MERCY LITERACY PROGRAM

Reading and literacy skills enhance a child’s ability to communicate, comprehend, and learn within their environment, but children or adults who struggle with reading and literacy skills can demonstrate a great deal of frustration. These individuals may exhibit difficulties with sound-to-letter correspondence, accurate or fluent word recognition, poor spelling, or decoding deficits. Mercy Medical Center is now offering the Mercy Literacy Program to assist those who struggle with reading and literacy skills.

The Mercy Literacy Program is based on the Orton-Gillingham Multisensory Approach to Reading Instruction. This approach has been used successfully to address and resolve reading and literacy issues by incorporating visual, tactile, and kinesthetic input. Two speech-language pathologists at Mercy, Katie Heiar and Jeanne Ulrichs, are trained in the Orton-Gillingham Multisensory Approach to Reading Instruction.

This is a fee-for-service program. A referral to the program is not required, and you may call Mercy Rehab Services to schedule an appointment. Evaluation of literacy skills will include assessment of phonemic awareness, phonics, fluency, and reading comprehension by an Orton-Gillingham trained speech-language pathologist. Recommendations on specific aspects of instruction and frequency of instruction will be based on testing results.

Instruction is available at Mercy – Dubuque (563-589-9035) and Mercy – Dyersville (563-875-2923).

Financial assistance may be available.