



THE CIRCUIT

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A Newsletter for Families of Ventilator Assisted Children

Selecting a Camp

If you considering sending your child to a camp program, you will need to make some decisions concerning the type of camp that is most appropriate and then gather some basic information about camps offering this type of experience. Your first decision is whether a day camp or a residential (sleep-away) camp would be the most beneficial experience for your child.

Day Camps

Day camps usually offer a variety of recreational activities designed to promote your child's physical and mental well being. A program may run all-day or half-day, five days a week or two three days a week, all summer or only a few weeks. Advance registration and a physical exam with complete medical history are usually required. Day camp activities ordinarily include music, swimming, a variety of sports, arts and crafts, hobby clubs, trips, etc. The ages of the children are usually 5 years and older. If the program is offered by your local community or municipal recreation department, chances are a minimal fee will be required. Most private agencies charge a higher fee, although they may be willing to reduce the fee based on financial need.

Residential Camps

Residential (sleep-away) camps are those in which your child may spend from two days to two weeks to an entire summer away from home. This type of program can provide a unique living experience for a child with a disability. In addition to some of the same activities available to day camps, sleep-away camps enable children to live together in cabins under the supervision of qualified staff. A major emphasis of these programs is to increase the independence and self-help skills of each child. A major emphasis of these programs is to increase the Independence and self-help skills of each child. Ages tend to range from 5 to 16; most camps do not accept teenagers over 17 or 18. Advance registration and a complete physical examination are usually required; a formal interview may be necessary. Fees are generally charged; however, a scholarship program may be available to those with financial needs.

"Special" vs. Integrated

There are day and residential camps only for children with disabilities and camps where a child with a disability is included with children who are non-disabled. Which experience is best for your child depends on your child's abilities and interests, social skills and what you perceive the maximum benefit will be from each situation.

General Information

General information can be obtained by either contacting the camp directly through mail, e-mail, telephone, or by accessing the camp's website.

Suggested Questions

Once you've decided on the type of camp program, here is a list of questions you may want to ask to help you make the decision as to which camp will best meet your child's needs and interests. These questions are intended to give you some guidelines for evaluating the quality of services provided by the camp. The manner in which these questions are answered will indicate the levels of competency and dedication of the staff. *(continued on page 2)*

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How do you apply?

What is the deadline for submitting applications?

What are the camp's opening and closing dates?

Are there clothing requirements and clothing checklists?

Is transportation to and from the camp provided?

Is the program designed for children with physical disabilities? If not, is this a violation of Section 504 or ADA?

Is the camp accredited by the American Camping Association?

Does the camp meet state and local health standards and regulations for the operation of day and residential camps?

About the Staff

What are the criteria for selecting a counselor? (what education, experience, etc. is deemed necessary?)

What are the counselors' duties?

What is the ratio of counselors to children?

Are counselors hired for short periods or for the entire summer?

(For residential camps) Does the staff include a nurse and a doctor?

(For residential camps) How many counselors live in each of the cabins or bunks?

Facilities

Safety and sanitation are the primary concerns here.

What type of facilities are available?

What is their overall condition?

Are there adequate toilet and shower facilities?

(For residential camps) How many children are housed in each camper's quarters?

Is there a well-equipped infirmary on the premises?

Health Emergencies

Is the camp insured?

Is your child covered?

Is the doctor/nurse on duty 24 hours a day?

Is there a hospital close by?

Programs

What types of activities are offered?

Are activities coordinated and designed according to age of child?

Is the program flexible or is it highly structured and formal? (Which would better serve your child's needs?)

Transportation

What kind of transportation is provided?

Is it door-to-door or group pick-up?

Is a counselor or chaperone on the bus to take care of your child?

Do the vehicles meet state and local safety regulations for operation of vehicles that transport children?

How long does your child have to ride on the vehicle?

Meals

Are lunches provided by the day camp?

Are the residential camp menus prepared by a dietitian?

Can you obtain a sample menu in advance?

Are snacks provided during the day? What kind?

Are special meals available (diabetic, meals, dietetic meals)

More Things to Remember About Camps

Camp is fun— you can expect it to be a bit messy!

