

Spring 2011



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CARE NEWS

Consultation * Adaptation * Rehabilitation * Education

SCHOOL BASED THERAPY SERVICES

CARE for Children has long been a provider of school based occupational and physical therapies within school districts in McKean County and Potter County, but there are often misconceptions with comparison to medically based therapy services.

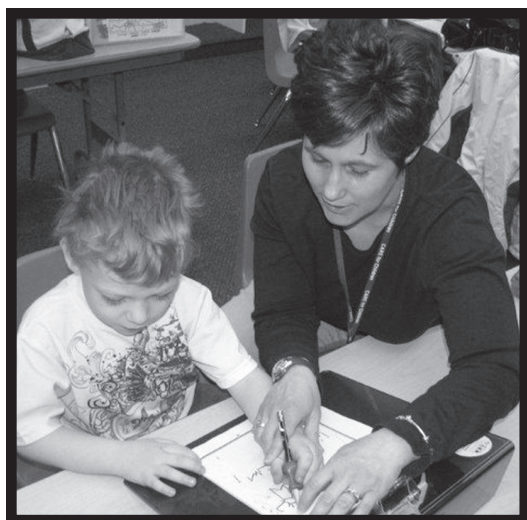
School based therapy is provided specifically to give students with disabilities and delays improved access to education. School based services are not rehabilitative in nature.

A medical or community based model of therapy services generally focuses on a specific impairment and is typically provided in a health care setting. Several students that CARE provides service to receive both school and medically based therapies.

According to Ashley Carlson, MOT, OTR/L, School Therapy Services Coordinator, "Once an Individualized Education Plan (IEP) has been developed and a student has been deemed to need either school based occupational or physical therapy, CARE's staff works closely with school personnel and the student's family to determine what course should be taken to allow the student to reach his or her full potential in an educational setting."

School based occupational therapy staff focuses on functional skills such as writing, drawing, coloring, using utensils in the cafeteria, cutting, pasting and other activities that may be difficult for a child with a disability or that is delayed because of fine motor issues.

School based physical therapists help students who have gross motor delays. Many students that receive physical therapy have significant motor deficiencies and may use adaptive equipment like wheelchairs. Therapists help students build strength and endurance; develop balance and coordination; and effectively navigate the school environment.



DeAnn Persichini, COTA, occupational therapy assistant works on letter formation with Kindergarten student, Derec during a school based therapy session.

Therapists make child-specific adaptations to help students make the most of their school time and identify strategies that schools and parents can use in the student's daily routines to help the child become more independent.

"Parents, teachers, the school staff, and the CARE staff work together to form a team that stands behind each student that needs service," added Carlson. "Our goal is to help each child despite their challenges feel included and successful in school."

CARE EQUIPMENT CLINIC

In March CARE held an equipment clinic to fit several children with standers.

Since 2005 CARE for Children has been partnering with Presque Isle Rehab Technology to hold Wheelchair and Adaptive Equipment Clinics at the CARE office in Bradford.



Jason, age 5, son of Ashley and Jason Conner tries out his new stander during an equipment clinic in March.

The clinic, held several times a year, was renamed in 2008 in memory of Verner W. Smith of Bradford who passed away in June 2008.

Smith was a long time supporter of CARE for Children as well as a recipient of services from the agency as a child.

Staff members from Presque Isle travel to Bradford to see clients and assess current equipment being used, as well as the functional status, social history and seating/mobility needs of the patient.

Correct seating can maximize the functional independence, mobility, posture and breathing of each patient and serve to protect skin integrity.

Presque Isle Rehab Technology works with certified suppliers and insurance companies to meet the individual needs of each child.

The equipment clinics are part of CARE's free community outreach programs for children of all abilities.

LONG WINTER, LOTS OF FUN!

Though the winter season seemed to many like it would never end, CARE kids kept busy with numerous therapeutic recreation events.

Everyone shared laughs during CARE's annual holiday movie celebration at Main Street Movie House in December. A private showing of the new Yogi Bear movie had 141 children, family members and CARE staff in attendance. An anonymous sponsor provided admission tickets and MacTech Mineral Management provided drinks and popcorn for all attendees.

Each year the Lady Panthers Basketball team invites the CARE kids to a home game. In January the kids enjoyed cheering on their favorite players as the Panthers took on the Lions of Penn State Behrend. Prior to the game, CARE staff held a Highmark-CARE Kid Fitness gym time in the Field House.

In February, CARE kids again visited the Pitt Bradford Sport and Fitness Center as Coach Tina Phillips and the women's volleyball team hosted a volleyball night in the arena. The proceeds from the Kinzua Outdoors Fishing Tournament provided funding for the event. All children in attendance were treated to dinner catered by Togi's restaurant and received an inflated beach ball to take home.

