The Family Café

6th Annual Family Café Conference
featuring the
6th Annual Governor’s Summit on Disabilities

A Conference on Families and Disabilities
May 28 - 30, 2004
Rosen Centre Hotel, Orlando, Florida
Dear Friends:

It is with pleasure I welcome you to the Sixth Annual Family Café Conference.

With the collaboration of families, self-advocates, state agencies, organizations, and others, the Family Café Conference continues to grow. This growth results in increased opportunities to access important information selected specifically with your needs in mind, in a collaborative, family-centered environment.

It is my honor to once again host the Governor’s Summit on Disabilities at the Sixth Annual Family Café Conference on May 28, 2004, and I look forward to hearing your questions and suggestions on how we can better meet the needs of you and your family.

I encourage you to attend the many educational workshops offered during the Conference, visit the various exhibits, and enjoy the family activities available throughout the weekend.

Our commitment to enhancing the quality of life for all individuals with disabilities in Florida is unwavering. We are dedicated to an effective government that works together as part of the solution. With your assistance and commitment, we will continue our journey of improving the lives for all Florida citizens.

Again, welcome to Orlando. I hope the information you receive at the Conference will provide you with resources and support as we continue to work to enhance the lives of all our citizens.

Sincerely,

Jeb Bush
Dear Family Café Conference Participants,

Welcome to Orlando and the Sixth Annual Family Café Conference!

The Family Café Conference is a statewide conference for families and self-advocates with disabilities and/or special health care needs throughout Florida. The Family Café Planning Committee, comprised of family members, self-advocates, and agency partners, assists with planning this event. Our goal for the Conference is to enhance your capacity through education, support, and networking in a family-centered environment.

We are very excited to see many of you who have participated in the Conference in previous years returning to learn more. We would like to especially welcome those of you who are joining us for the first time. Please let us know if we can do anything to enhance your experience at the Family Café Conference.

We are thrilled to be hosting the Sixth Annual Governor’s Summit on Disabilities. This is a unique opportunity to hear updates and answers to many of your questions directly from Governor Bush and state agency leaders.

This year, we are offering over 150 workshops available throughout Friday, Saturday and – new this year – on Sunday, specifically with your needs and input in mind. We highly encourage you to visit our many exhibitors who have brought information and materials for you. These workshops and exhibitors serve as wonderful resources to you. Also, you don’t want to miss out of the family fun activities offered throughout the weekend!

We are pleased to again present – by popular demand – The Dueling Pianos, the world’s #1 dueling piano show, for Saturday night’s family-fun entertainment. You won’t want to miss this event!

Again, welcome! We hope your participation at the Sixth Annual Family Café Conference provides you with information, resources and friendships that last far longer than the weekend!

Sincerely,

The Family Café Planning Committee
May 28, 2004

Dear Conference Attendee:

Welcome to the Sixth Annual Family CAFE Conference and Governor's Summit on Disabilities. We are excited that you are here because it means that you are interested in making life better for you or someone close to you who has a disability. Over the next three days you will have an opportunity to gain valuable knowledge and skills, interact with state agencies and private service providers, and develop a network of supports. In addition, you will have several opportunities to express your concerns about issues that are close to your heart.

In each of the past five years, the Family CAFE has continued to grow. The Sixth Annual Family CAFE will have more than 5,000 attendees, which is a tremendous increase over the 1,250 attendees at the first conference in 1999. We are proud that the Florida Department of Education (DOE) has been able to contribute to the continued success of Family CAFE. The Department's support of this conference is just one of many ways that we assist individuals with disabilities and their families.

As you look through this program, you will find a number of sessions on topics related to education. In addition, you will find a number of DOE information tables and exhibits located throughout the conference site. We hope that these sessions and exhibits provide you with valuable information, and that you will let us know how we can better serve you.

We are pleased that you are joining us this weekend, and we hope that you will contact us if we can be of assistance to you in the future.

Sincerely,

Jim Burke

Florida Department of Children and Families
Office of the Secretary

Dear Family C.A.F.E. Participant:

Welcome to the Sixth Annual Family C.A.F.E. Conference and Governor's Summit on Disabilities. Governor Bush and I share your interest, and are pleased that you are able to attend.

Each year, Family C.A.F.E. has grown to record numbers and we expect that growth to continue this year. The Department of Children and Families is proud to play a role in the continued relationship between the state and families who have loved ones with special needs.

Family C.A.F.E. is an important component in the care of many of Florida's citizens with disabilities and we hope that you'll utilize every available aspect of assistance. The experience of Family C.A.F.E. will provide an opportunity for you to gain important knowledge and skills, to exchange information with each other, to interact with state agencies and service providers, and, we hope, to have an enjoyable time.

We are delighted that you are here, and look forward to meeting with you throughout the conference.

Sincerely,

Jerry Regier
Secretary
Dear Family C.A.F.E. Participants:

Welcome to the Sixth Annual Family C.A.F.E. Conference and Governor’s Summit on Disabilities. I hope this time together will broaden your knowledge about the programs that serve Floridians with disabilities and their families.

I am pleased that the Agency for Health Care Administration is able to contribute to the continued success of the conference. The meetings and workshops scheduled over the next three days will be filled with good information for you to use in the year ahead and to share with others in your community. Please take some time to visit the Agency exhibit, learn about our role in serving people with disabilities, and share with us how we might serve you better.

The Governor and I are proud to participate in a conference that is designed to support families. My best wishes to each of you.

Sincerely,

[Signature]

Bob Sharpe
Deputy Secretary for Medicaid

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May 29, 2004

Dear Families:

Welcome to the 6th Annual Family Café Conference and the Governor’s Summit on Disabilities! Thank you for your participation in this most important event, and for your interest in improving the lives of those around you who may have a disability or a special health care need.

This conference provides an educational forum for families on how to utilize programs and resources available in our state. During the next few days, you will have an opportunity to interact with representatives from several state agencies and service providers. You will also gain valuable knowledge and skills to effectively meet the needs of that someone special in your life that has a unique ability.

The Florida Department of Health is a proud contributor and supporter of this event, and we want to learn directly from you on how best to continue supporting Florida citizens with disabilities.

Once again, welcome! We look forward to sharing, learning and hearing from you throughout this event and in the future.

Sincerely,

[Signature]

John O. Agwunobi, M.D., M.B.A.
Secretary, Department of Health

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4052 Bold Cypress Way • Tallahassee, FL 32309-1701
The Family Café, Inc., wishes to thank the following organizations for their participation on the conference planning committee:

FAAST, Inc.
Florida Children’s Forum
Florida Department of Children and Families
Florida Department of Education
Florida Department of Health/Children’s Medical Services
Florida Inclusion Network
Florida Institute for Family Involvement
FND – Family Network on Disabilities
Miami Children’s Hospital
Parent to Parent of Miami
Southern Movement for Independence, Inc.
Ability Plus Therapy  
728 Penguin Avenue N.E.  
Palm Bay, FL 32907  
(321) 243-1836

Accountability/Assessment for Students with Disabilities  
753 West Blvd.  
Chipley, FL 32428  
(850) 638-6131

Advantage Vans  
1230 Almund Tree Ct.  
Orlando, FL 32835  
(407) 466-5337

Agency for Health Care Administration  
2727 Mahan Drive  
Tallahassee, FL 32308  
(850) 488-2964

Agency for Workforce Innovation/Workforce Florida, Inc.  
107 E. Madison Street  
Tallahassee, FL 32399-4133  
(850) 245-7423

Alternative Assessment - SED/NET  
753 West Blvd.  
Chipley, FL 32428  
(850) 638-6131

Amcar Motors Corp  
1960 W. 9th Street, Unit 12  
Riviera Beach, FL 33404  
(561) 863-7773

ARC/Florida  
411 East College Avenue  
Tallahassee, FL 32301  
(850) 921-0460

Assistive Technology Educational Network  
1207 Mellonville Avenue  
Sanford, FL 32771  
(800) 558-6580

Aurora Ministries  
P.O. Box 621  
Bradenton, FL 34206  
(941) 748-3031

Brain Injury Association of Florida  
201 E. Sample Road  
Pompano Beach, FL 33064  
(954) 786-2427

Career Development and Transition Center  
P.O. Box 117050  
Gainesville, FL 32611-7050  
(352) 392-0701

Caribe Royale Hotel  
8101 World Center Drive  
Orlando, FL 32821  
(407) 238-8000

Clarke Healthcare  
8228 22nd Avenue. North  
St. Petersburg, FL 33710  
(727) 384-4242

Complete Wellness and Hyperbaric Center  
5423 Lake Howell Road  
Winter Park, FL 32792  
(407) 671-5055

Conductive Education Center of Orlando  
4800 Howell Branch Road  
Winter Park, FL 32792  
(407) 671-4687

Convalid  
2830 California Street  
Torrance, CA 90503  
(310) 618-0111

Custom Mobility, Inc.  
7199 Bryan Dairy Road  
Largo, FL 33777  
(727) 539-8119

Delmarva Foundation  
2039 Centerpoint Blvd.  
Tallahassee, FL 32308

Department of Health, Bureau of HIV/AIDS  
4052 Bald Cypress Way, Bin A09  
Tallahassee, FL 32399  
(850) 488-4335

Developmental Disabilities Council  
124 Marriott Drive  
Tallahassee, FL 32301  
(850) 922-6708

Developmental Disabilities Program  
1317 Winewood Blvd  
Tallahassee, FL 32399  
(850) 488-4257

Devereax Florida  
5859 TG Lee Blvd., Suite 400  
Orlando, FL 32882  
(407) 812-4555

Discovery Toys  
2302 8th Avenue West  
Bradenton, FL 34205  
(314) 746-1274

Dyslexia Institutes of America  
1463 Oakfield Drive, Suite B8  
Brandon, FL 33511  
(813) 689-2087

Exceptional Parent Magazine  
65 Route 4 East  
River Edge, NJ 07661  
(201) 489-4111

FAAST, Inc.  
325 John Knox Road  
Tallahassee, FL 32303  
(850) 487-3278

Family Care Councils  
503 W. Idlewild Avenue  
Tampa, FL 33604  
(813) 237-3034

Family Network on Disabilities  
2735 Whitney Road  
Clearwater, FL 33760  
(800) 825-5736

FDLRS Network - Parent Services  
1200 W. Colonial Drive  
Orlando, FL 32804  
(407) 317-3666

Firstlantic Healthcare  
8751 West Broward Blvd., #100  
Plantation, FL 33324  
(954) 382-0300

Florida Association of Support Coordinators  
PMB 189; 3389 Sheridan Street  
Hollywood, FL 33021  
(954) 962-8922

Florida Children’s Forum/Florida Directory of Early Childhood Services  
2807 Remington Green Circle  
Tallahassee, FL 32310  
(850) 487-6301
Florida Department of Health,  
Children's Medical Services  
4052 Bald Cypress Way,  
Mail Bin A-06  
Tallahassee, FL 32399-1707  
(850) 245-4200

Florida DOE Clearinghouse  
Information Center  
325 West Gaines Street, #628  
Tallahassee, FL 32399-0400  
(850) 488-1879

Florida Inclusion Network  
227 N. Bronough Street, Suite 1125  
Tallahassee, FL 32301  
(850) 414-7593

Florida Institute for  
Family Involvement  
734 Shadeville Road  
Crawfordville, FL 32327  
(850) 926-3514

Governor's Working Group  
on the ADA  
4050 Esplanade Way, Suite 160K  
Tallahassee, FL 32399  
(850) 487-3423

Health Planning Council  
of SW Florida  
9250 College Pkwy., Suite 3  
Ft. Myers, FL 33919  
(239) 433-6700

Independent Living, Inc.  
6508 Gunn Highway  
Tampa, FL 33625  
(813) 963-6923

Kaplan  
10407 Centurion Parkway N.,  
Suite 102  
Jacksonville, FL 32256  
(904) 642-6889

Met Desk  
4190 Belfort Road, Suite 222  
Jacksonville, FL 32216  
(904) 332-8830

Miami Children's Hospital  
3100 SW 62nd Avenue  
Miami, FL 33155  
(305) 669-5819

NISH  
8401 Old Courthouse Road  
Vienna, VA 22182  
(571) 226-4533

Nova Southeastern University  
College of Dental Medicine  
3200 S. University Drive  
Ft. Lauderdale, FL 33328  
(954) 262-1926

Orange County Supervisor  
of Elections  
P.O. Box 562001  
Orlando, FL 32856  
(407) 254-6531

Panhandle Area  
Educational Consortium  
753 West Blvd.  
Chipley, FL 32428  
(850) 638-6131

Parent to Parent of Miami  
7990 SW 117th Avenue, Suite 201  
Miami, FL 33183  
(305) 271-6628

Permobil, Inc.  
6961 Eastgate Blvd.  
Lebanon, Tennessee 37090  
(800) 736-0925

Project Central  
1673 Mason Avenue, Suite 207  
Daytona Beach, FL 32117  
(386) 274-0175

Rolix Vans  
6591 West Highway 13  
Savage, MN 55378  
(800) 956-6668

Shelton Technologies and Resources  
(STAR)  
721 Winfree Avenue  
Lakeland, FL 33811  
(863) 838-5015

