

**Supports & Services for Children with
Developmental Difficulties
Birth to School Entry ~ Campbell River**



Early Intervention Programs

**301 Dogwood Street
CAMPBELL RIVER, BC V9W 2Y1
Phone 250-286-0955
Fax 250-287-2676**

Philosophy:

At Early Intervention Programs, we have a family-centered philosophy. We see the family and supporting environment as the most valuable resource in the child's life. In our programs, families set the goals for their children and work with our staff to make decisions about services, which can be provided in: home, clinic, child care setting, and/or other community settings.

Referrals:

Referrals come from a variety of sources:

- Parents/Caregivers
- Physicians/Nurses
- Preschool/Daycare Staff
- Support Staff
- Other Community Agencies

Areas Served:

Campbell River to Oyster River, Gold River, Tahsis, Sayward, Quadra and Cortes Islands.

Eligibility:

Professional services are provided to children from birth to school entrance.

Funding:

Early Intervention Programs is funded by the Ministry of Children and Family Development and is administered by Campbell River and District Association for Community Living.

There is no charge for our service.

Speech-Language Program

Communication is an important part of early childhood development. As speech and language skills develop, children learn how to share their ideas and listen to others; they also learn how to play and get along with other children. It is important that any difficulties with speech, language, and / or social development are identified as soon as possible.

Early assessment and intervention can make a difference in overcoming or reducing the effects of communication difficulties.

Feeding and swallowing skills

are essential for a child's healthy growth and development. Support for difficulties in this area is critical for a child to be safe and comfortable when eating and drinking.

- The Speech and Language Program provides services to infants and children with communication and / or feeding and swallowing difficulties. Areas of difficulty could include:
- Use of words and sentences
- Understanding of words and sentences
- Use of speech sounds (i.e. pronunciation)
- Voice quality
- Fluency of speech (i.e., repeating sounds / words; stuttering)
- Hearing
- Social interaction and communication skills
- Play skills
- Feeding and swallowing (possible signs of difficulties in this area could include: coughing, gagging, and / or choking when eating or drinking; poor weight gain; and / or picky eating)

- The Speech and Language Program provides:
- Assessment of communication and / or feeding and swallowing difficulties
- Recommendations for treatment and / or further referrals
- Individual and small group therapy sessions
- Consultation with families and other team members
- Workshops for parents / caregivers and child care providers

Physical Therapy Program

- Physical Therapy Program is open to children who have delayed development of gross motor skills, a diagnosis that impacts on the development of gross motor skills or is at risk for developmental delays due to environmental or genetic factors. Physical Therapy Program uses community-based, family-centered

intervention to assist children in developing skills necessary to participate as independently as possible in everyday activities. Services provided are; assessment, treatment, consultation and education. Recommendations are made in terms of equipment, environmental adaptations and other assistive devices.

Examples of children who may benefit from physical therapy:

- Signs (or risk) of delayed or abnormal development
- Diagnosed developmental delay
- Autism, Pervasive Developmental Delay
- Cerebral Palsy
- Spina Bifida
- Muscular Dystrophy
- Down Syndrome
- Other neurological or genetic disorders
- Orthopaedic disorders

Occupational Therapy Program

- Occupational Therapy Program provides intervention to assist children to develop skills necessary to participate as independently as possible in everyday activities. These activities include:
- **Self-care activities** such as feeding, dressing, grooming, toileting and sleeping.
- Activities that contribute to a child's **productivity** such as kindergarten readiness skills, including fine motor skills such as pre-printing, drawing, cutting, manipulating objects and the ability to attend to and participate in school activities.
- **Play**, which is a child's primary occupation. It is through play that a child develops new skills. A child may demonstrate difficulty with play skills such as using

toys appropriately, interacting with others or displaying problem behaviors.

- Some problems that may contribute to functional limitations in these areas include:
 - Fine motor difficulties.
 - Visual processing difficulties
 - Sensory processing issues - difficulty organizing sensory information to help make sense of the world around us
 - Difficulty with motor planning - the ability to decide what one's body has to do and then do it.
 - Formal or informal assessment is done to more clearly define concerns. Intervention includes working in partnership with families and caregivers so that treatment strategies can be integrated into the child's daily routines. Therapy includes the use of adaptive activities that are developmentally appropriate and of interest to the child.