Remember the setting—make sure your child is appropriately dressed. Good sneakers are a must!

It is a good idea to label all clothing.

It is a good idea to keep an extra set of clothes at camp. Some camps have cubbies or lockers for this.

Talk to your child's counselor about likes and dislikes.

Beware of overstuffing backpacks. They get heavy and can become a nuisance.

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Summer Camp

PA Ventilator Camp June 25 - July 1, 2011

Camp Victory was formed in 1993 with the sole purpose of meeting the needs of ventilator-dependent children. The facility offers wheelchair accessible and modern conveniences, including sleeping cabins, large dining/indoor recreation areas, a bath-house, two open air pavilions, a swimming pool, a pond, and high-tech state of the art medical complex capable of handling the daily needs of campers. In addition, the specialized services of a children's hospital at the nearby medical center are readily available, ensuring medically necessary treatment. Each year qualified people, representing a variety of health care disciplines such as nurses, physicians, respiratory, occupational, speech, and physical therapists, generously give their time to make Camp Victory a reality. There is a 2.5 to 1 staff-to-camper ratio. The camp is free of charge thanks to the generosity of the Children's Miracle Network, private donations, and fund-raisers held throughout the year. Former campers will receive notification by mail. All others who are interested should contact them at: PA Vent Camp/Camp Victory/58 Camp Victory Rd Millville, PA 17846. Contact: Mike Dettorre (877) 455-3311 or Robin rkingston@hmc.psu.edu. You can check out their website at www.pedsvent.net.

The Firely Foundation Camp for Kids

The Firely Foundation is committed to meeting the needs of our children through providing individualized care while maintaining the highest level of ethical care. They have established a Pediatric Home Care agency and several Pediatric Extended Services (day care and long-term care) for special needs children. They started a summer camp program in Bradford county for children with special needs that adapts traditional camp activities so that children with medical conditions can have a great summer camp experience. Activities include swimming, fishing, water sports, outdoor games, ATV rides, arts and crafts, storytelling, Bible stories, music, dancing, and much more. The recreational focus is balanced with personalized attention to each camper's needs. There are trained nurses and staff members, and an ambulance crew is 2 minutes away in case emergency services are required. St. Joseph's or Arnot Hospital approx. 15 minutes away. If interested in learning more about the camp program this summer, call 215-513-7455 or see the website at www.firelypediatric.org

Dragonfly Forest -Dragonfly Forest is committed to offering children with serious illnesses and disorders the opportunity to enjoy a free overnight camp experience in an environment that is safe, equipped to meet a variety of physical, medical and psychological needs, nurturing, and filled with activities that allow each child to reach their "full fun." Summer Sessions are available for children with Autism, Persistent Asthma, bleeding Disorders and Sickle Cell Disease. Applications must be completed by March 31, 2008. For more information or to apply go to www.dragonflyforest.org or contact us at 610-298-1820. - www.dragonflyforest.org

Ladore Summer Camp-Run by the Salvation Army, this camp allows low income families to experience overnight camping in a beautiful setting for 7-17 years olds. You must contact your closest Salvation Army for information and an application or call 215-787-2819. - www.ladore.org/youth.asp

Caring People Alliance (CPA)-This is a comprehensive, community based human service agency, that includes: Boys and Girls Club; day care, after school program, youth development, summer camps, recreation programs- several locations: Central Office- 1819 JFK Blvd., Suite 220 - 215-545-5230; 2407 South Broad- 215-218-0800; 1701 N. 8 th St- 215-763-0900; 3512 Haverford Ave- 215-386-4075 - www.caringpeoplealliance.org

Resources for Families with Special Needs

Social Security Dept. - A child might be eligible for 3 types of Social security benefits- Social Security Dependents Benefits (SSDI)- for children of disabled or deceased parents Supplemental Security Income (SSI)- benefits are payable to children under 18 years old who have disabilities (an impairment that is as severe as one that would keep an adult from doing any "substantial work for at least one year", i.e. a disability that limits the child's ability to do things and behave in the way that children of similar age group do.), and limited resources. Medical Assistance- government funded health program (Medical Assistance and Medicaid are the same thing)-automatic for patients with severe impairments regardless of parental income. - 800-772-1213 - <http://www.socialsecurity.gov>

