

"The Children's SPOT gave us hope. Not only did the therapists work closely to reinforce one another's goals for our son, they trained us to do the same."

— Parents of a 4-year-old with Down syndrome

A wonderful environment

At The Children's SPOT, our initial goal is to establish an environment of trust between therapist and child. When children first arrive at The SPOT, they enter a setting with natural light, warmth, and bright clean toys. The enticing sights and sounds of peers using the sensory integration equipment or playing on our large indoor playground capture their attention.

They are welcomed by skilled and knowledgeable therapists who know how to set children at ease. We believe this rich environment lays the foundation for children to flourish and succeed.



Thanks to the generosity and hard work of so many in our community, a new Children's SPOT facility opened in 2007. This building brings all the elements of success together in one terrific environment totally designed with children in mind.

For information on referring a child, or to support The Children's SPOT with a financial contribution, please call 816.932.3832 or visit: saintlukeshealthsystem.org (Search: The Children's SPOT)

This brochure has been underwritten by donations to The Children's SPOT in honor of Andrew Straube and in loving memory of his uncle O. Max Straube IV April 23, 1964 - March 28, 2008.



Andrew Straube



4333 Pennsylvania Ave. • Kansas City, MO 64111
816.932.3832

E-mail: thechildrenspot@saint-lukes.org

The Children's SPOT is an outpatient pediatric therapy program at Saint Luke's Hospital, a not-for-profit 501(c)(3) organization. Saint Luke's Hospital Foundation provides support to The Children's SPOT and manages its Family Assistance, Operating, and Endowment Funds.

Saint Luke's Health System is an Equal Opportunity Employer. Services are provided on a nondiscriminatory basis.

THE CHILDREN'S

S P O T

A therapy-based environment where children with developmental challenges can succeed

Speech,
Physical,
Occupational
Therapy

Each year we rely on significant community support to fund program needs and to maintain our policy of treating children regardless of ability to pay.

How you can help...

- Make regular cash donations*
- Fund a specific need or program
- Underwrite our annual fundraising event (*Once Upon A Time*)
- Tell us about grant opportunities
- Include us in your will or estate plans

* Automatic monthly credit card donations are now available



Welcome to The Children's SPOT

A well-established program

The Children's SPOT touches the lives of more than 450 children each year. Some receive periodic developmental evaluations, while others receive help through weekly individual therapy, or daily group therapy. Children served have a wide variety of diagnoses such as autism, Down syndrome, cerebral palsy, premature birth, chromosomal disorders, and general or minor developmental delays. Whatever the reason for a referral, families consistently find a dedicated staff of therapists working toward one goal – to help children reach their highest level of functional ability and to be successful in the environments where they live, learn, and play.

Established in 1980, the mission of The Children's SPOT is to provide early and intensive therapy and support for any child experiencing physical or developmental challenges.



"My son's face beams with pride at his accomplishments! The therapists have a way with the kids that is amazing."

— Mother of a 3-year-old child with autism

A holistic approach



The Children's SPOT is best known for providing:

- **High quality, therapy-based services**
An experienced team of licensed and certified speech, physical, and occupational therapists is on hand to address a variety of special needs.
- **Individualized treatment plans**
Based on test results and family input, each child has a specialized plan to develop language, articulation, cognition, fine and gross motor skills, or to overcome sensory challenges.
- **A supportive community**
Therapists provide strong support and encouragement to families so that newly learned skills carry over to the home environment. Parents also have the opportunity to share experiences with other families in a professionally led support group that meets bi-monthly.



All are welcome

We believe that ALL children deserve the best possible start in life. Therefore, we offer financial assistance as needed. This ensures that our early intervention and intensive rehabilitative services are available to children at a very young age – when research shows it has the greatest long-term advantage. Funding for The Children's SPOT comes from Saint Luke's Hospital (a private, not-for-profit, teaching hospital), health insurance, parents, and ongoing fundraising activities.

Programs that promote growth and development

Developmental Preschool

This is our cornerstone program and serves children from 1-6 years of age. Three classes, with a child-therapist ratio of three to one, meet five days a week, 50 weeks a year. This early and intensive intervention means each child receives a high level of individual attention. Thus, skills are learned more rapidly and new goals are established with each success. With the warmth and guidance of therapists, emphasis is also placed on developing positive behavior and social skills.



Individual Treatment Sessions

Some children come to The Children's SPOT for weekly, one-on-one sessions in speech, physical, and/or occupational therapy. Generally, this is for children needing a less intensive therapy plan. However, treatment can also be implemented in conjunction with the Developmental Preschool.



Neonatal Follow-Up Clinic

This program provides continuity of care for infants recently discharged from Saint Luke's Neonatal Intensive Care Unit. Families are provided important developmental information over a series of visits. This, combined with early identification of potential problems and follow-up therapy if needed, provides each infant the best possible outcome.

