

May 2009

Dates to Note:

- **Preschool Camp**
Session One: June 22—July 17
Session Two: July 20—Aug 14
- **Able Abe Awesome Summer Camp**
Weekly sessions beginning June 22
- **Memorial Day**
Monday, May 25th
Abilities Center Closed
- **Bowl-A-Thon Fundraiser**
November 2009
- **Golf Outing**
Monday, Sept 14
Detroit Golf Club

Free Tee Shirts for One Lucky Walk Team!

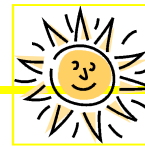
Abilities Center wants to sponsor your **Walk Now for Autism Team!** Register to win tee shirts with your team name for up to 25 of your team members. You will also receive additional donations to Autism Speaks in your team name. **Enter to win at the Front Desk!**

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Abilities Center News

1st Day of Camp is June 22 — Are you READY?!



Visit www.abilitiescenter.com for camp info and details!

The deal is done!

If you have not heard the exciting news, you can read it here first . . . Abilities Center has transferred ownership to its long-standing partner, The Detroit Institute for Children!

Please be assured, the quality and care you have come to expect at Abilities Center will remain intact. This merger expands the reach and scope of current services by combining the expertise of the highly-skilled Abilities Center team with the clinical and physician expertise at The Detroit Institute for Children. This new team will

continue to focus on the abilities of all children and to serve you in a way that is positive, passionate and integrated.

The Detroit Institute for Children has been providing services to children with special needs since 1904. The professional staff includes physicians, therapists, nurses, social workers, psychologists, orthotists and other technicians and specialists. The emphasis of care is placed on treating the whole child, and on working with the child's family and caregivers to maximize his or her po-

tential. In fact, this merger creates the largest non profit association for children with special needs in Southeast Michigan.

Abilities Center, along with The Detroit Institute for Children will continue to partner with parents, educators, medical professionals and community organizations to provide quality services for children. The future is very bright, and we thank you for your continued support and the opportunity to serve your children and your family.

Tutors keep kids moving forward

Educational tutors give your child the extra attention he or she needs

Abilities Center Educational Tutors have extensive experience working with children of all ages and academic abilities. Learning Disabled, Emotional Impaired, Children on the Autistic Spectrum, and kids just struggling to keep up have all benefited from the one-on-one experience of working with an educational

tutor at Abilities Center. Students receive an individual approach, based on needs and skill level.

If your child has worked diligently to move forward this school year, or if he or she did not make the progress you had hoped for, schedule a session with one of our tutors. Make the transition back to school



next fall that much easier!

Abilities Center works with your schedule - call 248.926.0909 to schedule your first session at a time that is convenient for you.



Visit us on the web !

www.detroitchildren.org

www.abilitiescenter.com



Sign up now for Specialized Summer Support Programs and Social Skills

Individual Therapy Services can help to maintain and build on the progress that has occurred during the school year. These **Specialized Summer Support Programs** are offered for children who receive Occupational, Physical and/or Speech Therapy services at school. Therapists work on goals and objectives stated in your child's IEP or evaluation. At the end of the summer, Abilities Center provides a discharge progress report.

In addition, **Social Skills Groups** are offered this summer. These groups provide fun opportunities that focus on skill building. Groups combine interactive activities with opportunities to improve social, emotional and physical skills in a therapeutic environment. Groups are designed to teach and encourage children of all ages. Check out our web site for group titles, times and descriptions—www.abilitiescenter.com.

Observation Rooms are here for you!

Play Therapy is the backbone of our treatment philosophy at Abilities Center. While we encourage parents to get involved (play!) in the therapy process, we understand that often other siblings are with you on your visit to our facility. In those cases, please use our observation rooms.

You can still watch and learn as the therapist works with your child, (this will help you to continue to use the therapy techniques at home) and siblings can watch as well (or play without disturbing the treatment session)!

Thank you

Don't forget your SOCKS!

(Socks are required in Central Park and in all treatment areas - even in summer!)



for your cooperation in the busy summer season!!

"... consider tools to help your child stay calm while out and about the next few months ..."

Tools help sensory kids stay calm in public

With summer just around the corner, consider tools to help your child stay calm while out and about the next few months . . .

Tactile: Hand hugs, slow repetitive massage down the center of the back, tactile

"fidget" to hold or fiddle with.

Oral: Chew on chewy food or gum (ask for gum at our front desk!), milk shake or yogurt through a straw.

Auditory: Headphones, ear plugs or athletic headband may help dampen sounds, gentle music

through headphones may be calming.

Visual: Hats or visors and sunglasses can help cut down bright lights and visual stimuli.

Ask for our **Sensational Summer 2009 Sensory Calendar** available at no charge at Abilities Center!

