Increasing Access to Play: Establishing a Switch-Adapted Toy Library at Christ Presbyterian Church

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Increasing Access to Play: Establishing a Switch-Adapted Toy Library at Christ Presbyterian Church

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Mission & Vision

Christ Presbyterian Church Mission: To follow Christ in his mission of loving people, places, and things to life.
Christ Presbyterian Church Vision: As a family united in Christ and led by Scripture, we at Christ Presbyterian Church exist as partakers in a movement of God’s Kingdom that offers spiritual life, public faith, mercy, and justice, and the integration of faith and work to the people, communities, institutions, and churches of greater Nashville, and through Nashville, to the world.

Special Needs Ministry Mission: Because we follow Jesus, first and foremost above all other things, kids and adults with special needs are highly valued at Christ Presbyterian Church. We believe every person, whether an expert or a person with special needs, is a carrier of an everlasting soul.

Identified Needs
1. Increased, sustainable, community access to switch-adapted toys
2. The development of family and child-centered educational materials for the use of switch-adapted toys.

Project Goals

• Develop a deeper understanding of assistive technology and adapted toy use within the pediatric population
• Explore funding options and determine a financially viable way to acquire materials and establish inventory
• Advocate for the occupational potential of toy recipients through the provision of learning supports/resources related to adapted toys
• Promote access to switch-adapted toys and play through increased availability and the removal of financial barriers

Project Outcomes
1. Conducted a needs survey focused on adapted toy experience and perceived barriers to play
2. Developed infrastructure for a lending library at Christ Presbyterian Church
3. Creation of 6 switch-adapted toys & 4 switches for the library, as well as additional switches to be given away to families as needed.
4. Developed caregiver resources on the use of adapted toys, including specific play-based ways each library toy could be used to promote a variety of developmental skills.
5. Developed caregiver resource with information on various local assistive technology supports and programs
6. Established partnership with FairPlay, a local non-profit organization promoting adapted libraries, to ensure the sustainability of this project

Artifacts of Work

• Operations Guide & Play Suggestions for GAZILLION BUBBLES
  - Provides upper extremity weight bearing
  - Can make easier by placing over a balance ball or paper towel with small holes for smaller kids
  - Can also perform on hands and knees or elbows, as pictured.

• Example page discussing positioning during play; each toy guide includes info on a variety of positions and their benefits regarding development

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