



Child Life

COMMUNITY- BASED TOOLKIT

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Developed by the ACLP Community-Based Practice Committee, the Community-Based Toolkit includes resources intended for use by child life specialists working in a community setting.

The toolkit includes resources in the following categories:

- ACLP Bulletin
- ACLP Standards & Guidelines
- Journal of Child Life Articles
- Books
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ACLP BULLETIN ARTICLES

Issue	Title	Author(s)	Descriptive Blurb
Spring 2017	<u>Supporting Well Children in a Critically Ill Adult's World</u>	Magellan Taylor, Rachel Delevett, Sokonita Kem, Mary Catherine Miller	Adult supportive and palliative care teams are evolving as they've recognized that the children of their patients have unique needs that should be addressed. As a result, many are expanding their programs to include child life service
Spring 2017	<u>Child Life in a Refugee Camp: When Two Worlds Collide</u>	Marais Pletsch	A child life specialist describes her work with children in refugee camps
Summer 2018	<u>Filling Gaps in Service: What is the Identity of a Child Life Specialist in Private Practice?</u>	Morgan Livingstone, Shani Thornton	Meet two specialists, Morgan Livingstone and Shani Thornton, who have entered the private practice world on very different journeys. Both practices have had their own unique beginnings and have overcome challenges to become impactful in their communities.
Spring 2019	<u>Specialized Resources: Recommended Resources for Working with Children of Adult Patients</u>	Natalie Chango	A list of resources for working with children of adult patients
Spring 2019	<u>Play and Health as Everyday Experience: Being a Child Life Specialist in the Children's Museum</u>	Saki Iwamoto	Learn what being a child life specialist looks like within a children's museum.
Spring 2019	<u>In the News: Disaster Relief in Our Communities</u>	Katie Nees	Learn what the role of the child life specialist looks like in disaster relief
Summer 2019	<u>The Ethics of Working in Patients' Homes: Different Considerations for Community-Based Child Life</u>	Morgan Livingstone	The ethics of our work with patients and families in their homes naturally presents some changes and different considerations given the intimacy of the setting. It is a challenge to find the right balance of openness to this intimacy and maintenance of our standards of ethical practice that makes this complex for each individual child life specialist.

ACLP BULLETIN ARTICLES

Issue	Title	Author(s)	Descriptive Blurb
Summer 2019	<u>Back to School: Child Life Interventions in the Education System</u>	Courtney Rosborough	Insight into what child life interventions look like in the education system
Winter 2020	<u>Open Visitation Policies in Adult ICU: A Cultural Transformation</u>	Magellan Taylor-Brickey	A CCLS identifies a need and creates a plan to advocate for open visitation policies in an adult ICU.
Spring 2020	<u>Within the School Walls: Reflection of a High School Teacher with a Child Life Specialist Certification</u>	Angelica Martinez	Reflection of a high school teacher with a child life certification
Fall 2021	<u>Crossing the Chasm to Adult Care Settings: A Journey of Discovery and Research</u>	Julia Piazza, Alexander Brescia, Lindsay Heering, Jessica Jenkins, Stefanie Peters, Molly Dwyer-White, G. Michael Deeb	Description of a study completed on the feasibility of the CCLS role in the adult world
Winter 2021	<u>Point/Counterpoint An Introduction to Licensure</u>	Colleen Cherry, Lisa Ciarrocca	Two child life specialists describe points and counterpoints related to the debate of licensure for the child life specialist
Summer 2021	<u>Innovative Collaboration Comes Alive with Shared Vision</u>	Julie Piazza, Andrea Reynolds, Jayne Griffin, Suzanne Ness, Rachel Hamilton	Here is the story of Healing through Hands on Science (HTHOS), a unique collaboration in a midwestern community between museum educators and child life specialists.
Winter 2022	<u>Virtual Practicum Exploring Child Life Throughout Community Settings</u>	Belinda Hammond	Program description of a virtual practicum.

ACLP STANDARDS

Year Published	Title	Author(s)	Descriptive Blurb
2020	<u>Standards and Guidelines for Child Life Practice in Community-Based & Non-Traditional Settings</u>	ACLP	The Association of Child Life Professionals (ACLP) Position Statement on Child Life Practice in Community Settings states how child life interventions minimize both the immediate and potential long-term effects of stress, anxiety and psychosocial trauma, ultimately empowering children, families and their support systems to reach their full potential.

