

# The Pulse

ASSOCIATION FOR THE EDUCATION OF CHILDREN WITH MEDICAL NEEDS

## ASSOCIATION NEWS

### EdChats - Sharing our Knowledge and Experience

We are so proud of our diverse membership, some of whom are presenting their expertise in monthly EdChats. If you have not registered for an EdChat yet this year, there are just three left before summer!

### Conference Registration is OPEN!

The excitement is building as the conference registrations are coming in. Don't miss out on this year's best networking and professional development opportunity in the beautiful setting of Aurora, Colorado.

<p><b>ADVOCATE</b></p>	<p><b>Members working together - Advocating for their patients across multiple states</b></p> <p>Last month, AECMN members and hospital educators from Children's Hospital of Atlanta and Veritas Collaborative of Durham, NC met in Georgia to share best practices to advocate for the patients they both serve.</p> <p>Shown right: Mindy Elliott of Veritas Collaborative and Ginger Armstrong, Susan Walton and therapy dog Peanut of Children's Hospital of Atlanta</p> 
<p><b>EDUCATE</b></p>	<p><b>February EdChat:</b></p> <p><b>Supporting Transgender Students</b> Brandon Sethi, Cincinnati Children's Hospital</p> <p><b>Thursday, February 15, 2018</b> <b>3:00-4:00 PM EST</b></p>

This EdChat will explore, through a series of case studies, how to successfully navigate the transition from hospital to school for a transgender student. We will explore how to productively manage the critical conversations that go into supporting these students as they return to school. **Just a few seats left!**

[Save your seat!](#)



**March EdChat:**

**Understanding the Implications of a Brain Injury Within a Classroom**

Liz Gerdeman and Cari Ledger, Brain Injury Alliance of Colorado

**Thursday, March 15, 2018**

**3:00-4:00 PM EST**

[Save your seat!](#)

**April EdChat:**

**Mindful Presence: One's Ideal Learning Space**

Joyce Wong, Kapiolani Medical Center

**Thursday, April 19, 2018**

**3:00-4:00 PM EST**

[Save your seat!](#)

**Resource of the month!**

Resource of the Month:

<http://www.starfall.com/>

A phenomenal resource for young readers, the site features tools and games that align with the school curriculum. This site is so fun, your students will forget it's educational.

**COLLABORATE**

The Behavioral Health Collaborative has gotten off to a strong start this school year! Members have shared resources and discussed strategies for complex cases.

If you'd like to share resources for the forum, please send to Brandon Sethi at [brandon.sethi@cchmc.org](mailto:brandon.sethi@cchmc.org).

**MEMBERSHIP**

**Membership Spotlight:** *Featuring a different AECMN member each month. This month we get to know one of the hospital educators from our conference host city.*

**Jodi Krause, Brain Injury Educational Coordinator**

Children's Hospital Colorado, Aurora, Colorado

**Professional Experience:**

I recently transitioned from an inpatient teacher role with the Learning Services team to Brain Injury Educational Coordinator within the Rehab Department. I've worked for the hospital for almost 8 years and had the awesome opportunity to start the first classroom at Children's Hospital Colorado on the rehab floor for children with acquired brain injuries and spinal cord injuries a little over 5 years ago. Through this classroom I was able work directly with students with severe TBI and spinal cord injuries daily in a multidisciplinary setting, so I could better inform the return to school process using the principles of cognitive rehabilitation.



I served children on other units through our bedside teaching model as well, but rehab and brain injury have always been my primary population served and my greatest areas of passion. In my new role, I am continuing to build the transition from inpatient to outpatient program for students with severe brain injuries, and I am also supporting the concussion population at Children's Hospital Colorado. I am still connected to the rehab classroom through close collaboration with the new rehab teacher. I work closely with families, physicians, neuropsychologists, rehab psychologists, and school districts in the state and region wide to successfully transition children into school as well as assist to design appropriate instructional models during recovery.

**AECMN Membership:**

I learned about AECMN last year when I submitted an abstract for a poster presentation at the St. Pete's conference. I thoroughly enjoyed meeting other professionals, and I find the collaboration paramount in improving my practice and the programs I support in Colorado.

**Why Attend AECMN/APHOES Joint National Conference?**

Being a hospital-based educator is a unique role. Attending the joint conference is an invaluable experience. Nowhere else can one find individuals who walk the walk and talk the talk daily. The passion of the AECMN/APHOES members permeates the conference experience and leaves me feeling jazzed and rejuvenated.

**Personal Life:**

I live in Denver, Colorado with my husband Jason and two children: Norah (9) and Leo (5). I've been in Colorado for 15 years and am originally from the NW suburbs of Chicago. My husband is an elementary school administrator, so education is our jam! We love being outside and take our camper out almost every weekend in the spring, summer, and fall. In the winter I get on the mountain with my snowboard as much as possible. I never sit still! Life is too short, and Colorado is too beautiful to sit and be lazy. If I'm not exercising outside, I'm at the gym making sure I have enough energy to explore the world around me and keep up my kids!

	<p style="text-align: center;"><a href="#">Membership Benefits</a></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><a href="#">Join Now</a>                      <a href="#">Renew Membership</a></p>
<p><b>NETWORKING</b></p>	<p><b>CONFERENCE REGISTRATION IS OPEN!</b>  The best networking opportunity in our field is the AECMN/APHOES Joint National Conference. The 2018 conference will be hosted by Children's Hospital Colorado. Visit the <a href="#">conference website</a> to register.</p> 

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