

**Dell Children's Medical Center of Central Texas Hosts
EMSC and Texas Parent to Parent's
*Assessment and Management of Children with Special Health Care Needs***

On Saturday, October 29, 2011, Dell Children's Medical Center of Central Texas hosted *Assessment and Management of Children with Special Health Care Needs* at the Clinical Education Center at Brackenridge. This one-of-a-kind continuing education project is a collaborative effort of the Texas Emergency Medical Services for Children (EMSC) and Texas Parent to Parent (TxP2P), working in partnership with local hospitals and EMS Regional Advisory Councils to help bridge the gaps between families and emergency care professionals and to provide relevant and meaningful professional education and training. In this program, children with a variety of special health care needs and their parents work side-by-side with nursing and EMS educators and pediatric specialists to provide both didactic and practical, hands-on training focused on the basics of assessment and management, family-centered care, common misconceptions and communication barriers, and special technology and equipment.

Dell Children's talented team, led by Dr. Sujit Iyer, took this project to a new level, bringing in outstanding speakers and working with Dell Children's Medical Center Trauma Services, the Clinical Education Center at Brackenridge, and Sister Teresa George, COO of DCMC to sponsor the event in order to provide this remarkable educational experience to at no cost to students and guests attending. Special thanks go out P2P families, Debbie and Daniel Wiederhold, Jeanine and Jake Pinner, and Rosalba Calleros and Alan Alfaro for their wisdom and insight and for allowing participants the opportunity for real, hands-on interaction in practical scenarios in a way that simply cannot be simulated. The entire team's hard work and dedication to excellence in pediatric emergency medical care made this event a tremendous success, and Dr. Iyer and Dell Children's Medical Center are looking ahead to make this course an annual event.