Health Intervention Program (HIP) for Children with Special Health Care Needs

HIP helps parents and caregivers cope with their special needs child's day-to-day health problems by working with families in their own homes to help create a personalized care plan. Services are provided by a team that includes a nurse, social worker, parent-professional and counselor - Following are referral areas: LaSalle Nursing Center (NW, North and lower NE Phila)- 1900 West Olney Ave- 215-951-5034 -Resources for Children's Health(South Phila, Center City, and lower NE)- 215-985-2541-- <http://www.phila.gov/health/units/mcfh/hip.html> - HIP Brochure

The Special Kids Network -A free, statewide service for families with children who have special needs. They will connect parents with resources and support services in their communities, including: advocacy; home health; legal rights; support groups; summer camps; therapies; medical equipment; MA questions; private schools and more- 800-986-4550 - www.health.state.pa.us/skn

Children with Special Health Care Needs (CSHCN) - A division of the Phila. Dept. of Public Health; Maternal, Child&Family Health Division. This unit can help both families and professionals who are looking for help in navigating the sometimes complex systems that address the needs of CSHCN (birth-21) in the Philadelphia area- call 215-685-5232 - www.phila.gov/

United Cerebral Palsy of Philadelphia (UCPA) -This is a multi-service agency for children and adults with cerebral palsy and developmental disabilities. They offer home and center-based programs, advocacy, referral and information about resources for children with special needs- 102 E. Mermaid Lane- 215-242-4200 - www.ucpphila.org

Easter Seals -Dozens of Programs throughout Philadelphia and Se PA for children with Special Health Care Needs. Call 215-879-1000 or go to website for info. - <http://sepa.easterseals.com>

Parent to Parent of Pennsylvania -Links families and friends of children with special needs, provides technical assistance, training- 888-727-2706 - www.parenttoparent.org

Parent Education Network -Offers parents information about federal and state laws and regulations regarding early intervention and special education for children with special needs- 800-522-5827 - www.parentednet.org

Philadelphia Dept. of Education Special Ed. Consult Line -Main phone number for most issues relating to Philadelphia school system- 800-879-2301

Office of Specialized Services of the School District of Phila. -The Office of Specialized Services (OSS) is committed to the educational, social, physical, and emotional well being of students within the School District of Philadelphia. The OSS provides comprehensive special education, behavioral health, school health, and prevention/intervention programs. 215-400-4170 - <http://webgui.phila.k12.pa.us/offices/s/oss>

Parents Involved Network of PA—Assists parents of children who have emotional or behavioral disorders, are receiving mental health system services, or are receiving special education services- advocates for these children, and provides information- 1211 Chestnut St.- 215-751-1800, ext. 214, 221 - www.pinofpa.org

CONNECT Information Service -Information and referral services to parents of children with disabilities who are less than 5 years old- 800-692-7288

COMHAR (Community Organization of Mental Health and Retardation) -Helps people of all ages and cultures in the community who have developmental disabilities, mental health concerns, physical limitations and other challenges- Children's Service at 3825 Whitaker Ave- 215-427-5756 - www.comhar.org

National Center for Learning Disabilities -Call 888-575-7373 for info - www.ncld.org/ National Down Syndrome Society 800-221-4602
Click here for local support group - www.ndss.org

Trisomy 21 (Down Syndrome) Program at CHOP This program assesses the developmental, behavioral and health needs of children and adults with Down Syndrome. Also, they can coordinate community resources for families affected by Down as well as referral to parent support groups. Call 267-426-5283. - www.chop.edu

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Office of Vocational Rehabilitation (OVR) - State agency that helps people with disabilities help themselves to prepare for, start, and maintain a career- 444 N. Third Street- 215-560-1900

Frankie's World Day Care - Frankie's World is a daycare for children with special healthcare needs. We provide skilled nursing care, OT, PT, and speech therapy for children that qualify ages infants through 8 years. Transportation is also provided for children that require it. 1011 Poplar Street. Call 215-763-0151. - www.frankiesworlddaycare.com

