



**Clinic for
Special Children**



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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Clinic for Special Children expands Palliative Care Program with support from WellSpan Health Community Partnership Grant

LANCASTER COUNTY, PA- The Clinic for Special Children (CSC) is formalizing and expanding its home-based pediatric palliative and hospice care program, *Cherished Lives*, for Plain patients (Amish and Mennonite) with the support of a \$10,000 Community Partnership Grant from WellSpan Health. The expansion of palliative care services is driven by the needs of Plain patients with rare genetic disorders served by CSC. The WellSpan Health grant allows CSC to increase patient access to free, culturally sensitive, and well-coordinated comfort and end-of-life care that includes treatment from a specially trained palliative care nurse, primary care physicians, and specialists (if required) in the patient's home.

"We are so thankful to WellSpan Health for their Community Partnership grant to support the establishment of the *Cherished Lives* program. It has been an honor to provide home visits for these families and give them emotional and medical support", explains Keturah Beiler, Nurse at CSC and co-founder of the *Cherished Lives* program. "The expansion of the *Cherished Lives* program will allow CSC to offer comfort care, emotional support, bereavement services, and grief resources to families that experience the loss of a child from a rare genetic disorder."

As a regional health system committed to assessing the health needs of its communities, WellSpan Health recognizes the need for end-of-life care in the region through its emphasis on 'horizon planning' in their Community Health Improvement Plan. Maria Royce, Senior VP, WSH & Chief Strategy Officer at WellSpan Health and a member of the Community Partnership Grant Committee, added, "WellSpan Health is pleased to support the expansion of the Clinic for Special Children's palliative care



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program. We know that this program will support children in a culturally sensitive way and in the comfort of the patient's home.”

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About the Clinic for Special Children

The Clinic for Special Children (CSC) is a non-profit organization located in Strasburg, PA, which provides primary pediatric care and advanced laboratory services to those who suffer from genetic or other complex medical disorders. Founded in 1989, the organization provides services to over 1,050 active patients and is recognized as a world-leader in translational and precision medicine. The organization is primarily supported through community fundraising events and donations. For more information, please visit www.ClinicforSpecialChildren.org

About WellSpan Health

WellSpan Health is an integrated health system that serves the communities of central Pennsylvania and northern Maryland. The organization includes more than 1,600 employed physicians and advanced practice clinicians, a regional behavioral health organization, a home care organization, eight respected hospitals, approximately 20,000 employees, and more than 200 patient care locations. WellSpan is a charitable, mission-driven organization, committed to exceptional care for all, lifelong wellness and healthy communities. Visit WellSpan.org.