



A DARLING STORY...

Established in 2003 Darlyn's Darlings, Pediatric Day Health Care Center (PDHC) has served as a revolutionary approach in fulfilling daily nursing needs, child care requirements and case management of medically fragile children. The PDHC is locally owned and operated by Darlyn

Baker, RN, whose 43 years of nursing experience prompted her to open the Care Center, largely in response to the nursing shortage for pediatric home care. Darlyn's Darlings serves a population of medically fragile children who previously had no or limited access to services. Children are introduced to educational activities and socialization skills in a nurturing family centered environment. Their medical needs are met by skilled pediatric professionals under supervision of a physician.

THE CARE CONTINUES!

In an effort to expand capacity and satisfy a growing need for Pediatric care. Darlyn acquired **Caring Corner**, an established PDHC. Together the Care Centers provide family training, nursing services, daycare, respite, and parent education. We assist families in their struggles by integrating services and increasing access. We serve families who are often overwhelmed and have special needs themselves. They struggle to maintain family structure and increasing health care needs of their child. Our family support service has been instrumental in decreasing the hospital readmission of medically fragile children due to caregivers providing inadequate care or simply needing a break. Hospitalization is expensive to the state, places additional stress on the child and has negative social implications for the child and the family. We support parents in advocating for their medically fragile child by guiding them through a network of resources and linkages to community organizations. Occupational, Speech, and Physical Therapists, Resource Specialists, Medical Social Workers, and other professionals visit children on site, ensuring they receive required services in a timely consistent manner. Our unique case management encourages families to advocate for their child while we assist with coordination of health care services at the Care Centers resulting in improved patient outcomes.



SPECIAL START FOR EXCEPTIONAL CHILDREN

On Wednesday December 2, 2009 First 5 Kern approved a \$360,000.00 over three years, grant proposal applied for by **Darlyn's Darlings and Caring Corner**. The grant will be used to implement an on site special education program for Medically Fragile children ages 0-5 at both care centers.



MEET OUR CAREGIVERS

Darlyn Baker, RN - 2009
"Leadership Award" recipient
Assoc. of CA Nurse leaders



With 43 years of nursing experience, she has served as a bedside nurse in Ohio, Korea, New Jersey and Mercy Hospital in Bakersfield. She obtained a Junior College teaching credential from UCLA and concurrently taught in BC's LVN program for nine years. She has been a guest speaker at two national conferences and is published in several nursing journals.



Maryellen Bateman, RNC
Darlyn's Darlings
Nursing Director

Maryellen Bateman, RNC is certified in Pediatric Advance Life Support and has been a dedicated Pediatric Nurse for 18 years. She excelled as a Pediatric Unit Manager at Bakersfield Family Medical Center for 6 years and a Level IV Staff Nurse in the Pediatric Unit at Kern Medical Center.

Caring Corner

Edith Ellenberger, MS, RN, CRRN
Caring Corner
Clinical Nurse Manager



With a Masters in Rehabilitation Nursing Edith Ellenberger, MS, RN, CRRN has spent nearly 40 years in continuous care, extended care, and rehabilitation nursing. She served as a Clinical Instructor at CSUB's Department of Nursing. Honors include "Nurse of the Year" by the Kern RN Society and "Excellence in Clinical Practice" by the International Nursing Honor Society. Edee was a guest presenter at the National Conference of the Association of Rehabilitation Nurses.



“Daycare for your medically fragile child”



LETTERS FROM PARENTS...

SCHEDULE OF UPCOMING EVENTS

Monday February 8, 2010
President Lincoln's Birthday
Daycare Open

Sunday February 14, 2010
Happy Valentines Day

Monday February 15, 2010
President Washington's Birthday
Daycare Open

Sunday March 14, 2010
Daylight Savings Time begins

Wednesday March 17, 2010
Happy St. Patricks Day

March 29 - April 2 or 5, 2010
Spring Break - School Holiday
Daycare Open

Sunday April 4, 2010
Happy Easter

We appreciate **Caring Corner** for the fact that knowing your special needs child is being beyond well cared for is a huge weight off with all the other factors in the lives of families with special needs children, that's enormous. Nolan not only has all his medical needs met but he gets lots of love and attention. He loves being here, which shows in his smile when he enters the door in the morning. I have been able to go back to work full time, having that piece of mind is such a blessing. During his time at **Caring Corner** Nolan has had an increase in his medical needs and now attends all day (no school), the nursing staff has been diligent in his care and helping us manage it. Their advice is always right on.

Thank You,
The Parker Family

My son Isaiah is now 4 years old, he was diagnosed with a metabolic disorder shortly after he was born. At one year old his doctor placed a Medi-port for IV medications. This required us to travel to Children's Hospital in Madera, 246 miles round trip, 3 times a week for his treatment. Even with the Medi-port Isaiah continued to get sick. He was hospitalized 17 times in 2006 for infections at the site and upper respiratory infections. I don't drive so my husband had to take the day off from work or I had to find a friend or family member to drive us to Madera. Fortunately, our caseworker told us about **Darlyn's Darlings**. Since attending the daycare his health is much better, in 2009 he was only hospitalized one time. My husband doesn't have to miss work anymore. It's a friendly atmosphere and the staff takes very good care of him. I feel comfortable leaving Isaiah in their care while I go to other appointments. He used to cry when the nurses at the hospital accessed the Medi-port. Maryellen, the nurse at **Darlyn's Darlings** has made him feel safe and he isn't afraid of his treatments now. At the hospital Isaiah was isolated in a room with no other children to play with. When he began attending the daycare he was not very friendly with the staff or other kids. Now he plays very well with the children and interacts with the staff.

Thank you **Darlyn's Darlings**,
Maria del Socorro Cabrera



4801 Truxtun Ave.
631-2273

Call **TODAY** for more information!

NOW 2 LOCATIONS TO SERVE YOU



942 Wible Rd.
847-7342