JOURNAL ARTICLES

Year Vol. Issue	Journal	Title	Descriptive Blurb
2020 42 2	Pediatric Dentistry	<u>Child Life Interventions for Pediatric Dental Patients: A Pilot Study</u>	A pilot study investigating the benefits of child life intervention (CLI) on children undergoing invasive dental procedures in comparison to pharmacologic behavioural management strategies alone.
2021 2 1	Journal of Child Life	<u>Supporting Children Experiencing a Pediatric-Sexual Assault Forensic Examination: Preparation for and Perceptions of the Role of the Child Life Specialist</u>	An exploratory study examining CCLS' perceptions of their professional preparation for and role during pediatric sexual assault forensic examination (PSAFE). CCLS were asked to share their role duties, their perception of patient stressors, professional stressors, and professional preparation for this role.
2021 2 2	Journal of Child Life	<u>Adolescent Cancer Survivors' Oncology Camp Experience</u>	A research study examining the impacts of camp on adolescent cancer survivors (ACS) whereby researchers utilize symbolic interaction theory to understand the uniqueness of the oncology camp experience in this population.
2021 50	Child & Youth Care Forum	<u>End of Life Issues in US Child Life Specialists Programs: 2009-2019</u>	A survey of child life academic programs regarding curriculum focused on death, dying and end-of-life to understand how child life students are trained in these areas
2018 141	Pediatrics	<u>PPC Child Life Beyond the Hospital</u>	As children are living longer with chronic diseases, CCLS are using their knowledge and skills to provide innovative care in Pediatric Palliative Care and home settings.

JOURNAL ARTICLES

Year Vol. Issue	Journal	Title	Descriptive Blurb
2023	Qualitative Health Research	<u>"There's So Much More Support We Could Have Provided": Child Life Specialists' Stories of the Challenges Working in Adult Oncology.</u>	A review of the role and experience of CCLSs working to support children of adult oncology patients.
NA	Child Life Hospice and Palliative Network	<u>Certified Child Life Specialist within Hospice and Palliative Care: State of the Profession</u>	A needs assessment survey of CCLSs working in hospice and palliative care to better understand the work experience, education and support needs of professionals working in this area
2022	EWU Masters Thesis Collection	<u>The role of a Certified Child Life Specialist within a Child Advocacy Center</u>	A thesis exploring the role of the CCLS in Child Advocacy Centers and how CCLS impact children and families in these settings.
2023 4 1	The Journal of Child Life	<u>The Impact of Child Life Intervention on a Clinical Vaccine Trial</u>	A study examining the impact of CCLSs in the success of clinical research trials.
2022 3 2	The Journal of Child Life	<u>Child Life-Facilitated Coping Support With Adult Patients Undergoing Cardiac Surgery: A Pilot Program</u>	A review of a pilot program that implemented child life services in the care of adult patients undergoing cardiac surgery.
2021 2 1	The Journal of Child Life	<u>Exploring Child Life Role and Impact of Providing Psychosocial Care During Short-Term Medical Missions</u>	A research study describing the care that CCLSs provide, their professional roles and the impact of their services on short-term medical missions.
2024	Bank Street College of Education Graduate Student Independent Studies	<u>Decreasing the Price of Fame: Research on the Use of Child Life Specialists in the Entertainment Industry</u>	A thesis exploring the role of the CCLS in meeting the psychosocial and developmental needs of children in the entertainment industry

