

Hospital Education Liaison Program (HELP) at Kennedy Krieger Institute



Thanks to generous grant funding, patients of Kennedy Krieger Institute's Oncology Clinic and Sickle Cell Neurodevelopmental Clinic may be referred to the Institute's Hospital Education Liaison Program (HELP).

What is HELP?

HELP serves as a bridge between a patient's medical and school teams. HELP services assist patients' families and schools in translating information and recommendations generated by neuropsychology evaluations and other school-relevant medical information into action plans.

Is HELP an advocacy program?

HELP is not an advocacy program. Rather, HELP services are meant to facilitate communication and collaboration between patients and their family members and medical and school teams in a way that is supportive of all members of the student's support team.

We understand that medical providers and educators often speak their own "languages," creating an unintentional barrier to proactive communication. HELP's hospital-school liaison works with school teams to help team members understand a child's relevant medical reports. The liaison also acts as a point of contact for school teams to share information and concerns with the child's medical team.

Additionally, the liaison assists school teams in requesting additional medical information that might be useful in designing a meaningful educational program. The liaison is available to attend both formal and informal school meetings to assist in building a team's understanding of the child's medical history and relevant school needs.

HELP services can include:

- Assisting a patient's family in developing proactive ways to communicate educationally relevant information about their child to both school teams and medical professionals
- Facilitating the medical team's determination of which medical information is educationally relevant and critical to educational planning



- Supporting a patient's school team in understanding the neuropsychological and other medical reports
- Supporting a patient's family and school and medical teams with the Section 504 plan process, when applicable
- Supporting a patient's family and school and medical teams with the special education process, when applicable
- Providing technical assistance to school teams
- Facilitating applications to Home and Hospital Teaching, when applicable
- Providing professional learning sessions for a patient's teacher and/or school team to assist in developing meaningful learning opportunities

HELP services are funded by the Transamerica Foundation, The Children's Cancer Foundation and private donations. Patients must meet the criteria of at least one of the two funding organizations.

Contact Information

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at Kennedy Krieger Institute

[KennedyKrieger.org/SchoolHELP](https://www.kennedykrieger.org/SchoolHELP)

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