

"The [health care partnership] presentation was extraordinary on many levels. It changed the way our staff of receptionists, medical assistants and providers understood what happened in a family when they have a child born with Down syndrome. What an extraordinary opportunity for me to refresh and rejuvenate my sense of joy at helping a family begin the journey of raising a child with Down syndrome.

— Jerry Rubin, M.D.



Would You Like to Help MILE HIGH DOWN SYNDROME ASSOCIATION?

Please tell your colleagues that MHDSA is ready and eager to assist families impacted by Down syndrome and the providers who work with them. Offer brochures and direct them to our website, www.mhdsa.org. You may already know about our nationally-recognized parent/family support programs, educational offerings, newsletters, and social events, but did you know that we now offer Virtual Visits[™], a unique way to provide information and support to family members and professionals from the comfort and privacy of their own computers? Virtual Visits[™] allow website visitors to stream videos of parents, siblings, grandparents and self-advocates answering questions and sharing their own experiences. Additional videos feature Sarah Hartway, RN, MS, Director of Professional Partnerships, speaking to health care providers allowing this valuable education to reach providers regardless of geographic boundaries.

Other ways you can support the MHDSA Health Care Partnership include:

 Sending your donation. Our services to health care providers and new or expectant parents are provided free of charge so your financial help is greatly appreciated.
(MHDSA is a Colorado 501 (c)(3) non-profit organization and relies on donations to fund our programs. MHDSA is not funded by any governmental agencies.)

- Telling your friends and colleagues about our services and programs.
- Sharing your talents and expertise with us.

To learn more about the Health Care Partnership or to request services, please call (303)797-1699, e-mail sarahh@mhdsa.org or visit our website: www.mhdsa.org/HCP.htm.







Mile High Down Syndrome Association HEALTH CARE PARTNERSHIP=



What is the MHDSA HEALTH CARE PARTNERSHIP?

An innovative program to make sure that **you**, our valued partner in health care, have the information, tools and resources you **need** to provide top level care to individuals with Down syndrome and their families as well as expectant women and couples interested in learning more about Down syndrome.







Read what some of the participants in the Health Care Partnership presentations have said:

"Thank you so much – I feel better prepared as a nurse and future parent."



"Enjoyed hearing the personal views and experiences, helping share how to speak with parents – helps me see from parents' point of view."



"Your presentation was a beautiful example of how personal and professional, intellectual and emotional can combine to shift outlooks as well as teach information."

What can the MHDSA HEALTH CARE PARTNERSHIP Do For you?

We know that you want to provide the best care possible but may not always have the resources you need to do so. We would like to place these essential tools - as well as the most current information available - right at your fingertips. By having current information and the right tools, you will be able to ensure that the care you provide to individuals with Down syndrome and their families is *state-of-the-art*. Take a look at the options available to you, all *free of charge*.

- Our Down Syndrome Information and Resources notebook is full of preventive medical guidelines, Down syndrome growth charts and other resources.
- For those in more frequent contact with new or expectant parents, we now offer the *MHDSA Down Syndrome Toolkit*. This toolkit has everything you might need to share information and materials about Down syndrome with your patients: brochures, sample New Parent and Expectant Parent Packets, articles and the *Down Syndrome Information and Resources notebook* just for you.
- Learn the latest news about Down syndrome and health, helpful tips for communicating the diagnosis to new or expectant parents, and valuable community resources by scheduling a meeting, inservice or conference presentation with Sarah Hartway RN, MS for you, your staff and colleagues. Hartway is both a pediatric health care provider and a parent of a child with Down syndrome and therefore brings both the parent and the provider perspectives, sharing real-life experiences as well as the most up-to-date research findings and clinical guidelines.

Request individualized content or select from topics such as:

- Down Syndrome: One Parent's Perspective, Many Parents' Experiences
- Down Syndrome: Myths, Misconceptions and Meaningful Support
- Diagnosis: Down Syndrome, Discussing Difficult Diagnoses with Parents
- Publications, available upon request:
 - Ancient History or Current Practice??, Sarah Hartway, RN, MS, Spring 2003, Colorado Pediatrician
 - A Parent's Guide to the Genetics of Down Syndrome, Sarah Hartway, RN, MS, Nov. 2007, <u>Down's Update</u>
 - Physical Therapy in Children with Down Syndrome, Sarah Hartway, RN, MS, Dec. 2006, <u>Down's Update</u>
 - Family Teaching Toolbox: Down Syndrome, Sarah Hartway, RN, MS, anticipated publication Dec. 2008, Advances in Neonatal Nursing

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