BOOKS

Year	ISBN #	Title	Author	Descriptive Blurb
2008	978-0-9802145-0-5	<u>Child Life Beyond the Hospital</u>	Hicks, Melissa	The chapters in this book are each authored by CCLS working outside of the hospital setting. This book documents the expansion of Child Life Practice into community based settings.
2018	978-0-398-09212-2	<u>Child Life Handbook Chapter 17 Child Life in the community and in other non traditional roles</u>	Thomas, Charles	The task of the child life specialist is to build upon those strengths and to minimize individual vulnerability and maximize the growth of the individual.
2024	9781668450970	<u>The Role of Child Life Specialists in Community Settings</u>	Lowry, Genevieve, Murphy, Lindsey, and Smith, Cara.	This book serves as a guide for those interested in pursuing child life in diverse settings. It pushes the profession as a whole beyond its current healthcare boundaries.
2009	9780470553954	<u>Mission-Based Management: Leading your Not for Profit in the 21st Century.</u>	Peter C. Brinckerhoff	As a nonprofit manager, you have to be more effective and more efficient than ever to win funding and support to ensure your organization pursues its mission, meets community needs, and maintains its budget, while juggling the demands of funders, clientele, boards, staff, and community.
2025	1394321619	<u>Winning Grants Step by Step: Complete Workbook for Planning, Developing, and Writing Successful Proposals</u>	O'Neel-BcElrath, Tori	This book serves to guide those seeking to write grants for community based practices.
2014	978-1621532873	<u>Effective Leadership for Nonprofit Organizations: How Executive Directors and Boards Work Together</u>	Wolf, Thomas	This book serves to guide nonprofits in how to collaborate between executive directors and board of directors.
2021	10.4018/978-1-7998-7275-7.ch021	<u>Emerging Pedagogies for the Future of Education</u>	Giulia Perasso, Giulia Boldrini, Alice Maggiore, Chiara Allegri, Gloria Camurati	Chapter 21 of the textbook discusses the implementation of virtual play specialist interventions in Italy. The chapter discusses the use of online resources to reach children and families, which allows for private practice opportunities.

ACLP WEBINARS

Title	Presenter	Domain	Descriptive Blurb
<u>After They've Gone: Child Life Collaboration with a Medical Examiner's Office</u>	Rachel Stinson and Brielle Swerdlin	Ethics	Barriers to providing bereavement resources especially related to medical examiner cases are discussed. Discussed how to provide information to bereaved families in and outside the hospital. Collaboration with community partners.
<u>Back to School: Child life interventions in the education system</u>	Courtney Rosbourough	Intervention	Explored child life outside of the hospital in a school setting.
<u>Creative Writing For Emerging Adults in the Cancer Care Setting</u>	NA	Intervention	Writing program for emerging adults ages 18-25. In residence program tailored to individual with legacy options.
<u>Approaches to Assessment & Intervention at Child Advocacy Centers: Before and After the Onset of COVID-19</u>	NA	Assessment	Focuses on assessment and interventions related to child abuse. Statistics provided. Social work and child life interventions discussed.
<u>The Ethics of Working in Patients' Homes and in the Community: Considerations for Community-Based Child Life</u>	NA	Ethics	Boundaries and issues discussed related to in-home and community-based child life services. Focus on ethics related to concerns.
<u>There's No Place Like Home: A Community-Based Palliative Care and Hospice Program</u>	Stephanie Barta and Cheryl Garrett-Ferguson	Professional Responsibility	Community based palliative care or hospice services provided by a CCLS and medical social worker. Hospital based vs. community services were compared.
<u>The Continuum of Care: Providing Child Life Service in the Community</u>	Meredith Cooper, Courtney Mergen, & Shani Thorton	Professional Responsibility	Child life services provided in the community: children of adult patients, outpatient ENT clinic, and a private practice approach. Community needs assessed, ethics discussed, and how to overcome challenges.

ACLP WEBINARS

Title	Presenter	Domain	Descriptive Blurb
<u>From Barren to Blooming: Developing Child Life Programming From the Ground Up</u>	Amanda Moatz	Professional Responsibility	This webinar will share strategies for reviewing area healthcare organizations and identifying those that may benefit from and be supportive of child life programming. Practical strategies for crafting a child life programming proposal and possible roles will be shared. Participants will have a greater understanding of how to successfully lay the groundwork for child life programming.
<u>Creating A Nonprofit Organization to Make a National and Global Impact</u>	NA	Professional Responsibility	Learn about the journey of a small, volunteer-led nonprofit with a global focus and a large multi-site nonprofit with a national impact. The basics of startup, operations, clinical supervision, program challenges, and opportunities will be discussed.
<u>Community Assistantships: Enhancing Student Experience and Child Life Programming</u>	NA	Professional Responsibility	A hospital and university assistantship program that provided pre-professional work experience for students, as well as a mentoring and leadership role for a clinical child life specialist. Attendees will identify the development, implementation, and evaluation of community assistantships, successes, and barriers, benefits to the child life program and students, and cost-saving benefits.
<u>Child Life in Action: Building Community Together with Hospital and Museum Partnerships</u>	NA	Professional Responsibility	Insights about child life partnership opportunities with nearby community resources while building strategic community throughout their institutions. The basics of starting and sustaining collaborations between science centers, museums, and children's hospitals will be shared.
<u>Child Life: Moving into New Settings and New Roles</u>	NA	Professional Responsibility	This facilitated panel will share examples of non-traditional settings in which child life skills have successfully been utilized and highlight the pathway to delivery of such service.

