Medical daycare opens for special needs kids

Lauren's House, a medical daycare center for medically fragile, special needs children, recently opened in the Highlands Corporate Center in Coatesville.

According to administrator Lee Irwin, a pediatric specialty registered nurse, Lauren's House is a center for children from birth to age eight who need on-going medical/nursing care.

Lauren's House is named after Lauren Sarah Jennings, who died at the age of 10 from leukemia. There are also Lauren's Houses in Boothwyn and in North Philadelphia.

The Coatesville center has a bright, interactive classroom, a large colorful, child-friendly play-therapy area, nap areas, dining area, special "kiddie" bathrooms, laundry, and medication and treatment rooms.
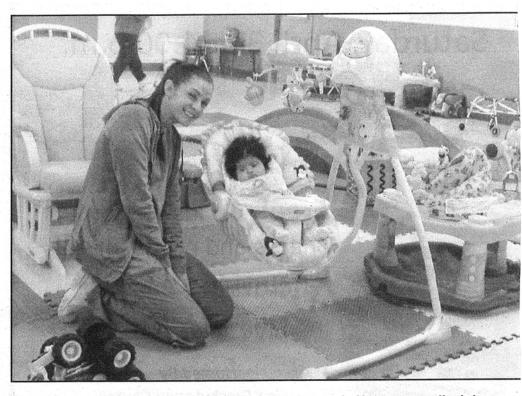
The pediatric professional team, Irwin said, is comprised of Spanish-speaking, bilingual nurses, therapists, special education teachers and play assistants. The center is licensed by the state as a Prescribed Pediatric Extended Care Center.

"Lauren's House offers quality nursing care in a socially appropriate, developmentally stimulating and medically safe environment," said Irwin. "All care and services are coordinated with the child's primary care physician."

Transportation to and from the Coatesville center, located at 795 Fox Chase Rd., is available for Medicaid-eligible recipients.

"When a mother works full time outside the home, attends school or is unable to care for her child and her child has special needs, we work with their medical assistance program in

Nurse Kelsey Stevenson attends to a child at Lauren's House, a medical daycare for special needs children at the Highlands Corporate Center, Coatesville.

order to secure funding," said Irwin.

For more information, or to take a tour, call 1-877-589-0854 or visit www.laurenshouse.com.