Social Security  
80 N Hughly Avenue, Room 159  
Orlando, FL 32801  
(407) 648-6109

USF/FMHI - TIP Project  
13301 Bruce B. Downs Blvd.,  
MHC2310  
Tampa, FL 33612  
(813) 974-6412

Special Kids Company  
1863 N. Farwell Avenue  
Milwaukee, WI 53202  
(800) 543-7153

Social Security  
80 N Hughly Avenue, Room 159  
Orlando, FL 32801  
(407) 648-6109

Walk Right, Inc.  
P.O. Box 23246  
Chagrin Falls, OH 44023  
(800) 467-3151

Special Olympics Florida  
1105 Citrus Twoer Blvd.  
Clermont, FL 34711  
(352) 243-9536

Speechfun, Inc.  
601 Rudder Road  
Naples, FL 34102  
(239) 435-1874

Spina Bifida Association  
of Southeast Florida  
8431 S.W. 33 Terrace  
Miami, FL 33155  
(305) 220-2559

Surehands  
982 Route 1  
Pine Island, NY 10969-1205  
(800) 724-5305

The Family Café, Inc.  
1325 North Duval Street  
Tallahassee, FL 32303  
(850) 224-4670

Toni Jennings Exceptional  
Education Institute  
University of Central Florida  
P.O. Box 161250  
Orlando, FL 32816-1250  
(407) 823-1295

Transit Plus  
58 West 9th Street  
Atlantic Beach, FL 32233  
(904) 241-6004

Vocational Rehabilitation Services  
2002 Old St. Augustine Road  
Tallahassee, FL 32301  
(850) 245-3340

World Congress on Disabilities  
210 Route 4 East  
Suite 307  
Paramus, NJ 07652  
(201) 226-1446
Conference At-A-Glance

Friday, May 28, 2004

10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.  Registration Open
1:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.    Exhibit Hall Open
11:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.  Opening Session: You Can Make A Difference –
                        A Congressional Insider’s Guide to Disability
                        Policy Advocacy – Mr. Bobby Silverstein
1:00 p.m. to 5:30 p.m.  Registration Open
1:30 p.m. to 5:30 p.m.  Dental Screening

Salads

1:30 p.m. to 2:30 p.m.

- Meet Loretta Costin
- Assessing Childhood Injuries: What to do when you suspect your
  child has been abused
- Logging the Journey: Communication & Organization – A New Star Training
- Who Will Care For Your Loved Ones When You Die?
- IDEA and 504, What’s It All About
- The Road to Transition: Views from the Other Side
- Alternate Assessment
- Intervention Strategies for Families of Children with Fetal
  Alcohol Spectrum Disorder
- Developing and Delivering Messages: Effective Media Strategies
- Laura and Laura: A Case Study in Successful Job Placement
- Paper & Scissors of Assistive Technology
- Service Delivery in the Routines and Daily Activities of Young Children with
  Disabilities and their Families
- Helping Parents Access Agency Supports for Secondary Transition
- Self-Determined to Become Independent
- Teen Talk: Social Skills/Sex Etiquette for Downs Adolescents
- Don’t Touch That Remote: The Power of Video Modeling to Teach Children
  with Developmental Disabilities
- ATEN Demonstration

Soups

3:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.

- Preventing Child Maltreatment: Prevention Strategies and Parenting Resources
- Let’s Speak the Evaluation Language
- Following the Course: Family Support Planning – A New Star Training
- The Last Decision You’ll Ever Make
- Work is for Everyone
- Self-Determination: How the Standing Up for Me Curriculum
  is Improving Outcomes for Florida’s Students
• So What Resources Are Available in Florida to Help Students Move From School to Adult Life?
• The Use of Animal Assistance to Achieve Therapy Goals
• Developing Your Own Business and Doing What You Love to Do!
• The Family Café Wants You – An Overview of the Delegates Grassroots Effort
• Inclusive Communities – Building Capacity Through Cooperation
• The Magic Minute: Getting Your Message Across in a Minute or Less
• Using an Administrative Services Organization to Provide Services to Families
• More Alike Than Different
• How Is To Be Me
• Share the Moment – The World Through the Eyes of Youth
• FAAST Demonstration

**Beef Entrees**

4:30 p.m. to 5:30 p.m. Concurrent Sessions
- How Can I Get Out Of Here?
- How to Foster Resilience in Children with Emotional and Behavioral Problems
- Cultural and Linguistic Challenges in Working with the Educational System
- 2004 Legislative Update
- DS Waiver-Moving from Quality Assurance to Quality Improvement
- Assistive Technology Assessment: What You Need To Know
- Passing the Light: Luz Aponte’s Transition Experience
- Music Therapy: Services and Supports for Individuals with Disabilities and Their Families
- Psychotropic Medications
- The Nuts and Bolts of Starting and Maintaining a Parent to Parent Support Group
- Interventions to Promote Self-Regulation for Children with Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder
- Setting the Anchor: Procedural Safeguards – A New Star Training
- Florida’s Real Choice Partnership Project, A System-Change Grant
- Everyone Has Strengths
- Special People, Special Planning – How To Create a Safe Legal Haven for Families with Special Needs
- How to Actively Participate in Effective IEP Writing
- ATEN Demonstration

**Daily Specials**

5:30 p.m. to 6:15 p.m. Reception
6:30 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. 6th Annual Governor’s Summit on Disabilities Hosted by:
Governor Jeb Bush

**Saturday, May 29, 2004**

8:00 a.m. to 9:00 a.m. Registration Open
9:00 a.m. to 10:00 a.m. Keynote Address: Building Powerful Voices for Our Children,
Our Families, Our Future - Mr. Jack Levine
8:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Exhibit Hall Open
10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. Registration Open
2:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m. Registration Open
9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Dental Screening

**Chicken Entrees**

10:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. Concurrent Sessions
• Wraparound Services, What are they and how to make the best use of them
• Fundraising and Friendraising: The Art of the Ask
• Charting Florida’s Early Intervention System: A New Star Training
• “Create the Future” for Persons with Disabilities With Special Needs Trusts
• NCLB & IDEA: Facts and Fallacies
• Consumer-Directed Care Plus – New Options in Long Term Care
• Suicide Prevention: Gatekeeper Training
• Meet Florida’s Agencies Funded Under the Federal D.D. Act
• Meet Mr. Regier, Secretary for the Department of Children and Families
• Developing Job Skills: The Wide Range of Options for Secondary Transition Students
• IDEA and Discipline, What Does the Law Say
• Let’s Talk Vision!
• Hiring Practices Initiative
• Fathers and Coping: Strategies for Increased Life Satisfaction
• Strategies for Parents of Struggling Readers
• Blueprint for Self-Determination in Florida: The System of the Future
• ATEN Demonstration

**Pasta Entrées**

1:00 p.m. to 2:00 p.m.

• Successful Advocacy: How to Get The Services Your Child Needs
• Planning for the Future of Your Child or Dependent with Special Needs
• Sailing through Transition – A New Star Training
• The LoTTIE Kit (Low Tech Tools for Inclusive Education)
• Web Based Assessment
• Supporting Your Child: An Overview of Positive Behavior Support
• Breaking Through Barriers to Employment
• Stupendous Stories: Harnessing the power of storybooks to increase engagement of students with disabilities in shared reading experiences
• Update on the Department of Education’s Programs and Initiatives for People with Disabilities
• Parent Power
• Interview Strategies for the 21st Century
• Triumph through Adversity
• Coping Strategies for Parents of Children with Early On-set Mental Illnesses
• New Horizons for Supported Living
• Medicaid School-Based Services
• FAAST Demonstration

**Seafood Entrées**

2:30 p.m. to 3:30 p.m.

• Florida’s Transition Strategic Plan
• Transition Planning: From IEP to IPE
• Advocacy Initiatives from the Florida Developmental Disabilities
• The Mysteries of Social Security Disability
• Another Look Third Grade Student Progression
• Traveling the Seas of Families, Feelings and Emotions – A New Star Training
• Building Access to Quality Oral Health Care
• Appreciating How Young Children’s Relationship with Adults Impact Emotional Development
• Meet Michele Polland – Acting Bureau Chief for the Department of Education, Bureau of Instructional Support and Community Services
• Advocating for increasing Housing Resources in Your Community
• Positive Behavior Support (PBS) 101
• What is Exceptional Student Education?
• Come on Dad, It’s Your Turn to be Involved
• Estate Planning for Clients and Family Members with Special Needs
• The Student says, “It’s My IEP Meeting”
• ATEN Demonstration
Vegetarian Entrees

4:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.
- HIPAA and Your Privacy
- Affordable Housing, Supported Living and People with Disabilities
- The John McKay Scholarship Program for Students with Disabilities
- Ticket to Work – Is It for You?
- What to Expect From Your Support Coordinator
- My Kid May Be Heading Towards Trouble With The Law
- Keeping it Together: Preserving Your Marriage and Family
- Fostering Independence in Your Child – A Consumer’s Point of View
- The Road to Advocacy
- Parent Input in the Evaluation of Special Education: New Developments in Florida’s Parent Input Process
- Medicaid 101-Basic Medicaid- Everything You Wanted To Know
- Therapeutic Horse Riding and Hippotherapy – Resources and Benefits
- Smart IEPs...The Wrightslaw Way
- Meet Medicaid: A Round Table Discussion
- Navigating the DD System and YOU are the Driver!
- Work is for Everyone
- A “Tip” on Transition of Youth with Emotional & Behavioral Difficulties
- Navigating Housing Programs to Find Affordable Housing in Your Community
- Advancing People with Disabilities in the Local Church
- Marketing & Measuring Parent Involvement
- FAAST Demonstration

Daily Specials

7:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.
Family Entertainment featuring Dueling Pianos

Sunday, May 30, 2004

Desserts

9:00 a.m. to 10:00 a.m.
Concurrent Sessions
- Shaping Successful Behavior Plans for Individuals with Co-Occurring Disorders
- Planning for your Child or Dependent with Special Needs
- Community-Based Affordable Housing Options
- TD 101-Transportation Disadvantaged
- Family Care Council Orientation
- Headquarters for Hope – A System of Care for the Families, by the Families and of the Families
- Families Building Exceptional Readers
- Making Decisions about FCAT Accommodations
- Getting the Most for Individuals with Developmental Disabilities
- Protecting Your Legal Rights: Options Other Than Guardianship
- Medicaid 102
- Accessible Fun in Florida
- Drive Through Version of the Procedural Safeguards
- UF-UCEDD
- Elevating Life in the Disability Family
- Discovering and Implementing Your Self-Determined Quality of Life
- Voting Accessibility in Florida: Latest Developments

10:30 a.m. to 11:45 a.m.
Keynote Address: From Emotions to Advocacy
Pete and Pam Wright

11:45 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.
Closing and Door Prizes
11:30 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. Opening Session - Room: Grand Ballroom
Robert Silverstein
Keynote Presentation

You Can Make A Difference – A Congressional Insider’s Guide to Disability Policy Advocacy

A former congressional staffer (staff director and chief counsel to the Senate Subcommittee on Disability Policy) will provide practical tips on “how to” improve skills used to advocate for changes in public policy designed to enhance effective and meaningful opportunities for persons with disabilities and their families. The session will include a discussion of the guiding principles of disability policy, cross-disability coalitions, and strategic planning. The presentation will share how the “tips” were used to advance actual policy initiatives, including enactment of the Americans with Disabilities Act, the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (including the early intervention program for infants and toddlers with disabilities), and the Rehabilitation Act.

1:00 p.m. - 6:30 p.m. Exhibits - Room: Grand Ballroom
1:30 p.m. - 5:30 p.m. Visual and Dental Screening - Room: Signature 1
Nova Southeastern University will be offering free vision and dental screenings for all attendees with disabilities.

Meet Loretta Costin
1:30 p.m. to 2:30 p.m.
Salon 1
This session will provide an overview of the 5-year Strategic Plan for the Delivery of vocational rehabilitation services in Florida by the Director of the Division of Vocational Rehabilitation, Ms. Loretta Costin.

Loretta Costin
Division of Vocational Rehabilitation
Division Director
2002 Old St. Augustine Road, Bldg. A
Tallahassee, Florida 32301
(850) 488-0059
Assessing Childhood Injuries: What to do when you suspect your child has been abused
1:30 p.m. to 2:30 p.m.
Salon 9
The presentation informs participants of the legal definitions of abuse and neglect, examines the various forms and indicators of abuse and neglect, and teaches a common sense approach to assessing the indicators of abuse to assist parents in determining how they should proceed when they suspect their child has been abused.

Peggy Scheuermann
Department of Health/Children’s Medical Services
Chief of Child Protection and Special Technology
4052 Bald Cypress Way, BIN A06
Tallahassee, Florida 32399-1707
(850) 245-4220
(850) 414-7350 fax
Peggy_Scheuermann@doh.state.fl.us

Logging the Journey: Communication & Organization – A New Star Training
1:30 p.m. to 2:30 p.m.
Salon 10
The workshop will provide “tips” to better communicate your wants and needs within the early intervention system and to organize effective, clear communication through use of a comprehensive record keeping system.

