

Department of Plastic and Reconstructive Surgery



Building Hope and Smiles: Cleft Lip and Palate Family Retreat

August 8-10, 2025



Limited time offer!
Families stay two nights free!
Register NOW!



**NATIONWIDE
CHILDREN'S®**

When your child needs a hospital, everything matters.

Building Hope and Smiles: Cleft Lip and Palate Family Retreat

August 8-10, 2025

Who Should Attend

Parents, guardians, family members, care givers of children who have a cleft lip and palate and their families. This is a family-friendly conference, but children must be accompanied by an adult.

Conference Cost

- No charge for families
- \$120 for healthcare professionals

Confirmation

All registered families will receive a confirmation email.

Retreat Location

Cherry Valley Hotel

2299 Cherry Valley Rd. SE
Newark, Ohio 43055

Cherry Valley Hotel's gracious surroundings offer a seamless blend of natural charm and classic elegance on tranquil grounds.

Every room and suite include free parking and Wi-Fi.



**Scan to
Register
Today!**

Limited Time Offer

Free 2-night stay for families.

One room per family.

Register NOW to take advantage of this offer.

For a free room, call Nationwide Children's
Community Education at 614-355-0662.



Reservations can be made by calling **(800) 788-8008** or via **this special conference booking link via the QR Code**. You must identify yourself as being part of the group when you reserve your room to get the free or the group rate. To receive the \$189 rate reservations must be received by July 18, 2025. Reservations received after this date will be offered on a space available basis.

Check-in time starts at 4:00 p.m. Check-out by 11:00 a.m. For guests arriving earlier than the check-in time, luggage storage will be provided, based upon availability.



Conference Agenda

Friday Night, August 8: Campfire and S'mores

Saturday, August 9:

- 8 a.m. **Breakfast and Program Check In /Welcome**
- 9 a.m. **Keynote: Navigating the Cleft Journey: Wisdom from Parents**
Amy Mendillo, MM, MPP
- 9:45 a.m. **Tip for Parents for Navigating Social Media and Cyberbullying**
Lara McKenzie, MA, PhD
- 10:15 a.m. **Break**
- 10:30 a.m. **Teen and Young Adult Panel**
Ari Rabkin, PhD (moderator)
- 11 a.m. **Preparing for Surgery: Strategies to Support Healthy Coping and Resilience**
Canice Crerand, PhD and Ari Rabkin, PhD
- 11:45 a.m. **Family Lunch**
- 12:45-1:30 p.m. **Breakout Session 1**
- A. Primary Surgery: Cleft Lip and Palate Repair**
Richard Kirschner, MD and Amanda Smith, RN, BSN
- B. Secondary Surgery: VPD (Speech) Surgery and Orthognathic (Jaw) Surgery**
Gregory D. Pearson, MD, Adriane Baylis, PhD, CCC-SLP, and Andrew Linkugel, MD
- C. Learning Challenges in Children with Cleft Lip and Palate**
Ari Rabkin, PhD
- 1:45-2:30 pm. **Breakout Session 2**
- D. Speech Therapy for Children with Cleft Lip and Palate, Ages 3 and Up**
Heidi Wyse, MA, CC-SLP, Kayla Bruns, MS, CCC-SLP
- E. The First Years: Feeding and Early Development**
Amanda Smith, BSN, RN, CPN, Azure Koehler, FNP, Hailey Blosser, MA, CCC-SLP, Gabriela Echevarria Moats, PhD
- F. Alveolar Bone Grafting: Orthodontics and Surgery**
Richard Kirschner MD and Kaitrin Kramer, DDS, MS, PhD
- 2:45 p.m. **General Dental and Orthodontics and Your Child**
Kara Morris, DDS
- 3:30 p.m. **Parent Panel**
Amy Mendillo. MM, MPP (moderator)
- 4:15 p.m. **Wrap Up**
- 5-6 p.m. **Family Dinner: Pizza**
- 6 -9 p.m. **Family Fun Night: Movie and popcorn**

Sunday morning, August 10: Breakfast

Child/Youth Sessions will be held alongside the parent conference on Saturday

Separate fun programs will be held for teens, school age children. Childcare is provided for young children ages 3 and up who are potty trained.

Saturday afternoon, teens and school age children will take a field trip to The Works: Ohio Center for Art, History and Technology interactive museum complete with the SciDome: Planetarium. For information log onto www.attheworks.org.