Lauren's House -Lauren's House is a loving, caring Center for Special Needs Children. Lauren's House is a licensed Prescribed Pediatric Extended Care Center (PPECC) by the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania located in Boothwyn, Delaware County. Lauren's House is a brand new state of the art center, operated by professional personnel with years of pediatric experience. Call 888-340-9420.
- www.laurenshouse.com

Ventilator Assisted Children's Home Program -The Ventilator Assisted Children's Home Program promotes high quality, cost-effective care of the ventilator assisted child in the home and supports the family in coping with this extraordinary endeavor. Call 1-877-PA-VACHP for info. - www.kidshome-vent.org/

Elwyn Dental Clinic -Dental clinic for children with special health care needs. State of the art full service dental facility with full accessibility. 4040 Market Street. Call 215-895-5533 for appointments. - <http://www.elwyn.org>

Special Smiles Ltd. -Dental care for children with special needs. 100 E. Lehigh Ave., Centennial Two 215-707-0575 - www.specialsmilesLtd.com

HUNE (Hispanos Unidos Para Ninos Excepcionales) HUNE provides free bilingual English and Spanish training, technical assistance and individual assistance to parents of infants, toddlers, children, and youth with disabilities and to professionals who work with children. 220 N 2nd St. Call 215-425-6203. - huneinc.org

Education Law Center -Promoting fairness and quality education in the public school system, and helping families understand and enforce their legal rights, from prompt early intervention services, children whose native language is not English, and children with disabilities- 1315 Walnut Street, 4 th Floor - 215-238-6970 - www.elc-pa.org

Disabilities Rights Network of PA—Hotline to answer most questions concerning: special education, health, early intervention and the rights of a child or adult with special needs. Call 1-800-692-7443 for info. - www.drnpa.org/

Legal Clinic for the Disabled Children's Health Initiative - Helping low-income families of children with disabilities resolve health care coverage issues. Provides FREE legal services on a variety of issues, including the Medical Assistance grievance process. Call 215-587-3350. - www.legalclinicforthe-disabled.org

CHADD (Children and Adults with ADD) -The nation's leading non-profit organization for children and adults affected by ADD/ADHD-800-233-4050 - www.chadd.org

● AUTISM RESOURCES ● The Center for Autism -Specialized intensive training for autistic children- 3965 Conshohocken Ave-215-878-3400 - www.thecenterforautism.org

The Autism Society of America -The Autism Society of America, Greater Philadelphia Chapter was established in 1977 by a dedicated group of parents with a strong desire to band together and be a united voice to represent individuals with Autism Spectrum Disorders and spread awareness. Click this link for safety toolkit <http://www.nationalautismassociation.org/safetytoolkit> - <http://www.asaphilly.org/>

The Center for Autism Research (CAR) -The CAR at CHOP/UPenn is looking for the causes of autism spectrum disorders and is developing new treatments for children and adults with autism. We study infants who have a brother or sister already diagnosed with autism. We also have research studies for toddlers, school-aged children, and adults. Families who take part in our research studies receive evaluation reports and are paid for their time and travel costs. Call 1-866-570-6524. - <http://research.chop.edu/car>

Autism Speaks -National Autism advocacy organization for families and professionals. - www.autismspeaks.org

Elwyn Autism Resource Guide—Click below for guide for Autism Resources. - Click here for Autism Directory

● MISCELLANEOUS ● Variety Philadelphia -Variety Philadelphia has several programs for children with special needs and autism including: after school programs and camps; autism resources; and medical equipment. 1520 Locust St. Call 215-735-0803 for info - www.varietyphila.org

Kelly Anne Dolan Memorial Fund -The Kelly Anne Dolan Memorial Fund is a non-medical resource center that provides advocacy, education, information, and financial assistance for needs not covered by insurance to families caring for terminally, critically, and chronically ill, severely disabled, or seriously injured children. Call 215-643-0763 for info. - www.dolanfund.org

Medical Transitioning to Adulthood

Many of you have been calling us about how to assist your child in the transition process as he/she turns age 18. As your child approaches age 21, keep in mind that there will be changes in the home services. Nursing services will no longer be covered by the Medicaid or the Medicaid managed care HealthChoices plans. Shift nursing benefits for clients over age 21 comes through the waiver programs. However, your Medicaid or Medicaid managed care HealthChoices plan will still cover equipment needs and any other services covered under the Medical Assistance Plan.

