

The Children's Link Society

Suite 245, 720 - 28th Street N.E Calgary, Alta. T2A 6R3
Phone:230-9158/ Fax:230-3252/ E-mail:child@nucleus.com
Website: www.childrenslink.ca

- ◆ **Cerebral Palsy Association - Calgary – Sheralee Stelter – (403) 205-4935.**
Cerebral Palsy Calgary is a source of information and support for families that have children with Cerebral Palsy. Please call Sheralee Stelter at the above number for more information.
(Website: www.calgarycp.org e-mail: sheralee@calgarycp.org)
- ◆ **Cerebral Palsy Association of Alberta – (403) 543-1161.** The CP Association of Alberta provides support to families and information on diagnosis, treatments and therapies. **Mezaun Lakha-Evin at (403) 543-0076 mezaun@cpalberta.com** is the Director of Programs and Services.
(Website: www.cpalberta.com Email: cpaa@nucleus.com)
- ◆ **Alberta Aids to Daily Living (AADL) - (403) 943-2100.** AADL assists families raising a child with a long-term disability, chronic or terminal illness, with the extraordinary cost of medical equipment or supplies needed for day-to-day living. Please see the enclosed brochure for more information.
- ◆ **FSCD – Family Support for Children with Disabilities - (403) 297-6022.** (formerly known as CSN - Services to Children with Special Needs, as well as RCD – Resources for Children with Disabilities). FSCD assists families with extraordinary costs of raising a child with special needs. Extraordinary costs such as respite care and transportation to extraordinary medical appointments or therapy are covered by FSCD who fit the criteria. Please call the above number to speak with an intake worker and see the enclosed guidelines for eligibility and tips for negotiating a contract. **(NOTE: FSCD is in the process of restructuring and contact numbers, information etc... may change. Please contact us if you need assistance as we will make every effort to stay current of any changes).**
- ◆ **Respite List** - Enclosed is a list put together by The Children's Link Society that includes agencies and private care providers for relief and respite services. Many of the agencies bill FSCD directly. Please take the time to look over the various options, as some would be more suitable than others for your family. Also see our web site at www.childrenslink.ca for up to date caregiver options.
- **Calgary Health Region (CHR) Early Intervention Program – (403) 569-2100.**
The CHR runs an early intervention program which can be accessed until the child is 3 years of age. Assessment information is also available through the CHR. Please call for more information on the services that they provide.
- ◆ **The Alberta Child Health Benefit – 1-877-469-5437.** The Alberta Child Health Benefit is a health benefit plan for children in low-income families. The program

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offers coverage of dental, optical, emergency ambulance and prescription drug services. Please see the enclosed brochure for program details and eligibility.

- ◆ **Supported Child Care Program – Child Care Services – (403) 297-6100 – Marg Cutler.** Calgary Rocky View Child and Family Services Supported Child Care Program assists licensed and approved child care programs in the provision of developmentally appropriate child care services to children with special needs. Please see the enclosed information on the program or contact Marg Cutler at the above number.
- ◆ **Alberta Children's Hospital - Neuromotor Clinic – Secretary (403) 955-7257; Clinical Resource Nurse – Susan Rawaing (403) 955-7215.** Beth King – Social Worker (403) 943-7039 and Bonnie Osoff-Bultz - Social Worker (403) 943-7030.
- ◆ **Pediatricians List** – For an up to date listing of pediatricians in Calgary, go to <http://www.calgaryhealthregion.ca:82/hsd/> . This is a very helpful site in that you can specify the area of the city close to you.
- ◆ **In-Home Supports for Parents and Children.** Often families raising children with special needs require in-home support for their family. As parents of children with special needs and having “been there”, we have enclosed a list of agencies that provide support in a number of capacities to families dealing with the day-to-day challenges of raising a child with special needs. Please see the enclosed list of agencies that may helpful for your family.

