



## Welcome to the CaCoon Program

Welcome to your new role as the CaCoon public health nurse in your county. Your CaCoon state consultant is available to provide support, information, and education so you may better serve families of children with special health needs. It is assumed that you already have knowledge of general public health nursing principles and that you have finished your general orientation to your local health departments procedures and policies. You may even have been working for months before this orientation.

There will be many opportunities for orientation and continuing education that will be offered through the Oregon Health Authority, and by the CaCoon program which is a program within the statewide Oregon Center for Children and Youth with Special Health Needs (OCCYSHN). The OCCYSHN office is located at the Child Development and Rehabilitation Center at OHSU.

Please contact your CaCoon state consultant and schedule a time to talk. In preparation for that time, it would be helpful to complete the following activities:

1. It is important to review the CaCoon manual. We have included some excerpts from the manual in this packet but the most critical areas to review first are the following sections:
2. Review the written information provided on EI/ECSE services in Oregon.
5. Review the information on SSI for children and how to help families apply for SSI at the Social Security Online website, <http://www.ssa.gov/notices/supplemental-security-income/text-understanding-ssi.htm>. Know who the DD caseworker is in your community.
6. Review information about Developmental Disabilities Services in Oregon at the following website: <http://www.oregon.gov/DHS/dd/>
7. Review information about the Oregon Children's Mental Health System at the following website: <http://www.oregon.gov/DHS/mentalhealth/child-mh-soc-in-plan-grp/main.shtml>
8. Review an introduction to the Oregon Health Plan at: <http://www.oregon.gov/DHS/healthplan/overview.shtml>
9. Your health department has a collection of books and nursing care modules related to caring for children and youth with special health care needs. This collection has been provided to your health department by the state CaCoon Program at the Oregon Center for Children and Youth with Special health Needs. A list of these materials is included in this packet. Please let your consultant know if any of these materials are missing.
10. A resource that is useful for both new and experienced public health nurses is a manual from the Minnesota Department of Health. It is called **Public Health Interventions Applications for Public Health Nursing Practice**, March 2001. You can review and download the manual at the following website:

<http://www.health.state.mn.us/divs/chs/phn/interventions.html>



11. You have several resources you can turn to if you have questions about the program or community resources in Oregon, or if you need information about a certain diagnosis. Some of these resources include Your fellow public health nurses in your county as well as other health department employees in WIC or immunizations, for example; You can also call your nurse consultant at the Office of Family Health or OCCYSHN.

12. Both the Oregon Health Authority and Oregon Center for Children and Youth with Special Health Needs/CaCoon offer trainings periodically. The link below will take you to archived webinars and have information about future webinars sponsored by OCCYSHN

<http://www.ohsu.edu/cdrc/oscsn/resources/edopps.html>

13. You will receive a separate training in the use of the ORCHIDS data system which is used by all of the public health nursing home visit programs. The following link will take you to the manuals and data entry forms:

[http://www.oregon.gov/DHS/ph/ch/orchids\\_train.shtml](http://www.oregon.gov/DHS/ph/ch/orchids_train.shtml)

We are looking forward to meeting with you.

Sincerely,

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