

SOUTH DADE REHAB, INC.

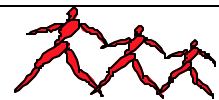
South Dade Rehab Inc. is the hub of healthcare facilities dedicated to helping adults and children reach their fullest potentials in rehabilitation services. We are dedicated to providing our clients with the utmost in quality care. Our compassionate and caring staff works hard to ensure your experience with South Dade Rehab Inc. is a superb and productive one.

The Children's Clinic, owned and operated by South Dade Rehab Inc., is South Florida's newest state-of-the-art Rehabilitation Facility to offer comprehensive Pediatric services in Physical, Occupational, and Speech therapy. We specialize in the therapeutic intervention of various neurological, orthopedic and developmental disorders in children under 21 years of age. The Children's Clinic also provides the following services: Hippotherapy, Screenings, Wheelchair Evaluations, Equipment Consultations, Splinting and Orthotic fittings. We offer therapy in the natural environment as well as in the clinic.

Since our official opening in March of 2000, we have expanded our services to include home health care in Miami, Fort-Lauderdale, Key Largo and Kissimmee. Our main office and clinic is conveniently located on Caribbean Blvd., between the intersection of U.S. 1 and the Florida Turnpike in Miami.

Pragmatus Listening and Learning Center is a Certified Tomatis Center dedicated to providing advanced therapeutic methods and cognitive interventions to children. We also specialize in enhancing the performance of near-gifted and gifted students.

For more information on these services, or to make an appointment, please call us at: (305) 251-7477 or toll free at: 1-866-688-3300. Visit us online at: www.sdrinc.net.



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The Children's Connection

Fall 2004

Changes at SDR:
Improving healthcare one day at a time...

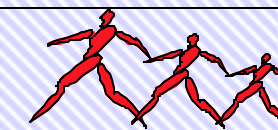
Read more inside...

Bush vs. Kerry on Healthcare: Find out where each Presidential Candidate stands on important health issues...

Read more inside...



South Dade Rehab Inc. provides this publication so that readers may remain abreast of important pediatric issues. For more information about South Dade Rehab Inc., please refer to the back of this newsletter.



SOUTH DADE REHAB, INC.



Change Makes All the Difference

It's almost inevitable that the moment a boss, parent, spouse, or even a TV commercial mentions words like, "Now is the best time to change," or "Something's got to change around here," groans and defenses begin, eyes roll, and resistance reigns. Ironically, many of us see a need for change in areas within ourselves or around us (and actually talk about wanting to change), but become overwhelmed with complacency once the execution of it begins and begin to ponder the reasons why the old methods were not so bad after all. If we're honest with ourselves, it becomes clear that our initial response simply stems from the anticipation of *inconvenience* and *extra effort*. After all, we seem to have made it fine this far without changing, and conclude that the change can take place "later" (or never). Deep down (after kicking and screaming) we all know that the *change* that will usually result

The Voice By: Heather Dibra

in *more* convenience and *less* effort.

In defense you ask, "What happens if the change *isn't* for the better?" If that is the case, then – you guessed it - refine the plan and make more changes! Isn't that liberating?! Maybe we should think of change more as a manifestation of *freedom* and an opportunity for exploring amazing new possibilities! I mean, I don't think any of us are complaining that we don't have to press our own paper, pluck a writing tool from a bird, or handwrite documents to get duplicate copies anymore. *That's* a positive result of change!

So, now that your boxing gloves can be put aside, let's talk about all of the great changes going on at South Dade Rehab, Inc. As you probably know, we are currently in a great season of change and growth, in which most of us are affected in some way. From changing billing procedures, hiring new staff, opening the new office in Miami Lakes, and consolidating the clinic space, to redistributing job responsibilities, and preparing for the new center at the BK building, all of us are at least indirectly affected. Though it sometimes makes us a little dizzy, it's actually those kinds of changes that make SDR, Inc. the well-rounded, competitive health care provider that it is.

As therapists, we should also consider making

our own changes on a regular basis. While all of us have built rapport with our patients and their families and feel that we are really doing our best



to provide excellent individualized patient care, we sometimes overlook the possibility that changing therapists or treatment approaches could make all the difference. Even just having another therapist give a fresh perspective, or changing treatment rooms (inside, outside, larger, smaller), toys, activity positions, lighting, family participation, etc. can give a new dimension to a typical session. Also, we should be encouraging and sensitive to caregivers as they try to embrace the changes needed to carry-over treatment techniques and care for their child with special needs. If you think about it, our job really has no purpose if positive CHANGE is not involved!