The weather was great for the adaptive Ski Clinic at Holiday Valley, held annually on President's Day. Ten children of differing abilities had a ski lesson from volunteer instructors provided by the Lounsbury Adaptive Ski Program at Holiday Valley, which is part of Disabled Sports USA.

This year the Lounsbury program received a grant from the Enterprise Foundation which payed for the lift tickets and lunch for the children and families at the clinic. The Rotary Club of Port Allegany sponsored the bus transportation for the day.

The Lady Panther's Basketball Mini Camp celebrated its 10th anniversary in March. The first year 20 campers attended and each year the camp has grown with 45-70 children in attendance annually.

The basketball camp, part of CARE's therapeutic recreation program, helps children learn about the game in an inclusive environment.

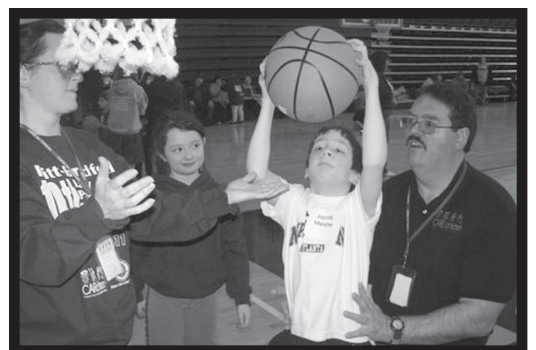
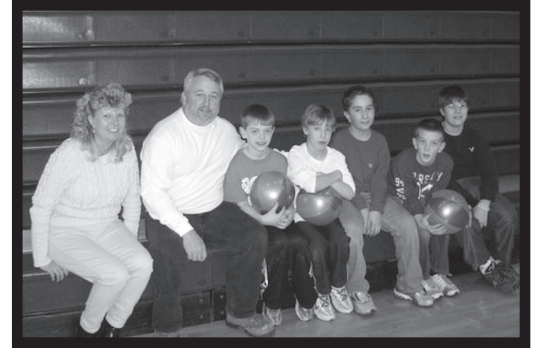
"The camp gives the athletes an opportunity to spend some time with local children," said Lady Panther Coach Molly Brennan. "This event has been going on for 10 years and I think it is important that it continues, our student-athletes need to be involved in the community."

The camp is unique because it focuses on basketball skills that campers may not have experienced because of perceived limitations. The physical and occupational therapy staff from CARE are on hand to help the Lady Panthers adapt components of the game and to work with the kids as an extension of traditional school based therapy.

Each child in attendance received a hooded sweatshirt and basketball and this event is sponsored annually by Pitt Bradford and the Bradford Rotary Club.

Two hundred and twenty kids took part in these programs, which provide many benefits to children of all abilities, from improved physical fitness to socialization to sportsmanship. All programs are free for children with disabilities and for children receiving therapy services through CARE for Children.

Pictured top to bottom: Sue Wilcox and Tom Means from the Kinzua Outdoors Fishing Tournament are joined by a gang of CARE kids at volleyball; Carmine makes it known he is coming down the hill at the Holiday Valley Adaptive Ski Clinic; and Zethan glides down Slippery Slopes with his Lounsbury instructors; Jacob goes in for the dunk while CARE therapists Kim Miller, OTR/L and Barry Simon, MSPT, help out; and Lady Panther Maria Costanza points to the basket as Alexis prepares to shoot during the Lady Panther Basketball Camp.



MEMORIALS

In Memory of:

Ralph Barger, Sr.
Ruth Bateman
Carolyn A. Bernard
Cathryn Black
Christine Camera
Richard Coffman
Joseph "Butch" DiFonzo
Gary Dubler
Daniel Eberling
Rita Eberling
Wilma Elias
Genevieve Farrell
Eileen Flint
Terri Gigliotti Pillier
Angela Giordano
Mary Glick
Jack Griffin
Mary Dee Harvey
Susan Haskins
Garth Hickoff
Joan Hosmer
Lucy Houghson
Scott Huntington
Stephen Jones
Sarah Keller
June Kline
Wilbur "Bill" Kresge
Shane Lathrop
Ruby Lee
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Edith Middlebrough
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Ivan Regis
James Riccardi
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Gene Rote

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Carl Schwab
Randy Shaffer

Yvonne "Bonnie" Silvis
Eugene "Babe" Staiger
Leonard Stuck
Philip Tanty
Barbara Tassone
Sara Vaughn
Joseph Viola
Madeline Ward

Bernard Wrenn
John Yerdon
Nancy Zetts

October 1, 2010 through February 28, 2011

Given By:

