

# SPECIAL CHILDREN CENTER

2705 Enloe Street, Hudson, WI 54016 (715) 386-2128



Occupational Therapy • Hydrotherapy

Physical Therapy • Speech Therapy

Visit our Web Site: [www.specialchildrencenter.com](http://www.specialchildrencenter.com)

February  
2006

"Our experience with Special Children Center . . . it's where mini-miracles happen". Shelly (parent)



## Chi Machine

We are loving what the Chi Machine is doing for kids. Medical dollars can be applied to purchase it. Call Connie Stoner at (651) 439-4890 for more information or come to a demo at SCC (schedule below)

## Education Corner

- Chi Machine demo: March 28, 1 pm-6 pm; April 4, 4 pm-7 pm
- Metabolic implications for children with special needs: April 11, 7 pm-9 pm
- Sensory Integration: What is it? How does it impact learning and behavior? May 23, 7 pm-9:30 pm
- Craniosacral therapy parent training: July 15, 9 am-12 noon
- Sign Language (coming soon)

To register or for more information about our programs, please phone: (715) 386-2128 or email: [specialchildren@nomadwi.com](mailto:specialchildren@nomadwi.com)

## Spring and Summer Groups! Call to sign up!

### Picky Eaters Unite!

These small groups have been very successful in expanding food intake and comfort with foods. Parent training and participation is a critical aspect. Learning to explore food in a nonthreatening, playful way can break through previous learned behaviors and aversions. See Feeding Groups schedule.

### Fun with New Friends!

Children have social opportunities in small groups to work on social skill development and interaction under the guidance of skilled professionals. Sensory motor based activities and self-regulation strategies will be integrated into the group sessions. See Social Groups schedule.

### Wakeup Time for Hands!

Children have fun working on the foundations for fine motor control and handwriting! Sensory setup for self-regulation and eye/hand coordination are fundamental for refined skill development. See Fine Motor Groups schedule.

### NEW!

### What Helps the Brain Sparkle? Sensory Fun!

Children will have plenty of opportunities to get their sensory needs met in a small group environment. They will learn to master techniques for self-regulation while engaging in fun activities suited to those children needing "more intensity" or "different" sensory support for their development. This is a great way to boost development during the summer months. Groups will be led by an occupational therapist. See Sensory Integration Groups schedule.

### SPRING GROUPS

Starting the week of **March 27**

#### Feeding Group

Tuesdays 1:30 pm

#### Social Group

Thursdays: 1 pm, 4-5 year-olds

#### Sensory Integration Group

Thursdays: 1 pm

### SUMMER GROUPS

Starting the week of **June 12**

#### Feeding Groups

Cost: \$130 for 8 weeks

Tuesdays: 1:30-2:30 pm

Fridays: 9:30-10:30 am

#### Social Groups

Cost: \$150 for 10 weeks

Thursdays: 1 pm, 4-5 year-olds

Fridays: 10:30 am, 6-8 year-olds

Wednesdays: 11 am, 9-10 year-olds

Fridays: 2 pm, 10-12 year-olds

#### Fine Motor Groups

Space limited to 5 children. 2x week (Mondays & Wednesdays)

June 12-July 3, August 1-22

Cost: \$120 per group

9 am: 5-6 year-olds

10 am: 6-7 year-olds

12 noon: 8-10 year-olds

5 pm: 11-12 year-olds

#### Sensory Integration Groups

Cost: \$150 for 10 weeks

Thursdays: 1 pm, 4-5 year-olds

Tuesdays: 9 am, 5-6 year-olds

Mondays: 1 pm, 6-7 year-olds

Tuesdays: 9 am, 6-8 year-olds

Mondays: 2 pm, 8-9 year-olds

Thursdays: 9am, 9-10 year-olds

Mondays: 4:30 pm, 10-11 year-olds

### Swim Lessons

Will be available this summer

## Watch These Kids Smile As They Explore New Territory!

Beginning in February 2006, Special Children Center became one of 50 clinics in the United States to offer intensive motor therapy utilizing the TheraSuit and the Universal Exercise Unit.

The TheraSuit Method, which was introduced into the United States in 2001 by Izabela and Richard Koscielny, originated in Poland. It is used to treat patients diagnosed with cerebral palsy, hemiplegia, stroke, developmental delays, ataxia, athetosis, traumatic brain injuries, and many other neurological disorders. It has also been found to be a tremendous help for children with sensory integration problems and autism.

**The TheraSuit** is a soft dynamic proprioceptive orthotic which utilizes a system of rubber bands to align the child's body as close to normal as possible. It is very unique in that it provides dynamic correction. It allows for restoration of posture and proper function of postural muscles. Through its dynamic qualities the child can then learn or relearn proper patterns of movement. The child's body is set up with very specific and unique pressure that restores deep proprioception from joints, ligaments, and muscles. The TheraSuit also provides external stabilization to the trunk, allowing more fluent and coordinated movement for both upper and lower extremities.

Fine and gross motor skills improve in 94% of patients. Speech productivity and fluency is noted in 64%. For more statistics and to learn more about TheraSuit, visit [www.suiththerapy.com](http://www.suiththerapy.com).

**The Universal Exercise Unit**, imported from Europe, utilizes a system of suspension, pulleys, and weights. By suspending the weakened extremity and eliminating the weight of the extremity, the patient can initiate the movement. The journey to learning or relearning how to use affected musculature begins there. The unit can be adjusted to allow the exercise to be more challenging as the patient progresses.



### **Cali stands independently**

for the first time, decked out in the TheraSuit which helps support the muscles she needs to strengthen to make it happen!

*"After reading about the TheraSuit awhile ago we were very excited about the possibilities for our daughter. but the only place it was offered at that time was Poland. Now we are so excited about Special Children's Center's ability to offer this program!" Eric (parent)*



**Bridget has so much fun** in the "spider cage", she doesn't realize how hard she is working her tummy and leg muscles!

This program consists of 3 weeks, 3 hours per day. The intensity, in conjunction with the TheraSuit and the Universal Exercise Unit, accelerates functional progress in a shorter amount of time than traditional therapy.

## Intensive Therapy Continued Success

These are some examples of the powerful impact of individualized programs provided by professionals with a high level of expertise:

**Annie** completed her 10-day intensive therapy program with a sparkle in her eyes, and now she interacts much more with her mom, dad, and sister - wanting to play with them! Jumping and running are so much easier, too! She uses a lot more words to talk to her family, and looks them in the eyes!

**Chelsea** found it easier to write her letters correctly. She is so proud! She doesn't need to be in constant motion all day to be comfortable in her body. Yay, Chelsea!

**Tommy** stayed dry every night for the first time after his intensive program! He is less irritable and more interactive with his friends and his brother. Life is much more fun!

Intensive therapy programs (5-10 days) are available all year at Special Children Center. These O.T., P.T., and Speech programs are individualized for each child, and include the use of cutting edge techniques and approaches (auditory, kinesiotaping, hydrotherapy, oral motor, respiration facilitation, etc.). After evaluating the child, we then design a program that best meets the child's needs. Our goal is to help make life easier for children with many different diagnoses: attention deficit disorder, dyslexia, autism, sensory processing and sensory defensive disorders, oppositional and defiant disorders, head trauma, fetal alcohol syndrome, and cerebral palsy - to name a few!

Current research is proving that these types of programming are very powerful. Special Children Center has been doing them for 17 years!! We are thrilled that research is catching up! Insurance companies have been very open to these short term intensives.

**Summer programs fill fast, so if you are interested, CALL SOON**

