

Parent Resource Newsletter

Welcome to all of our new families! The Family Resource Update is our monthly e-newsletter, keeping you current with what's going on that may be of interest to your family. Printed copies are also available at Children's Therapy. We'll keep you up-to-date about resources and events in the area, while providing information about Children's Therapy policies and changes. We welcome your comments—please tell your therapist if you have any suggestions or input. Information about non-VMC sponsored events is for your consideration only: we cannot guarantee the accuracy/content of the listed events and services.

Hooray! It's Better Hearing and Speech Month!



During May, The American Speech-Language and Hearing Association (ASHA) raises awareness about communication disorders and promotes their treatment. Check out asha.org. It's a great resource for learning more about hearing and balance; speech, language and swallowing; and health insurance. Happy Better Hearing and Speech month!

It's Time to Start Thinking about Summer Activities

2011 Summer Camps & Programs for Children with Special Health Care Needs

The Center for Children with Special Health Care Needs now has an online searchable database for summer camps and programs. Search for the most appropriate camp for your child by type of camp, diagnosis, region or date. Visit cshcn.org/resources-contacts/summer-camp-directory for the camp directory.

Meadowood Springs Speech & Hearing Camp

Meadowood Springs conducts a communication therapy camp in July and provides speech and language therapy for students age 6 to 16. Three different camp opportunities are available: July 9-16 residential camp, July 20-22 day camp and July 23-30 residential camp. Meadowood's residential camp provides approximately 840 minutes of therapy over 7 days for students with communication delay. The day camp provides 255 minutes of therapy over 3 days for students with communication delay.

Visit meadowoodsprings.org for cost information and applications. Contact info: email: info@meadowoodsprings.org; phone: 541.276.2752; address: PO Box 1025, Pendleton, OR 97801.

Kids Bowl FREE!

Bowling centers from around the country are giving away 2 free games of bowling EACH DAY as an opportunity for kids and families to enjoy bowling during the summer months. The "Kids Bowl Free" program is only available at participating centers.



Visit kidsbowlfree.com to register your child(ren) for free bowling and to find local bowling alleys offering this summer program.

Big Fun at the Children's Safety Fair!

More than 250 children and their families attended the 2011 Children's Safety Fair on Saturday April 30 at Valley Medical Center.

Valley's Rehabilitation Services team planned the event and manned the bike helmet fitting station, fitting more than 100 helmets. Cool Bird, the Seattle Thunderbirds mascot flew in for a visit for hugs and photos. The King County police union made children's ID cards, King County Emergency Services gave 911 tips, the Valley Trauma Services team let children try out equipment they might experience in an emergency room and staff from around the hospital passed out giveaways and information about healthy lifestyle practices like limiting sun exposure, good hand washing skills and healthy eating. Visit facebook.com/valleymed to view photos from the event on Valley Medical Center's Facebook page.



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RESOURCES

Starting Point Resource Guide

Starting Point is a FREE guide to services and information for Washington families who have children with special needs.

Visit cshcn.org/get-started to access Starting Point online. An online searchable database of resources is also available by clicking on "Resources & Contacts."

Families may call Seattle Children's Resource Line at 1.866.987.2500 or 206.987.2500 for more information.

WORKSHOPS AND CLASSES

Upcoming Opportunities for VMC's Free Bike Helmet Fitting and Low Cost Bike Helmets

To better serve the community, we are excited to bring our free bike helmet fitting service for children and adults to community events this summer. Helmets available for \$8 for those over age 1. Must be present to purchase a helmet so it can be fit properly.

Renton River Days

Friday, July 23, 10 AM - 4 PM

Newcastle Day

Saturday, September 10, 10 AM - 4 PM

If these dates and times aren't convenient, visit valleymed.org/Our_Services/Rehabilitation_Services for a listing of other organizations who offer free fittings and low-cost helmets.

DONOR CORNER

Thank you to the following donors:

- Aiden C. for the tunnel blanket & toys
- Devon M. for the walker
- Alex for the new utility scrub brush



Thank you all very much for your donations!

CHILDREN'S THERAPY WEBSITE

PREVIOUS NEWSLETTERS

Back Issues of the Parent Resource Newsletter Available Online

Visit valleymed.org/Our_Services/Rehabilitation_Services to view back issues of the Children's Therapy Parent Resource eNewsletter.

Food Donations

We often need to stock our food pantry for the feeding therapy and meal preparation sessions with our patients. Some patients are learning to eat various textures and others are practicing simple meal preparation. Children's Therapy is always appreciative of food pantry donations. Currently we are in need of:

May: Gerber banana puffs, brownie mixes | **June:** Individual fruit cups