In order to keep your shift nursing coverage at home, you must have your child evaluated for a waiver before they turn age 21. The waiver evaluation process has completely changed as of July 2010. Parents and clients are advised to work with their Medicaid case managers to start this process. Once your child turns 18 years old, the case managers will alert the state Bureau of Managed Care Operations that your child will be in need of future services. This group meets in Harrisburg monthly to discuss cases, evaluate overall needs of clients, etc. We are encouraging families to contact their case managers when their child turns 18 years old to make sure that they are identified with the state.

There are two delivery systems in place to meet the needs of clients who require home shift nursing care after age 21. The first is managed by the Office of Developmental Programs (formerly called Office of Mental Health/Mental Retardation-MHMR). The second delivery system is the Office of Long Term Living.

- If your child has a diagnosis of mental retardation and receives/had received services through the county Office of Developmental Programs/MHMR, the family should contact their county Office of Developmental Programs to be evaluated or to register for their waiver services. For those clients who previously received services from MHMR but no longer do, there may be a new evaluation procedure required depending on your county. This may take some time, so do not wait until the child is turning 21 to contact them!
- If your child does not have a primary diagnosis of mental retardation, the Medicaid case manager will instruct you to contact the state's waiver evaluation group, Maximus (1-877-550-4227). This call must come from the client or family and at least 3 months before the child turns 21 years old. We are recommending families call at least 6 months before the child turns 21 and follow their instructions as to when to call back if an appointment has not been scheduled. Their goal is to complete the evaluations 3 months prior to the child's 21st birthday whenever possible.

We want to make sure that patients and families receive the services that they need. However, adult services definitely differ from pediatric services. Our families are often surprised at the lack of resources once their children turn age 21. We have extended the age of eligibility for our program to follow clients until age 22 to help with this transition. We will keep you informed if the process changes. Keep in mind that all waivers must be re-certified by the state every 3-4 years, so changes may occur before your child turns 21. We hope this information is helpful as you plan for your child's transition to adulthood. The best way to stay informed is to rely on your Medicaid case manager since they have direct contact with the Bureau of Managed Care Operations on a regular basis.

***If you have problems with the process, The PA Health Law Project is asking you to call them at 1-800-274-3258.

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As of February 28, 2011, the adultBasic insurance program will exhaust its funding. As a result, adultBasic enrollees and those on the waitlist who have been paying for coverage WILL NOT have adultBasic coverage beyond Feb. 28, 2011. Letters are now going out to enrollees notifying them of the end of their coverage and offering information about other health care coverage options. We urge those with adultBasic coverage who have doctor appointments or medical procedures scheduled after Feb. 28, 2011 to immediately contact their doctor or medical provider to reschedule their appointments before coverage ends. Those limited number of adultBasic enrollees who may be receiving inpatient treatment on Feb. 28 will continue to have coverage until they are discharged or for 90 days after coverage has ended (whichever comes first).

What are your options for continued health care coverage?

You have several alternatives for continuing to receive health coverage:

Medical Assistance

You may apply at www.compass.state.pa.us to see if you qualify for Medical Assistance (MA). If your circumstances have changed since enrolling in adultBasic – for example, you’ve become disabled or your income has decreased – you may qualify for MA. To learn more, go to www.compass.state.pa.us and click on “Do I Qualify?” to find out if you may be eligible or call the PA DPW Helpline at 1-800-692-7462.

Medicare

If you have turned 65, are disabled or meet other eligibility, you may qualify for Medicare. You may apply online for Medicare by going to the following webpage: <http://www.ssa.gov/medicareonly/>. If you do not wish to apply online you can make an appointment by calling 1-800-772-1213. People who are hearing impaired may call the "TTY" number, 1-800-325-0778, between 7 a.m. and 7 p.m. on business days.

