



Making Contact



The Children's Center for Neurodevelopmental Studies



A Note from our Director...

As an organization we consistently strive for excellence. We are continuing to build on the enhancements and improvements that we implemented last year.

Here is a partial list of items we have implemented this year:

- 1 - Functional positive behavior supports & interventions in the classroom
- 2 - On and off campus vocational training
- 3 - Additional documentation of sensory outcomes in the classroom
- 4 - Functional performance assessments in the classroom
- 5 - Computer Room for students

We have finished our 3 year monitoring with the AZ Dept. of Education. CCNS received an excellent report from their audit. They were pleased with the progress and future plans for our program.

Together we are making marked improvements in our program and delivery of our services. Our progress is a win for the students, families, school districts and our organization.

I look forward to seeing you soon!

By: Kent Rideout
-Executive Director

Habilitation and Respite Services

We are now offering services in the home and in the community along with Center based services. The Center is open 7 days a week from 8am to 6pm. The Center has been successful in providing these services at our campus since July 2009. All of our providers have been trained in DDD client's rights and positive behavioral support; in addition to following schedules, developing routines and incorporating sensory techniques to enhance the client's progress towards their goals and objectives. Habilitation focuses on Independent living skills in communication, social, self help, fine motor and gross motor skills. We look forward to serving more clients in the west valley. We enjoy providing services to help our clients achieve their goals. If interested in any of these services please contact me at the Center.



Important Dates to Remember:

- 5/20: Last Day of School
Early Release @11am
- 5/21 - 6/12: Extended Care Services
- 6/13 - 7/20: ESY Program
- 6/13-7/1: SSA Session 1
- 7/5-7/22: SSA Session 2
- 7/25-8/5: SSA Session 3 & Extended Care Services



SUPER SUMMER ADVENTURES - SUMMER CAMP

By: Terry Muetzenberg

The Center has been providing DDD services for the last 32 years. Super Summer Adventures summer day camp has been providing comprehensive social recreation development skills for the last five years. The program is unique as it is a goal orientated therapeutic program designed and supervised by a certi-

fied recreational therapist. This will be our sixth year providing adaptive sports, arts and crafts activities, swimming and field trips to enhance community awareness and social interaction skills. The therapeutic activities consists of fun, interactive, age appropriate activities that incorporate all skill areas from;

communication, social interaction, gross and fine motor areas and play skills. This fun program provides a wide range of role models for learning other skills that several children may not be exposed too. We look forward to another great summer working with your children between ages 3-16.



Check out our website for updates or more information...
www.thechildrenscenteraz.org

Educational Activities at The Center are Making Strides to Improve Students Overall School Experiences

The Center has been developing many exciting new programs to improve the students' educational experience. The educational and therapy staff have participated in rigorous positive behavior intervention and supports (PBIS) training this school year. The emphasis is on teaching the students positive behavior skills, teaching skills to replace behaviors that may interfere with their access to other environments and determining the functions of problem behavior to better meet the students' needs. PBIS is a natural complement to our student centered focus of education, with PBIS each students

behaviors are assessed to determine if more appropriate skills need to be taught, further expanding their skills in self control and increasing their independence.

Another program enhancement is the education department implementation of social narratives to improve student success in school. The teachers design and use social narratives to create an individualized "story" for the teacher and student to read together. Embedded within this story are social cues to help the student learn appropriate actions based on the unique circumstance presented to them. These stories

are a great visual teaching tool, so that children with autism can better understand the often complex and "unwritten" social behaviors present in everyday situations.

The Center also has expanded our curriculum to include home skills training, community based instruction, functional communication, and literacy and functional math skills. These curriculum enhancements allow the teachers to adapt and modify lessons to match each of our student's unique learning style.

By: Dawna Sterner
Special Education Coordinator

The Children's Center for Neurodevelopmental Studies

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EXTENDED CARE SERVICES

The Center will be open for Habilitation and Respite services over the 3 week break before ESY and DTS starts and the 2 weeks after ESY before the new school year starts. This is a great opportunity for the individuals to work towards achieving community participation and social interaction with peers. There will be scheduled trips to the bowling alley, mall, park and to the movies. Those individuals that need a little more structured routine will be participating in several stations around the Centers campus that include activities in the game room, computer area, field sports, arts and crafts and the therapy gym.

For more information please contact Terry Muetzenberg.

Box Tops for Education



Attention parents and caregivers: CCNS wants your Box Tops! The Box Tops label is found on many products we all use and CCNS is asking you to clip this label and send it in with your student! The more Box Tops we send in, the more money we get to spend on stuff for our school. Feel free to join our school group online, check our progress, and print off coupons to use on products! You can also shop online through their "marketplace," which donates a certain % of the purchases directly to our school. Our school name online is: CHDRN CENTER FOR NEURO DEVELOPMENT STU (id number 552560). The website is www.boxtops4education.com.

Thank you for your Box Top support!

By: Michelle Lythgoe

Terry Muetzenberg just celebrated her 20 year anniversary as an employee at The Center. She started in this field observing her siblings receive therapy services from The Center. She has experience working with the developmentally disabled population as an assistant, provider, leader, and trainer. Terry is a certified CPR & First Aid instructor and a DDD certified Article 9 & Client Intervention Training instructor. She has been training staff at the Center in health & safety techniques for over 9 years. Her enthusiasm, passion, and expertise helps our program be the best in the west.

Meet the Training Coordinator...