OTHER WEBINARS

Title	Presenter	Domain	Descriptive Blurb
<u>From the Classroom to the Community: An Academic/Community Hospital Partnership for Program Development</u>	NA	Professional Responsibility	This session will highlight the components of a successful pilot program in which an academic child life program seized the opportunity to collaborate with a community hospital to assess the need for child life programming. Within 18 months, the partnership resulted in a funded child life program and hiring of the first Certified Child Life Specialist.
<u>Supporting Patients at Risk for Emotional and Behavioral Escalation in a Primary Care Setting</u>	NA	Intervention	A quality improvement initiative in a large primary care network was created to help improve the safety and outcomes for identified patients and their families. This presentation will describe how a child life specialist was integrated into the initiative, resource development, and program impact.
<u>Behavioral Approaches to Dental Care for Patients with Developmental and Behavioral Disabilities</u>	NA	Intervention	Follow a pediatric dental team of a child life specialist and hygienist to learn strategies and adaptations to best provide support for patients with developmental and behavioral conditions in pediatric dentistry.

PODCASTS

Title	Season	Episode #	Episode Title	Descriptive Blurb
Child Life Wildlife	2	1	<u>The Wild Life of Child Life in Schools with Courtney Rosborough</u>	Courtney Rosborough, CCLS explores the role of Emotional Behavioral Specialist (CLS in schools) in Canadian and American schools. Their responsibilities include: procedure support, 504 plans and employing coping strategies. An Emotional Behavior Specialists collaborates with teachers and psychologists and facilitate interventions for students facing medical or grief events.
Child Life Wildlife	2	2	<u>The Wild Life of Advocacy Centers with Sarah Buckland</u>	Sarah Buckland, CCLS explores Child Life in Advocacy centers. Here, the CCLS provides preparation/support for procedures, creates coping plans and provides developmental play prior to and following procedures. CCLS notes how children express their trauma through play. She also speaks about her own secondary trauma.
Child Life Wildlife	1	11	<u>The Wild Life of Private Practice with Laura Sufka</u>	Laura Sufka, CCLS shares the importance of working in a hospital setting prior to beginning in private practice. CCLS speaks about partnering with established community programs. She explores the logistical side of marketing, taxes and procuring supplies. She speaks about understanding scope of practice and knowing when to refer out.
Child Life Wildlife	1	8	<u>The Wild Life of Transitioning into the Community with Jess Foster</u>	Jess Foster, CCLS talks about transitioning into the community as a Victim Services Coordinator for her local sheriff's department
Child Life Wildlife	1	27	<u>Child Life Specialists and CACs</u>	CCLS Annie Drehkoff of the Chicago Children's Advocacy Center shares about the Child Life profession and how it can be incorporated into the Child Advocacy Center world.
Child Life Wildlife	2	5	<u>Child Life Gone Global</u>	Courtney Morland, CCLS and founder of Child Life United shares how her growing organization connects students and professionals to child life partnership opportunities across the globe.
Child Life Wildlife	2	4	<u>Exploring Private Practice</u>	Randi Jaffe, a CCLS and private practice pioneer, shares what child life is like outside the hospitals walls.