Janet Atkinson
Senior Family Resource Specialist
3825 Henderson Blvd., Suite 504
Tampa, Florida 33682-2485
(813) 356-1632
(813) 356-1636 fax
datkinson@IYCWF.org

Karen Martin
Family Resource Specialist
(813) 701-1200
(813) 646-1445 fax
karebear1370@aol.com

Rosy Landa
Miami Children’s Hospital
Family Resource Specialist
17615 SW 97th Avenue
Miami, Florida 33157
(786) 268-2631
(305) 252-2778 fax
rosy.landa@mch.com

Who Will Care For Your Loved Ones When You Die?
1:30 p.m. to 2:30 p.m.
Salon 12
Many of us are the caregiver for a loved one with a disability. Our loved ones are, in many cases, in their late twenties through early fifties. The severity of their disabilities varies with time, but it is always present. We see our mortality with greater clarity as the years slip by and we realize that our loved one will outlive us by 25 or so years and that, in many cases, there is no one to take our place. Fortunately, the financial part of the puzzle has been addressed with the creation of Special Needs Trusts. However, the euphoria ends with the caregiver’s realization that when he dies there is no one to take over the care of his loved one—there is no one to ensure that the funds in the trust are used to benefit the loved one in the way that he wishes. Thus, the creation of PLAN of Greater Orlando who will employ full-time experienced disability professionals and paraprofessional associates to serve each disabled person according to the dictates of a legal contract signed by the caregiver and the PLAN director. PLAN will become the “surrogate caregiver” and take on the complete responsibility for the well-being of our loved ones.
IDEA and 504: What’s it all about  
1:30 p.m. to 2:30 p.m.  
Salon 13  
Special Education is a collaborative process that is best accomplished when families and professionals understand all the rules. This workshop is both an informative and functional way to understand the policies and laws that define the educational process of a student who has a disability.

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2735 Whitney Road  
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(727) 523-1130  
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The Road to Transition: Views from the Other Side  
1:30 p.m. to 2:30 p.m.  
Salon 14  
This presentation will be a panel discussion by young adults with developmental and mental health disabilities concerning how they have successfully reached their educational and vocational goals. The importance of supportive parents in this process will be discussed as well as what have been the motivating factors and challenges these young adults have experienced and what made the difference in their lives up to this point.

Celeste Putnam  
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Deputy Secretary for Behavioral Health Services  
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Tallahassee, Florida 32399-0700  
(850) 414-9063  
celeste_putnam@dcf.state.fl.us

Alternate Assessment  
1:30 p.m. to 2:30 p.m.  
Salon 15  
Understanding Alternate Assessment and what it means for your child.

Melissa Adams  
PAEC  
Alternate Assessment Project Manager  
753 West Blvd.  
Chipley, Florida 32428  
(850) 638-6131  
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PAEC  
Alternate Assessment Consultant  
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Tampa, Florida 33611  
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(813) 837-7702 fax  
hunterb@paec.org
Intervention Strategies for Families of Children with Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder
1:30 p.m. to 2:30 p.m.
Salon 16
This presentation will provide: 1) an overview of Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder focusing on the effects of prenatal alcohol exposure on brain development as well as diagnostic criteria; 2) a discussion of intervention strategies for infants, children, and adults with FASD; and 3) information about services available in Florida. This information is intended for family members of children or adults with Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder (FASD), professionals who work with children of adults with FASD, and others who would like to learn more about FASD.

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Florida Department of Health
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Trish_Mann@doh.state.fl.us

Developing and Delivering Messages: Effective Media Strategies
1:30 p.m. to 2:30 p.m.
Salon 17
An advocate’s testimony on the importance of speaking up and speaking out on behalf of improved policies and programs in services to families with special needs. Passionate, persuasive and persistent advocacy is an opportunity not to be missed.

Jack Levine
Advocacy Resources
President
P.O. Box 1227
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jack.levine@comcast.net

Laura and Laura: A Case Study in Successful Job Placement
1:30 p.m. to 2:30 p.m.
Salon 18
Laura Prado, the employer, and Laura Hinden, the employee, will give this presentation in tandem. Laura Hinden, an individual with a developmental disability, has been gainfully employed at Dr. Steiman’s office for the past 10 months. This power point presentation will highlight the necessary components for successful job placement from both the employer and employee perspective. We will also go over some of Laura Hinden’s previous employment efforts in order to demonstrate the importance of finding the right “fit” between job, employee and employer. Participants will gain an in-depth understanding of the concept of horizontal job carving and how it benefits employers to utilize this technique.

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Laura Hinden
Florida Department of Health
Tallahassee, Florida 32301
(850) 245-4465
Trish_Mann@doh.state.fl.us
Paper & Scissors of Assistive Technology
1:30 p.m. to 2:30 p.m.
Salon 19
This workshop will be fun, interactive, and informative for the parent and professional in search of Assistive Technology aides for a student. From low-tech raise-line paper, to specialized scissors, to reading software; this workshop will walk through an Assistive Technology assessment.

Nancy Gonsalves
Family Network on Disabilities of Florida, Inc.
Parent Education Co-Director
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nancy@fndfl.org

Service Delivery in the Routines and Daily Activities of Young Children with Disabilities and their Families
1:30 p.m. to 2:30 p.m.
Salon 20
The provision of services in the natural environment has been a federal regulation since 1986. With the 1997 reauthorization of IDEA, Congress reemphasized the delivery of services to infants and toddlers in natural environments. The emphasis on services in natural environments in the 1997 Amendments was not intended to just change the location of service delivery but to change the focus of early intervention from working directly with children to supporting families to meet the developmental needs of their children. This session will provide an overview of how Florida’s Infants and Toddlers Early Intervention Program (Part C) is meeting the federal mandate by changing its system of service provision.

Susan Duwa
Florida Department of Health, Children’s Medical Services, Early Intervention Program Consultant
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Crystal Beach, Florida 34681
(727) 787-6414
(727) 789-0742 fax
SusanDuwa@aol.com

Helping Parents Access Agency Supports for Secondary Transition
1:30 p.m. to 2:30 p.m.
Salon 21
Participants in this presentation will learn the roles of community, school, parents/family, and students in accessing agency services for transition from high school to post-school adult living. Examples of informational products and activities will be shared.

Joyce Lubbers
The Transition Center at the University of Florida Coordinator, Project Connect G315 Norman Hall, POB 117050 Gainesville, Florida 32611 (352) 392-0701 (352) 392-4443 fax jlubbers@coe.ufl.edu

Self-Determined to Become Independent
1:30 p.m. to 2:30 p.m.
Salon 22
The purpose of this presentation is to demonstrate to other consumers, employers, service providers and policy makers that it is possible for a developmentally challenged individual to become independent.
Teen Talk: Social Skills/Sex Etiquette for Downs Adolescents
1:30 p.m. to 2:30 p.m.
Salon 23
Presentation of a series of social skill lessons presented to adolescents for the Downs Syndrome Association of Central Florida. Addresses parental concerns such as recognizing and coping with bullying and appropriate sexual display.

Mary A. Travis, Ph.D.
Travis Psycho-Educational Services, Inc.
514 West Hazel Street
Orlando, Florida 32804
(407) 849-1872
(407) 645-3507 fax
drmary2003@aol.com

Don’t Touch That Remote: The Power of Video Modeling to Teach Children with Developmental Disabilities
1:30 p.m. to 2:30 p.m.
Salon 24
Research today clearly demonstrates that video modeling has tremendous power to help children with autism spectrum disorder and other developmental disabilities acquire verbal, social, play, self-help and other skills. This presentation will share the many techniques used by Special Kids Speech & Skill Development Video Modeling Programs, the first modeling programs specifically created and produced for children with disabilities, with success stories in more than 30 countries and 500 U.S. school systems, along with printed summaries of video modeling research. Attendees will interact with the presenter (founder), view video samples and even learn how they can produce their own videos at home.

John Sprecher
Special Kids Speech and Skill Development Programs
Founder
1863 North Farwell Avenue
Milwaukee, Wisconsin 53202
(800) KIDS-153
(262) 538-0911 fax
john@special-kids.com

ATEN Demonstration
1:30 p.m. to 2:30 p.m.
Signature 1
The Assistive Technology Educational Network (ATEN) for the state of Florida invites participants of the Family Café to the Assistive Technology (AT) lab and learn how assistive technology can be educational and fun. Come hear and experience how low tech assistive technology can be created by parents and utilized by children and adults to increase reading skills as well as their ability to interact with others and the world around them. Come see and explore new and innovative AT tools. Participants can learn how to create low-tech items in a Make ‘n’ Take session.

Phyllis Neal-Wilson
ATEN Administrator
1207 Mellonville Avenue
Sanford, FL 32771
(407) 688-2201
Preventing Child Maltreatment: Prevention Strategies and Parenting Resources
3:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.
Salon 1
The presentation examines some of the situational and child behavioral stressors that can lead to abuse and explores various parenting resources and other prevention strategies.

Peggy Scheuermann
Department of Health/Children’s Medical Services
Chief of Child Protection and Special Technology
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(850) 414-7350 fax
Peggy_Scheuermann@doh.state.fl.us

Let’s Speak the Evaluation Language
3:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.
Salon 9
Someone says, “It is time to consider an evaluation for you child.” This presentation will help you to understand “psycho-babble”, therapist language, charts, blots, and subtests (in a way that enables you to make sense of educational testing) to best plan for successful outcomes for your child.

Linda Koch
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Area Training Coordinator, Region 7
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(727) 523-1130
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vicki@fndfl.org

Following the Course: Family Support Planning – A New Star Training
3:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.
Salon 10
The workshop will help families explore their role as a member of the Family Support Plan Team and the family support planning process, learn the purpose of the Family Support Plan, as as learn how to complete a Family Support Plan.

Linda Hubner
St. Pete Early Intervention Program
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Nancy Dyke
Children’s Home Society
Family Resource Specialist
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(850) 921-0283 fax
Nancy.Dyke@chsfl.org

The Last Decision You’ll Ever Make
3:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.
Salon 11
Death and preparing for death is something we will all experience at some time in our lives. Neither age, sex, race or income can keep this from happening to our families. Many individuals and families have no idea how to plan ahead for death (especially in working with children) or how to work with a
funeral home after the death occurs. This workshop touches on all of these topics with a little “grief counseling advice” thrown in. Explaining death to children is also discussed.

Judith R. Duncan  
*Muscular Dystrophy Family Foundation, Inc.*  
President/CEO  
2330 North Meridian Street  
Indianapolis, IN 46208  
(800) 544-1213  
(317) 923-6334 fax  
jduncan@mdff.org

**Work is for Everyone**  
3:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.  
**Salon 12**  
This presentation will explain the new Individual Cost Guideline (ICG) tool that the Developmental Disabilities Program has begun to use to forecast costs for persons receiving supports and services through the Home and Community Based Services, Supported Living or Consumer Directed Care waivers. Both the children’s tool and the adult’s tool will be discussed. The basic logic behind the tool’s development will be explained, as well as helpful information that you should know when completing this form with your support coordinator. Time will be reserved for questions and answers. Your recommendations are welcomed.

Denise Arnold  
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Tallahassee, Florida 32399-0700  
(850) 488-3673  
(850) 488-3698 fax  
denise_arnold@dcf.state.fl.us

**Self-Determination: How the Standing Up for Me Curriculum is Improving Outcomes for Florida’s Students**  
3:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.  
**Salon 13**  
This presentation will cover use of the Standing Up For Me curriculum by Florida’s school districts and is appropriate for anyone interested in learning more about teaching self-determination skills to students with disabilities. Standing Up for Me is a Florida curriculum designed to teach students, primary through high school, self-determination skills. The curriculum helps students develop an understanding of the IEP/Transition IEP process, identify strengths and needs, provide input into IEP/Transition IEP development, learn advocacy skills, and participate in their own IEP/Transition IEP meetings. A panel of district transition contacts, teachers, parents, and students who have successfully used the curriculum will provide information related to their experiences and how self-determination is improving student outcomes.

Sheila Gritz  
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**So What Resources Are Available in Florida to Help Students Move From School to Adult Life?**  
3:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.  
**Salon 15**  
Parents and students are often not aware of the resources available to help with the transition from school to all areas of adult life. This presentation will provide participants with a resource notebook and brief summary of many services and supports that are available in Florida.
The Use of Animal Assistance to Achieve Therapy Goals
3:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.
Salon 16
The use of animals as therapy assistants will be clarified versus the more well-known animal visitation programs. Distinctions will be made regarding the use of animals as a therapy modality in conjunction with specific treatment goals and how those goals can be achieved. The issues surrounding animal-assisted programs will be discussed as well as the existing program at Nature’s Place Therapy Services.

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Carol Chenowith
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Developing Your Own Business and Doing What You Love To Do!
3:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.
Salon 17
This presentation will provide the participants with the opportunity to learn and experience that it is possible to develop a small business with creativity, with natural and paid supports, and that it is possible to make money doing what you love, as long as one does not give up! This presentation will describe the obstacles and barriers that Juan O. Pollo, from Pop’s Vending, has overcome through VR, and the Small Business Development Center with the assistance of the Client Assistance Program. The Co-Presenters will share the support that they provide to Juan in the development of his own small business.