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- ◆ **Parking Placards for Persons with Disabilities.** A parking placard and/or disabled license plate enable those with the greatest needs to use specially designated parking facilities. The placards are issued to individuals who provide proof of eligibility under this program. Eligibility is defined as persons unable to walk more than 50 metres. Physicians, occupational therapists or physiotherapists can approve an application form. Forms are available at the Children's Link office, as well as at all Alberta Registries offices or by visiting the Alberta Government website: <http://www3.gov.ab.ca/gs/services/mv/>
- **The Disability Tax Credit Information** – This is a non-refundable tax credit that you can use to reduce the amount of income tax you have to pay. Please call the following number for more information on how to apply for this credit and form - T2201A from Revenue Canada. 1-800-267-1267 website: www.cra.gc.ca/alternate
- **The Children's Link Society's Family Link Program – (403) 230-9158.** The Children's Link Society offers the Family Link Program a new and exciting program, which works at bringing families together to share their expertise, joys and frustrations and the special understanding of having a son or daughter with a disability. Monthly socials are held for this parent-to-parent connection. Childcare is available for the monthly socials but please call ahead of time so that childcare arrangements can be made. **Website:** www.childrenslink.ca
- **Special Education Funding - PUF Funding - 1-780-422-6326 or toll free by dialing 310-0000.** Preschool children that have special needs are eligible for PUF funded preschool programs. Please see the criteria in the information enclosed.
- ◆ **Preschool Options List** – We have enclosed our preschools options list for your information. On this list, you will find preschools that specialize in programs for children with special needs and programs that integrate children with special needs. Many of the preschools listed on our list, also have support staff such as speech therapists, physical therapists and occupational therapists. They may also have a higher ratio of adults to children and the schools listed have had experience accessing PUF funding. Community preschools may also access PUF funding, but they must be an accredited ECS operator and an ECS teacher must oversee the program. Community preschools can contact Alberta Learning – Special Education Funding, at the above number for more information.

Programs run by **Renfrew and P.A.C.E. (Rehabilitation Programs for Children with Motor Disabilities)** offer **Conductive Education**.
- ◆ **The Calgary Board of Education (CBE) – Parkdale Centre – (403) 777-7240.** Parkdale Centre is the School, Student and Services Centre that parents may call when placing their child with the CBE. The Emily Follensbee School is an example of a school providing a comprehensive program to students with complex learning needs. For more information on Emily Follensbee School, please call 777-6980. (Website: www.cbe.ab.ca.)

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- ◆ **The Calgary Catholic Board of Education** - Registration for students with special needs information for parents enclosed. If you need further information please contact Heather Rose, Supervisor, and Instructional Support Team at 291-1581 (**Website: www.cssd.ab.ca/**)
- **Alberta Learning.** Alberta Learning can be reached by dialing 310-0000 then dialing 422-6326. This is a toll free number. *The Learning Team* is an information handbook for Parents of Children with Special Needs. It provides helpful information for parents on policies, procedures, individualized program plans, transition planning, collaboration and resolving differences. You can find a free PDF version of this resource at: www.learning.gov.ab.ca/educationguide/spec-ed/partners/ or you can purchase a copy for \$5.70 + GST from Alberta Learning.
- ◆ **Alberta Education Special Education Coding** – Please see the enclosed listing of Special Education Coding which is used in the Calgary Board of Education and the Calgary Catholic Board of Education.
(website: www.learning.gov.ab.ca/K_12/specialneeds/SpecialEd_def.pdf)
- ◆ **Private School Options** – Please see attached information for more details.
- ◆ **Home Schooling Options** - Please see attached information for more details.
- ◆ **Recreation Opportunities for Children with Special Needs.** We have a listing of recreational options but as these will be specific your child’s age, ability and interests, please contact our office for more information. We can also provide a number of options for day and residential **summer camps**.

I hope the enclosed information is helpful for your family. If you have any questions regarding the enclosed information, please do not hesitate to contact our office or we can also set up an appointment to go over the material at your convenience. Please just give our office a call with your concerns at 230-9158.

Sincerely,

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