Recommendations are made in terms of equipment, environmental adaptations and other assistive devices.

Infant Development Program

- The Infant Development Program serves any child from birth to three years of age who:
 - Is delayed in his/her development (i.e. sitting, walking, talking)
 - May be at risk for delay in their development
 - Has an identified special need

Services include:

- Home visits to encourage progress, develop new activities and support parents
- Developmental assessments and written reports
- Parent workshops or support groups
- Therapy consultation
- Service coordination

It's an opportunity for parents to:

- Learn ways to encourage your child's development.
- Meet other parents.
- Discuss parenting issues.
- Make the best use of other community resources and activities.

For your baby to:

- Become more independent.
- Discover abilities.
- Learn new skills.
- Participation in the program is voluntary. If other services are required by the child and family, referrals are made to appropriate resources.

Family Resource Program

- Family Resource Program provides support for families who have children with developmental difficulties aged birth to school entrance who are on the Early Intervention Programs caseload.

Services Provided:

- Building networks, acting as a liaison and advocating for services in the community.
- Facilitating playgroups.
- Helping to form support groups and facilitating support groups relevant to families involved with Early Intervention Programs.
- Providing support to preschool age siblings of children receiving services from Early Intervention Programs.
- Offering assistance to families when dealing with other services.
- The Family Resource Program networks closely with various other services in the community who support young children and their families.

**SUPPORTED CHILD
DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM**

301 Dogwood Street

CAMPBELL RIVER

BC V9W 2Y1

Phone - 250-286-0955

Fax - 250-287-2676

Supported Child Development

Guiding Principals

- Inclusion - all children are supported to fully participate in neighborhood child care programs.
- Family centered - this means that you, the parent, choose what kind of support you want.
- Individual Planning - each child's unique strengths and needs are recognized and supported.
- Child development - children with developmental needs have access to early intervention and developmentally appropriate supports.
- Community based - programs reflect local needs and priorities
- Respect for cultural diversity

- Support for capacity building in Aboriginal communities

Referrals:

Referrals come from a variety of sources:

- Parents/Caregivers
- Early Intervention Therapists
- Preschool/Daycare Staff
- Infant Development Consultants
- Social Workers

Areas Served:

Campbell River to Oyster River, Gold River, Tahsis, Sayward, Quadra and Cortes Islands.

Eligibility:

Services are provided to children from birth to twelve years of age, who have a developmental delay or disability and require extra support in order to attend a child care setting. A developmental delay or disability may affect physical, cognitive, communicative, or social emotional, behavioral development.

Services available:

- Helping families find child care programs that best meet the

needs of the child and family

- Working as a team to identify developmental goals and determining strategies to support progress towards goals
- Extra staffing when needed - ongoing support and consultation to promote inclusive environments
- Referral to professionals such as Speech Language Pathologists, Occupational Therapists, Physical Therapists
- Lending Library - toys, equipment, books, videos and resources
- Service coordination
- Training and support for parents and child care providers
- Developmental screening and assessment at the request of the family

Funding:

The Campbell River Supported Child Development

Program is funded by the Ministry of Children and Family Development and is administered by Campbell River and District Association for Community Living.

There is no charge for our service.

Parents are responsible for child care fees. Low and middle-income families may apply for child care subsidies to assist with child care fees.

**FAMILY SUPPORT SERVICES
OF THE CAMPBELL RIVER
AND DISTRICT
ASSOCIATION FOR
COMMUNITY LIVING
301 DOGWOOD STREET
Phone: 250-286-0391
Fax: 250-286-0393**

**Fetal Alcohol Spectrum
Disorder Key Worker**

"Every person affected by FASD is unique and has his/her own strengths and challenges. When we understand how FASD affects the brain and influences behaviour, we can find strategies and create environments that best support children, youth and

adults who are impacted by FASD.”

- **What is Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder (FASD)?**
- It is a term that describes a range of disabilities that may affect people whose mothers drank alcohol while they were pregnant. The diagnoses of FASD are:
 - Fetal Alcohol Syndrome (FAS)
 - Partial Fetal Alcohol Syndrome (pFAS)
 - Alcohol-related Neurodevelopment Disorder (ARND)
 - Alcohol-related Birth Defects (ARBD)
- **How does FASD happen?**
- The only way someone can get FASD is if their mother drank alcohol when she was pregnant. Alcohol causes brain damage in the developing baby. **THERE IS NO SAFE AMOUNT OF ALCOHOL DURING PREGNANCY.** There is also **no safe TIME**

to drink alcohol during pregnancy or while breastfeeding.

