

Hello Families!

In preparation for our upcoming “Sharing the HoPE” conference in the summer of 2012, we are creating a family-friendly equipment guide. This guide will be prepared by families for families. We hope it will be a helpful resource for families to learn about what our different families with HoPE have found to work (or not work) for their children. It will be distributed at conference, and be made available for families by mail if requested.

We are asking for your input on the gear, equipment, toys, therapy tools and other items that you frequently use with your child. Anything you use on a daily basis, please send us an info sheet. Any piece of equipment that you love or hate, please send us an info sheet. We welcome as much information as possible that you have about this item, but don't feel like you cannot send a form in if you don't know specific details about the item.

Please send us as many pages as you would like, and remember to include some of the more unusual items you might have tried that other families might not have heard about.

If you have a picture of your child in the piece or using the item, please include that as well, or perhaps just a photo of the item alone. Having a child in the picture just makes it easier for others to understand how the item might work.

Things we would love to get info sheets about :

- Wheelchairs, walkers, gait trainers and standers
- Bath and toileting chairs and lifts
- Beds and bed products (pillows, bolsters, lifts, etc.)
- Switches and switch toys
- Communication devices and accessories
- Typical and/or specialty toys and games that your child enjoys
- Feeding chairs, utensils and other items
- Feeding pumps, holders, backpacks etc.
- Special chairs for other uses (beach, travel, etc)
- Carseats, vans, van lifts, tie downs etc.
- Other PT or OT items you use on a regular basis
- Specialty items you found or created for your child's use

If you would allow for questions about your items, please include your basic personal contact information (name, e-mail, phone, facebook, etc) and your child's name, so if a family has questions about one of your items, they can contact you directly. We will put a small directory in the back for cross-reference.

You have two options for returning the forms to us. Fill out the e-forms completely, add photos, and e-mail them to: [EquipmentHandbook@FamiliesforHoPE.org](mailto:EquipmentHandbook@FamiliesforHoPE.org). Or, you can print out as many as you need, and mail the completed forms (with photos!) to: Ed Tierney, 44 Madison Ave., South Yarmouth, MA 02664. Please return the forms to us no later than May 1st, 2012.

Thanks so much for helping to “Share the HoPE!” and for making this project a success!