



CHILDREN'S SPECIAL HEALTHCARE SERVICES & FETAL INFANT MORTALITY REVIEW

WELCOME!

This quarterly newsletter is to help keep you, our families, stay in the know about all the latest news regarding opportunities and changes related to your child's enrollment in our program. Through this newsletter we hope to help you find new activities and camps to get your child involved in, provide insight into eligible diagnoses, and keep you up to date on all the happenings within your local Children's Special Healthcare Services (CSHCS) department!

CSHCS PROGRAM OVERVIEW

Children's Special Health Care Services is a Michigan Medicaid funded program that is specialized for individuals under the age of 21 with special health care needs. To qualify for CSHCS the individual must have an eligible diagnosis, meet the severity and chronicity requirements, and have an active treatment plan created by a subspecialist. Unlike other Medicaid programs, CSHCS does not have a financial criterion to determine eligibility.

Once eligibility is determined, the state reviews the active insurance that the individual has. If the individual has Michigan Medicaid, they will be automatically enrolled. If the individual just has private insurance, they will be mailed an application with financial paperwork. The financial paperwork is what is used to determine the cost of enrolling in the program. Once the application and financial paperwork is received, the individual is enrolled and will start receiving benefits.



DID YOU KNOW?

MyHealthPortal is a tool for clients with any form of active Medicaid or CSHCS to keep track of their enrollment information! You can manage your accounts, see enrollment information, and so much more from the website or utilize the app on your cell phone (Apple & Android). If you are interested, please contact one of the CSHCS team members and we can assist you with creating an account.

DIAGNOSIS OF THE QUARTER

Sickle Cell Disease

ANNOUNCEMENT: CSHCS is pleased to share that individuals with Sickle Cell Disease are now eligible for enrollment past the age of 21! *

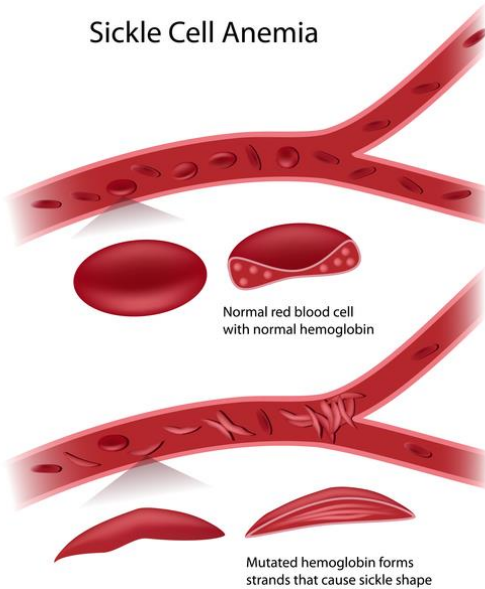
Sickle Cell Disease is an inherited blood disorder which causes the red blood cells to become hard and sticky forming a C-shape, like a sickle. These malformed cells die early causing the individual to have a shortage of red blood cells. Sickle shaped cells also get stuck and clog blood flow in smaller vessels causing pain and other problems such as infection, acute chest syndrome, and even stroke.

There are three common types of sickle cell disease and then several rarer forms. SCD is diagnosed with a blood test and is most often found at birth, with signs and symptoms typically starting around 5 months of age. Some symptoms include pain, anemia, hand-foot syndrome, vision loss, deep vein thrombosis, and others but symptoms and complications vary.

Hydroxyurea is a medication that is commonly used to decrease several complications of SCD, but there is no single best treatment for all people. The only cure available is a bone marrow or stem cell transplant which is typically only used in severe SCD for children with minimal organ damage.

*Please reach out to one of our CSHCS team members for more information or questions regarding the change in enrollment eligibility.

Sickle Cell Anemia



GET TO KNOW OUR TEAM



My name is Brandi Berry and I am the very new Program Supervisor for both the Children's Special Health and Fetal Infant Mortality Review Programs. I received both a Bachelor and Master of Social Work from Grand Valley State University. My career expands over 20 years in child welfare and education, this pivot to Public Health has been a welcome change! I am the mother of three children as well as a dog and a cat. In my free time, I love to travel and read.