PODCASTS

Title	Season	Episode #	Episode Title	Descriptive Blurb
Child Life Cooperative	2	8	<u>Excellence at End of Life</u>	Jeane' Libard, a professor and CCLS with years of experience in hospitals and hospice centers, shares her wisdom about supporting dying patients.
Child Life on Call		216	<u>How to Talk With Kids About Child Abuse - Jane's Story</u>	The discussion focuses on how child life specialists can play a crucial role in identifying and responding to signs of abuse in children.
Child Life on Call		183	<u>An EMS Professional Tells us How to Prepare your Child for an Ambulance Ride</u>	Join host Katie Taylor as she interviews ambulance paramedic Josh Itano, who shares valuable insights on how to prepare children for ambulance rides and hospital transfers.
Child Life on Call	3	49	<u>How Child Life Specialists Support Families in the Military</u>	Katie talks to two Certified Child Life Specialists and military spouses, Savannah Self and Lisa McWhorter about ways to support military families. Savannah and Lisa share tips and tools to help families with these unique concerns.
Child Life on Call	3	55	<u>Dana's Story - A Child Life Specialist in Schools</u>	Dana Burnett focuses on serving students with chronic illness, children facing illness and loss, and children with parents who have an illness.
Child Life on Call	3	73	<u>Should Kids Go to Funerals?</u>	Katie, Certified Child Life Specialist talks with Lauren Holley, CCLS and Professor answers the question and discusses the topic: Should Young Kids Go To Funerals?
Child Life on Call		105	<u>How Child Life Specialists Help Kids and Families After Disasters</u>	Cara Smith and I discussed how parents can connect with their children after a disaster

BLOGS

Blog	Title	Date	Description
ACLP Child Life in Action	<u>Non-Profit Foundation responding to COVID-19 with founder Andrea 'Andy' Mangione Standish, CCLS</u>	10/20/2020	Child Life in Action features Andrea "Andy" Mangione Standish, founder and president of Standish Foundation for Children and her collaboration with four child life students who volunteered their time along side the Foundation to make a positive impact for healthcare workers during COVID-19.
ACLP Child Life in Action	<u>Serving the U.S. military with Lisa McWhorter, MS, CCLS, CPMT, and Wendy Hickman-Miller, MA, CCLS</u>	11/3/2020	Child Life in Action highlights how two child life specialists have paved the path for providing psychosocial support to military families.
ACLP Child Life in Action	<u>Non-Profit Serving the Children of Adult Patients with founders Meredith Cooper, MA, CCLS, LPC, and Melissa Hicks, MS, CCLS, LPC, RPT-S</u>	11/5/2019	Child Life in Action highlights Wonders and Worries founders Meredith Cooper, MA, CCLS, LPC, and Melissa Hicks, MA, CCLS, LPC, RPT-S and the founding of Wonders and Worries.
ACLP Child Life in Action	<u>Public Health with Morganne Bovee, MPH, CCLS</u>	11/13/2018	Child Life in Action features Morganne Bovee, MPH, CCLS and her pursuits in a career in public health in Peru and how her child life skills have assisted her on her journey in public health.
ACLP Child Life in Action	<u>Pediatric Health Brigade with Mary Noe, MPH, CCLS, and Ashley Kilpatrick, CCLS, CIMI</u>	9/20/2018	Child Life in Action highlights two Certified Child Life Specialists who participated in a Zika virus Pediatric Health Brigade hosted by the US Virgin Islands Department of Health and technically supported by the CDC
ACLP Child Life in Action	<u>Child Advocacy Center with Annie Drehkoff, MS, CCLS</u>	6/12/2018	Child Life in Action highlights a Child Advocacy Center in Chicago, IL and the role of a certified child life specialist within the multidisciplinary team at the Advocacy Center.
ACLP Child Life in Action	<u>Edgewood College with Katie Glass, EdD, CCLS, Child Life Program Director</u>	7/16/2019	Child Life in Action highlights the child life program at Edgewood College and Katie Glass, EdD, CCLS who is the Child Life Program Director at Edgewood College.