So let's work together and keep our chins up while we press on through company growing pains and tightening healthcare standards. Let's consider the big picture of the changes and turn off the soft music of our miniature violins. The final product is going to be extraordinary and each one of us will have been a part of making that happen! So, press on!

What's News In Politics

Bush vs. Kerry on Health Care

With the Presidential Elections right around the corner, we decided to take a look at how each Presidential Candidate fares on Health Care issues. Here is what we found out:

Bush: Number of Americans without health insurance has risen during his presidency, reaching 43.6 million in 2002, up from 41.2 million in 2001 and 39.8 million in 2000, according to Census Bureau. Has won passage of prescription drug benefit for older Americans that will subsidize costs for low-income patients and encourage private insurance companies to offer coverage for the elderly willing to opt out of traditional Medicare. Cost of drug benefit and other Medicare changes now estimated at \$534 billion over 10 years, up from \$395 billion when changes were debated. New tax-free medical savings accounts can be opened by people under 65 who meet certain conditions.

Kerry: Expand existing insurance system for federal employees to private citizens through tax credits and subsidies. Unemployed would get 75 percent tax credit to help pay for insurance. Tax credits for small businesses and their employees for health insurance. People aged 55 to 64 could buy into federal employees' health plan at affordable price. Government would help companies and insurers pay an employee's catastrophic medical costs if the firms would agree to hold down premiums. Federal support to expand access to state-administered health insurance for children. Overall costs estimated by outside analyst at \$895 billion over 10 years, to cover 27 million more people. Also, require mandatory financing for veterans health care.

*Information obtained from: <http://www.msnbc.msn.com/id/4448630>



SDR Family Tree

Here you'll find the latest news about South Dade Rehab Inc. As the company continues to grow, we'll keep you posted on its progress.

- Our new location in Miami Lakes has officially opened! A formal inauguration of the Miami Lakes office was held on August 25, 2004. The Miami Lakes office is located at 7735 NW 146 Street, Suite 100. This office offers a variety of therapy equipment, 5 therapy rooms, a large gym with showers and a sauna. Everything is brand new giving this treatment center a very contemporary look! There are still some appointment times available for therapy sessions. Please contact our office for more info, or to make an appointment at this fabulous facility!!
- The Aqua Therapy Program is now underway... Wendy Sines, OTR/L is currently accepting new patients for the program. We have access to a pool at the Double Eagle Ranch. Therapy sessions can also be performed at any patient's home with a pool. Contact our office for more information or to schedule an appointment.
- The Hippotherapy Program has been very successful! The program is rapidly growing and we are in need of more OT's and PT's to treat patients. Sessions are being held at the Double Eagle Ranch. If you or someone you know might be interested in becoming part of our Hippotherapy program, please contact Brenda Kent at the office.

Cover Photo:



Wendy Sines, OTR/L during an Aqua Therapy session with patient Jake Murillo.

For more information on our Aqua Therapy program, or to schedule an appointment, please contact our office at: 305-251-7477 or toll free 1-866-688-3300.



Therapist Nook

Here you'll find the latest in therapy-related issues! Check out what these top associations are currently working on. Log on to the following websites to learn more about these important topics:

www.apta.org

APTA: Call to Action: Medicare Proposes Tighter 'Incident To' Rules:

All APTA members are encouraged to submit comments to CMS in support of the proposed 2005 Medicare physician fee schedule rule, which if implemented would require that outpatient physical therapy services provided in physicians' offices be provided by qualified PT's or PTA's under the supervision of a PT.

www.ama-assn.org

AMA: Understanding Medicare

On December 8, 2003, President Bush signed into law the "Medicare Prescription Drug, Improvement, and Modernization Act of 2003." The AMA has made available on its Web site several free educational resources developed by the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services for physicians to help their patients understand what the Medicare Modernization Act means to them.

www.asha.org

ASHA: Language and Learning: Parents Can Help Children Succeed in School

Although some children will develop normal speech and language skills without treatment by the time they enter school, says the American Speech-Language-Hearing Association (ASHA), it is important to identify those who will not. Read more about this topic on their website.

www.aota.org

AOTA: AOTA Names New Executive Director

The AOTA Board of Directors has appointed Frederick P. Somers as executive director. Mr. Somers was selected for his strong history of advocacy, his understanding of the occupational therapy profession, and his "very strong commitment to move the profession forward." Read the announcement on the AOTA website.