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My name is Becky Doucette and I am a nurse on the CSHCS team. I have my bachelor's degree in nursing from Grand Valley State University and my passion has always been Public Health. I worked for 9 years as a nurse in the WIC and Immunization Program and 8 years with the infant and maternal health program. Now I am a Public Health Nurse with the Children's Special Healthcare Services Program and have been in this position for 5 years. I have 5 children, 3 biological and two stepchildren, and 4 of them are "adults". My home is never boring with a Black Labrador Retriever, 3 cats, and sometimes fostering kittens.



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THE CSHCS & FIMR TEAM





My name is Lisa Kuiper and I am a nurse on the CSHCS team. I received my Bachelor of Science in Nursing from GVSU. I also have a Bachelor of Arts from Hope College in psychology with a minor in women's studies. I have been a nurse with the Kent County Health Department for 15 years. I started in the Maternal Infant Health Program and then in 2019, I joined Children's Special Health Care. This past year, I have developed a passion for gardening and now spend quite a bit of time planning and researching new plants to add to my yard. I enjoy hiking with my dog, Boo Bear. I also love to read and belong to a book club.

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My name is Anna Derr and I am a nurse on the CSHCS team. I attended Indiana Wesleyan University and received my Bachelor of Science in Nursing. After growing up and attending college in Indiana, I moved to Grand Rapids for a position at Hope Network's residential program for children age 8-18 with development disabilities where I worked for 3 years. In March of 2021 I decided it was time for a change and joined the CSHCS team as a Public Health Nurse. My husband and I got married last year and have since made our home in Grand Rapids. We love to spend time with friends and find new restaurants to enjoy.

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My name is Vien Taliana and I am a nurse on the CSHCS team. I received my Bachelor of Science in Nursing from Oakland University. I have been a Public Health Nurse at Kent County Health Department for over 18 years. Most of those years were spent in the WIC and Immunization clinics, until recently when I started my new role working with CSHCS. I am married with two children and we love to enjoy time outside together as a family.

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My name is Tammy Woollett and I am one of the representatives for the CSHCS team. I have worked with KCHD for almost 24 years, 17 of those years have been with CSHCS. My role within the team includes answering the main telephone line as well as assisting families and the nurses in a variety of ways. I also assist with running reports for the Fetal Infant Mortality Review Program. I have two beautiful labs named Maizie, for U of M, and Sparty, for MSU. My husband and I love to go camping, fishing and are into RC Planes/Jets. I have a wonderful son and daughter-in-law who gave me two beautiful grandkids.

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My name is Shanda Christie and I am a representative for the CSHCS team. I have been with CSHCS since 2010. Previously I held other clerk positions throughout the Kent County Health Department. My role within the team is to assist answering the main phone line, mailing annual updates to clients, and assisting families and the nurses in a variety of ways. In my spare time I enjoy going on walks, fishing, and boating with my other half.

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THE CSHCS & FIMR TEAM



My name is Marissa Brown and I am the coordinator of the Fetal Infant Mortality Review Program. I graduated from Michigan State University in 2018 with a bachelor's degree in Nursing. Since then, I have worked at the Kent County Health Department with my first two years being spent in the Maternal Infant Health Program doing home visits for pregnant moms and babies, which piqued my interest in preventing infant mortality! I enjoy being a part of the CSHCS/FIMR team and being an advocate for the community by educating others on infant safe sleep, breastfeeding, and Maternal/Infant health. Some of my favorite extracurricular activities include reading murder mystery books, walking my two naughty dogs, and floating in a tube on the water.



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FETAL INFANT MORTALITY REVIEW

Fetal and Infant Mortality Review (FIMR) is a community based, action-oriented process aimed at improving services, systems, and resources for women, infants, and families. FIMR brings a multidisciplinary community team together to examine confidential, de-identified cases of fetal and infant deaths. Review of individual cases helps teams understand families' experiences, including racism, and how those experiences may have impacted maternal and child outcomes.



OUR FALL FAVORITES

As the weather gets cooler and the fall colors start to set in, we wanted to share with you some of our favorite fall activities!



Walking, hiking, or biking on the Michigan trails and paths



Exploring apple orchards



Eating yummy treats



Watching the leaves change