



Join us at the PHS office on **October 30** from **12-4pm** for trick or treating, games and more. Come dressed up in your costumes; we will be!

## Enter Our Photo Contest

**NOVEMBER IS NATIONAL CAREGIVER AND HOME CARE MONTH**

Post to our Facebook page a photo of you, a family member or friend with a sign saying what your caregiver means to you. Submit as many photos as you like until October 29. Then, encourage everyone to vote for their favorite entries!

From the top five photos with the most votes, we will pick the most heartfelt message as the winner. This person will receive a \$50 Visa gift card, their photo as the cover of our Facebook page in November, and a PHS photo shoot, with one of the pictures featured on our 2015 New Years card!

**Submit Your Entry Today:**  
**[Facebook.com/PediatricHomeService](https://www.facebook.com/PediatricHomeService)**



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Be sure to visit our blog at  
**[PediatricHomeService.com/blog](http://PediatricHomeService.com/blog)**

### INSIDE THIS ISSUE

## Catching Up with Kali

### PLUS:

Training Nurses for Excellence,  
an Update on Connector Changes,  
and Car Seat Safety



# Thriving at Home

## FOUR YEARS LATER, SAME BRIGHT SPIRIT



Cover Story

When we first introduced Kali to readers in 2010 (shown in the cover picture), she was a vibrant 4-year-old who had gone through a lot in

her short life. After she was born at just 24 weeks, Kali and her family soon found themselves in Texas, where she received a lung transplant – her best chance at survival.

Today, at 8 years old, she's busy starting second grade and getting to know all of her classmates, upbeat as ever. And, of course, she's looking forward to her Halloween costume – a Dalmatian, which is fitting, considering her love for dogs.

Throughout the years, PHS has been by Kali's side, adapting care based on her needs. With respiratory therapists and dietitians focusing on the medical aspect, she can focus on being a kid.

"Kali's future is as bright as she is," says her mom, Janice.

**Read more:**

[PediatricHomeService.com/blog/kali-thrives-at-home](http://PediatricHomeService.com/blog/kali-thrives-at-home)



### An Invaluable Service TRAINING HOME CARE NURSES FOR EXCELLENCE

Prior to entering a patient home, nurses have undergone hours of training to ensure they are completely prepared to provide care.

Training schedules include equipment and therapy classes, a simulation lab, and non-clinical skills, such as ordering supplies and cultural diversity. Once this is complete, they begin training in a patient's home.

"We don't leave them alone until we're 100 percent sure they're confident, and so is the family," says Barb Weisenberger, director of nursing. "If that's 10 training shifts, we're there for 10 shifts. Our training is second to none in the home care industry."

Beyond in-depth education at the office and in a patient's home, we understand preference in care varies for each family. As long as it is safe, nurses follow the preferred care plans of parents or caregivers.

**Read more:**

[PediatricHomeService.com/blog/training-nurses](http://PediatricHomeService.com/blog/training-nurses)



### Feeding Tube Connectors WHAT CHANGES YOU CAN EXPECT

In the last issue of the Pulse, we told you there will be changes to enteral connectors to increase patient safety and reduce the risk of misconnections. As these changes happen over the next 12 months, we want to make sure you're aware of what will be changing and when. We will send a product update to families through supply shipments sent out from our warehouse.

Most manufacturers plan to make these changes one at a time and in the following order:

- Connector at end of feeding bag tubing
- Tip of syringe
- Feeding port on feeding tube extensions

For more information on changes to connectors, review the product update included with this newsletter. Or, visit our blog, where we will post updates as changes occur.

**Read more:**

[PediatricHomeService.com/blog/feeding-tube-connectors](http://PediatricHomeService.com/blog/feeding-tube-connectors)



### Message from Our Medical Director

#### PRACTICES FOR CAR SEAT SAFETY

Do you know the most up-to-date information on car seat safety? Understanding and implementing correct practices is crucial for the safety of children.

Up to four children die per day in motor vehicle accidents (MVAs) the United States. Many of these deaths are preventable with appropriate use of car or booster seats.

In fact, between 2001 and 2011, 16 percent of deaths in children aged 1 to 15 years were attributed to being a child passenger in a MVA. What's more, improper setup of restraining devices, including car and booster seats, was identified 72.6 percent of the time.

Best practices for car seat safety have been established by the National Highway Safety Transportation Administration (NHTSA). The NHTSA also provides car seat recommendations for children based on age.

**Read more:**

[PediatricHomeService.com/blog/car-seat-safety](http://PediatricHomeService.com/blog/car-seat-safety)

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Call **651-642-1825** or visit **PediatricHomeService.com.**