



A Message from the Director

If you've been to clinic recently, then you know our Nurse Practitioner Erin is pregnant with her 2nd child. She will be going on maternity leave later this month, but clinic will continue as usual with the doctors seeing patients each week.

During her leave, please give us a minimum of one-week's notice for medication or supply prescription refills so that the doctors can review and sign orders.

We are temporarily unable to provide meal vouchers during Erlanger's transition to a new cafeteria vendor. We apologize for the inconvenience and hope to get permission to resume distribution!!

We love hearing your stories—please continue sending us your story to share with other families and the community by emailing me at Elizabeth@boehmbdc.com.

Happy Spring!

Elizabeth

United Way of Northwest Georgia has given us a special grant. If you live in Whitfield or Murray County and need help with durable medical equipment, please call me to see if you qualify for aid.

PATIENTS MAKING STRIDES

- We are so proud of **Chadrick Jackson** who has graduated from Orange Grove Center!
- Congratulations to **Casey Edds** who was accepted into Miller Motte's Surgical Technology program.
- **Javonne Jackson** and his mom, Cassandra, were awarded multiple grants from different various agencies to travel to Nashville to attend the annual conference on pediatric developmental and behavioral issues.
- **Martin Davis** organized UTC's first educational seminar on birth defects. He was one of several speakers to discuss specific birth defects and answer questions from attendees.

GIRL SCOUT GOLD AWARD FILM PROJECT ON CONGENITAL BIRTH DEFECTS

Lindsey Lively, who was diagnosed with hydrocephalus in the 3rd grade, has been approved by the Girl Scout Council to create a documentary for YouTube that showcases families who have been affected by congenital birth defects.

If you would like to share your story, please contact Lindsey at:
423-637-1360 or lindseyloquets@gmail.com.



To Current Resident or:

NONVERBAL LEARNING DISORDER

Nonverbal Learning Disorder Syndrome is a specific type of learning disability that has been identified in children with hydrocephalus. It can affect a child's academic progress, as well as social and emotional development. A diagnosis is typically made when a child is in middle to late elementary school. Because it is not a widely recognized diagnosis, school teachers and staff may be genuinely unsure how best to serve your child. A comprehensive and thorough neuropsychological assessment, with regular follow-ups, is critical to ensure that appropriate strategies are put in place to assist your child in realizing his or her potential. If you have any concerns or suspect your child struggles with this disorder, please contact our Nurse Practitioner who can work with you to discuss an appropriate plan of action.

Characteristics

- Difficulty with word problems or math reasoning
- Do well with word recognition, oral reading and spelling, but have difficulty with comprehending what is read
- Rely heavily on language to engage and to relieve anxiety
- Difficulty understanding jokes or sarcasm in conversation
- Often rely on practiced behaviors that may not be appropriate for every situation

Interventions

- Give verbal, step-by-step instructions
- Assess reading comprehension carefully
- Practice expressive language skills, such as staying focused on the topic and listening without interrupting
- Decrease expected quantity of writing and allow verbal expression of information
- Involve the school counselor or social worker to foster social development at school
- Encourage friendship groups that involve a small number of peers
- Create a supportive home environment