

RiteView is a publication of the Scottish Rite Foundation of Colorado Clinical Partner Programs. For more information, please contact: [hernandez.valerie@tchden.org](mailto:hernandez.valerie@tchden.org) Valerie Hernandez, Scottish Rite Foundation Chair Assistant at The Children's Hospital- Colorado



## May is Better Hearing and Speech Month!

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Board of Trustees, SRF Chair & Executive Secretary, L to R: Vernon Ingraham, Lee Schlessman, Steve Munsinger, Karl Hinkle, Richard Frohlick, Deborah Hayes, Gerry Ford, John Groves and Tom Magnuson) SRF Annual Meeting held at The Children's Hospital, February 2011.

We are grateful to the *Scottish Rite Foundation of Colorado Board of Trustees* and *Colorado Masons* everywhere, who help us make a difference in the lives of children.

To learn more about the partnership programs, please visit the Scottish Rite Foundation of Colorado website at: [http://www.scottishritefoundation.org/SRF\\_Home.html](http://www.scottishritefoundation.org/SRF_Home.html)

In Colorado, our *RiteCare* partnership enables us to provide services for children who may have speech-language or learning disorders. With our twelve *RiteCare* programs reaching children and their families throughout many communities in the state, we know that we can contribute to the nationwide effort of increasing awareness of childhood language disorders and providing the early intervention services to meet the needs of children in Colorado.



### CELEBRATE BETTER HEARING AND SPEECH MONTH THIS MAY WITH THE AMERICAN SPEECH-LANGUAGE-HEARING ASSOCIATION

Since 1927, the American Speech-Language-Hearing Association has celebrated Better Hearing and Speech Month each May to raise public awareness of speech and language disorders that affect 14 million Americans.

Speech and language disorders can take many forms and can limit academic achievement, social adjustment, and career advancement. An individual may be born with a speech or language disorder, or it may be caused by accidental injury or illness.

Speech-language pathologists are the professionals who treat all types of speech, language, and related disorders. They hold at least a master's degree and are certified by the American Speech-Language-Hearing Association. Speech-language pathologists work in schools, private practice, hospitals, clinics, and other health and education settings.

**The American Speech-Language-Hearing Association (ASHA)** is the national professional, scientific and credentialing association for more than 145,000 audiologists, speech-language pathologists and speech, language, and hearing scientists.

Source: ASHA Web Site

(modified for this publication) <http://www.asha.org/uploadedFiles/News-Release-SLP.doc> - 1 page

## Treasure Chest Program - Cortez

*Submitted by: Karen Winchester, Treasure Chest Coordinator,  
The Piñon Project- Cortez*

The Treasure Chest Program in Cortez was invited to be an exhibitor and participate in the Montelores Early Childhood Celebration Fair on April 16. It was estimated that over 300 families attended the fair which highlighted early childhood programs including local preschools. There were free vision and developmental screenings for children as well as depression screenings for parents through a local mental health provider. I met many new parents interested in the Treasure Chest Program and received great feedback from participating parents attending the Fair. I was told by a parent whose child's preschool in Mancos will be closing for summer vacation that she would be willing to drive to Cortez to the library there to continue with the Treasure Chest Program over the summer. She was glad to hear that I am hoping to offer the program through the Mancos library this summer

The new theme chests offered this year are receiving wonderful positive response. The "*Under the Sea*" chest in particular is getting rave reviews from children and parents, for the quality of the books and materials and the high "enjoyability" factor. The other new and very popular theme chests are: *Spring is Here!* *Happy Birthday* *Pizza Party*



Soon to debut are: "Nocturnal Creatures", "Gardens", "I Love Bugs!" and "Kites". It is a joy and a privilege to put together these wonderful and high quality theme chests to share with children and their families. This is only made possible due to the ongoing generosity of the Scottish Rite Foundation for which we are truly grateful.



## Treasure Chest Program – Grand Junction

*Submitted by Carmen Marsh, Treasure Chest Coordinator ,  
Rocky Mountain SER Head Start, Grand Junction*

The following letter was written by a Head Start Parent. . .

Dylan, her three year old son, is a dual language learner with Spanish being his primary language. Dylan was diagnosed with having Developmental Apraxia at the age of 2. He is receiving services with our local School District #51 and St. Mary's Life Center. Annabel wrote this letter to express her family's feelings regarding the importance and the benefits of the Treasure Chest Program. Her letter was written in Spanish, which has been translated into English by Rose Owens.

Clifton, Colorado  
A 6 DE ABRIL DEL 2011.

Asunto: The Scottish Rite Foundation,

Por medio de la presente, queremos manifestar el agradecimiento al programa de treasure chest el copre del tesoro, por su gran ayuda y apoyo que brinda a las familias, con niños que tienen necesidades especiales. En lo personal agradecemos su ayuda a las organizadoras que están dentro de este programa. Muy en especial a Carmen Marsh. Esperemos seguir teniendo este programa, por siempre en nuestra comunidad. Es un programa entretenido y de gran ayuda.

Por su atención gracias! Dylan y Anabel



Clifton, Colorado  
April 6, 2011

To the Scottish Rite Foundation,  
We would like to tell you how very grateful we are for having the opportunity to participate in the Treasure Chest Program, and all the help and support that you bring to the families, and especially the children with special needs. Personally, I am grateful for your help, and the organization of this program. Carmen Marsh is a very special person. I hope that we keep this Program; it is very needed in this community (Mesa County), its fun and a very helpful program.

