

#103 It's Been A Long Time.....

Dearest Advocates-

As many of you are aware, my son, Jacob, was diagnosed with Acute Lymphoblastic Leukemia (ALL) - also known as Childhood Leukemia on 11/13/09. As you can imagine, it has been a rough year for the Moore family but with all the support, love and prayers.....we have been able to endure one of the most difficult times in our lives. I'm proud to say that Jacob is now in "maintenance chemotherapy" and will continue to be for the next three years (Leukemia takes on average 3.5 yrs to treat for boys).

Words can not express what we have been going through but I must say that we are overwhelmed by the amount of love, support and prayers we have received already. From the bottom of our hearts, THANK YOU! If you would like to follow our journey with Jacob, please go to: <http://www.caringbridge.org/visit/prayforjacobmoore>

I realize that this is the first newsletter I have issued since 11/14/09 due to taking time off to devote all of my efforts to my son...As for my advocacy efforts, over the last few months I have started to get involved in advocacy efforts again as my time will allow. As you can imagine, I will not be able to put the time and energy into my passion for advocating for individuals with disabilities as I did in the past due to Jacob's needs are still a priority. With that said, I have continued to represent families with children with disabilities through the Olmstead Committee and have monitored the need for other information that needs to be distributed to families, providers and concerned citizens.

Please note: I will not be issuing newsletter to the frequency that I did in the past but when I am able and have the extra time, I will do so.

I'm very excited to announce a fundraiser we are having in honor of Jacob to support pediatric cancer research. I had no idea that ONLY 2% of all federal funding goes towards pediatric cancer research. I hope you read the below announcement and get involved and/or donate your time and resources to a wonderful cause. More information will follow soon.

Below is also information regarding a recent issue with changes to therapy that Medicaid pays for our children. I hope this information helps clear up some rumors I have heard in the last few days from providers and families.

As always, ***United- We Will Make a Difference!***

Sincerely,

Heidi

Fundraiser for Childhood Cancer Research in Honor of Jacob Moore

Big News.....**Jumping for Jacob!** Come celebrate Jacob's birthday by raising awareness and money for childhood cancer research for the Rally Foundation www.RallyFoundation.org on Sunday, **January 9, 2011** (Jacob's actual birthday) from 5:00-8:00 at Monkey Joe's in Roswell, GA.

I am currently looking for volunteers to help with silent auction and raffle items, as well as, friends to work the day of the event. More information will follow soon. Please e-mail me privately if you would like to help with this fantastic cause.

heidijmoore@comcast.net More information will be coming in the future. Thanks so much for your support in advance. Heidi

Therapy Changes Effective October 1, 2010:

I have been in contact with Dept. of Community Health (DCH)/Medicaid regarding a recent banner message that went out to providers in September regarding a change in therapy practices, etc.

This is the actual response I received from DCH on this issue as follows:

In the Children's Intervention Services (CIS) and Children's Intervention School Services (CISS) program, Medicaid allows for two therapies on the same day. There was a banner message effective October 1, 2010, that went out for the CISS program with specific procedure codes that may not be billed with the same member, same provider specialty and same date of service. The detailed banner message was sent on September 8, 2010. The banner message that went out is for the CISS program only. Please keep in mind that CIS providers should be familiar with the policy manual to know what procedure codes to bill for therapy services provided to the children.

To clarify in "parent terms":

+ CISS is the manual used for therapies billed in the school system ONLY. This banner message did NOT apply to home based or clinic based therapy.

+ Therapists can NOT bill at the same time of service. Therefore, no more co-treating (meaning a PT and OT working with a child at the same time).

+ A child CAN have multiple therapy sessions in the same day BUT the therapist can not bill for the same time or the same code.

Once again, this information is based on email exchanges I had with DCH and phone conversations. I hope you find this information helpful.