Special Care

Pennsylvania’s Blue Cross and Blue Shield plans offer SpecialCare, a subsidized health insurance plan for individuals and families. Eligibility for SpecialCare is similar to that for adultBasic. SpecialCare differs from adultBasic both in the level of benefits and the cost. To simplify the transition from adultBasic to SpecialCare, the Blue plans have agreed to waive pre-existing condition exclusions for adultBasic members who enroll directly into SpecialCare by May 2, 2011. For more information or to enroll in SpecialCare, contact the plan that provides services in your county. Use the attached chart to determine the Blue plan or plans that serve your county of residence and following list of telephone numbers and web addresses for Pennsylvania’s Blue plans.

Independence Blue Cross. 1-866-282-2702 (TDD/TTY: 215-241-2622) www.ibx.com/health_plans/low_income/special_care.html

Highmark Blue Cross Blue Shield. 1-800-544-6679, TTY 1-800-452-8086 or www.highmarkbcbs.com/SpecialCare

Capital BlueCross. 1-800-682-2393 or www.capbluecross.com/Products/ForIndividuals/IncomeBased/SpecialCare/

Contact Information—If you would like more information on the termination of your adultBasic coverage and your health insurance alternatives, please visit www.insurance.pa.gov and click on “adultBasic,” or call 1-800-GO-BASIC (1-800-462-2742) from Monday through Friday from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. or Saturday from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Blue Cross of Northeastern Pennsylvania. 1-888-445-7930 or www.bcnepa.com/ohpSpecialCare.aspx

Highmark Blue Shield. 1-877-986-4571, TTY 1-800-562-0591 or www.highmarkblueshield.com/SpecialCare

Employer based Coverage

You may have the option to select coverage provided through your employer, or another family member’s employer if applicable. In many cases, an employer subsidizes the cost of such coverage.

PA Fair Care -PA Fair Care is Pennsylvania’s health insurance program for uninsured people with pre-existing medical conditions. To be eligible, the federal Affordable Care Act says you must be uninsured for six months and have a pre-existing condition. This means you would be eligible for PA Fair Care in September if you are not covered by health insurance for the six months between February 28 (when adultBasic ends) and September 1, 2011.

Children with Disabilities and Obesity

Childhood obesity has become an epidemic in the United States over the last generation. More children are overweight or obese today than ever before and the numbers continue to grow. Obesity is defined as 20% over the recommended weight for height or greater than 85th percentile for Body Mass Index (BMI). Childhood obesity is mainly caused by a lack of physical activity. Today's youth lead a very sedentary lifestyle, with an average of 17 hours a week of television watching, not including video games and computer time. Children with disabilities are at an even greater risk for obesity because of this sedentary lifestyle. Many parents believe that because of their disability, their children cannot be physically active, which is not the truth. This lack of physical activity may not only lead to obesity, but to many other numerous health problems as well.

Risk Factor for Future Health Problems

Body weight in children is a significant risk factor for many medical problems that may arise later in life, such as heart disease, stroke, diabetes, breast cancer, gallbladder disease and arthritis. Evidence shows that the conditions leading up to stroke and heart disease usually begin in childhood, manifesting themselves as high blood pressure or high cholesterol. For this reason, it is very important for younger children to lead a physically active lifestyle, no matter what their ability level is. Parents should talk to their child's doctor about whether their child is at a healthy weight for his or her age. If not, their doctor can advise you about controlling excess weight gain in the child by modifying his or her eating habits and physical activity.

Psychological Risk Factors

Childhood obesity, in addition to a physical disability, not only poses problems for possible health risks, it also may affect the child's psychological well-being. Many over-weight children experience bouts of depression which may be caused from teasing or being excluded from social groups at school. It also can severely lower the child's self-esteem which will carry on later in life and may prevent them from succeeding in both their personal and professional lives.

