

DECEMBER 2006

WHATCOM COUNTY CHILD HEALTH NOTES

Promoting early identification and partnerships between families, primary health care providers & the community.

Please Note: Whatcom County Children with Special Health Care Needs Program has a new phone number: (360) 676-6762 ext 32105

"I would like to compliment the colorful format in which you display childhood development. I am using it all to decorate and express the precious years my child will grow from babyhood to adolescence. I believe that any mother young or older could benefit from the letters you send. I always open mine as soon as they come. Thanks for showing an interest in my child's growth."

--Parent receiving CHILD Profile materials.



www.childprofile.org

DID YOU KNOW?

As health care providers in Washington State you have **two remarkable partners** in the care of children from birth through age six : **WithinReach** and **CHILD Profile**



(Formerly Healthy Mothers, Healthy Babies Coalition of Washington State)

WithinReach operates the **Family Health Hotline 1-800-322-2588 (TTY 711)**. Hotline callers are connected to resources such as free/low-cost health insurance, food and nutrition programs, developmental screenings, breastfeeding support, and immunizations. Hotline staff are bilingual (English/Spanish), and uses AT&T Language Line interpreter services to communicate in all other languages.

Families with developmental concerns or children with special health care needs are connected with their local **Family Resources Coordinator** or **Children with Special Health Care Needs Coordinator**.

CHILD Profile, a program of the Dept. of Health, is the state's Immunization Registry and Health Promotion System.

What are the Child Profile Health Promotion materials?

CHILD Profile Health Promotion mailings provide parents with age-specific information about growth, development, safety, nutrition, and other issues. Materials are pretested with parents, updated regularly by child health professionals, and include:

- Colorful one page letters sent approximately 30 days prior to each American Academy of Pediatrics recommended well child check-up with reminders about the need for well child visits and immunizations.
- Immunization Record card and Childhood Health Record booklet (with plastic holder).
- Informational brochures on many topics, like the ITEIP-sponsored series at 3, 6, and 12 months (*Watch and Help Me Grow*) about developmental milestones and activities to encourage a child's development.
- Development Charts on the 5 domains of child development (birth to 18 months, 18 months to 3 years, and 3 to 5 years).

Who receives the materials?

The series of 17 CHILD Profile mailings are sent to families from the time of a child's birth until six years of age and are free to Washington State residents. Parents of all children born in Washington State are enrolled by birth certificate information.

Families not receiving materials can enroll by calling the Family Health Hotline at 1-800-322-2588 or by visiting www.childprofile.org. All materials are available in Spanish and English.

What can you do in your office?

- Visit the CHILD Profile web site to view the materials or to request a complete packet.
- Call the Family Health Hotline for copies of the CHILD Profile development charts for your examination room wall. In Fall 2006, health and child care providers will be sent the 3 development charts and be able to order free additional quantities.
- Assure that families are receiving the mailings, by encouraging them to call the Family Health Hotline to enroll.
- If your office is enrolled in the CHILD Profile Immunization Registry, update a child's record to select Spanish materials for families who prefer that, or submit that information to CHILD Profile for updating.
- Encourage families to review the materials. Many aspects of anticipatory guidance are covered in these materials.
- Use the Family Health Hotline to refer families for further developmental assessment or other health/development resources.

WHATCOM COUNTY RESOURCES FOR DEVELOPMENTAL SCREENING AND ASSESSMENT

- ☎ **For children under age three:** Whatcom County Early Childhood Evaluation Clinic @ 676-6762 ext 32105
- ☎ **For children age three and older:** Local Public School Special Education Program by District

District:	Phone	Fax	District:	Phone	Fax
Bellingham	(360)676-6514	(360)676-2692	Meridian	(360)398-9898	(360)398-8966
Blaine	(360)332-5213	(360)332-7568	Mt Baker	(360)383-2012	(360)383-2014
Ferndale	(360)383-9212	(360)383-9230	Nooksack	(360)988-4754	(360)988-8983
Lynden	(360)354-2893	(360)354-7662			

SPECIAL NEEDS INFORMATION AND RESOURCES:

- ☎ **Local:** Children with Special Health Care Needs: **New Number!!** (360) 676-6762 ext 32105
 Infant-Toddler Early Intervention Program: (360)
 Parent-to Parent: (360) 255-6402
- ☎ **Regional:** Children's Hospital and Regional Medical Center
 Health Professional Hotline (800) 293-2462
 Parent Resource Line (866) 987-2500
- Washington State Fathers Network (425) 747-4004 ext. 4286
www.fathersnetwork.org
- Washington State Medical Home Website www.medicalhome.org
- 🖨 **National/ Internet:** American Academy of Pediatrics www.aap.org
 AAP Developmental and Behavioral Pediatrics www.dbpeds.org
 American Academy of Family Physicians www.aafp.org
 Family Village (Extensive family resources for CSHCN) www.familyvillage.wisc.edu
 Family Voices (Links to national and state family support networks) www.familyvoices.org
 Center for Children with Special Needs www.cshcn.org
 Internet Resources for Special Children irsc.org
 National Association of School Nurses www.nasn.org

Children with Special Health Care Needs
 Whatcom County Health Department
 1500 N State, Bellingham, WA 98225

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