- **Can FASD be cured?**
- Unfortunately, FASD cannot be cured. People live with FASD for their entire life. However, people with FASD can live healthy and successful lives with appropriate supports and services. Some examples include:
 - Educational supports
 - Knowledgeable families, friends, caregivers and community professionals
 - Vocational training and employment programs
 - Structured environments, supportive accommodations and sometimes lifelong care
- **I think my child may have FASD, who can help me?**
- The FASD Key Worker can help you. Call 250-286-0955.

- **What can the Key Worker do for my child and family?**
- Provide information and advice about services and supports (education, social services, financial resources, recreation, health etc.) and how to access them
- Provide strategies specific to your child and family's needs
- Provide emotional support and organize Parent-to-Parent support
- Support families as they advocate for their needs, attend meetings at schools, court or other services
- Provide FASD training and education in the community
- Help identify and fill gaps in service for children, youth and families affected by FASD
- These programs are funded by the Ministry for Children and Family Development and

administered by the Campbell River and District Association for Community Living

- **FASD Changing our way of thinking: Trying differently, not harder**

**LAICHWILTACH FAMILY
LIFE SOCIETY
441-4th AVENUE,
CAMPBELL RIVER
Phone: 250-286-3430
Fax: 250-286-3483**

Aboriginal Supported Child Development

Guiding Principals

- Inclusion - all children are supported to fully participate in neighbourhood child care programs.
- Family centered - this means that you, the parent, choose what kind of support you want.
- Individual Planning - each child's unique strengths and needs are recognized and supported.
- Child development - children with

developmental needs have access to early intervention and developmentally appropriate supports.

- Community based - programs reflect local needs and priorities
- Respect for cultural diversity
- Support for capacity building in Aboriginal communities

Who are the children?

- Aboriginal children newborn up to and including age twelve who require extra support in a child care setting due to a developmental delay or disability in one of four areas:
 - Physical
 - Cognitive
 - Communication
 - Social/Emotional/ Behavioural

A formal diagnosis is not required to receive services.

Areas Served:

Campbell River to Oyster River, Gold River, Tahsis, Sayward, Quadra and Cortes Islands.

Who are the families?

Families can include birth, extended, adopted, and foster families. Aboriginal families can be living on or off reserve. There is no cost for this service.

Support takes place in.....

- Headstart programs and Preschool settings
- Group child care, Family child care or Out of school care.

Support can look like.....

- Support and consultation to the family and child care program
- Short term or partial additional staffing to support the child in their center
- One to one or shared support in the child care center.

Services available to families include:

- Assistance finding child care
- Support and consultation with families and child care programs
- Individual planning
- Extra staffing support if needed in child care programs

- Training and support for families and child care providers
- Assistance accessing other community resources
- Developmental screening and assessment at the request of the family
- Toy and equipment lending library.
- Aboriginal Supported Child Development is funded by the Ministry of Children and Family Development and is administered by Laichwiltach Family Life Society.
- **Aboriginal Infant Development Program**
- Aboriginal Infant Development Consultants work in respectful ways to support families and their infants through early developmental stages.
- Baby's early developmental screening and assessments can help to make a difference in their lifelong learning and well-being.
- *Every child is a unique*
- *Gift from the Creator*
- The mission of Aboriginal Infant Development Programs is to honor this gift by supporting the development of Aboriginal children within the context of the family, community and culture, and by offering access to culturally appropriate early intervention support programs.
- Aboriginal Infant Development Programs:
- Focus on the child as a whole, to include health, intellectual, emotional, physical and spiritual well-being
- Are culturally safe whether a family lives on or off reserve

- Offer support for Aboriginal families and infants who are at risk of, or have a developmental delay
- Are voluntary, family-centered, and for children birth to 6 years of age
- Supports families by providing home visits, activity planning, developmental screenings
- Recognizes the role of Elders and extended family in parenting
- Offers a lending library that includes books/videos, journals and toys
- Provides referrals to other health and social services as needed
- Facilitates Parent & Tots Groups
- Aboriginal Infant Development Program is funded by the Ministry of Children and Family Development and is administered by Laichwiltach Family Life Society.

