



COMMUNITY MENTAL HEALTH
CLINTON • EATON • INGHAM

April, 2012
Issue 4

Mailing Address:
CEI/CMHA
ATTN: (Please specify Kathy Vogel or Carisa Visser)
812 E. Jolly, #114
Lansing, MI 48910

RESPITE SPRING NEWSLETTER 2012

RESPITE provides temporary or short-term care to unpaid caregivers allowing them time to engage in activities that they find relaxing, entertaining or restful.

WHAT'S NEW

Special Olympics:
Interested in participating in Special Olympics? If you live in Eaton or Ingham County, please contact Ann for more information @517-887-1175. For Clinton County contact Debbie Cornell @517-669-7704.

Transition Committee:
Our transitions committee is working on educational materials that will be available in the near future. If you have someone that is having a transition IEP, you may request to have a CMH CSDD representative present to discuss service op-

tions. Contact Lisa Arens.

Respite Vouchers:
Please be advised that Respite Vouchers have been revised as of 03/2012. You may obtain new copies by contacting Carisa Visser or via our website at www.ceicmh.org. Older vouchers will be returned.

Expect Slower Delivery
The U.S. Postal Service has announced that first-class, stamped envelopes will no longer be delivered next day in 2012. This will delay the arrival of respite vouchers



and paychecks to employees, by two, three or maybe more days.

Electronic Newsletters:
Receive the Respite Newsletters electronically. If interested, please contact Darlene Cole at cole@ceicmh.org. Indicate the child/adult consumer's name, age, your email address and county of residence.

Looking for a Special Needs Summer Camp?
Check out this website: www.mysummercamps.com/camps/Special_Needs_Camps

Good News: All families will be granted an extra \$200 per family respite allotment for the period July 1, 2012 through December 31, 2012.

Important Dates
Up-Coming
CMH Closed
Holidays for 2012

- May 28
- July 4
- September 3
- November 12
- November 22 and 23
- December 24 and 31



How To Contact Us:

- **Kathy Vogel**—(517) 346-9539 for information regarding Annual Plan of Service, Provider Information and General Camp questions.
- **Lisa Arens**—(517) 346-9502 or arens@ceicmh.org for Camp Billing questions.
- **Carisa Visser**—(517) 346-9510 or visser@ceicmh.org for information regarding Enrollment Forms, Respite Vouchers and Fund Balances.

FOR MEDICAID RECIPIENTS ONLY!!!! Respite Vouchers must be submitted to us by the 5th of the following month. For example, all February vouchers are due to CMH by March 5th. This gives us adequate time to check over the vouchers and get them to the FI in a timely manner. If the vouchers are sent in after the first week of the following month, it will be up to us to deny or approve those vouchers. If you have any questions, please call Lisa Arens at 1-517-346-9502.

RESPITE ALLOTMENT FOR 2012:

	<u>Family</u>	<u>Two Eligible Persons</u>	<u>Three or More Persons</u>
1/1/12 — 6/30/12 (First Allotment)	\$600.00	\$1,200.00	\$1,800.00
7/1/12 — 12/31/12 (Second Allotment)	\$800.00	\$1,400.00	\$2,000.00

SUMMER CAMP INFORMATION

If you would like to use your respite allotment for summer camp, you MUST:

1. Complete the Camp Request Form and mail to Carisa Visser at least two weeks prior to the first day of camp in order to process payment, or camp costs may not be paid with Family Friend monies.
2. If your child/adult is Medicaid eligible, the camp MUST send a bill to us in order to be paid. For Non-Medicaid, a camp receipt MUST be submitted with the voucher.
3. Family Friend monies MUST be available in your allotment in order for camp to be paid or camp WILL NOT be paid.
4. Respite funds do not cover registration and/or cost of material fees.



April is National Autism Awareness Month

Community Events and Information:

Mid Michigan Autism Association. A way to be connected to community resources and have access to a calendar of community events. Membership is free. Please sign up at: www.midmichiganautism.org

Autism Foundation of Ingham County. Contact Lori Swan @ aficlorigmail.com





Frequently Asked Questions:

How do I access respite? If you qualify for respite services but are not using them, talk with your Case Manager about how to access services. If you do not have a Case Manager, contact Kathy Vogel at (517) 346-9539.

How often can I use respite? Respite is a service that is meant to be used to provide a break for a primary caregiver on a temporary and intermittent basis. Respite services will not pay for ongoing childcare.

How do I find someone to care for my family member? Families often find respite providers using the following community resources:

- **GREAT START CENTRAL REGIONAL RESOURCE CENTER (CRRC), formerly known as OFFICE FOR YOUNG CHILDREN (OYC) has a listing of day care providers and resource information. Some of these providers may be willing to do respite. CRRC may be contacted at 1-800-234-6996. This office provides service to the following counties: Ingham, Eaton, Clinton, Shiawassee, Ionia, Gratiot, Gladwin, Isabella and Midland.**
- **CHECK WITH YOUR LOCAL SCHOOL; some families have been successful in locating a family friend this way.**
- **PLACE A HELP WANTED AD AT THE LOCAL CHURCH YOU ATTEND.**
- **PLEASE NOTE: Parents are considered the employer of a family friend. As employers, you are responsible for obtaining referrals, interviewing, doing police checks, getting employment history, checking experience, providing training specific to your adult or child receiving respite care.**

Reminders:

Messages:

When leaving a phone message PLEASE give your name, the child/adult name and a contact number. Also, Suite 114 MUST be on any mail you send to us. The Post Office may not deliver your mail without this. If you would like to see Kathy Vogel or Carisa Visser in person, you must call ahead to make an appointment.

Payment Processing:

Vouchers are processed two times per month. Respite vouchers must be submitted to us by the 5th of the following month. For example, all February vouchers are due to CMH by March 5th. Please allow up to two weeks for processing when dropping off and three weeks for processing when mailed. Please note: when paying respite providers, there is a \$100.00 maximum daily charge and \$10.00 maximum hourly charge. For questions regarding Medicaid respite payments and tax withholding questions, please contact Stuart Wilson's office at 1-989-832-5400.

Tax Information:

If you receive regular family friend respite and have more than one (1) respite provider, please contact Stuart Wilson's office for tax forms.

In Preparation of Your Family Member Becoming 18 Years of Age:

- Apply for Medicaid through the Department of Human Services. If you have a primary insurance, this will not be a replacement, only a secondary source of insurance. If you qualify, Medicaid can help to pay for respite services.
- Apply for Adult Home Help through the Department of Human Services. This program can provide financial assistance to pay for personal care such as: bathing, grooming, housework, meal preparation, laundry etc.
- Apply for SSI through the Social Security Administration.
- If you are considering applying for Guardianship or an alternative to Guardianship, you may want to discuss your family's options with your family member's school social worker and file any necessary paperwork with the probate court.