Juan O. Pollo
Pops Vending
5973 S.W. 42nd Terrace
Miami, Florida 33155-5207
(786) 344-8428

The Family Café Wants You – An Overview of the Delegate Grassroots Effort
3:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.
Salon 18
Are you a Family Café Delegate? Are you Delegate material? Are you tired of being the last to find out about changes in the service-delivery system? Do you have friends in your community that feel the same way? Do you want to impact the flow of information to and from the departmental leaders in Tallahassee? Do you want a mechanism to identify topics and areas that you need additional information on or the opportunity to provide feedback to? Then the Family Café wants YOU! Join us in this interactive presentation to learn how you can become a part of this grassroots effort!

Kelly Purvis
The Family Café, Inc.
Resource Development Coordinator
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(888) 309-2233 (CAFE)
(850) 224-4674 fax
kpurvis@familycafe.net
Inclusive Communities – Building Capacity Through Cooperation
3:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.  
Salon 19

Inclusive communities start with us—become part of the solution. Learn how to expand community opportunities by using your local Family Care Council (FCC) to forge links with existing organizations and even create new ones. Florida law has established 15 FCCs throughout the state to become a resource for information and advocacy on behalf of the developmental disabilities community and their families. This lecture will document the tale of District 10’s Family Care Council’s experience expanding capacity for community inclusion by obtaining and implementing grants, establishing cooperative partnerships with community groups, launching new organizations and funding summer camp scholarships.

Laura Prado  
Florida Family Support Project: Juntos Podemos (Together We Can)  
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(954) 485-7848  
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The Magic Minute: Getting Your Message Across in a Minute or Less
3:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.  
Salon 20

Families have a BIG story to tell but often find themselves in a position of having little time to share that story and get across an important point when talking with policymakers and legislators. This session will teach an approach that enables them to tell enough of their experiences to validate their expertise and focus in on important points when talking to policymakers about systems change. Participants will test their Magic Minute in preparation for the next time they have the opportunity to share a minute with an important policymaker.

Conni Wells  
Florida Institute for Family Involvement  
485 Wakulla-Arran Road  
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(850) 926-3514  
cjwells@sprynet.com

Using an Administrative Services Organization to Provide Services to Families
3:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.  
Salon 21

This workshop will focus on the design, development and operation of an Administrative Services Organization (ASO) Hillsborough County, Florida. The Tampa Hillsborough Integrated Network for Kids (THINK) will share why they chose to fund an ASO to ensure that services follow the child and the family, are driven by a coordinated, individualized plan developed with the family, and that the families are given choices based on their culture and identified strengths and needs. Participants will learn how the use of consumer-directed individual budgets avoids duplication in services, maximizes insurance and other funding sources, and uses a cooperative process that authorizes funding to meet needs identified in family support plans. Families enrolled in the ASO will discuss how they are empowered to direct their own services and be involved in the improvement of the service system.

Beth Piecora  
Tampa Hillsborough Integrated Network for Kids  
Family Involvement Coordinator  
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More Alike Than Different
3:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.
Salon 22

More Alike Than Different is a training program designed to increase awareness, acceptance, and sensitivity towards children and individuals with disabilities and special needs. A trained facilitator will assist participants in a variety of hands-on, interactive activities that that display what individuals with a disability might experience on a day to day basis. A guided group discussion, followed by a question and answer time accompanies each activity. Parents, educators, therapists, and individuals working with the disabled can finally experience a small sampling of what it feels like to have a disability through this workshop.

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How It Is To Be Me
3:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.
Salon 23

Join Shelby Nurse, a 13 year old self advocate, as she describes her experiences related to inclusion, assistive technology and self advocacy. Shelby will be assisted by her dad, Tom Nurse, as she details how she has overcome some of the challenges of having cerebral palsy and what positively helped her gain greater independence and success.

Shelby Nurse
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Assistive Technology Educator and Self-Advocate
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Tom Nurse
*Family Network on Disabilities of Manatee/Sarasota, Inc.*
Tiles Project Director
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Clearwater, Florida 33760
(800) 825-5736
(727) 523-8687 fax
tom@fndfl.org

Share the Moment – The World Through the Eyes of Youth
3:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.
Salon 24

The vision of the Teen Advocacy Coalition is to support teens to define their own success and to achieve it. This panel of youth will talk about “Youth Culture” and its own unique customs such as food, dress, language, spirituality, gangs, drugs, and sex. Youth with disabilities face additional challenges as they navigate their way through adolescence to adulthood. Hear the stories of youth who are faced with mental health issues, family dysfunction, learning disabilities, involvement with law enforcement and much more. Hear from youth who are accepting the roles of today’s youth leaders and tomorrow’s future leaders. Our panel will weave their perspectives with regard to communication, responsibility, negotiation, tolerance, personal esteem and empowerment through this session.
Helene Sohn
*Parent Advocacy Coalition (PAC) and Teen Advocacy Coalition (PAC)*
Executive Director
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**FAAST Demonstration**

**3:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.**
**Signature 1**
Visit the Florida Alliance for Assistive Services and Technology, Inc. (FAAST) for a demonstration of Assistive Technology. Topics include assessments, products and devices, available resources, funding, programs and services, and consumer advocacy issues. Learn hands-on by viewing and using samples of high-tech and low-tech devices on display.

**FAAST**
325 John Knox Road, Bldg. B
Tallahassee, FL 32303
(850) 487-3278

**How Can I Get Out Of Here?**

**4:30 p.m. to 5:30 p.m.**
**Salon 1**
A review of the often confusing high school exit options for all students, with additional options for students with disabilities. The presentation includes a discussion of the outcomes to be considered during the decision-making process.

**Kelly Claude**
*Department of Education*
Program Specialist IV
325 West Gaines Street, Suite 601
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(850) 245-0478
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Kelly.Claude@fldoe.org

**How to Foster Resilience in Children with Emotional and Behavioral Problems**

**4:30 p.m. to 5:30 p.m.**
**Salon 9**
This presentation focuses on the development and promotion of resilience in children with emotional and behavioral problems. The presentation will begin with a brief explanation of child resilience, including the roles of risk and protective factors and mechanisms. The focus will then narrow to what families can do; both to reduce risk factors, and to promote and use protective factors and mechanisms that will reduce the impact of risk factors, including having an emotional or behavioral problem. The presentation will conclude with a discussion of the role of informal supports for parents in promoting child resilience. There will be several opportunities for audience participation and dialogue.

**Mary I. Armstrong**
*Louis de la Parte Florida Mental Health Institute, USF*
Director, Division of State and Local Support, CFS
13301 Bruce B. Downs Blvd.
Tampa, Florida 33612
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armstron@fmhi.usf.edu
Cultural and Linguistic Challenges in Working With the Educational System
4:30 p.m. to 5:30 p.m.
Salon 10
This interactive session will identify and define the cultural and linguistic challenges in creating collaborative relationships between parents and educational professionals. This session will also include solutions and strategies for bridging the gap between culturally/linguistically diverse families and the educational system as a whole.

Marilyn Bello-Ruiz
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2004 Legislative Update
4:30 p.m. to 5:30 p.m.
Salon 11
A summary of all disability-related bills discussed in the 2004 Legislative Session and implications for Florida’s citizens with disabilities or long-term illness and their families. Julie M. Shaw has been lobbying the legislature on disability issues for more than 10 years. During the past five years, she has worked on the behalf of the Governor’s Office on disability legislative issues.

Julie M. Shaw
Governor’s Working Group on the Americans with Disabilities Act
Executive Director
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julie.shaw@myflorida.com

DS Waiver – Moving from Quality Assurance to Quality Improvement
4:30 p.m. to 5:30 p.m.
Salon 12
Update on quality assurance system changes that are moving to more of an outcome orientation, and how this impacts people receiving services. Personal Outcomes, Outcomes Based Monitoring, New Review Process for Waiver Support Coordinators, Medication Initiatives, and Results/Highlights from Quality Improvement Studies will be discussed. This presentation will also include information on My Personal Compass. This is an easy-to-use guide that provides a series of questions designed to help people gain insights and identify issues that are important to them about the way providers and other supports deliver services to the individual.
Assistive Technology Assessment: What You Need To Know
4:30 p.m. to 5:30 p.m.
Salon 13
Understanding Alternate Assessment and what it means for your child.
Sandra Osborn
IDEAS Special Needs Consults, Inc.
Special Education Consultant/Advocate
P.O. Box 180605
Casselberry, Florida 32718
(407) 332-7770
osborns37@earthlink.net

Passing the Light: Luz Aponte’s Transition Experience
4:30 p.m. to 5:30 p.m.
Salon 14
Lucy and members of her support team will share how the five principles of self-determination are important for the development and implementation of a school transition plan as mandated under the Individuals with Disabilities Educational Act (IDEA 97), and the Vocational Rehabilitation Act. Through the use of assistive technology, and an assistant, Lucy will share some of her life experiences and challenges as she transitions from school to a micro enterprise. Members of her panel will explain their role in SUPPORTING Lucy in her transition to a productive life after school.

Luz Elena Aponte
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Self Advocate
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apontemb@juno.com

Music Therapy: Services and Supports for Individuals with Disabilities and Their Families
4:30 p.m. to 5:30 p.m.
Salon 15
The purpose of this presentation is to provide families with general information on music therapy and how it can be of benefit for a variety of needs, for individuals with disabilities and their family members. The session will present an overview of music therapy as a health care and related service profession. The types of programs provided to individuals of all ages with various types of disabilities will be covered, with a focus on the services for individuals who have special education needs. The format will be lecture presented by a small panel of music therapists, and some interactive demonstration. It is hoped that participants will gain greater knowledge of the field and how music therapists can be of help with the health and education needs of attendees.
Psychotropic Medications
4:30 p.m. to 5:30 p.m.
Salon 17
This session will describe the indications for the use of psychotropic medications in children. There will be a description of target symptoms and the risks and benefits of medications in the various pharmacologic classes.
Martin Lazoritz, M.D.
Department of Psychiatry University of Florida
Associate Chair
P.O. Box 100256
Gainesville, Florida 32601-0256
(352) 392-3681
lazoritz@psychiatry.ufl.edu

The Nuts and Bolts of Starting and Maintaining a Parent to Parent
4:30 p.m. to 5:30 p.m.
Salon 18
This fun, fast-paced, fun, interactive (and really fun!) workshop includes lots of information, helpful tips and useful insights in to the varied options and decisions when forming a support group, including best practices and strategies for increasing parental participation. Did we mention that this workshop is really, really fun?
Diane Heffernan-Joslin
Family Network on Disabilities of Florida, Inc.
ASCEND Project Director
2735 Whitney Road
Clearwater, Florida 33760-1610
(727) 523-1130
(727) 523-8687 fax
diane@fndfl.org
Eileen Gilley
Family Network on Disabilities of Florida, Inc.
Director of Programs
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eileen@fndfl.org

Interventions to Promote Self-regulation for Children with Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder
4:30 p.m. to 5:30 p.m.
Salon 19
Children with pre-natal exposure to alcohol often experience difficulty in areas of self-regulation of mood and behavior, making parenting of these children especially difficult. This workshop will focus on practical interventions to promote self-regulation, enhanced self-esteem, and parental sanity.
Kathryn Shea, LCSW
Setting the Anchor: Procedural Safeguards – A New Star Training

4:30 p.m. to 5:30 p.m.

**Salon 20**

The goal of this workshop is to provide information on Part C of IDEA (birth to age three) Procedural Safeguards, specific rights and responsibilities that you have while in the Early Intervention Program, and other major Part C rights that are not specifically Procedural Safeguards.

Dorothy Clever  
*Easter Seals Florida*  
Family Resource Specialist  
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*University of Florida*  
Family Resource Specialist  
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(352) 334-1359  
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Florida’s Real Choice Partnership Project, A System-Change Grant

4:30 p.m. to 5:30 p.m.

**Salon 21**

Update of the Real Choice Partnership Project, a System-Change Grant awarded in 2001 to the State of Florida, Governor’s Working Group on the Americans with Disabilities Act. This presentation will include an update of all contract activities including, implementation of three demonstration pilot sites to increase community capacity for inclusion into all aspects of the community, a caregiver initiative, a direct support care worker recruitment, retention and training initiative, a housing initiative, Florida’s single point of inquiry, accessible government and summary of a waiver integration feasibility analysis.

Lloyd Tribley  
*ADA Working Group/Real Choice Partnership Project*  
Project Director  
4050 Esplanade Way, Suite 160  
Tallahassee, Florida 32399  
(850) 414-8908 fax  
lloyd.tribley@myflorida.com

Everyone Has Strengths

4:30 p.m. to 5:30 p.m.

**Salon 22**

“Everyone has Strengths” showcases how positive supports and can-do attitudes help young people become self-confident individuals. Deena will share her personal experiences growing up with cerebral palsy and how her parents, teachers, physical therapists, and doctors, etc. All played a major role in developing her independence both emotionally and physically.

