Hope Foundation Therapy Scholarships



Effective February 1, 2020, the Family Hope Foundation's Spring Scholarship Cycle is open and accepting applications for individuals with special needs. You may apply for up to \$1,000 of assistance and scholarships are intended for therapy that is not covered by insurance. **Hurry!** Applications are due March 1st!

**Therapy Scholarship Guidelines** (see link) must be followed to be considered for funding, so be sure to read and follow them carefully:

[https://thefamilyhopefoundation.org/images/Scholarship\\_Guidelines\\_UPDATED\\_Fall\\_2018.pdf](https://thefamilyhopefoundation.org/images/Scholarship_Guidelines_UPDATED_Fall_2018.pdf)

### Therapy Scholarship Application link:

[https://thefamilyhopefoundation.org/images/Scholarship\\_Application\\_UPDATED\\_Fall\\_2018.pdf](https://thefamilyhopefoundation.org/images/Scholarship_Application_UPDATED_Fall_2018.pdf)

Contact Jane Eppard with questions at:  
(616) 729-8833



# Supported Decision-Making

This 2-part workshop is geared toward families wanting to know more about Supported Decision-Making



This workshop will be in 2 parts

—Participants should plan to attend both sessions

Part I Wed. March 25, 2020  
6pm—8pm

Part 2 Wed. April 1, 2020  
6pm—8pm

Compassionate Heart  
Ministries  
404 Centerstone Court  
Zeeland, Michigan 49464

Please pre-register  
by March 20, 2020  
to attend and to reserve  
possible child care  
by contacting: Amy Fontaine  
@ [afontaine@miottawa.org](mailto:afontaine@miottawa.org)  
or text  
616- 402-2275

The Michigan Developmental Disabilities Council and Self Advocates from West Michigan, will co-facilitate this workshop with members of the statewide Supported Decision Making Advisory Group.

The 4-hour, 2-part, workshop was developed to provide families with the tools they need to begin the journey of Supported Decision-Making with their loved one. Participants will receive a Supported Decision Making Resource Manual complete with Power Point, video, brochure, and other resources they can use to discuss this topic with colleagues and other families.

Please join us to learn more about this important topic. Share with your colleagues, the students you support, and other families.

Light refreshments will be served, limited child-care available (with reservation).

This workshop is co-sponsored by the following organizations:



# Legal Planning

## for Your Loved One with a Disability

### With Attorney Sarah L. Kirkpatrick

**Thursday**  
**February 27, 2020**  
**6:45 pm**

**Evergreen Ministries**  
4512 48th Ave  
Hudsonville, MI

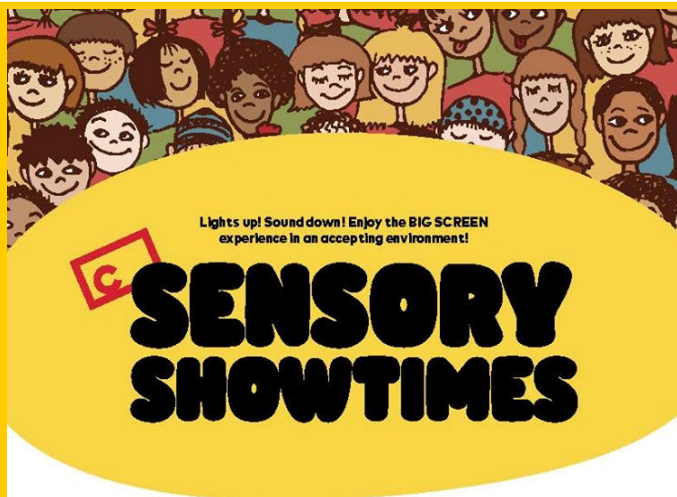
**R.S.V.P. to:** [tiffany@egm.org](mailto:tiffany@egm.org)

#### Join us for information on:

Supplemental Security Income  
Social Security Disability Benefits  
Medicaid & Medicare  
Wills and Special Needs Trusts  
Estate Planning/ABLE Accounts  
Guardianships  
Alternatives to Guardianships

Sarah L. Kirkpatrick specializes in disability law, special needs trusts and preparing for the future for families with a loved one who has disabilities. Sarah is an attorney with the firm Daniel L. Blauw, PLC, which has served the West Michigan disability community for over 20 years. <http://www.blauwkirkpatricklaw.com/>

With Sarah's personal insight as a sibling to someone with severe special needs, she understands first-hand the issues that are most important to families. Sarah also serves on the Executive Board of Directors of IKUS.



**\$2.00 OFF GUESTS OF FAMILY HOPE FOUNDATION  
REGULAR MATINEE TICKETS**

Payment Voucher:



7400 1300 0000 0101 4869

Expires: 9/30/2021

Enjoy a disability-friendly environment where everyone is welcome to be who they are!