SciDome PLANETARIUM



Speakers

Keynote

Amy Mendillo, MM, MPP

Writer, author, and advocate with a background in public policy and public health. She has worked as a consultant on Medicaid and social-service issues, an advocate for local- and city-level policy, and a writer-editor for the American Cleft Palate Craniofacial Association. She holds a Master of Public Policy from Brown University and is a GPS-trained facilitator of peer support groups. A proud cleft parent and adoptive parent, Amy lives with her family in Providence, RI.



Nationwide Children's Faculty in order of speaking

Richard E. Kirschner, MD

Chief, Plastic and Reconstructive Surgery
Director, Cleft Lip and Palate Center

Lara McKenzie, PhD

Principal investigator
Center for Injury Research and Policy
Abigail Wexner Research Institute

Ari Rabkin, PhD

Pediatric neuropsychologist
Division of Psychology and Neuropsychology

Canice Crerand, PhD

Pediatric psychologist and principal investigator
Center for Biobehavioral Health

Amanda Smith, BSN, RN, CPN

Team coordinator
Cleft Lip and Palate Center

Gregory Pearson, MD

Director, Center for Complex Craniofacial Disorders

Adriane Baylis, PhD, CCC-SLP

Co-director, 22q Center Director
Director, Velopharyngeal Dysfunction Program

Andrew Linkugel, MD

Surgeon, Plastic and Reconstructive Surgery

Heidi Wyse, MA, CCC-SLP

Speech-Language Pathologist

Kayla Bruns, MS, CCC-SLP

Speech-Language Pathologist

Azure Koehler, FNP

Nurse Practitioner

Cleft Lip and Palate Center

Hailey Blosser, MA, CCC-SLP
Speech-Language Pathologist

Gabriela Echevarria Moats, PhD

Psychologist
Comprehensive Pediatric Feeding and Swallowing Program

Kaitrin Kramer, DDS, MS, PhD

Craniofacial Orthodontist
Cleft Lip and Palate Center

Kara Morris, DDS

Craniofacial Orthodontist
Cleft Lip and Palate Center

Conference Planning Committee

Adriane Baylis, PhD, CCC-SLP

Bob Feeney

Jessica Jones, PT, DPT, CMPT

Richard Kirschner, MD

Kara Morris, DDS

Marcie Rehmar, MS

Rob Shepherd

Amanda Smith, BSN, RN, CPN

Ann Stephens

Stacy Taylor

Andrea Thompson, MSW, LISW

Alex Vasco



Retreat Registration

Contact Information

Family Name _____

Address _____ City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Adult Breakout Sessions (each adult selects one session per timeslot)

12:45-1:30 p.m. | Breakout Session I

A. Primary Surgery: CLP Repair Name _____ Name _____

B. Secondary Surgery: Speech and Jaw Name _____ Name _____

C. Learning Challenges Name _____ Name _____

1:45 – 2:30pm | Breakout Session II

D. Speech Therapy for Children Aged 3 and Up Name _____ Name _____

E. The First Years: Hearing, Feeding, Early Development Name _____ Name _____

F. Alveolar Bone Grafting Name _____ Name _____

Child Registration

Name _____ Age _____

Name _____ Age _____

Name _____ Age _____

Name _____ Age _____

Please mark if you need: (indicate who this is for)

Dietary needs:

Vegetarian _____ Vegan _____ Gluten-Free _____

Other _____

Other needs: Wheelchair seating _____ Other special needs _____

Conference Fees: FREE for families. \$120 health care professionals

Payment: ☐ Cash ☐ Visa ☐ MasterCard ☐ American Express ☐ Discover ☐ Check

Credit Card # _____

Exp. Date _____ Name on Card _____

Billing Address _____

Amount Enclosed \$ _____

Checks should be made payable to *Nationwide Children's Hospital*.

Mail this form to: Community Education, Nationwide Children's Hospital 700 Children's Drive, Columbus, Ohio 43205 or **register online at:** NationwideChildrens.org/Cleft-Lip-Palate-Conference.



Nationwide Children's Hospital
Community Education
700 Children's Drive
Columbus, Ohio 43205-2664
NationwideChildrens.org

NONPROFIT ORG.
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
COLUMBUS, OH
PERMIT NO. 777



**NATIONWIDE
CHILDREN'S®**

When your child needs a hospital, everything matters.