Deena Barnett, M.Ed.  
800 Ocean Palm Way  
St. Augustine, Florida 32080  
(904) 461-5146  
dbarnett@aug.com
Special People, Special Planning: How To Create a Safe Legal Haven for Families with Special Needs
4:30 p.m. to 5:30 p.m.
Salon 23
Special People, Special Planning is designed to educate families, caregivers, educators and others about the benefits of creating an estate plan designed with the needs of the special person in mind. There is a discussion of the different planning options from wills to trusts to special needs trusts to preserve government benefits, and Special Letters of Instruction. Preservation of government benefits is a key focus. We also concentrate on the importance of creating a team of professional advisors for the benefit of the family and the special needs individual. The presenters are the co-authors of a book entitled “Special People, Special Planning - How to Create a Safe Legal Haven for Families with Special Needs.” Autographed copies of “Special People, Special Planning” will be available.

Peggy R. Hoyt  
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Cleveland, OH 44113  
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info@HAHNPOLOCK.com

How to Actively Participate in Effective IEP Writing
4:30 p.m. to 5:30 p.m.
Salon 24
This workshop is designed to assist parents and professionals alike in completing an IEP meeting successfully and coming out feeling good! The IEP is a road map, which provides the best opportunity for everyone on the team to share their ideas and their dreams for the education of the student. It is an opportunity to provide individual and quality planning. Learn how to make the most of that opportunity.

Sherndina Moreland  
Family Network on Disabilities  
Minority Outreach Coordinator, North Florida  
2735 Whitney Road  
Clearwater, FL 33760  
(727) 523-1130  
(727) 523-8687 fax  
sherndina@fndfl.org

ATEN Demonstration
4:30 p.m. to 5:30 p.m.
Signature 1
The exploration lab gives individuals the opportunity to touch devices and ask questions about devices and services found statewide. Participants will leave with a better understanding of how assistive technology increases educational skills and/or maintains an individual’s ability to function within his/her environment. Come see and explore new and innovative AT tools. Participants can learn how to create low-tech items in a Make ‘n’ Take session.

Phyllis Neal-Wilson  
ATEN  
Administrator  
1207 Mellonville Avenue  
Sanford, Florida 32771  
(407) 688-2201
Daily Specials

5:30 p.m. - 6:15 p.m.  Reception - Grand Ballroom
SeaWorld’s Shamu and Friends

6:30 p.m. - 8:00 p.m. Governor’s Summit on Disabilities
Room: Grand Ballroom

6th Annual Governor’s Summit on Disabilities

“It will be my honor and personal joy to host the Governor’s Summit at the 6th Annual Family Café Conference May 28-30, 2004. Florida is committed to enhancing the quality of life for all people with disabilities in our state, and Family Café is an unparalleled opportunity to share ideas with families and self-advocates about how to achieve that goal. The 2004 Conference will be our biggest yet. I hope to see you there.”

- Governor Jeb Bush
9:00 a.m. - 10:00 a.m. Opening Session - Room: Grand Ballroom
Jack Levine, President - Advocacy Resources
Keynote Presentation

Building Powerful Voices for Our Children, Our Families, Our Future

An advocate’s testimony on the importance of speaking up and speaking out on behalf of improved policies and programs in service to families with special needs. Passionate, persuasive and persistent advocacy is an opportunity not to be missed.

8:30 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. Exhibits Open

9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. Vision and Dental Screening - Room: Signature I
Nova Southeaster University will be offering free vision and dental screening for all attendees with disabilities.

10:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. Concurrent Programs

Wraparound Services, What are They and How to Make the Best Use of Them
10:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.
Salon 1

Wraparound services, what they are and how to make the best use of them. Wraparound services is when families have a voice and choice, they are full participants in the wraparound process. When the families have voice and choice, they have ownership of their plans. This allows for better services for the child and family.

Dr. Jim Patrick
Community Intervention & Research Center
CEO
1629 Mahan Center Blvd.
Tallahassee, Florida 32308
(850) 656-1446
jpatrick@circ-inc.com
Fundraising and Friendraising: The Art of the Ask
10:30 a.m. to 11:30 p.m.
Salon 10
Finding dollars and dedicated volunteers are keys to successful programs. Asking the right people for the right assistance at the right time. Key tips on effective resource development will be shared.
Jack Levine
Advocacy Resources
President
P.O. Box 1227
Tallahassee, Florida 32302
(850) 567-5252
jack.levine@comcast.net

Charting Florida’s Early Intervention System: A New Star Training
10:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.
Salon 11
The goal of this workshop is to assist families with a greater understanding of the early intervention system from a federal, state, and local perspective, identify the components of Florida’s early intervention system, and gain an understanding of the steps from referral through transition at age three.
Heather Harris
Ft. Myers Early Intervention Program
Family Resource Specialist
9250 College Pkwy., Suite 3
Ft. Myers, FL 33919
(239) 433-6700
heatherhwi@earthlink.net
Nancy Dyke
Children’s Home Society
Family Resource Specialist
1801 Miccosukee Commons Drive
Tallahassee, Florida 32308
(850) 921-0283 fax
Nancy.Dyke@chsfl.org

“Create the Future” for Persons with Disabilities With Special Needs Trusts
10:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.
Salon 12
Persons with disabilities and their families face many obstacles, not least of which are financial considerations. Special Needs Trusts can be used to literally “create the future” for a person with disabilities. Most government benefit programs require persons to impoverish themselves to receive benefits. A Special Needs Trust is a legally recognized way to retain funds to improve the quality of life of persons with disabilities and to avoid having to “spend down” all available funds. A Special Needs Trust can increase self-determination and open doors for persons with disabilities. Learn how a Special Needs Trust can improve the quality of life of persons with disabilities by preserving resources and eligibility for government benefits and by paying for needs not met by government benefits.
Richard La Belle, Esq.
The Law Offices of Richard La Belle, P.A.
Attorney
3446 Lake Drive
Dunedin, Florida 34698
(727) 781-9494
(727) 781-0013 fax
RJL87@aol.com

NCLB & IDEA: Facts and Fallacies
10:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.
Salon 13
Any new law brings questions and differing interpretations. Learn about rights and responsibilities under the No Child Left Behind Act and how this law will affect your child’s education.
Consumer-Directed Care, Plus, New Options in Long Term Care

10:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.

Salon 14

Allowing consumers to make decisions about how to spend long term care dollars for their own care has proven to be a success in Florida. Two previous demonstrations have shown that this model can work for individuals both young and old. Join us to hear from administrators and consumers about the latest innovations and successes in the Consumer-Directed Care Plus program.

Beth Kidder
Agency for Health Care Administration
AHCA Administrator
2727 Mahan Drive, Mail Stop #20
Tallahassee, Florida 32308
(850) 487-2618
(850) 414-1721 fax
kidderb@fdhc.state.fl.us

Suicide Prevention: Gatekeeper Training

10:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.

Salon 15

Suicide is the third leading cause of death of Florida’s youth yet it remains a silent epidemic in our communities. Research has shown that suicide is neither random nor inevitable. There are risk factors, warning signs and protective factors that all contribute to suicide. The knowledge and tools are available to approach suicide as a preventable problem with realistic opportunities to save many lives. Gatekeeper training builds confidence and specific skills to recognize, respond appropriately, and refer suicidal people for help. Join us to learn what you can do to help prevent suicide. Each of us can make a significant contribution toward enabling all youth to experience the full potential that life has to offer.

Pamela Harrington
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1166 Salt Marsh Circle
Ponte Vedra Beach, Florida 32082
(904) 285-1838
(904) 646-5591 fax
r-harrington@comcast.net

Laura Meyer
The Beth Foundation, Inc.
1980 S. Spring Garden Avenue
Deland, Florida 32720
(386) 736-2446
dreamsicle3@man.com

Meet Florida’s Agencies Funded Under the Federal D.D. Act

10:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.

Salon 16

Presentation will illustrate how these agencies, all associated with the federal D.D. Act, implement their respective federal charges and responsibilities, and how their collaborative efforts impact Floridians with disabilities, their family members and friends. The newest member of this group, the University Center of Excellence for Developmental Disabilities at the University of Florida, will also participate in this panel presentation (Jeanne Repetto).

Representative
Florida D.D. Council, Inc.
Interim Executive Director
124 Marriott Drive, Suite 203
Tallahassee, Florida 32301
(850) 922-6708
(850) 922-6702 fax
kathyb.fddc@nettally.com

Representative
The Advocacy Center for Persons with Disabilities
Interim Director
2671 Executive Center Circle West, Suite 100
Tallahassee, Florida 32301
(850) 488-9071
(850) 488-8640 fax
Meet Mr. Regier, Secretary for the
Department of Children and Families

10:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.
Salon 17

Provide input and get answers on issues that you and your family deal with on a daily basis. This session will provide you with an opportunity to have your concerns addressed by the agency’s administration. Come and let your voice be heard.

Jerry Regier
Department of Children and Families
Secretary
1317 Winewood Blvd.
Tallahassee, Florida 32399-0700
(850) 922-1111
(850) 922-2993 fax
jerry.regier@myflorida.com

Cathleen Newbanks
Florida Department of Children and Families
Deputy Secretary for Community-Based Care & Family
1317 Winewood Blvd.
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Shelly Brantley
Florida Department of Children and Families
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(850) 922-6456 fax
shelly_brantley@dcf.state.fl.us

Developing Job Skills: The Wide Range of Options for Secondary Transition Students

10:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.
Salon 18

This presentation will cover the wide range of secondary options that promote the development of job skills. It is most appropriate for parents of students with disabilities, ages 14-21. Information shared will include strategies for students pursuing both standard and special diplomas. In this session, parents will learn about effective practices related to determining their son or daughter’s career interests, developing job skills through classroom and community experiences, and securing paid employment. Parents will develop a general understanding of effective methods used in Florida school districts such as Community-Based Instruction, Supported Competitive Employment, On-the-Job Training, and Tech Prep. As a culminating activity, each parent will develop an action plan that may be used to facilitate the development of job skills with their son or daughter.

Sheila Gritz
The Transition Center at the University of Florida
Senior Training Specialist
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Patrick Mulvihill
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District Transition Contact
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(954) 767-8535
(954) 765-6017 fax
pat.mulvihill@browardschools.com
IDEA and Discipline: What Does the Law Say
10:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.
Salon 19
The student is struggling with behavior issues, what do you do? This workshop will outline the dos and don’ts of appropriate and successful interventions with discipline strategies.

Nancy Gonsalves
*Family Network on Disabilities of Florida, Inc.*
Parent Education Network Co-Director
2735 Whitney Road
Clearwater, Florida 33760-1610
(727) 523-1130
(727) 523-8687 fax
nancy@fndfl.org

Let’s Talk Vision!
10:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.
Salon 20
This is an interactive question and answer session regarding educational concerns for students with visual impairment, including those with multiple disabilities and/or deaf-blindness. The panel will also include Mrs. Kay Ratzlaff, Coordinator of Instructional Resources at FIMC-VI and Dawn Saunders, Program Specialist, Bureau of Instructional Support and Community Services. Participants are encouraged to ask questions about vision services, instructional materials, technology, orientation and mobility, and other topics unique to students with visual impairment.

Sandra Lewis, Ed.D
*Florida State University*
Associate Professor
205 Stone Building
Tallahassee, Florida 32306
(850) 644-8409
lewis@coe.fsu.edu

Suzanne Dalton
*Florida Instructional Materials for the Visually Impaired*
Supervisor
4210 W. Bay Villa Avenue
Tampa, Florida 33611
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Lauri Triulzi
*Florida Outreach Project for Children and Young Adults who are Deaf-Blind*
Project Coordinator
University of Florida
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Gainesville, Florida 32610
(352) 846-2757
triulzi@ufbi.ufl.edu

Hiring Practices Initiative
10:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.
Salon 21
This presentation will focus on the efforts that The Transition Center and the Florida Developmental Disabilities Council have made in improving local school districts’ hiring practices of students and adults with disabilities. As the largest employer in most counties, local school districts haven’t always had a strong history of hiring of people with disabilities, specifically developmental disabilities. The Transition Center has identified specific school districts who are willing to look at their hiring practices and make changes that will allow persons with disabilities, specifically developmental disabilities, to be hired in non-instructional positions and instructional positions when qualified. The presentation will highlight the efforts of these school districts and demonstrate how their efforts have increased the number of people with disabilities, specifically developmental disabilities, being employed within their communities. The presentation will highlight the strategies that these school districts have used and describe how other school districts may duplicate their efforts.
Fathers and Coping: Strategies for Increased Life Satisfaction
10:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.
Salon 22

Fathers play an integral role in the lives of their children with special needs. However, their emotional needs often times go unaddressed or unrecognized. Participants in this interactive presentation will discuss and learn strategies related to more effective coping strategies, greater life satisfaction, and increased family involvement. This program is for fathers and those who love them.

Andrew P. Daire, Ph.D., LMHC, NCC
University of Central Florida
Assistant Professor
P.O. Box 161250
Orlando, Florida 32816
(407) 823-0385
(407) 695-9472 fax
adaire@mail.ucf.edu

Strategies for Parents of Struggling Readers
10:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.
Salon 23

This awareness session will provide participants with information related to scientifically based reading research knowledge, strategies, tools and resources designed to meet the reading instructional needs of students struggling with reading.