Areas served:

- Campbell River, Quadra Island, and Cortes Island; on and off reserve.

Aboriginal Speech and Language Services

- Communication is fundamental to quality of life and participation in society. Problems in this area can affect social, emotional, physical and academic development. Early diagnosis and intervention are essential as the early years are critical times for speech, language and social development.
- Early assessment and treatment leads to greater possibility of overcoming or reducing the severity of the problem.

Did you know that...

- 1 in 10 Canadians has a speech, language, or hearing problem. Often it is misdiagnosed as a

- learning disorder or behavioural problem?
- An estimated 4% of preschoolers have a significant speech or language disorder?
- Children found early do better than those identified later (given the abilities of the child).

Who Do We See?

- Services are provided to aboriginal preschool-aged children (birth to school entrance) with the following communication concerns:
- Articulation of speech sounds.
- Delay or Disorder
- Hearing Impairment
- Fluency (stuttering)
- Feeding and Swallowing Disorders
- Voice Disorders
- Alternative Communication Systems

There is no charge for this service.

Services available:

- Assessment
- Consultation
- Therapy

- In-service/Workshops
- Liaison with other professionals involved with the child and family.
- Family Centered Care. We work with families in the clinic, home, and within the community.

Areas served:

- Campbell River, Gold River, Tahsis, Quadra Island, and Cortes Island; on and off reserve.

Referrals:

- Referrals come from a variety of sources:
- Parents and caregivers.
- Physicians/nurses
- Preschool/daycare staff
- Support Staff
- Aboriginal Speech and Language Services are funded by the Ministry of Children and Family Development and is administered by Laichwiltach Family Life Society.

CR FAMILY SERVICES
487 10TH AVENUE
www.crfamilyservices.ca
Phone: 250-287-2421

Early Childhood Behaviour Consultant Program

The essential points

- The Early Childhood Behaviour Consultant Program at Campbell River Family Services Society is designed to offer assistance, guidance and support to parents and caregivers in dealing with children's behaviour challenges.
- The program is voluntary for parents and caregivers
- No fee is charged to access the program.

Referrals

Families are referred to this program by a variety of sources including:

- Other programs within Campbell River Family Services Society
- Province of BC Ministry of Children and Family Development
- Pediatricians
- School Psychologists

- Early Intervention Programs
- Supported Child Development & Aboriginal Supported Child Development.

Eligibility and Wait Lists:

- Children are eligible from 3 to 10 years of age.
- Families are added to the wait list in the order they are referred.
- Priority is given to families with children in the 3 to 4 year range.

Individual family services

Individual families are consulted in the office, or at home or in other settings where the children participate. Services may include:

- Hands-on teaching of new parenting skills at home
- Assistance in settings outside the home, such as daycare, school or preschool
- Telephone consultation
- Provision of resource materials

Group Services

Groups are conducted once weekly for 6-8 weeks, with a maximum of 8 participants, and may include:

- Small group parenting courses
- Parenting strategies
- Problem solving
- Peer support for parents and caregivers.

What types of behaviours does the program deal with?

Children must exhibit severe behaviours which persist over a period of at least 6 months. These behaviours may include:

- Anger/temper management
- Aggression
- Communication
- Toileting
- Any persistent behaviour for which typical interventions have been attempted without success.

Area Served:

- Currently the program is available to families in Campbell River and outlying areas.

**CHILDREN AND YOUTH
WITH SPECIAL NEEDS
MINISTRY OF CHILDREN
AND FAMILY DEVELOPMENT
929 IRONWOOD STREET
Campbell River, BC V9W 3E5
Phone: 250-286-7542**

CHILDREN'S SERVICES:

If a child has a diagnosis of a developmental disability, (IQ 70 or below), a diagnosis of autism, or has been approved for services through the At Home Program, the following services are available to the children and their families through Children and Youth with Special Needs (CYSN)/ Ministry of Children and Family Development (MCFD). All services are subject to budget limitations. A waitlist may be established for services. A CYSN social worker can be reached at the MCFD office at 929 Ironwood or by telephone at (250) 286-7542 to determine eligibility for and access to these programs. There are two full time social workers and caseloads are assigned based on geographical location...either north or south of Rockland Road.