BLOGS

Blog	Title	Date	Description
Prescription for Play	<u>Child Life Private Practice: Part 1</u>	11/13/2013	Prescription for Play highlights how to start a Child Life private practice.
Prescription for Play	<u>Child Life Private Practice: Part 2</u>	11/13/2013	Prescription for Play highlights how to manage finances when operating a Child Life private practice.
Child Life Mommy	<u>Filling Gaps in Service: What Child Life Work Looks Like in Private Practice</u>	9/25/2018	Child Life Mommy highlights what it looks like to offer Child Life Services beyond the hospital and in the community setting as a private practice practitioner.
Child Life Mommy	<u>The Role of Child Life Specialists in Community Settings</u>	10/23/2022	Child Life Mommy talks about the new book, The Role of Child Life Specialist in the Community Setting, and her chapter about private practice.
Child Life Mommy	<u>My Journey with the Wind: Children's Grief Book Spotlight and Giveaway</u>	4/29/2022	Child Life Mommy talks about a new Children's Book and the therapeutic activities you can do along with the book.
Child Life Mommy	<u>Grief Support in a Classroom</u>	1/18/2023	Child Life Mommy talks about school-based interventions related to grief.
Child Life Mommy	<u>Moving in Forever: A Children's Book that Helps Families Cope with Loss</u>	5/7/2020	This book supports hospice care workers, child life specialists, grief counselors, educators, and therapists.
Child Life Mommy	<u>5 Ways to Help Children Cope with Loss and Death</u>	1/2/2020	Child Life Mommy shares tips on how a caregiver can help their child cope with their grief.
ACLP Child Life in Action	<u>Supporting Adolescents Who Have Been Exposed to Violence</u>	5/20/2024	Child Life in Action highlights the role of a CCLS in supporting children who have been exposed to violence.
ACLP Child Life in Action	<u>It's More than Just fun: The Benefits of Attending or Working at a Camp</u>	8/3/2022	Child Life in Action highlights the importance and benefits of camps for children and the role of a CCLS at camp.
ACLP Child Life in Action	<u>Child Abuse Prevention Month</u>	4/8/2022	Child Life in Action highlights the role of child life specialists related to child abuse and prevention.

YOUTUBE

Title	Hosts	Featuring	Description
<u>Child Life In Action</u>	Meagan Roloff, MA, CCLS, Former Director of Member Engagement, ACLP	Katie Nees, CCLS, and Eileen Esposito, CCLS, from Child Life Disaster Relief (CLDR)	They discuss CLDR's new program 'Coping Through Connection' that is helping children and families get through the pandemic. These interactive virtual connection sessions provide a space for children and families to come together and normalize their experiences by sharing what's been hard for them and what works. They also provide some tips on virtual group facilitation.
<u>Child Life In Action</u>	Jen Lipsey, Former CEO, ACLP	Genevieve Lowry, CCLS	Part 1: Jen Lipsey, CEO, ACLP, talks with Genevieve Lowry, CCLS, about her long and multi-faceted career in child life. Genevieve has done it all. She has worked in clinical settings in NYC, in community settings, and now she is a force for change in academia. Hear how Genevieve became full-time faculty in the child life program at Bank Street College and adapted her teaching to a fully online format. "I think my online classes are much better." She also addresses the effects of the coronavirus pandemic on students and internships. "Many students are unable to complete their internships and as a result of that, lives have been put on hold." "How do we carry forth the next generation of child life professionals?"
<u>Child Life In Action</u>	Jen Lipsey, Former CEO, ACLP	Kia Ferrer, MS, CCLS, GC-C	Community-based child life and Tele-ChildLife - a professional learning module she developed for Certified Child Life Specialists utilizing online delivery of therapeutic interventions via video conferencing.
<u>The Role of Child Life Specialists in Community Settings</u>	Colleen Cameron	Cara Smith, CCLS, Genevieve Lowry, CCLS & Lindsey Murphy, PhD, CCLS	Authors discuss the latest book regarding The Role of Child Life Specialists in Community Settings

YOUTUBE

Title	Hosts	Featuring	Description
<u>How to Setup Your Private Practice Legally</u>	Adrien Paczosa	NA	Host talks about the legal things one should consider when setting up a private practice.
<u>Starting a Private Therapy Practice from Scratch 6 Steps to Start a Private Therapy Practice</u>	Kimberley Simmons	NA	Host explains steps to take to start a private practice.
<u>How to Create a Private Practice Website for Your Counseling Practice</u>	Kelley Stevens	NA	Things to consider when making a website for your private practice
<u>How to Plan for a Private Practice Before Getting Started</u>	Dr. Marie Fang	NA	Ways to prepare for starting a private practice
<u>Expert Tips to Know Before Starting a Group Therapy Practice with Kelly and Miranda of Zynnyne</u>	Dr. Marie Fang	Kelly and Miranda of Zynnyne	Important things to decide if wanting to create a group private practice