Cara Pope
Project CENTRAL
Consultant for Project Central
1673 Mason Avenue, Suite 207
Daytona Beach, Florida 32117
(386) 274-0175
(386) 274-0179 fax
projcentral@mail.ucf.edu

Blueprint for Self-Determination in Florida: The System of the Future
10:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.
Salon 24

This presentation will include recommendations from Center for Self Determination to the State of Florida on the implementation of state-wide self-determination. It will include discussion of the role of vocational rehabilitation, transition, housing development and a new view of quality assurance. Important aspects of a dual waiver under both Medicaid and Social Security will be reviewed in depth.

Tom Nerney
Center for Self-Determination
Director
52 Lake Drive North PO Box 105
New Fairfield, Connecticut 06812
(203) 746-0502
tomnerney@earthlink.net

Pat Carver
Center for Self Determination
Coordinator
401 East Stadium Blvd.
Ann Arbor, Michigan 48104
(810) 231-6364
(810) 231-6369 fax
p carver@chartermi.net
**ATEN Demonstration**

10:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.

**Signature 1**

The Assistive Technology Educational Network (ATEN) for the state of Florida invites participants of the Family Café to come to the Assistive Technology (AT) lab and learn how assistive technology can be educational and fun. Come see and explore new and innovative AT tools. Participants can learn how to create low-tech items in a Make ‘n’ Take session.

Phyllis Neal-Wilson  
ATEN Administrator  
1207 Mellonville Avenue  
Sanford, Florida 32771  
(407) 688-2201

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**Pasta Entrees**

1:00 p.m. - 2:00 p.m. Concurrent Programs

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**Successful Advocacy: How To Get The Services Your Child Needs**

1:00 p.m. to 2:00 p.m.

**Salon 1**

Parents will learn specific tips and techniques about writing effective letters, dealing with medical personnel, school system, insurance companies, and state programs. The best way to learn to be an advocate is by learning from another parent who can say, “Yes, I’ve been where you are, and this is what happened, and this is what I did, and here’s why it worked.” Pam Lindemann teaches from her own personal experience. A highly successful advocate for her own child, Pam is often sought after by other parents for help in advocating for their children.

Pam Lindemann  
Bridge Builders  
6628 Piccadilly Lane  
Orlando, Florida 32835  
(407) 298-7036  
(407) 290-2311 fax  
pamlindemann@netzero.net

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**Planning for the Future of Your Child or Dependent with Special Needs**

1:00 p.m. to 2:00 p.m.

**Salon 11**


Kevin Manning  
New England Financial  
MetDESK Specialist  
302 Knights Run Avenue, Suite 1000  
Tampa, Florida 33602  
(813) 383-5202  
(813) 286-3855 fax  
kmanning@tampa.nef.com
Sailing Through Transition – A New Star Training
1:00 p.m. to 2:00 p.m.
Salon 12
The workshop will provide information on the transition process from the early intervention system at age three to other potential programs, as well as information on transition options, timelines, and resources.

Dorothy Clever
_Easter Seals Florida_
Family Resource Specialist
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The LoTTIE Kit (Low-Tech Tools for Inclusive Education)
1:00 p.m. to 2:00 p.m.
Salon 13
Not all technology needs to be expensive or difficult to use. Come see over 50 low-tech items that can help your child with his school work in the areas of reading, writing, math and organizational skills. Items to be shared include an easy-grip ruler, a talking calculator, an erasable highlighter, colored reading guides, and more. Ideas will be given on how to use each item with your child. Pricing and ordering information will also be provided.

Peggy Harter
_FDLRS/Miccosukee_
Assistive Technology Specialist
3955 W. Pensacola Street
Tallahassee, Florida 32303
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(850) 921-4097 fax
harterp@mail.leon.k12.fl.us

Web-Based Assessment
1:00 p.m. to 2:00 p.m.
Salon 14
This session will provide families with an update on plans by the Florida Department of Education to develop a web-based assessment pilot for the Florida Comprehensive Assessment Test (FCAT).

Michelle Polland
_Florida Department of Education_
Acting Chief, Bureau of Instructional Support and Community Services
325 W. Gaines Street, Suite 614
Tallahassee, Florida 32399
(850) 245-0475
(850) 245-0953 fax
michele.polland@fldoe.org

Karen Clay
_ESE State Advisory Committee_
502 S. Freemont Avenue, #409
Tampa, Florida 33606
(727) 523-1130
(813) 258-5691 fax
mikesmom3@aol.com

Supporting Your Child: An Overview of Positive Behavior Support
1:00 p.m. to 2:00 p.m.
Salon 15
Positive Behavior Support (PBS) is a way to bring together the school and family as a team to provide positive support for a child. Through the process the team will gather information to develop an individualized plan for resolving problem behaviors and helping people lead enhanced lifestyles. This presentation will provide an introduction to the principles and practices of PBS. You will be walked through the five-step PBS process that develops proactive, educative and functional interventions. Information will be provided on how to gain more in-depth knowledge via an on-line module.
Breaking Through Barriers to Employment
1:00 p.m. to 2:00 p.m.
Salon 16
The presentation will give an overview of the two disability programs that Social Security has. Social Security Disability Insurance (SSDI) and Supplemental Security Income (SSI). Each program has various work incentives to assist disabled individuals break through barriers they may face to become self supportive and self sufficient. These work incentives can be used to lessen the fear of benefit or insurance loss due to work. The PASS program being only one of the many incentives available to be used as tools to break through such barriers as expenses and resources needed to return to work.

Jodie C. Oakes
Social Security Administration
PASS Specialist
Teleclaims
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(205) 801-3462(205) 801-3367 fax
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WandaM.Berry@ssa.gov

Stupendous Stories: Harnessing the Power of Storybooks to Increase Engagement of Students with Disabilities in Shared Reading Experiences
1:00 p.m. to 2:00 p.m.
Salon 17
Story books offer a wonderful resource to encourage the development of social and academic skills for all children in a fun, stimulating and well structured context. This practically orientated presentation demonstrates the power of story books to engage and motivate children to participate in shared reading experiences. It will be shown that children do not have to be readers to enjoy and benefit from well executed shared reading experiences. Strategies such as story sacks and bag books will be explored and shown to be effective resources for families and schools. Most importantly, the presentation will focus upon how we, the reader of the story book, can create exciting, appropriate and fun shared learning experiences. Conference attendees will have the opportunity to experience this as well as explore the skills required to replicate this process in the home or school.

Phyllis Jones PhD
University of South Florida
Assistant Professor
Sarasota/Manatee Regional Campus
pjones@banshee.sar.usf.edu

Update on the Department of Education’s Programs and Initiatives for People with Disabilities
1:00 p.m. to 2:00 p.m.
Salon 18
This presentation will focus on the federal initiatives and programs that support individuals with disabilities and their families. Basic tenets of the New Freedom Initiative, the Rehabilitation Act, the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) and the No Child Left Behind Act (NCLB) will be discussed, with particular
focus on federal accomplishments, interagency collaborations and programs established as a result of these initia-
tives and legislation. Resources will be shared to help families access information and services from the
Department of Education.

Troy R. Justesen, Ed.D.
U.S. Department of Education
Acting Deputy Assisting Secretary
Office of Special Education and Rehabilitative Services
MES 3106
330 C Street SW
Washington, DC 20202

Parent Power
1:00 p.m. to 2:00 p.m.
Salon 19
This presentation will engage participants in a variety of hands-on activities that will teach how to create long-
term alliances. Creative tools for politicking (not in the political sense), teaming and planning will be taught,
including a communication planner to be used when preparing to make a presentation or to have a meeting
with key leaders, school personnel, or others. It is expected that participants will walk away with meaningful
insight and a set of skills for seeking and getting positive outcomes in a non-threatening manner.

Dr. Yvonne Howze
Florida School for the Deaf and Blind
Director, Outreach Services
207 San Marco Avenue
Jacksonville, Florida
(904) 827-2259
(904) 827-2234 fax
howzey@fsdb.k12.fl.us

Interview Strategies for the 21st Century
1:00 p.m. to 2:00 p.m.
Salon 20
Because finding and securing a job in the 21st century is becoming more and more difficult, this session will
enable the person with a disability to find a job of choice and sell themselves effectively during the interview.

J.R. Harding
Vocational Rehabilitation
Partnership Specialist for the Office of the Director
2002 Old St. Augustine Road, Bldg. A
Tallahassee, Florida 32301
(850) 488-0059
jrfsu@comcast.net

Triumph Through Adversity
1:00 p.m. to 2:00 p.m.
Salon 21
During this PowerPoint presentation, Denise Payne will explain how she has overcome her adversities and how
she is lobbying so that other individuals with disabilities do not have to go through the same. This lecture is
also focused on the five principles of Self Determination, to which the Southern Movement for Independence
adhere. Denise Payne is currently Chair of the Broward County Chapter. She also belongs to the Departmental
Services Medicaid Waiver Redesign Team.

Denise Payne
Self Determination Board of Broward County
Self Advocate
7591 Southgate Blvd., #F-2
North Lauderdale, Florida 33068
(954) 722-5364
(954) 485-7885 fax
speedycherokee@juno.com
Coping Strategies for Parents of Children with Early On-set Mental Illnesses
1:00 p.m. to 2:00 p.m.
Salon 22
Marcia Mathes raised a child with early-onset bipolar disorder and developed many personal strategies to cope. She will share these and other ideas about self-care gleaned from NAMI family education programs. Kim Lander will draw upon a twenty-year career in human services and her vast experience working with children with special needs and their families. The presenters will offer the parent’s perspective on the stresses placed on them by a mentally ill child and the frustrations experienced in obtaining services for that child, and how to cope and maximize the services provided. The presenters will also give solid, science-based strategies for relieving stress in the family.

Marcia Mathes
*The National Alliance for the Mentally Ill, FL, (NAMIFI)*
Chair of Child and Adolescent Committee
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mmmathes@earthlink.net

Kim Lander
LMHC
558 Calibre Crest Pkwy. #102
Altamonte Springs, Florida 32714
(407) 788-1589

New Horizons for Supported Living
1:00 p.m. to 2:00 p.m.
Salon 23
Historically, residential choices for individuals with developmental disabilities have been based on residential models that are facility based, owned and operated. Supported living has emerged as the fastest growing residential option in Florida and across the country. Through supported living arrangements, many individuals, even those with severe disabilities, are able to live in their own homes, gain control of their lives and become part of their communities. This panel discussion and multimedia presentation will offer up to date information about supported living and cover the basics on how you can begin to live an everyday life in a home of your own.

Ed Rousseau
*Developmental Disabilities Program*
Supported Living Coordinator
1317 Winewood Blvd., Bldg. 3, Room 302
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(850) 414-7787
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Lisa Lewis
*Collier Connections, Inc.*
Supported Living Coach
2296 Clipper Way
Naples, Florida 30104
(239) 370-4396
lisalewis@netzero.com

Brandon Cardin
Self Advocate

Medicaid School-Based Services
1:00 p.m. to 2:00 p.m.
Salon 24
Description of Medicaid School Certified Match Program, and discussion of student medical services covered by the program. Questions will be taken at the end of the session from the audience.

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Erica Floyd Thomas
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floyde@fdhc.state.fl.us
FAAST Demonstration
1:00 p.m. to 2:00 p.m.
Signature 1
Visit the Florida Alliance for Assistive Services and Technology, Inc. (FAAST) for a demonstration of Assistive Technology. Topics include assessments, products and devices, available resources, funding, programs and services, and consumer advocacy issues. Learn hands-on by viewing and using samples of high-tech and low-tech devices on display.
FAAST
325 John Knox Road, Bldg. B
Tallahassee, Florida 32303
(850) 487-3278

Seafood Entrées
2:30 p.m. - 3:30 p.m. Concurrent Programs

Florida’s Transition Strategic Plan
2:30 p.m. to 3:30 p.m.
Salon 1
In Florida there has been a concerted effort to identify the issues and barriers faced by the state’s youth and young adults with disabilities as they make the transition from high school to adult life. This session will provide an overview of the collaborative efforts of the Partners in Transition to identify the issues, to develop and implement a statewide 4-year strategic plan focusing on transition. FDDC members of the Partners in Transition team will share with you the process of developing the strategic plan, the plan itself, and the current activities related to the strategic plan.

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Kathy Burton
Florida Developmental Disabilities Council
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24 Marriott Drive, Suite 203
Tallahassee, Florida 32301
(850) 488-4180
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kathyb.fddc@nettally.com

Transition Planning: From IEP to IPE
2:30 p.m. to 3:30 p.m.
Salon 9
This workshop focuses on the process of transition planning for high school aged students and beyond. The Transition IEP (Individualized Education Program) includes a statement of “post school outcomes” including employment. The IPE (Independent Plan for Employment) is a similar process to the IPE used by Vocational Rehabilitation to detail the supports and resources necessary to gain successful employment outcomes once a person becomes a VR client.