Family Support Homemakers:

Support is contracted through We Care. In home support to assist with personal care, i.e. bathing and lifting of child when a parent is temporarily incapacitated or a child requires additional assistance i.e. after surgery. Service is time limited. Doctor's recommendation is required. To access services or determine eligibility contact a CYSN Social Worker at the MCFD office.

Respite Care: Contracted with specialized, Ministry approved caregivers to provide families with occasional respite/relief placement of children (dependent on available space and budget restrictions). A variety of respite options are available, including a staffed home for high medical needs children, MCFD approved foster homes and direct funded respite. To access services or determine eligibility contact a CYSN Social Worker at the MCFD office.

Special Care Home Placement:

For families who need to place their children in full time care for longer periods of time. A Special Care Agreement would

be signed with a Social Worker at the MCFD office.

At Home Program: Assistance for children with severe disabilities. Provides respite funding to enable parents to purchase their own respite services with private individuals or MCFD approved homes. Also assists eligible families with medical expenses for the child. Eligibility, based on the child's needs, is assessed by a health professional and a regional committee. Families may be approved for the whole package or offered a choice of respite funding or assistance with medical costs, depending on this assessment. Children with high physical needs, if admitted to this program, become eligible for other support services through MCFD(CYSN) whether or not they have a developmental disability. Access to At Home Respite benefits depends on availability of funds. Applications are available at the local MCFD office or at the Continuing Care Unit (Heather Shiells) and must be supported by a physician's diagnosis.

Under Age 6 - Autism Funding:

Provides funding to families of children five years of age and younger who are diagnosed with Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD). Maximum funding per year is \$22,000 to assist with the cost of autism intervention services.

For the autism funding program the family doctor refers the child to a qualified specialist for assessment. If diagnosis is obtained, contact a CYSN Social Worker at the MCFD office to confirm eligibility and initiate funding agreement. Additional information is available at this website:

www.mcf.gov.bc.ca/autism/

Funding can be applied to the cost of specialized treatment or intervention for children with ASD or training and equipment that meet the guidelines.

Parents can hire qualified behavioural consultants and other specialists who are registered on the qualified specialists list, one to one interventionists and other therapists who best suit their child's needs. Children who are eligible for autism funding also become eligible for other support services through MCFD

(CYSN) whether or not they have a developmental disability.

Child Care Subsidy Referrals:

Referrals to MCFD Child Care Subsidy program can be made by CYSN social worker under social needs daycare based on your child's special needs. However to qualify family must also be financially eligible for child care subsidy. Additional information is available at this web site <http://www.mcf.gov.bc.ca/childcare/application.htm>

**NURSING SUPPORT
SERVICES & NURSING
SUPPORT SERVICES
NUTRITION
427 - 10th Ave
Campbell River, BC
Phone: 250-850-2144**

Nursing Support Services - Nutrition

Nursing Support Services Nutrition is a program within Vancouver Island Health authority, Home and Community Care, Nursing Support Services.

Area Served

North Island (Fanny Bay north).

Services Provided

NSS Nutrition provides nutrition assessment and consultation for infants and

children(0-19yrs) with developmental disabilities, physical disabilities, those who are at risk of delay due to poor nutritional status (including failure to thrive), and those requiring tube feeding.

Referrals

Access to the program is by referral of a health professional or community agency.

Nursing Support Services

Nursing Support services are provided to children requiring specialized health care such as tracheostomy care, catheterization, gastrostomy feedings, etc., based on an eligibility assessment.

Services provided:

Assessment of health needs, development of a health care plan based on the assessed needs, identification of resources required to implement safe care in the child care setting, school, or home, training and certification of alternate caregivers in child care centers, schools or homes, ongoing monitoring of care plan implementation, advocacy for children with special needs and their families and liaison and consultation with family, health

professionals, school personnel, and other service providers.

At Home Program Assessments:

Nursing Support services also receives referrals and completes the assessment for the "At Home" program.

Referrals

Access to the program is by referral of a health professional or community agency.

Area Served:

Oyster River to North Island, including Cortez and Gold River.

**CR PEDIATRICIANS
ALDER MEDICAL CLINIC
Phone: 250-287-7454**

A referral from your family doctor is required to access the pediatricians.