Special families can enjoy brighter lights, lower sound, and limited previews with a group of peers who get it! All shows are 2D with Open Caption. Seating questions should be directed to the box office.

#### 10:30 a.m. Movie Line Up:

February 22 — Sonic the Hedgehog  
March 14 — Onward  
April 4 — Mulan  
April 11 — Peter Rabbit 2  
April 25 — Trolls World Tour  
May 23 — Scoob!  
May 30 — Sponge Bob: Sponge on the Run  
June 27 — Soul

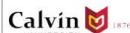
#### Participating Theaters:

Cinema Carousel in Muskegon  
Celebration! Cinemas North & South in Grand Rapids  
Celebration! Cinema Crossroads in Portage  
Celebration! Cinema Lansing  
Celebration! Cinema Mt. Pleasant  
Celebration! Cinema Benton Harbor



## Rare Disease Day Symposium 2020

Local Impact, Global Vision



**Saturday, February 29, 2020**

**8 a.m. —3 p.m.**

Prince Conference Center at Calvin University  
1800 E. Beltline Ave, Grand Rapids, MI 49546

The Rare Disease Day Symposium aims to bring members of the rare disease community—patients, caregivers and families, researchers, advocates, and students—together to learn from one another and to support one another. The event is **free** and open to all who are interested in attending. The symposium will begin with a common morning session with invited talks from a scientist studying rare diseases, a medical geneticist and patients with various rare disease diagnoses. After lunch, participants will select breakout sessions to attend based upon their particular interests.

Please register using the following link: <https://www.onlineregistrationcenter.com/rarediseaseday2020>



It can be frustrating to try and find helpful resources for visible and hidden disabilities. Searching for the right information and support can leave you feeling lost and overwhelmed.

Join us for the third annual AccessExpo, where you can access the local resources you need to participate, contribute, and belong to an inclusive community.

- Job Opportunities
- Disability Information
- Local Experts
- Access Information

**Wednesday, March 18, 2020, 4-6 pm**  
**Grand Haven Community Center**

Come and get easy access to helpful resources and knowledgeable experts. You'll leave confident that you have the tools and support you need.

Come see us at the CSHCS table at this great event!



Disability Network/Lakeshore  
426 Century Lane  
Holland, MI 49423

## MORE AMAZING EVENTS

### Michigan Council for Exceptional Children (MCEC) Conference — Grand Rapids

Wednesday, March 4, 2020 — Friday, March 6, 2020 7:00 am - 3:00 pm

<http://www.cvent.com/events/80th-annual-michigan-council-for-exceptional-children-conference/event-summary-78c3ca29c9a443c78d00496edd24eb3c.aspx>

### LEAP Conference 2020—Lead, Empower, Assist, Parents — Kent ISD

Saturday, March 14, 2020 (Register before 3-11-20) 8:30 am - 2:50 pm

[https://reg.abcsignup.com/reg/event\\_page.aspx?ek=0001-0020-1cbfeb42321844c2a2fea8586f60ac31](https://reg.abcsignup.com/reg/event_page.aspx?ek=0001-0020-1cbfeb42321844c2a2fea8586f60ac31)

### START Conference—Statewide Autism Resources and Training (Project) — East Lansing

Monday, April 27, 2020 8:30 am — 3:30 pm

<https://www.gvsu.edu/autismcenter/start-conference-167.htm>

### Challenge of Children — Holland

Thursday, May 14, 2020 8:30 am — 3:30 pm

<http://www.challengeofchildren.org/schedule.htm>

**Sibshops are coming to the Lakeshore in April 2020.** Stay tuned for more information or contact Andréa Vugteveen to be added to an email list and receive specific details as they become available. 616-460-3781 or [amvugteveen@gmail.com](mailto:amvugteveen@gmail.com).

## Kids' Activity Corner



Won't you be my Valentine and buzz away with me?  
We'll bumble along together, because you're my honey bee!

Bzzzzzzzzzzzz

## Kids' Corner Links:

### Valentine's Sensory Activities

<https://lemonlimeadventures.com/must-try-valentines-day-sensory-activities/>

### Valentine's Day Coupons for Kids

<http://party.catchmyparty.com/files/valentines-day/free-valentines-day-printable-love-coupons-for-kids.pdf>

### Valentine's Word Search

<https://crayonsandcravings.com/valentines-day-word/>

### Valentine's Jokes—Code Fun

<http://www.squishycutedesigns.com/file/valentine-jokes-for-kids-1.pdf>

### Valentine's Mad Libs

<https://www.woojr.com/valentine-mad-libs/>

## WINTER SPORTS YOGA



**I am a snowboarder.**  
WARRIOR 2 POSE



**I am a figure skater.**  
WARRIOR 3 POSE



**I am a hockey player.**  
HORSE STANCE



**I am an alpine skier.**  
CHAIR POSE



**I am a curler.**  
LUNGE POSE

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