



Family Voices Inc.

Cross Culture Medicine

The article below is from the Navajo Area Indian Health Service (NAIHS) website. While it was developed with new health care professionals in mind, this article provides helpful information for anyone working with Navajo and other tribal nations.

Cross cultural medicine offers unique opportunities for service and at the same time it offers individual growth for those serving. While new employees of the Navajo Area Indian Health Service may have been exposed to cross cultural environs as they grew up, during academic training, or previously in their professional careers, exposure to diverse peoples only partially prepares one for life among the Diné (the Navajo People). The subtleties of interpersonal relationships (which, when understood by health professionals make them more successful in caring for patients) are particularly important among the Navajo.

In NAIHS healthcare facilities the following situations or realities may be encountered:

- Direct eye to eye contact with others is not common on the Navajo.
- A handshake (when the hand is extended to someone) is a touching of hands as opposed to a firm handshake.
- The perception of time is different in that problems may have begun "awhile ago" and menses may be marked in their relationship to lunar cycles. The history of present illness for an acute illness may result in a story which relates the cause to events in the patient's personal life as far back as 50 or more years.

To read the entire article, click [here](#)

Network News

We have several "new additions" to celebrate within the extended Family Voices family. **Julie Sipchen**, KASA (Kids As Self Advocates) Director, and her family welcomed daughter, Kate, born June 13, 2006 in Chicago, Illinois. **Trish Thomas**, FV Partnership Coordinator, welcomed a new grandson, Maximillion, born on July 24, 2006 in Albuquerque, New Mexico. to her daughter, Kori, and her family. **Betsy Anderson**, FV IMPACT Project Director, announced the arrival of Lyrissa, born to her daughter, Jennifer, on July 25th in Nyuh Kuning, Bali, Indonesia. Congratulations and best wishes to all the families!

Go early, go often . . . visit the Legislative Action Center (LAC) at www.familyvoices.org/lac for the latest information on proposed or pending legislation and how it may affect you, a family member or friend with special health care needs.

PHOTOS NEEDED

It's that time again...we are gathering **pictures for the 2007 Family Voices 15th Anniversary Calendar!** Please send us pictures of your family doing family things. Please send us pictures of your family doing unusual things. If you have any pictures of what you were doing 15 years ago with Family Voices, we'd love to use those as well. A "now and then" look at Family Voices! Please send us pictures! Email them to Lacey at keene@familyvoices.org by August 15th.



ReCap of FV Talk

Resources, News, & Stories

- www.coveringkids.com
We are coming up on the time for Congress to reauthorize the SCHIP program, first passed in 1997 for a ten year period to provide health coverage for children through state block grants.
- <http://www.delawareonline.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=/20060725/NEWS/607250366/1006>
Universal homes will have numerous features — wider hallways and doors and stepless entries, for example — making it adaptable to the needs of its residents, whether they are strong and healthy or have various special needs.
- <http://labs.google.com/accessible/>
An accessible Search is an early Google Labs product designed to identify and prioritize search results that are more easily usable by blind and visually impaired users.
- <http://www.interactivefamilyresources.com/>
InterActive Family Resources invites you to examine the Parent Handbook for a program we have developed to address the experiences of parents raising children with special health care needs. For over ten years Raising Special Kids has been offered to families and is now available as a complete program to agencies and foundations serving children with special needs
- <http://www.cms.hhs.gov/MedicaidStWaivProgDemoPGI/MWDL/list.asp>
A searchable list that contains information about state-specific Medicaid waiver and demonstration programs. Users can access fact sheets, copies of proposals, approval letters, and other documents related to specific programs.
- <http://www.familyvoices.org/hcf/ma-kbw.pdf>
A Family Voices general description of the various Medicaid waivers.
- <http://www.dss.mo.gov/dms/faq/pages/faqrecip2.htm>
Frequently asked recipient questions about Medicaid spend downs.

Website

Hands on VRS, a leading video relay service, in partnership with ASL (American Sign Language) Services, recently introduced its newest service—HOVRS en Espanol. The new service allows a person who communicates using ASL to connect to Spanish-speaking friends, family, and co-workers through the video relay services (VRS) offered by Hands On VRS. Hearing Spanish speakers can also contact ASL users directly through a Spanish-only, toll free phone number (877-467-4875). For more information, please visit www.hovrs.com.

Truth is always exciting. Speak it, then. Life is dull without it.

Pearl S. Buck

To receive "Friday's Child" via e-mail:
Send an email to
fridayschildnews-subscribe@yahoogleroups.com
To become a member of our family and for more information
please visit our website: www.familyvoices.org



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