**VANCOUVER ISLAND HEALTH
AUTHORITY (VIHA)
Campbell River Public Health
Unit
#200 1100 Island Hwy
(Tyee Plaza)
Phone: 250-850-2110**

Provides:

- Health screening
- Hearing screening
- Immunization clinics
- Breast feeding clinics
- Home visits for new moms

North Island Audiology Clinic

Courtenay Public Health Unit
104 - 501 Fourth St. Courtenay
V9N 1H3 250 331-8526
Provide hearing assessments,
hearing aids and ear molds.

**BC CHILDREN'S HOSPITAL
4480 OAK STREET
VANCOUVER, BC, V6H 3V4
Phone: 604-875-2345 or
1-888-300-3088**

- Based in Vancouver, BC's Children's Hospital reaches across the province with specialized care for children and their families. These services include:
 - Inpatient, outpatient and tertiary care for children from infancy to adolescence, including ambulatory clinics, adolescent health, consultation services, emergency services, general pediatric health and molecular disease
 - Specialized pediatric surgery in areas such as orthopedics, urology, ear/nose/throat, ophthalmology and plastic surgery
- Open-heart and other cardiac surgery and specialized programs for children with congenital or acquired heart disease
- Intensive care (including trauma care) for critically ill and injured children; help for community health agencies with long-distance transfers to the hospital
- Newborn intensive care for BC's sickest babies managed jointly with BC Women's Hospital & Health Centre
- Kidney transplants by Western Canada's most comprehensive renal team, and related services such as hemodialysis
- Psychiatric services for children and adolescents, including emergency care and treatment for eating disorders, mood disorders and attention deficit hyperactivity disorders.
- Neurology and neurosurgery service for children and youth with

- serious disorders of the brain and nervous system
- Treatment of children with cancer and blood disorders, including bone marrow transplants and supportive and palliative care
 - An innovative integrated pain service for children and youth that provides much-needed help for children and youth with complex acute or chronic pain
 - A medical genetics program addressing genetic diseases and family counseling
 - Interdisciplinary assessment, diagnosis, consultation, referral, and, treatment for children with complex disabilities both on site and throughout the province through traveling clinics and telehealth outreach
 - Care closer to home wherever possible, including outreach clinics and consultations via telehealth long-distance video-conferencing
 - A centre dedicated to the care of women and

children with HIV, offering medical, psychosocial care and support for the family.

**SUNNY HILL HEALTH
CENTRE FOR CHILDREN
3644 SLOCAN STREET
VANCOUVER, BC, V5M 3E8
phone: 604-453-8300 or
1-888-300-3088**

If you have never had an appointment at Sunny Hill and you would like to book an appointment, your doctor must complete a medical referral form. Our staff will review the information on the referral form and will respond to your referral request.

Sunny Hill's programs and services:

The Child Development and Rehabilitation Program serves children with:

- Complex learning and behaviour needs. These examples may include: autism, fetal alcohol syndrome (FAS), hearing impairment or delayed development. These children may have difficulties with language, learning and/or

behaviour. They may also have difficulty with cognitive, sensory, motor, social and/or emotional development.

- Conditions primarily affecting physical or motor development. Examples may include: cerebral palsy, children who are non verbal, or children who have difficulty swallowing, children who require mobility assistance, children with visual impairments, children needing adaptive recreation.
- Identified Inpatient Service needs. The examples include: orthopaedic postoperative needs and acute brain injury rehabilitation. You can find more information on the Inpatient Rehabilitation page.
- Primary Services. Examples include early childhood intervention and school therapy.

- Team specific information:
 - Acute Rehabilitation
 - Assistive Technology
 - Autism
 - Feeding and Nutrition
 - Gait Assessment
 - Hearing Loss
 - Positioning and Mobility
 - Preschool
 - Therapeutic Recreation
 - Substance Exposed
 - Tone Management

Audiology

- The audiology department at Sunny Hill provides specialized pediatric audiology services for children in B.C. and the Yukon. These services include hearing testing, hearing counseling and cochlear implant information and services.
- Vision: Achievement of optimal communication potential for all children.

- **Mission:** Making a positive difference for children and their families as the province wide centre for specialized pediatric audiology.

