



CHILDREN'S VOICE

WAUKESHA COUNTY'S CHILDREN WITH SPECIAL NEEDS PROGRAM MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

-February 2022 -

Children's Long-Term Support Waiver Medicaid Service Package Changes for 2022

Every five years, the Department of Health Service must seek approval from the Centers for Medicaid Services (CMS) to renew the ability for the CLTS Waiver program to function. This year the renewal included many great enhancements to the program.

This includes 7 new service definitions:

- **Discovery and career planning services** provide learning and work experiences where the participant can develop general, non-job-task-specific strengths and skills that contribute to employability in paid employment in integrated community settings.
- **Grief and bereavement counseling** helps the participant and/or their family cope with the possible death of the participant and supports the family after the participant's death.
- **Health and wellness services** maintain or improve the health, wellbeing, socialization, and inclusion of the participant with their family and peers in the community.
- **Participant and family directed goods and services** are services, supports, supplies or goods that address or enhance the participant's opportunity to meet a long-term support outcome, but is not otherwise provided through another CLTS Program service or the Medicaid State Plan.
- **Participant and family-direction broker services** empower and assist participants and families in directing their own CLTS Program services and supports.
- **Safety planning and prevention** includes items or services that reduce risk or danger to help keep the participant safe in their home and community.
- **Virtual equipment and supports** allow a participant to access other CLTS Waiver Program services that are delivered remotely.

Renamed CLTS services to better reflect their purpose and intent

- Consumer education and training was renamed **empowerment and self-determination supports**.
- Housing counseling was renamed **housing support services**.
- Supported employment services were renamed **community/competitive integrated employment services**.
- Supportive home care was renamed **personal supports**.
- Training for parents/guardians and families of children with disabilities was renamed **family/unpaid caregiver supports and services**.

Service Package Changes Continued:

CLTS Reorganized services to meet federal definitions

- Communication aids were moved from the assistive technology service description and should now be authorized under the [communication assistance for community inclusion service](#).
 - Adaptive aids were removed as a distinct category. Services previously listed under adaptive aids should now be authorized under [specialized medical and therapeutic supplies](#), except in two circumstances: service animals should be authorized under [assistive technology](#), and [vehicle modifications](#) are now a distinct service.
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Many services that were covered by CCOP in past could possibly be covered by the CLTS Waiver program in 2022

In the coming weeks, the program will be working with providers who provide services like adaptive swim and memberships to community locations to determine if those agencies are willing to become a registered Medicaid provider for the CLTS Waiver program.

Service Coordinators will reach out when providers have completed the set-up process and we can begin services covered by the CLTS Waiver rather than the Children's Community Option Program.

**Children with Special Needs Unit is excited by these changes to the program!
We ask for your patience as we work with providers to establish contracts to provide the new services listed above.**



The 33rd Annual Wisconsin Autism Conference will be held in-person, April 29 & 30, 2022 at the Kalahari Resort & Convention Center in Wisconsin Dells.

Parents and caregivers that have attended in the past have commented that attending helped them understand their son or daughter better, helped them feel more connected & better supported, and helped them learn about important resources to assist them on their journey.

More information can be found here: <https://www.autismgreaterwi.org/annualconference/>

MENTAL HEALTH/MINDFULNESS RESOURCES



Mindful Mini retreat for Parents, Grandparents and Caregivers

*Price note: reduced class fee of \$20 is available for those with financial need.

Use coupon code Retreat20 when registering.

This mini retreat is in partnership with the UW Dept of Pediatrics.

Come join us to explore mindfulness as it relates to our roles as parents, stepparents, grandparents and/or caregivers of children. We will explore concepts of mindful parenting/caregiving, engage in practices such as yoga and meditation, and have the opportunity to connect with others facing the joys and challenges of caring for children with presence. This mini retreat will provide you with practices to nurture your body, mind, and spirit, which may support and strengthen your relationships with your child(ren) and yourself. All are welcome; no prior mindfulness experience required!

No refunds after Wednesday, February 9, 2022.

You will need access to an internet connection along with a computer or tablet that can run the Zoom application. This course will take place in a live, online session that will not be recorded to maintain confidentiality.

To register go here:

https://apm.activecommunities.com/uwhealth/Activity_Search/6-parenting-caregiving-with-presence-half-day-online-w22/21149

FUN ACTIVITIES

Milwaukee County Zoo Free Days

March 5th: 9:30am – 4:30pm

Milwaukee County Zoo
10001 W Bluemound Rd
Milwaukee, WI 53226

2022 Family Free Days Sponsored by North Shore Bank & WITI FOX6.

ALL VISITORS RECEIVE FREE ZOO ADMISSION, BUT THE PARKING FEE REMAINS IN EFFECT

Betty Brinn Children's Museum Sensory-Friendly Sessions



The Betty Brinn Children's Museum welcomes children with autism spectrum (ASD) or sensory processing disorders (SPD) and their families to their Sensory-Friendly Sessions.

BETTY BRINN CHILDREN'S MUSEUM SENSORY-FRIENDLY SESSION TIMES:

February 9 from 9:30 am to 11:30 am

February 23 from 5:30 pm to 7:30 pm

March 9 from 9:30 am to 11:30 am

March 23 from 5:30 am to 7:30 pm

Purchase tickets [HERE](#).

Take a sleigh ride at Hoofs Beat Express in Oconomowoc

Come for the 40-minute ride and stay for the hot chocolate and cookies while enjoying the small carriage collection in our warmed barn. Sleigh rides on our 115-acre farm.

Our largest sleigh carries 12 passengers with a minimum booking of 6 riders. Call (262) 853-9801 or <https://www.hoofbeatsexpress.com/sleigh-rides>

VIRTUAL CONFERENCE



Moving from Surviving to Thriving A Focus on Healing, Health and Neurodiversity with Autistic and Neurodivergent Minds

Keynote speakers include Amy Laurent and Jacquelyn Fede from Autism Level UP. Special sessions will be pre-recorded and can be accessed for one month following the conference.

Topics include:

- *Challenging Behavior Management: Supporting Regulation
- *Leveling UP! Comprehensive Supports for Regulation
- *Humanizing Healing
- *Dating, Sex, & Neurodivergence: How to Support & Empower Healthy Relationships
- *You Are Welcome Here

Registration Deadline: March 1st, 2022

Register online here: <https://aaidwi.org/>

UPCOMING MEETING

Please join us at the next Special Services Advisory Committee (SSAC) meeting in February. SSAC meets every quarter to discuss the needs of the children enrolled in the CLTS waiver program. Your input is valued and important to best serve you!

WHEN: February 17, 2022

WHERE: Room 114 at HHS

**514 Riverview Ave
Waukesha, WI 53188**

Upcoming dates for the rest of 2022:

May 19th, 2022

September 15th, 2022

November 17th, 2022

We are looking forward to seeing you there!

CHILDREN WITH SPECIAL NEEDS STAFF

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We would love your feedback!

The Children with Special Needs Program would like your feedback regarding our newsletter! What can we add? What should we change? Do you have resources to share?

Please email Sara Sobrofski with suggestions at:

ssobrofski@waukeshacounty.gov