



Public Health
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**Tuscarawas County
Health Department**

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Tuscarawas County Health Department Supports Families Through Complex Medical Help (CMH) Program


DOVER- Help is available for parents and guardians of children and adults up to age 25 with special health care needs such as asthma, cancer, diabetes, hearing and vision loss, and more. The Tuscarawas County Health Department (TCHD) is working to improve support for more families and children in Tuscarawas County by introducing them to the Complex Medical Help (CMH) Program, formerly known as the Children with Medical Handicaps Program. The CMH Program is a service within the Ohio Department of Health that helps connect families with special health care needs to a network of quality medical providers and helps families with payment for the services their child needs.



In the average year, 240 Tuscarawas County children and young adults receive assistance from the CMH Program. “We know this is an underutilized program, and we know there are more people in our community who could benefit from what this program has to offer,” explained Amy Kaser, TCHD Director of Nursing. “Worrying about a child’s health is stressful, and our public health nurses have the knowledge and skills to ease the burden and help parents with navigating the application process, finding physicians, and providing support.”



The Complex Medical Help program offers several types of assistance for individuals up to age 25 with special health care needs. The diagnostic program allows individuals to receive services for up to six months, from CMH providers, to rule out or diagnose a special health care need. The treatment program can provide funding for services and/or medications related to an eligible condition, and the service coordination program helps families find and coordinate services for their child or young adult. “There are many eligible conditions including juvenile arthritis, chronic lung disease, cystic fibrosis, cerebral palsy, hemophilia, metabolic disorders, scoliosis, and more,” noted Kaser.

For Tuscarawas County families interested in learning more about the valuable CMH program, call 330-343-5555, ext. 1240, or visit the TCHD website at www.tchdnow.org .

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