Hearing Loss

- **The Hearing Loss Team** offers expertise about hearing loss for children from birth to 19 years of age who require:
 - Medical, otological or family support consultation about recently diagnosed, significant, permanent hearing loss
 - Further assessment or consultation about developmental concerns (hearing loss, communication, motor skills, learning, behaviour and education) or other diagnoses
 - The Team focuses on:
 - Supporting families and informing them about hearing loss and management options

- Assessing a child's development to identify or rule out other conditions and needs
- Working collaboratively with families, BC Children's Hospital services and community partners
- Maintaining current information about local, national and international resources
- Advocating for children with hearing loss to reach their optimal development
- Supporting and participating in research about all aspects of childhood hearing loss

Visual Impairment

- **Service Provided**
- Following your child's Visual Impairment Program (VIP) team assessments, a vision consultant will provide follow-up education specific to your child's vision diagnosis. Community workshops may be provided.

Eligibility

- The focus of the community outreach component is on children from birth to kindergarten. The VIP contracts some orientation and mobility instruction through the Canadian National Institute for the Blind (CNIB). Once a child begins school, families have access to this instruction through the school system.

Referral to the VIP

- Referrals can be made by your child's doctor, pediatrician, or ophthalmologist. To initiate a new or follow-up referral, the doctor must address or fax a written referral to The Visual Impairment Program.

Assistive Technology

Outreach Team

- This team of speech language pathologists (SLPs) and occupational therapists (OTs) provide professional partnership and support to local community professionals working at child

development centres, and community health units. The team provides assessment and support for children in regards to technology for communication, learning, mobility, and environmental control.

- <http://www.sunny-hill.bc.ca>

**QUEEN ALEXANDRA CENTRE
FOR CHILDREN'S HEALTH
AND FAMILY REHAB.
SERVICES
2400 ARBUTUS ROAD
VICTORIA, BC
Phone: 250-477-1826**

Paediatric Feeding and Swallowing Service

Assessment/consult/service

Children using these services tend to require:

- Additional help with oral motor development for successful feeding
- Input on sensory issues that affect eating
- Ongoing supervision with transition from tube to oral feeding

Infants, children and youth referred to this service, do NOT require consultation with

the pediatrician/medical advisor or a Modified Barium Swallow Study

Services provided include:

- Assessment of feeding and swallowing difficulties
- Short-term intervention/treatment of feeding and swallowing problems
- Transitioning from tube to oral feeding
- Consultation or mentoring with other service providers
- Group therapy treatment where appropriate
- Educational resources for parents and community professionals

Swallowing Disorders Clinic

Children using these services have a suspected or recognized swallowing and/or feeding disorder and require multi-disciplinary assessment.

Criteria for referral:

- Coughing, choking or gagging while eating or drinking or soon after a meal
- Multiple swallows with a mouthful of food

- Increased congestion in chest after eating or drinking
- Chronic or persistent vomiting/reflux
- Poor coordination of the muscles involved in eating or breathing
- Difficulty gaining weight related to eating and swallowing
- History of frequent chest problems

Tube Feed Service

This service is for children with gastrostomy, jejunostomy, nasogastric or nasojejunal tube feeding. Children who are fed by tube have typically been seen at the Swallowing Disorders Clinic and require ongoing follow-up.

Services Provided Include:

- Nutritional assessment and follow up
- Nursing assessment
- Occupational Therapy consultation
- Recommendations related to nutrition, nursing and/or occupational needs
- Education and training for parents and caregivers

Services are provided for children with:

- Significant feeding and oral motor problems
- Chronic upper respiratory problems
- Malnourishment
- Lack of weight gain and or/failure to thrive
- Transitioning from tube feeding to oral feeding

Referrals are accepted from health care professionals, parents, physicians and/or therapists.

Other useful resources:

Family Support Institute
227 6th Street
New Westminster, BC V3L 3A5
Phone: (604) 540-8374 ext. 523
Toll Free: 1-800-441-5403
Fax: (604) 540-9374
Email: fsi@fsibc.com

Other useful resources:

- Family Support Institute
227 6th Street
New Westminster, BC
V3L 3A5
Phone: (604) 540-8374
ext. 523
Toll Free: 1-800-441-
5403
Fax: (604) 540-9374
Email:

Additional Contacts

Name of Agency: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____

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