

## **Nursing Support Services (Fraser Health)**

The Nursing Support Services program assists parents and caregivers help children with special health care needs (birth to age 19) lead active, healthy lives in their communities. NSS is free for eligible children and youth (1-19). The program is delivered Province wide and follows Provincial eligibility criteria and guidelines set for nursing support services. Nursing coordinators are community based and are located at 11 sites throughout Fraser Health.

There are three main streams of service available. These are outlined in more detail in the links below:

- 1. At Home Program: The At Home Program is intended to assist parents with some of the extraordinary costs of caring for a child with severe disabilities at home. Nursing coordinators do the assessments for the program and an eligibility committee reviews these for approval.
- 2. Direct Nursing Care: Provides respite nursing care to eligible clients. NSS coordinators are involved with ongoing assessment and coordination of service to these children and families.
- 3. Delegated Care: Nursing support service coordinators train school staff to perform and provide special health-related care for a specific child during the school day.

In the Abbotsford School district, Nursing Support Services nurses meet with Learning Support Services Helping Teachers regularly to determine student support needs.

The NSS nurses create medical care plans with the family and train school staff and education assistants to provide delegated care at schools for students who have needs around diabetes, tube-feeding, seizure management, and catheterization.

For more information, contact either the Abbotsford Public Health Unit at 604-864-3400, your Learning Support Services Helping teacher or visit the website

http://www.fraserhealth.ca/health-info/health-topics/school-health/support-services/