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Craig & Kimberly Engstrom
Jim Maduri; Mrs. Raphael Carvelli & Family; Paul & Mary Winner
Ken & Ann Kane
Linda & Bill Sayers
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Nate & Ashley Carlson
Todd & Sharon Bridge; Marlene Ericson & Family; Mike Martin
Marlene Ericson & Family; James McGill
Steve & Martha Morris
Mike Martin & Family; Paul & Mary Winner
Paul & Mary Winner
Paul & Mary Winner
Francis & Gloria Puller
Jeff and Val Coast
Paul & Mary Winner
Tina Martin & Max
Ken & Ann Kane
CARE for Children Staff; Russell L. Berkhouse
Linda & Bill Sayers
Glenn & Eileen Kresge
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McMurtrie; James McGill
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Marlene Ericson & Family; Kim; Kayla & Brett Murphey
Jeff & Val Coast
Katherine Goodman Manning & Boys
Tina Martin & Max
Jan Brown; Sue Martin; Mike Martin; Steve & Martha Morris;
Marlene Ericson & Family
Mike & Patty Gamble
Wendall & Nellie Wallace
Rose Hvizdzak; Tina Martin & Max; Jane Hartle; CARE for Children
Marlene Ericson & Family
Dave & Kim Soble; Helen Arick; Colleen Scrivo; Ruth Danielson
Todd & Sharon Bridge
Paul & Mary Winner
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Marlene Ericson & Family; Todd & Sarie Bridge
Jim Maduri
Todd & Sharon Bridge; Craig & Nancy Campbell; Jim Maduri;
Mike Martin; Art & Linda Slike
Todd & Sharon Bridge; Bill & Kim Graham
BJ & Sue Sayers
Anna Confer; Todd & Sharon Bridge; Steve & Martha Morris;
Marlene Ericson & Family
Jeff & Val Coast; Clara Sicheri & Family
Tina Martin & Max; Sue Martin; Jan Brown
Francis & Gloria Puller
BJ & Sue Sayers; Bill & Linda Sayers; James McGill
Paul & Mary Winner; Rose Hvizdzak; Wendall & Nellie Wallace
Mick & Michele Marshall
Rose Hvizdzak; Jim Maduri
Tina Martin & Max; Nate & Ashley Carlson; Jeff & Val Coast; Kim,
Kayla & Brett Murphey; Doug & Jan Stiles;
Mark & DeAnn Persichini & Girls; Mike & Barb McGarry;
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Wendall & Nellie Wallace
Art & Linda Slike; Wendall & Nellie Wallace; Don & Kathleen Sakal
Jackie Wilt; Mike Martin

DONATIONS

Bradford Festa Italiana
Big 30 All Star Charities Classic
LaStella Auxiliary
Bradford Exchange Club
Eagles for Autism
Kinzua Outdoor Fishing Tournament
MacTech Mineral Management
Pitt Bradford Resident Advisors
Elizabeth M. Costello
Rock-N-Bowl
Claudia Quinn
Bruce & Emma Sherwin
Wal-Mart Super Center
St. Luke's Episcopal Church Women
BASD Student Service League
Northwest Savings Bank
United Way of the Bradford Area
Tina Martin
Mark & Mandi Davis
Mr. & Mrs. Bruce Perry
American Legion Post #108
Dr. Edward Konwinski
Marche Club
Madeline Miles
Dean & Jean Bauer
Kiwanis Club of Bradford
Mike Mongillo
Dr. Anita Herbert
Togi's Restaurant
Gene & Donna Carl
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Forest Investment Services
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Harriett Wick
Copy Connection
The Mukaiyama-Rice Foundation
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East End Presbyterian Church
Raymond & Ruth Feura
Anonymous
Patricia Petrisek
Richard & Ann Kessel
National Fuel Gas Company
Leonard Brown
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Louise Stoltz in memory of Harry Stoltz
Helen Arick in memory of Thomas Arick
Jan Brown in memory of Ed Golen Sr.
Jan Brown in memory of Patricia Martin
Pearl Stark in memory of Frealyn Stark Jr.
Jan Graham in memory of Lena Griffin
Steve & Barb Stidd in memory of
Margaret Sica Stidd

IN-KIND DONATIONS

St. Luke's Episcopal Church Women
McDonalds Restaurant
Bradford Dialysis
Pitt Bradford Resident Advisors
Tammy Wilton & Hannah Ruttan
Dollar General

HONORARIUM

In Honor of:

Elizabeth M. Costello

Given By:

Carol Newman

CARE wishes to express our appreciation to those who have made a contribution.

If you would like to give a memorial, honorarium, donation to the agency or the

CARE for Children Trust, please call 814-362-4621 or visit the CARE website at www.careforchildren.info.

All gifts are tax-deductible to the extent provided by law.