



Jackson County Health Department

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Children's Special Health Care Services

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JACKSON COUNTY, MI February, 2019 – Did you know that Congenital Heart Defects are the most common type of birth defect? According to the CDC about 40,000 babies born in the United States each year are born with a Congenital Heart Defect and of those 25% will need heart surgery to survive. Congenital Heart Defect Awareness Week celebrated February 7-14, 2019, reminds us about the ways that we can support children and families who are facing the struggles of living with these types of heart conditions.

The Jackson County Health Department's Children's Special Health Care Services team provides help for families who have children living with many special health conditions, including some related to Congenital Heart Defects. "Families are often faced with balancing many different needs when caring for a child with special health care conditions. The Children's Special Health Care Services team works closely with families to help remove barriers that may prevent individuals from achieving their health care goals," explains Ann Sloan, MSW, Community Health Coordinator.

If you have a child with a severe or chronic health condition, sometimes paying for medical care can be a challenge, even if you have insurance. This state program can help qualifying families to pay for specialty medical bills, including some co-pays and deductibles. Children's Special Health Care services also helps to provide referrals for specialty services, along with care coordination, case management, and assistance with transportation to medical appointments for children and some adults having certain disabilities or chronic illnesses.

To learn more about the 2,700 medical conditions that are covered by Children's Special Health Care Services, ***please call the Jackson County Health Department CSHCS office at 517-788-4422. Additional information can be found at www.michigan.gov/cshcs.*** The application process will require medical reports from the specializing medical provider.

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