

Waukesha County Children with Special Needs COVID-19 Resource Newsletter – Issue #3

Hello! To our fantastic Waukesha County Children's Long Term Support Waiver families!

During this trying time of uncertainty for many children and families, the Children with Special Needs Unit wanted to be able to provide you with additional resources on a variety of topics over the next few weeks. We know that for many families, our worlds have been turned upside down and our daily routines have been impacted greatly. We hope that you find a few of these resources helpful, as we all walk through uncharted territories.

Notes from the Department of Health Services - Bureau of Children's Services:

- The Wisconsin Department of Health Services (DHS) is committed to keeping families informed during the COVID-19 pandemic. DHS has published the [All in For Kids Newsletter issue 2020-01](#), which contains important information for children and families about COVID-19 and the CLTS Waiver Program.

Notes from the Children with Special Needs Programs:

- Parental Payment Liability Fees – ALL families participating in the CLTS and CCOP programs will receive a waiver of required parental payment liabilities due to the financial hardships that has occurred as a result of the Governor's [Emergency Order #12, or the Safer at Home Order](#). No invoice for services rendered or authorized will be sent out to families for the service months of March and April 2020.
- Waukesha County Service Coordinators are continuing to work remotely at this time. Please remember, Service Coordinators are calling you via cell phones that have blocked or restricted numbers. Therefore, it could show up as "Unknown caller" or "Restricted". Please check your voicemails, as it is likely that you have been left a voicemail message.
- If you have additional needs during this time, please do not hesitate to reach out to your Service Coordinator.

School at Home Resources:

- [How to Find Great Learning Resources for Your Students During School Closures](#) - From using video to project-based learning, get recommendations on the best tools for virtual learning. We have thousands of reviews that dig into the pros, cons, and "how-tos" of each app, website, and game. To make sifting through these reviews easier, we've put together this collection of our most relevant Top Picks lists.

- [Top Virtual Learning Tools by Grade & Subject](#) - Hand-picked tools for every scenario, all well-suited for use during the COVID-19 pandemic. These are all hand-picked tools we recommend for this unprecedented situation. Most are free (or cheap), and all offer standout learning experiences that shouldn't be too difficult to slot into your plans. Of course, you'll also want to dig into their privacy and safety practices, so make sure to check out the privacy evaluations on the review pages.
- [Wide Open School](#) - Curated and coordinated by the experts at Common Sense, Wide Open School is the result of a collaboration among leading publishers, nonprofits, and education and technology companies. Wide Open School features a free collection of the best learning experiences and activities for kids, organized by grade band and subject. You will also find daily schedules with creative breaks and recommendations to keep kids engaged and exploring, one day (or one hour) at a time.

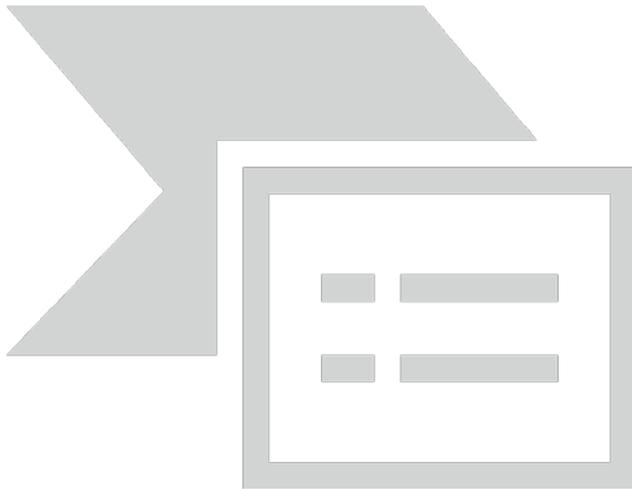
Information on COVID-19:

- Wisconsin Department of Health Services COVID-19 Informational Website: <https://www.dhs.wisconsin.gov/covid-19/help.htm>
- COVID-19 Frequently Asked Questions (from the CDC): https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/faq.html?CDC_AA_refVal=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.cdc.gov%2Fcoronavirus%2F2019-ncov%2Fprepare%2Fchildren-faq.html

Guidance for Children:

- [Something Strange Happened in My City Story](#) – A social story about the coronavirus pandemic for children.
- STOP, BREATHE & THINK - Join Stop, Breathe & Think on Facebook Live guided meditation every Tuesday at 2 PM CST at [facebook.com/stopbreathethink](https://www.facebook.com/stopbreathethink). Stop, Breathe & Think narrators will lead you through mindfulness practices to keep you healthy, connected and at peace. Replays will also be available on Instagram @SBTBreathe SBT KIDS & PARENTS MINDFULNESS LIVE - Held every Thursday on the Stop, Breathe & Think Facebook page at 12pm CST for a free live guided mindfulness activity for parents & kids.

Happy Story to Tell:



[Grant County deputy reveals new look for squad car promoting autism awareness](#)

Mindfulness:

- **TEN PERCENT HAPPIER LIVE** - Every weekday, Ten Percent Happier is offering a free live sanity break, featuring host, Dan Harris, and some of the world's best meditation teachers, streaming from their homes to yours. It'll start with a meditation and then take questions from the audience. This streams live on YouTube at 2PM CST every weekday. If you miss it live, you can catch past episodes online. <https://www.youtube.com/tenpercenthappier/live> For more from Ten Percent Happier including podcasts and guided meditations visit: <https://www.tenpercent.com/coronavirussanityguide>
- **Mindful.Org** - Find Calm and Nourish Resilience Online Course - Get free access through June 30, 2020. These expert-guided mindfulness resources can help you and your community find calm, navigate anxiety, and tap into a sense of well-being even as we all engage openly with the challenges of the day. The free, self-paced resource features 30 mindfulness lessons to calm anxious thoughts, strengthen emotional resilience, and cultivate compassion and connection. <https://learning.mindful.org/p/daily-mindfulness-free>
- **Mindful@Home** - Mindful.org will be starting [Mindful@Home](#), a series of free guided meditations from some of their favorite mindfulness teachers. Tune in to Mindful.Org [Facebook](#) page every Monday, Wednesday, and Friday at 2 p.m. CST for live guided meditations.

Other Resource Information:

- For information on emergency internet resources and utility service help, please visit: <https://psc.wi.gov/Pages/Home.aspx>

- For information on filing for unemployment and equal rights, please visit: <https://dwd.wisconsin.gov/covid19/public/>
- For information on DMV online services and WisDOT, please visit: <https://wisconsin.gov/Pages/covid-19.aspx>
- For resources on tax filing, please visit: <https://www.revenue.wi.gov/Pages/News/2020/wi-covid-19.aspx> and <https://www.irs.gov/coronavirus>

Stay current with the response by Waukesha County to COVID-19 at:

<https://www.waukeshacounty.gov/COVID19>

If you have additional needs during this time, please do not hesitate to reach out to your assigned Service Coordinator. If you do not have an assigned Service Coordinator – you can reach out to Erin Zellmer: ezellmer@waukeshacounty.gov

We are safer at home. Stay well.