Resources for Children with Special Health Care Needs:

American Academy of Pediatrics  
www.aap.org

Exceptional Parent Resource Guide  
www.eparent.com

Lower Hudson Valley Perinatal Network  
www.lhvpn.net

March of Dimes  
www.marchofdimes.com

NYS Children and Youth with Special Health Care Needs Program  
www.nyhealth.gov/community/special_needs

NYS Office for People with Developmental Disabilities:  
Children’s Services  
www.opwdd.ny.gov

Parent to Parent of NYS  
www.parenttoparentnys.org

Dutchess County Department of Behavioral & Community Health  
Children with Special Health Care Needs Program  
85 Civic Center Plaza - Suite 106  
Poughkeepsie, NY  12601  
(845) 486-3419 [tel]  (845) 486-3546 [fax]  
(845) 486-3417 [tty]  
HealthInfo@DutchessNY.gov  
www.DutchessNY.gov/DBCH

Marcus J. Molinaro  
County Executive  
(January 2017)
What is the Children with Special Health Care Needs Program (CSHCN)?

CSHCN is a statewide public health program that provides information and referral services for health and related areas to families of CSHCN.

Who are children with special health care needs?

They are children age birth to 21 years of age who are suspected of having or who have a serious physical, developmental, behavioral, or emotional condition. These children require health related services that other children generally do not need.

Some examples of these conditions may include but are not limited to:

- Asthma
- Attention deficit disorder (ADD)
- Autism
- Cerebral palsy
- Depression
- Muscular dystrophy

What does the CSHCN Program do?

We help to coordinate specialty care as well as provide information about programs and resources appropriate for your child. We connect families with services such as:

- Astor Early Childhood Programs
- Child Health Plus/Medicaid
- Community Agencies
- Office for People with Developmental Disabilities - Children’s Services
- Early Intervention
- Women, Infants, & Children (WIC)

What is the Physically Handicapped Children’s Program (PHCP) Program?

The CSHCN program also offers financial assistance under the Physically Handicapped Children’s Program (PHCP). The PHCP assists families to pay medical bills for children with severe chronic illnesses and/or physical disabilities.

The PHC Program pays for:

1. Diagnosis and Evaluation
2. Treatment Program

Requirements:

Families must live in Dutchess County and meet the income eligibility guidelines for conditions covered by the program.

Services provided in the PHCP program may include but are not limited to:

- Initial Diagnostic Evaluations Referrals
- Clinic Visits for Specialty Care
- Durable Medical Equipment (DME)
- Hearing Aids
- Orthodontia
- Orthotics

Please contact us if you think you may qualify or have any questions.

The CSHCN/PHCP Programs may be reached by calling (845) 486-3419 or you may visit us online at DutchessNY.gov