Thank you for your attention! Dylan and Anabel



The Children's Hospital

Submitted by:  
Kathryn Duren, SLP  
The Children's Hospital Therapy Center – Pueblo



Above, L to R; Stacy Bernal, Martha Drake, Valerie Rosen, Kathryn Duren, Phyllis Sanders and Jaclyn Mutz

## THE CHILDREN'S HOSPITAL THERAPY CENTER-PUEBLO TURNS 10!

Through the past 10 years we have experienced many changes: name changes, policy changes, some staff changes, but one thing has remained the same- the quality of care we provide to children and families in Pueblo and its surrounding areas.

The clinic opened on April 4, 2001, with a staff of 3: Martha Drake, Amy Asbury (later to become Clark) and Phyllis Sanders. A short while later Stacey Bernal was added as PRN staff. The clinic has employed a total of 14 employees, 11 of which are still with Children's today.

We have celebrated a wedding and two births. We survived a truck crashing through the front of our building. We have hosted several *Parent's Night Out* functions, enjoyed zoo picnics and Christmas parties with the Scottish Rite Masons and have run many successful summer group programs. We have supervised two graduate students and look forward to having a CFY someday. We have hosted an Autism Outreach day and a Deaf and Hard of Hearing Outreach day, as well as multiple Augmentative Evaluation clinics.

We currently have three full-time speech pathologists, two part-time and three, PRN speech therapists, as well as a patient services coordinator. Our group consists of a manager, two feeding specialists, a Level II SLP, a stuttering specialist and four Hanen© certified therapists.

This first 10 years seem to have gone by so fast. . .

We are all looking forward to the next 10 years!



## Community Resource Sharing Day at Pueblo Community College

(Left, Phyllis Sanders, Patient Service Coordinator, The Children's Hospital Therapy Center – Pueblo)

Many different organizations throughout Pueblo, came together on February 4<sup>th</sup> to share some of the resources available for children and families in our community.

**Phyllis Sanders** represented The Children's Hospital Therapy Center -Pueblo. We had a table with a tri fold board with pictures of the therapists doing speech therapy, and we also had hand outs with the different services we offer at our clinic. Phyllis was on hand explaining the services and funding options The Children's Hospital Therapy Center offers in our community. The turnout was great, and they had a wonderful luncheon. Lots of information was shared between different organizations and the guests that attended.

We look forward to participating again next year!

Submitted by: Brandi-Lynn Greig, MS, CCC-SLP,  
 Team Lead, Augmentative Communication Camp  
 Programs at The Children's Hospital



## First Steps Camp

was held April 14-17<sup>th</sup> with 8 families participating. First Steps Camp is a 4-day program developed by The Children's Hospital for young children, ages 3-7, who have received their first augmentative communication device and their families. First Steps Camp is held at the Easter Seal's Camp, Rocky Mountain Village, in Empire, Colorado. This camp is designed to help families through their "first steps" in learning how to communicate with their children using a communication device. When asked what their expectations were, most families responded with a desire to learn the communication device. At the end of camp, each family member was asked to give one word to describe their experience. These words included: inspired, confident, committed, and motivated. They left with personal goals of how they could now make a difference in their child's communication skills.

We are very thankful to the *Rollie R. Kelley Family Foundation* for their funding support and helping us make this camp experience possible for the children and families.

### *A note of gratitude...*

*We are graduate students in the Speech Pathology program at the University of Colorado in Boulder. We recently received the opportunity to attend an amazing camp with children who use augmentative alternative communication (AAC) devices and their families because of funding from you. We want to thank you for this experience and express how beneficial this weekend was for us. In our program, our exposure to people who use AAC is limited. The opportunity to be around families and their children with an AAC device was an incredibly valuable and educational experience. Thanks again...we cannot express how much we appreciate it!*

*Jen Jacobsen and Jocelyn Essler  
 Graduate Students, MA-SLP' 12*



## Memorial Pediatric Outpatient Rehabilitation – Colorado Springs

### Speech, Language, Hearing, and Car Seat Screenings

Memorial Pediatric Rehabilitation was proud to once again offer public screenings of speech and language skills, hearing, and car seat safety. Certified speech-language pathologists and audiologists were on hand to provide children and their families with information regarding typical development and recommendations for further testing or therapy services.



The screenings, typically held in May to celebrate Better Hearing and Speech Month, were moved to April so that families could be provided with information regarding summer therapy groups in time for making summer plans. Kohl's Cares® Car Safety Program certified car seat technicians were also available for car seat checks for both typically developing children and children with special needs.



**Alice** ...  
 is a five year old  
 with big ideas!

### New Toys for Memorial Pediatric Rehabilitation!

Memorial was excited and grateful to learn in the Winter 2011 *RiteView Newsletter* that one of its own patients was chosen to be on the cover of the Scottish Rite Foundation of Colorado Programs 2011 Calendar!



Funds donated by the *Scottish Rite Endowed Chair Fund* to Memorial Pediatric Rehab for its photo submission will go towards buying new toys, speech-language therapy tools, and speech-language computer software for their three clinics.

A huge thank you for this fun opportunity!

Alice recently received her very own 'talker' to help her communicate those ideas in her home, school, and community. This 'talker', or augmentative communication device, helps her to communicate because she has a motor speech disorder called apraxia, which makes it difficult for her to form the words she wants to say.

Alice is learning to use her talker in an augmentative communication group at Memorial Pediatric Rehab with other children who use devices similar to hers to communicate. She is able to participate in this group thanks to the support of the **Scottish Rite Foundation** and continues to make progress in efficiently and effectively communicating her many thoughts and ideas.

A huge thanks to the Scottish Rite for continuing to support kids like Alice with huge potential!

**Submitted by Ericka Wendorf, RiteCare Program Co-Director  
 Memorial Pediatric Outpatient Rehabilitation, Colorado Springs**



# RITEVIEW

SPRING  
2011

## Colorado RiteCare Program Directory

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