

PARENT NEWSLETTER

October, 2018

MISSION STATEMENT:

To make a real difference in the quality of life for children and adults with autism and their families, wherever they may live.

CONTACT US:

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1810 Craig Road, Suite 109
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Our clinic, Roots on Craig, provides designated spaces for various age ranges and activities.

ROOTS ON CRAIG

Dear Parents and Guardians,

I hope everybody has a safe and happy Halloween! Please let your therapy team know if you need additional supports to celebrate this holiday- or any holidays that are important to you and your family. Supports can include pictures, social stories, video modeling, and role playing.

This will be the last Parent Newsletter coming from me, as I am moving on from my role as Clinic Director to pursue other opportunities. I have enjoyed my work with all of our consumers and families, and will miss my time with a wonderful group of people.

Nicole Maxfield, BCBA, will be taking on the role of Clinic Director beginning November 5th. She is passionate, energetic, and has over 12 years of experience in the field, including as a therapist and supervisor. I am excited to hear about her ideas and progress with our growing department. Join me in welcoming her to the team!

Sincerely,

Monica M. Lohnes, MS, CCC-SLP, Clinic Director



Have a safe and happy Halloween!



UPDATED CANCELLATION POLICY:

Roots on Craig recently updated the cancellation policy, effective 11/01/18:

If a family has 3 late cancellations within 1 month (30 day timeframe), or 4 cancellations within 2 months (60 day timeframe), therapy services will be suspended, and the consumer will be placed on the wait list.

Late cancellations include:

- Cancellation with less than 24 hours' notice of the scheduled appointment,
- If the therapist or technician arrives at the home and the family is not present, or
- If the consumer fails to arrive at the clinic within 15 minutes of the scheduled start time.

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Cancellation policy, cont:

We will make every effort to contact you after 3 cancellations (or 2 late cancellations) in order to prevent a potential lapse in services. In the event you receive a warning letter, you may contact the BCBA with questions or to discuss any necessary scheduling adjustments.

MONTHLY TIP AND TECHNIQUE: EXPANDING UTTERANCES



“Expanding” is a therapy technique with the focus on increasing the length of utterances. Use the child’s utterance, and add a few more words while keeping the meaning the same. You are literally expanding the length of their phrase or sentence. This helps shape their words into a more complete sentence. You can use this technique anywhere, anytime!

When using this technique:

- Use the same words they already used
- Add a few words to make it a more complete phrase or sentence
- Keep the meaning the same

Examples:

Child: “Big dog!”

Adult: “Look at the big dog!”

Child: “Ball down”

Adult: “The ball went down the hill.”

(This link also includes extensions, which is another technique for increasing length of utterance, and may be explored in future newsletters.)

<http://www.scanlonspeech.com/2012/09/12/expansions-and-extensions-to-improve-your-childs-language/>

COMMUNITY EVENTS & RESOURCES:

- **Government Programs Workshop: Wednesday, November 14, 6-7 pm, or Thursday, November 15, 10-11 am.** Community Living’s Administration building, 1040 St. Peters Howell Road, St. Peters 63376. RSVP: 636-387-5501, or inhall@communityliving.org Each workshop will cover SSI, SSDI, Medicaid/Medicare and Medicaid Waiver, how to qualify, what it covers, and additional programs available.

(cont. on next page)

- **Cookie Cutters haircuts for kids:** 6311 Ronald Reagan Drive, Lake St. Louis, MO 63367. 636-265-0151. www.haircutsarefun.com/LakeStLouis-mo. They provide a hair cutting experience with attention to sensory needs.
- **Gateway:61- Play Differently:** Sunday mornings 10:00am-11:45am, children ages 4-17. Hosted in a church in Chesterfield, MO, with sensory and motor rooms. Registration required. www.gateway61.org/special-needs-ministry.php