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Family Network on Disabilities
TILES Project Director
2735 Whitney Road
Clearwater, Florida 33760
(800) 825-5736
(419) 821-1773 fax
tom@fndfl.org
Advocacy Initiatives from the Florida Developmental Disabilities Council

2:30 p.m. to 3:30 p.m.
Salon 10

Come learn how the Florida Developmental Disabilities Council can help you become a more-informed advocate! This presentation will highlight advocacy opportunities such as the Partners in Policymaking leadership training program and offer tips on becoming involved in the legislative process. Past Partners in Policymaking graduates are encouraged to attend, network, and inspire those interested in the program.

Cindy Nipper Tan

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Summer Pfeiffer

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summerp.fddc@nettally.com

The Mysteries of Social Security Disability

2:30 p.m. to 3:30 p.m.
Salon 12

The Social Security Disability process is very confusing and frustrating. SSA’s definition of a disability is unique. A serious condition does not mean that a person is considered disabled. Attorney Eric L. Bolves guides the audience through the entire process from initial application to federal court review in an entertaining and understandable manner. Mr. Bolves explains why it takes so long to process a disability claim and what to expect. Learn strategies to increase chances of approval, including how to deal with doctors and the SSA. Bolves and Associates, P.A., provides expert representation and information for those seeking benefits throughout Florida.

Eric L. Bolves, Esq.

Bolves & Associates, P.A.
Attorney-Social Security Disability Law
2110 E. Robinson Street
Orlando, Florida 32803
(407) 894-1002
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ericbolves@thelegalcenter.com

Alayna Mejias

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Community Relations Director
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Another Look: Third Grade Student Progression

2:30 p.m. to 3:30 p.m.
Salon 13

Section 1008.25, Florida Statutes (Public schools student progression; remedial instruction; reporting requirements), prohibits social promotion and requires districts to set standards that students must meet to be promoted to a higher grade. The law focuses accountability on reading proficiency at the end of third grade demonstrated by scoring at level 2 or higher on the FCAT. The law provides six exceptions to this mandatory retention for good cause, that include demonstrating an equivalent level of proficiency through a portfolio of student work or an alternative assessment as approved by the State Board of Education. The intent of this legislation is to ensure that any student who still has a substantial reading deficiency at the end of the third grade is provided more time and additional intensive remedial instruction to acquire the fundamentals of the most basic skills of reading. In fourth grade and beyond, the instructional focus shifts from learning to read to reading to learn. After third grade, text becomes substantially and progressively denser, syntax more complicated, vocabulary more sophisticated, comprehension more demanding, and the need for fluency more vital. Students need a sound foundation in reading for this more difficult work. A substantial reading deficiency, regardless of the reason that is causing it—even a learning disability, limited English proficiency, or a disadvantaged background—needs to be addressed and corrected before the student can be expected to successfully move on to the more difficult work of the higher grades.
Traveling the Seas of Families, Feelings and Emotions – A New Star Training

2:30 p.m. to 3:30 p.m.
Salon 14

The goal of this workshop is to help families learn more about emotions and grief stages that families often experience upon learning of a family member’s disability or special health care need, strategies for nurturing yourself and getting the supports you might need, the challenges that family stress might bring, typical reactions of siblings and ways to address their concerns, as well as opportunities for grandparents and other relatives to be a part of the process.

Heather Harris
Health Planning Council
Family Resource Specialist
9250 College Pkwy., Suite 3
Ft. Myers, Florida 33919
(239) 433-6700
(239) 433-6706 fax

Building Access to Quality Oral Health Care

2:30 p.m. to 3:30 p.m.
Salon 15

This presentation focuses on how the FDDC is developing a system of oral health care for individuals with developmental disabilities in Florida. It contains information on how we approached the issue, organized and targeted what we wanted to accomplish, and developed a network of providers. The provider list will be distributed to the public as well as a booklet describing the issues related to the provision of oral health care in Florida.

Tonie Vogt
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Policy Manager
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Tallahassee, Florida 32301
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toniv.fddc@nettally.com

Appreciating How Young Children’s Relationships with Adults Impact Emotional Development

2:30 p.m. to 3:30 p.m.
Salon 16

This presentation will provide a brief review of the power of early relationships, and how everyday family experiences are the key contexts for young children’s emotional growth. This will include a discussion of the rewards and challenges in interpreting babies’ emotions and communication cues, and important differences in how young children may show attachment to their parents at different ages. It will also share how Florida’s Strategic Plan for Infant Mental Health has identified systems that can support families in enhancing the social-emotional development of their children.
Meet Michele Polland: Acting Bureau Chief for the Department of Education, Bureau of Instructional Support and Community Services

2:30 p.m. to 3:30 p.m.
Salon 17

An opportunity to hear about exiting initiatives from the Florida Department of Education and have your questions answered.

Michelle Polland
Florida Department of Education
Acting Chief, Bureau of Instructional Support and Community Services
325 W. Gaines Street, Suite 614
Tallahassee, Florida 32399
(850) 245-0475
(850) 245-0953 fax
michele.polland@fldoe.org

Advocating for Increasing Housing Resources in Your Community

2:30 p.m. to 3:30 p.m.
Salon 18

Understand the state and local planning processed that determine how affordable housing resources will be allocated in your community. Learn what the requirements are for local funding sources such as the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Program, HOME, and the State Housing Initiative Partnership (SHIP) Program; how Local Housing Authorities make decisions to allocate Section 8 Vouchers or pursue additional funding sources such as Mainstream Vouchers. Understand how the rulemaking process affects the types of developments funded with the state affordable housing dollars and the importance of linking support service funding with affordable housing funding.

Michael Shafer
Florida Housing Coalition
Technical Advisor
337 Monet Place
Nokomis, Florida 34275
(941) 918-2455
(941) 966-4277 fax
mikes.flhousing@comcast.net

Susan Parks
Florida Housing Finance Corporation
227 North Bronough Street, Suite 5
Tallahassee, Florida 32301
(850) 488-4197
susan.parks@floridahousing.org

Positive Behavior Support (PBS) 101

2:30 p.m. to 3:30 p.m.
Salon 19

PBS is a technique based on good data collection, good teaching skills, strong value systems, and a clear understanding that every behavior has a meaning (function) for the person exhibiting the behavior. Come learn tips, techniques, strategies, and resources to assist in defining behavior.
What is Exceptional Student Education?
2:30 p.m. to 3:30 p.m.
Salon 20
If your child is transitioning from Early Intervention to Pre-K, or Pre-K to Kindergarten, or your child has been determined eligible for services and supports in a school setting- then this is your workshop. Come learn about the transition families make in that process. This workshop will explain the basics.

Margie Jessup
Family Network on Disabilities of Florida, Inc.
Minority Outreach Coordinator, Panhandle and Tallahassee
2735 Whitney Road
Clearwater, Florida 33760-1610
(727) 523-1130
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margie@fndfl.org

Come on Dad, It’s Your Turn to be Involved
2:30 p.m. to 3:30 p.m.
Salon 22
This is a time when fathers and grandfathers will get together to speak “the father” language of having a child with a disability. Join these fathers as they share with you their tears, fears, pain, advocacy skills, and ultimately the love, care, and understanding gained through their extraordinary relationships with their children.

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TILES Project Director
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Estate Planning for the Special-Needs Client and Family Member
2:30 p.m. to 3:30 p.m.
Salon 23
The purpose of this workshop is to provide family members with special needs concerns information on estate and special needs trust planning. We would like to use our customized power point presentation during this lecture.

Stephanie C. Remisiewick
Sherrill & Hutchins Financial Advisory, Inc.
7800 Belfort Pkwy., Suite 120
Jacksonville, Florida 32256
(904) 425-0919
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stephanie@sh-advisors.com

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(904) 425-0919
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The Student Says, “It’s My IEP Meeting”
2:30 p.m. to 3:30 p.m.
Salon 24
How-to’s on the successful transition from parent directed meetings to parent and student working together
and then to student directed meetings. The presenters, a student and her mother, will demonstrate how the
parent can successfully participate with child and still be a supportive parent. This workshop will provide posi-
tive strategies for the student.

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*Family Network on Disabilities*
Minority Outreach Coordinator, South Florida
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Tiffany Ramos
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pen@fndfl.org

ATEN Demonstration
2:30 a.m. to 3:30 a.m.
Signature 1
The Assistive Technology Educational Network (ATEN) for the state of Florida invites participants of the Family
Café to come to the Assistive Technology (AT) lab and learn how assistive technology can be educational and
fun. Come see and explore new and innovative AT tools. Participants can learn how to creat low-tech items in
a Make n’ Take session.

Phyllis Neal-Wilson
ATEN
Administrator
1207 Mellonville Avenue
Sanford, FL 32771
(407) 688-2201

Vegetarian Entrees
4:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m. Concurrent Programs

HIPAA and Your Privacy
4:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.
Salon 1
A presentation of HIPAA and what it means to you as a client receiving services from the state and your health
care providers.

William E.C. Marvin
*Florida Statewide Advocacy Council*
Executive Director
1317 Winewood Blvd., Bldg. #1, Suite 401
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Craig Rappel, Esq.
*Florida Statewide Advocacy Council*
Chair
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cmr@rappellaw.com

Affordable Housing, Supported
Living and People with Disabilities
4:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.
Salon 5
Supported living, based on developing individualized housing in communities, has in fact provided more nor-
malized living options for Florida citizens with developmental disabilities. But one of the barriers to supported
living in this state is the lack of affordable housing. This presentation will discuss an innovative approach used in Jacksonville to developing affordable housing in attractive neighborhoods for people with disabilities. Grove House, with support funding from The Florida Developmental Disabilities Council, has purchased a number of homes using below-market financing, which reduces the debt service on the houses.

Dale DiLeo  
*Training Resource Network, Inc.*  
President  
316 St. George Street  
St. Augustine, Florida 32084  
904-824-7121  
904-823-3554 fax  
trninc@aug.com

The John McKay Scholarship Program for Students with Disabilities  
**4:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.**  
**Salon 6**  
This session provides parents with an overview of general qualifications for the McKay Scholarship Program, a brief program history and new plans. The presentation includes an update on any new legislation regarding scholarship programs.  
Jean Miller  
*Florida Department of Education*  
Director of Independent Private Education  
325 W. Gaines Street, 5th Floor  
Tallahassee, Florida 32399  
(850) 245-0868  
jean.miller@fldoe.org

Ticket to Work – Is it for You?  
**4:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.**  
**Salon 7**  
This session will provide you with updated information about the Ticket to Work and Self-Sufficiency Program and other work incentives contained in the Ticket to Work and Work Incentives Improvement Act. Learn about the removal of disincentives, little known “safety nets” and supports contained in the Act, and about the variety of resources available to assist you in making an informed decision to return to work. The Ticket to Work Program is not right for everyone-is it right for YOU? Find out.  
Marlene Ulisky  
*Social Security Administration*  
North Florida Area Work Incentives Coordinator  
2301 W. Eau Gallie Blvd.  
Melbourne, Florida 32935  
(321) 254-9036  
(321) 752-9864 fax  
marlene.a.ulisky@ssa.gov

What To Expect From Your Support Coordinator  
**4:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.**  
**Salon 8**  
The Florida Association of Support Coordinators presents an overview of Support Coordination paired with a questions and answer period. Topics include: responsibilities of your Support Coordinator; behind the scenes, things we do you don’t even know about or see; your right to choose your Support Coordinator; and your right to change your Support Coordinator.
**My Kid May Be Heading Towards Trouble With the Law**

4:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.

**Salon 9**

Come learn how the Juvenile System works. This workshop will provide information on IDEA as it relates to the rights and responsibilities of school, the law, and the system. Learn about the courts, Baker Act, and exams. Tips will be shared to make successful transition back to school and community.

Shelley Watson  
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Area Training Coordinator, Region 6  
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shelley@fndfl.org

**Keeping it Together: Preserving Your Marriage and Family**

4:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.

**Salon 10**

The birth of a special needs child presents a couple and family with many unexpected challenges. Unfortunately, these challenges can place a significant amount of strain on the couple. This interactive presentation will present recent research findings on how the couple unit is impacted and what can be done to help “keep it together” in order to preserve the marriage and family. With the divorce rate in families impacted by special needs hovering around 70%, this is a timely presentation.

Andrew P. Daire, Ph.D., LMHC, NCC  
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(407) 823-0385  
(407) 695-9472 fax  
adaire@mail.ucf.edu

**Fostering Independence in Your Child – A Consumer’s Point of View**

4:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.

**Salon 12**

What can you as a parent do to enable your child to become the best he can be? Learn to focus on your skills as a parent that will in turn enhance the abilities of your child. Key topics to be covered include acceptance by peers, developing a positive attitude, and the importance of self-image. These tips and insights will be presented by an individual with cerebral palsy based on how he and his parents fostered his independence.
The Road to Advocacy
4:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.
Salon 13

The presentation will be an interactive session in which individuals can learn how to be a voice for the issues they care about during the legislative session. The presenters have a half of a century experience between them. Attendees will also hear from the presenters what the major issues are and get a look into the crystal ball to see what the future in Tallahassee holds.

