



NEW DIRECTIONS

EARLY CHILDHOOD DIRECTION CENTER C/O Women and Children's Hospital 219 Bryant Street Buffalo, NY 14222 PHONE 716-880-3875 1-800-462-7653
FAX (716) 836-1252 www.wchob.org/ecdc Any questions? rmlinowski@Kaleidahealth.org

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Early Childhood Direction Center

ECDC is a regional clearinghouse that provides free information, referral, technical assistance and support to families, professionals, and community agencies concerned with children birth to five with suspected or diagnosed delays or disabilities.

We provide ongoing community training programs for both parents and professionals.

ECDC is funded by New York State Education Department and hosted by Women and Children's Hospital.

If you would like to be included on our list serve to receive the latest federal, state and local updates, please send an email to vrubin@kaleidahealth.org and indicate whether you are a parent or a professional.

WE NEED YOU!

The Neonatal Intensive Care Unit (NICU) Patient and Family Centered Care Committee is looking for parent members who would like to join us for a 1-2 year term. Parent members advise the committee about issues parents face while in the NICU and help to improve the relationship between medical staff and families. Specific activities may include talking to current NICU families, or participating on a problem focused committee to improve one aspect of Family-Centered Care. If you are interested or would like more information, please contact Debbie Griesbaum at 878-7961

WE ARE LOOKING FOR YOUR INPUT

If you would like a particular subject covered in a future newsletter or you have a question for Ask ECDC please call Ruth Malinowski at 716 880-3881 or email rmlinowski@kaleidahealth.org

PARENT MEMBER TRAINING

By Vickie Rubin



Did you know that the Early Childhood Direction Center provides parent member training for parents on the Committee on Preschool Special Education (CPSE) in all six counties? A variety of topics are addressed in our interactive workshop, which is designed to give parents of students with disabilities an understanding of the school district's CPSE. The presentation will assist potential or current parent members to understand the roles and responsibilities of the CPSE, develop an IEP and gain skills to be an effective resource for districts and other family members.

The curriculum was developed and is presented by the Early Childhood Direction Center, SETRC and Parent Network of WNY. For more information, please call or email: Stacie Ricioppo (716) 880-3878 or sricioppo@kaleidahealth.org

HEALTHY FACT: WESTERN NEW YORK POISON CENTER

It's back to school time and when parents are busy children can get into things that they shouldn't. Young children are at the greatest risk for poisoning because they mimic the behavior of adults. The Western New York Poison Center has compiled a list of the top five substances involved in poisoning in children under the age of six.

1. Cosmetics and personal care products
2. Cleaning Substances
3. Analgesics: acetaminophen, aspirin, ibuprofen
4. Plants
5. Foreign bodies (toys, batteries, coins)

It is important to pay attention to the supervision of children. If a child does ingest something from the above list or anything else you have a question about, you can call the poison center for instructions at 1-800-222-1222



Ask ECDC

Dear ECDC,

My daughter's child care teacher is getting frustrated and writes me notes or tells me almost everyday about the inappropriate behavior that she displays. Her teacher says that my child has challenging behaviors and shows signs of having developmental delays. A friend has told me that you can offer parent support as well as free consulting and technical assistant for the child care teacher. What free support and services do you provide? -Linda, from Williamsville

Diane Salverson replies:

ECDC's primary purpose is to provide training and technical assistance to parents and professionals working with children, less than 5 years of age, with suspected or diagnosed delays or disabilities. ECDC's Inclusion Specialist can, with the child care director's approval, provide free and confidential individualized sessions and technical assistance for child care professionals. This assistance can help identify children who have special needs and offer strategies to include them in typical child care settings as well as provide strategies for behavior management.

Our emphasis is on improving the options and opportunities for children with disabilities to be served in typical early childhood settings. Other ways that we accomplish this is through increasing family involvement, parent education, staff development and training, environmental modifications, professional workshops, information and referral for families such as Early Intervention (EI) birth to 3 years old, Committee on Preschool Special Education (CPSE) 3-5 years old and Committee on Special Education (CSE) 5 yrs old and up.

If you would like more information about how we can support and assist parents and the child care center, please call Diane Salverson, Inclusion Specialist/Early Childhood Special Education Teacher at 880-3876 or Tracey Banks, Child Development Specialist at the Helpline 880-3877.