

On July 8th, 2000, Sara Joy Rychener and Jay David Burkholder pledged their lives to each other in marriage. On March 15th, 2002, their plans and dreams of raising a family together were altered as Sara gave birth to their first child. Jackson David was delivered by emergency cesarean section.



A few hours later Sara passed away from unknown causes. Due to the complication of being without oxygen during delivery, Jackson was diagnosed with Cerebral Palsy. His father and grandparents refused to accept the grim predictions about what Jackson would not be. Through extensive research efforts, we located a number

of alternative treatment processes called Hyperbaric Oxygen Therapy (HBOT) and Conductive Education (CE).

During our search and subsequent journeys for treatment for Jackson, we have met numerous families who are emotionally, physically and financially strained during their own quests for treatments. We are seeking to serve these families through a non-profit organization called "Sara's Garden."

Sara's Garden was established in May 2004 and treated its first clients with HBOT in April 2005. The CE program followed in the summer of 2006 with a half dozen children with neuromotor disorders. The program was initially housed in a local church with program oversight provided by a Hungarian Conductor Teacher.



In an effort to serve families more effectively we now offer Autism Intervention (AI) and Sensory Integration (SI) services as well. Today all four programs flourish on the same grounds here at Sara's Garden. Our most recent endeavour is the creation of New Horizons Academy at Sara's Garden, a holistic, all-encompassing educational path for children who have special learning needs.

If you would like to receive any additional information regarding Sara's Garden, please feel free to contact us.

Sara's Garden

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Our Services

Sara's Garden offers Hyperbaric Oxygen Therapy, Conductive Education, Autism Intervention and Sensory Integration services.

Hyperbaric Oxygen Therapy (HBOT) is the administration of 100% oxygen in the presence of pressure. The word "hyper" means "increased" and "baric" refers to "pressure". HBOT helps the body heal from conditions in which low oxygen in the tissues inhibits or complicates the healing process. Inside a pressurized chamber the body begins to receive a healing dose of oxygen through the body's fluids and plasma even if the blood vessel system is compromised and/or constricted.

Conductive Education (CE) is an intensive and holistic approach to educating individuals with neuromotor disabilities. CE combines physical activity with cognitive tasks, emphasizes communication, and places the individual in a group setting which maximizes active learning. CE has been shown to increase a person's self-esteem, level of motivation and general health as well as increasing their ability to function independently.

Autism Intervention (AI) attempts to lessen the deficits and abnormal behaviors associated with Autism and other Autism Spectrum Disorders (ASD), and to increase the quality of life and functional independence of Autistic individuals. Treatment is tailored to the child's needs. Sara's Garden strives to help children not only to learn academic subjects and gain traditional readiness skills but also to improve functional communication and spontaneity, enhance social skills such as joint attention, gain cognitive skills, reduce disruptive behavior and generalize learned skills by applying them to new situations.

Sensory Integration (SI) is extremely therapeutic for both children and adults with sensory processing disorders... from mild to severe. Our multi-sensory room is designed to gently stimulate some, or all, of the senses depending on the needs of the client. This in turn leads to improvements in their overall health and development. Controlled sensory input has been shown to be effective in reducing stress and improving concentration, eye-hand coordination and motor function for children and adults with special needs, developmental disabilities, autism, chronic pain, stroke, brain injuries, and other conditions.

HOPE. HELP. HEALING.