Benefits of Exercise

Although physical activity is not the only answer to these many risk factors, it can have a huge impact on the quality of life for a child with a disability. Some of the many benefits of exercise include:

- Development of physical fitness
- Reducing the risk of diabetes
- Reducing the risk of some cancers
- Weight control
- Improved bone density
- Improved psychological well-being
- Group exercise improves social skills

Dietary Guidelines

Along with exercise, proper nutrition will help reduce the risk of childhood obesity. The Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) and the Department of Agriculture (USDA) released the new Dietary Guidelines for Americans in 2005. They recommend:

- Increase daily intake of fruits and vegetables, whole grains, and nonfat or low-fat milk and milk products
- Control calorie intake to manage body weight
- Get the most nutrition out of your calories
- Make smart choices from every food group
- Be physically active every day



De-fat

Promoting Physical Activity in Children

It is very important to encourage children to exercise. Parents should become a positive role model by regularly exercising on their own and with their child. Parents can increase physical activity and reduce sedentary time by limiting the number of hours the child can watch television. Parents can promote physical education in school if it is not already offered. It is also very important to make exercise fun and enjoyable to encourage a lifelong love of activity. To get your children involved in community activities, check out your local park district which may offer classes or camps for children with disabilities.

Happy Birthday

January

Sophia Agatone 1/20/04; Damir Ballard 1/4/04; Kara Bennett 1/25/94; Jermiah Black 1/16/93; Malleeyah Brundage 1/18/04; Sierra Fagan 1/25/02; Lily Fair 1/8/09; Virginia Garman 1/29/89;

Natalie Gola 1/24/06; Joseph Lee Green 1/30/00; Keith Horchak 1/30/95; William Jones 1/30/05; Nicholas Jordan 1/24/02; Clayton Knorr 1/9/04; Giamma LeDonni 1/23/10; Aaron Meade 1/14/04;

Emily Mong 1/4/93; Nevaeh Randolph 1/25/04; Sean Roland 1/9/08; Miracle Ross 1/23/09; Edgar Santos 1/21/90; Lilliam Sellers 1/19/95; Melanie Ward 1/21/90; W

February

February

Braelyn Boehme 2/24/08; Victoria Boyd 2/15/00; Jessica Condon 2/23/95; Mason Cutright 2/8/93; Austin Dilemme 2/10/98; Blzae Tres Foster 2/3/89; Thomas Fitzcharles 2/12/07; Bailee Heim 2/7/00; Spencer Leibowitz 2/12/01; Ciara Lemieux 2/12/01; Orley Maldonado 2/20/93; Carter Manuel 2/25/09; Miguel Principe 2/10/98; Kayla Scott 2/13/05; Hannah Stiles 2/11/06; Jelli, Jr. 2/11/90; Emma Starr 2/18/94; as 2/11/06

March

March

Abby Fritsch 3/25/95; Mario Gomez 3/14/90; Sam Helfrick 3/7/08; Caroline Lanctot 3/24/02; William Lyons 3/2/94; Richard Madge 3/1/91; Liam McGuire 3/26/07; Jordan McClure 3/26/07; Katrina Moran 3/11/94; Megan Ware 3/28/02; Natalie Miller 3/14/03; Steven Savage 3/30/90; Grant L. G. 3/22/02; T. L. G. 3/12/06; G. L. Y. L. 3/11/02; D. L. Z. 3/11/04

Welcome to The Barn at Spring Brook Farm

The Barn at Spring Brook Farm provides animal-assisted activities for children with disabilities. Our mission is to enrich the lives of children with disabilities by providing animal-assisted activities for the purpose of promoting knowledge, confidence, self-esteem and physical well-being. The Barn at Spring Brook Farm, Inc. is a non-profit 501(c)(3) organization. Spring Brook Farm is located in a rural area outside West Chester, Pennsylvania. We hope you enjoy exploring our web site and that you will accept our invitation to call ahead for a visit.

Meet the Animals -The animals at Spring Brook Farm are important members of our team. Farm animals are selected for the program based on temperament and size. Once an animal arrives at the farm, it is observed for a period of four weeks to give us time to evaluate its health and suitability for working with children. If the animal is appropriate for our program, it receives one-on-one time with our staff members becoming accustomed to the sound, appearance, and feel of wheelchairs, walkers and other support devices.

FROM:
Ventilator Assisted Children Home Program
100 North 20th Street—Suite 201
Philadelphia, PA 19103