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Parent Input in the Evaluation of Special Education:
New Developments in Florida’s Parent Input Process
4:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.
Salon 14

This interactive session will update parents on the new survey measures that are being designed to capture parents’ perceptions of partnership efforts, quality of services, and parent involvement in special education. Family members will be asked for their suggestions concerning both survey content and implementation. In particular, FDOE would like to obtain participants’ feedback concerning the idea of making greater use of the Web for parent surveys and data reports.

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Medicaid 101-Basic Medicaid – Everything You Wanted To Know
4:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.
Salon 15

Medicaid is a joint federal-state insurance program used by one out of eight Floridians. Participants will learn about the wide range of services available, types of health care professionals entitled to bill Medicaid, and eligibility requirements for membership in this program. Waivers will NOT be covered. There is another session devoted entirely to waivers.

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L. Gail Connolly
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Therapeutic Horse Riding and Hippotherapy – resources and benefits
4:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.
Salon 16
An overview of Therapeutic Horse Riding and Hippotherapy, including how to find service providers.
Jane Flora
Freedom Ride, Inc.
Executive Director
P.O. Box 3741
Winter Park, Florida 32790-3741
(407) 293-0411
(407) 293-6280 fax
freedmride@aol.com

Smart IEPs ... The Wrightslaw Way
4:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.
Salon 17
Is your child making progress or falling further behind? Learn how to use the bell curve, standard scores and percentile ranks to measure and monitor your child’s educational progress.
Pete W. D. Wright & Pamela Darr Wright
Wrightslaw
P.O. Box 1008
Deltaville, Virginia 23043
www.wrightslaw.com
www.fetaweb.com
www.yellowpagesforkids.com

Meet Medicaid: A Roundtable Discussion
4:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.
Salon 18
Join us in a roundtable discussion. Provide input and get answers to the issues that you and your family deal with on a daily basis. This session will provide you with an opportunity to have your concerns addressed by the agency’s administration. Come and let your voice be heard.
Representative
Agency for Health Care Administration
Deputy Secretary for Medicaid
Tallahassee, Florida 32308
(850) 488-3560

Navigating the DD System and YOU are the Driver!
4:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.
Salon 19
Does the volume of information in the yellow notebook you received several years ago intimidate you? Are you confused and frustrated with services and supports provided by the developmental disabilities program? Come talk with others who are receiving services and once felt the way you do. Talk to us about some of the ways we have empowered ourselves to be more in charge of what’s happening in our life!
Melinda Coulter
Department of Children & Families:
Developmental Disabilities Program Office
1317 Winewood Blvd., Bldg. 3, Room 315D
Tallahassee, Florida 32399
(850) 488-9546
(850) 488-3698 fax
melinda_coulter@dcf.state.fl.us
Work is for Everyone
4:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.
Salon 20
A major initiative for the Developmental Program during the next few years will be the development of supports for everyone to have the opportunity to work in the community. Historically, Florida has had 2-3 times more people working in low paying segregated type activities such as workshops and adult day programs than working in competitive employment. This initiative will seek to remove barriers and improve the opportunities for employment in the community. This interactive presentation will provide information concerning the types of supports that can be received to help individuals obtain and keep community employment. Most people prefer to work because work is valued as a meaningful contribution to others and work provides resources that help improve our lives. People with disabilities should not be denied this opportunity. This presentation will help answer the following questions: How can I get a job? What are the advantages and cautions about getting a real job in the community? Will my benefits be affected by working? Where can I learn more information?

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A “Tip” on Transition of Youth with Emotional & Behavioral Difficulties
4:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.
Salon 21
The practice and operational guidelines for the Transition to Independence Process (TIP) system will be presented and described. This transition intervention is designed to assist young people with emotional and/or behavioral difficulties (EBD) in making a successful transition to adulthood, with all young persons achieving, within their potential, their goals in the transition domains of employment, education, living situation, and community life.

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Marianne Sarkis
University of South Florida
Faculty
13301 Bruce B. Downs Blvd., MHC 2315
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msarkis@fmhi.usf.edu

Navigating Housing Programs to Find Affordable Housing in Your Community
4:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.
Salon 22
Understand the different types of housing that are available. Discuss local, state and federal programs that fund affordable housing. Learn about resources to help you find affordable housing locally and how to navigate these systems to access housing in your community. In addition, we will discuss ways to expand the capacity of local organizations to develop affordable housing or to partner with housing developers to ensure that affordable housing is available.

Michael Shafer
Florida Housing Coalition
Technical Advisor
337 Monet Place
Nokomis, Florida 34275
(941) 918-2455
mikes.flhousing@comcast.net

Susan Parks
Florida Housing Finance Corporation
227 North Bronough Street
Tallahassee, Florida 32301
(850) 488-4197
susan.parks@floridahousing.org
Advancing People with Disabilities in the Local Church
4:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.
Salon 23
Special People’s Ministries strives to help people with both physical and developmental disabilities to become more involved in both the local church and community. Through our teaching methods our students have built up the courage and self-esteem to become more involved within their communities.

Henry A. Midgett
Special People’s Ministries of Florida
Pastor
8180 McDaniel Drive North
Fort Myers, Florida 33917
(239) 567-1265
(239) 567-1265 fax
pastormidgett@earthlink.net

Marketing & Measuring Parent Involvement
4:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.
Salon 24
This presentation demonstrates two district systems of measuring parent involvement. Different Levels of Parent Involvement (DLOPE) is a method designed to help teachers and administrators chart the involvement of parents during the school year. Marketing your school through community parent involvement is the key to school choice.

Audrey Lewis
Gadsden County Schools
District-Wide Parent Services Coordinator
35 Martin Luther King Blvd.
Quincy, Florida 32352
(850) 875-3241
(850) 875-3195 fax
audreylewis2003@yahoo.com

Catina Simmons
Carter Parramore Middle School
Parent Liaison

Debra Lewis Stafford
St. John’s Elementary School
Parent Liaison

FAAST Demonstration
4:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.
Signature 1
Visit the Florida Alliance for Assistive Services and Technology, Inc. (FAAST) for a demonstration of Assistive Technology. Topics include assessments, products and devices, available resources, funding, programs and services, and consumer advocacy issues. Learn hands-on by viewing and using samples of hi-tech and low-tech devices on display.

FAAST
325 John Knox Road, Bldg. B
Tallahassee, Florida 32303
(850) 487-3278
The Dueling Pianos are the combined musical efforts of Orlando’s premier piano entertainers. The dueling pianists have performed over two thousand all-request shows at Orlando’s “Largest Theme Park”, as well as hundreds of private performances. The Dueling Pianos of Orlando client list includes some of the world’s top corporations, conventions, and private parties.

Fun For All Ages!
Shaping Successful Behavior: Plans for Individuals with Co-Occurring Disorders
9:00 a.m. to 10:00 a.m.
Salon 1
Families often struggle with the behaviors of their family member with a developmental disability. Professionals offer differing views on how to handle the problem, and families are often left to select the approach that works best for them in their home and community. This session will discuss different approaches to behavior management so that families can make an informed choice on what might work best for them.

James Taylor
Gulf Coast Facility
Certified Behavior Analyst
Ft. Myers, Florida 33917
jimmyt10@earthlink.net

Planning for Your Child or Dependent with Special Needs
9:00 a.m. to 10:00 a.m.
Salon 5
MetDESK stands for MetLife’s Division of Estate Planning for Special Kids, and it is part of MetLife’s commitment of public service to families with children of all ages, from infant to senior, with all disabilities. MetDESK is committed to helping families through the maze of legal and financial complexities surrounding planning for the future of children and other dependents with special needs.

Michael Sousou
New England Financial
MetDESK Specialist
302 Knights Run Avenue, Suite 1000
Tampa, Florida 33602
(904) 332-8830
msousou@metlife.com

Community-Based Affordable Housing Options
9:00 a.m. to 10:00 a.m.
Salon 7
The dream of independent supported living in the community can turn into a nightmare if you cannot find a house or apartment you can afford. If you have searched for affordable housing awhile, you already know all the existing “subsidized” housing units and you have probably run into lots of “dead-ends”. What other options are available? This workshop will offer consumers, family members, support coordinators and coaches an understanding of how
federal and state affordable housing programs can be tapped to increase housing for people with disabilities. It will discuss how to effectively advocate to secure this housing funding for your needs. The training will stress the importance of partnerships and will highlight several success stories from across Florida.

Michael Chaney  
*Florida Housing Coalition*  
Technical Advisor  
1367 E. Lafayette Street, Suite C  
Tallahassee, Florida 32301  
(850) 878-4219  
(850) 942-6312 fax  
chaney@flhousing.org

**TD 101-Transportation Disadvantaged**

**9:00 a.m. to 10:00 a.m.**

**Salon 8**

Need help getting a ride? Come learn how the Transportation Disadvantaged (TD) Program can help! The Commission for the Transportation Disadvantaged helps thousands of folks get to doctor’s appointments, work, school, training and many other destinations. Also, this session will cover the basics of who to call and what to do when transportation doesn’t meet your expectations.

Lisa Bascot  
*Commission for the Transportation Disadvantaged*  
Executive Director  
605 Suwannee St., MS-49  
Tallahassee, Florida 32399-0450  
(850) 410-5700  
lisa.bascot@dot.state.fl.us

**Family Care Council Orientation**

**9:00 a.m. to 10:00 a.m.**

**Salon 9**

The Individuals and Families Partners Unit will be training on the following topics of the Family Care Council Orientation Manual for members: Family Care Council overview, Family Care Council legislation, interpretative guidelines, Family Care Council documents and budget and fiscal information.

Program Administration  
*Department of Children & Families: Developmental Disabilities Program Office*  
1317 Winewood Blvd., Bldg. 3, Room 314A  
Tallahassee, Florida 32399-0700  
(850) 414-6558  
(850) 488-3698 fax

Wilma Lefler  
*Department of Children and Families*  
1317 Winewood Blvd.  
Tallahassee, Florida 32399  
(850) 414-6558  
(850) 488-3698 fax  
wilma_lefler@dcf.state.fl.us

Michael Freeman  
*Department of Children and Families*  
1317 Winewood Blvd.  
Tallahassee, Florida 32399  
(850) 414-6558  
(850) 488-3698 fax  
micheal_freeman@dcf.state.fl.us
Headquarters for Hope – A System of Care for the Families, By the Families and Of the Families
9:00 a.m. to 10:00 a.m.
Salon 10
Join us during this very poignant session to hear what parents and youth really want and need when the chaos and turmoil of mental health issues wreak havoc of their lives. After the “traditional” or “not so traditional” approaches of therapy, medication management, behavior modification, etc. this family organization stepped beyond the “usually acceptable boundaries” to fill the gaping holes in the system. A group of dedicated parents joined forces. Their determination to change the destinies of their lost children and to stop the downward spiral of their worlds opened the doors of opportunity for this community. They will tell about the guiding principles for “Headquarters for Hope” and then you will experience the personal stories and testimonies of those who participated in this project.

Helene Sohn
Parent Advocacy Coalition
Executive Director
200 SW 27th Avenue
Fort Lauderdale, Florida 33312
(954) 298-0728
(954) 585-8748 fax
helenesohn@bellsouth.net

Supercharging! – The Personal Development Process
9:00 a.m. to 10:00 a.m.
Salon 11
I have a petrified hamburger that is nearly four years old. It is a real hamburger, but the bread hasn’t rotted. It looks like a regular hamburger until you get close. As good as it looks, though, it is no longer edible. Stress and a tough life situation can push us to be like that – pretty, but unusable. But it doesn’t have to be that way. We really do have a choice. If we know how, we can take charge of our lives! Come learn how to get your life “Supercharged!”

Dr. Freddy Davis
TSM Enterprises
321 Anton Drive
Tallahassee, Florida 32312
(850) 383-9756
(888) 883-0656
davis@iname.com

Families Building Exceptional Readers
9:00 a.m. to 10:00 a.m.
Salon 12
Florida’s parents and educators are raving about the Families Build Better Readers training developed by Dr. Angela Martin and sponsored by Just Read Florida and the Office of Family and Community Outreach. Be the first to participate in a new version of this training called Families Building Exceptional Readers, developed by Martin especially for parents of exceptional children. Come learn very specific ways you can help your child build better reading skills at home.

Angela Martin, Ed.D.
University of West Florida
Educational Consultant
3274 Abel Avenue
Pace, Florida 32571
(850) 450-7346
amartin@uwf.edu
Making Decisions about FCAT Accommodations

9:00 a.m. to 10:00 a.m.

Salon 13

This session will describe the accommodations that are allowed for the FCAT and how they relate to the demands of the test. Guidelines will be presented to assist parents in becoming more informed decision makers.

Marty Beech
Center for Performance Technology, FSU
Research Associate
2035 E. Paul Dirac Drive, 109 HMB
Tallahassee, Florida 32310
(850) 921-0678
(850) 645-5652 fax
mbeech@cpt.fsu.edu

Getting the Most for Individuals with Developmental Disabilities

9:00 a.m. to 10:00 a.m.

Salon 14

Individuals with developmental disabilities have needs and desires and they should be accommodated to the best of the Medwaiver Programs ability. They want to interact in their communities, work and have healthy relationships too and we, as citizens and family members should assist in their wishes.

Kysha Long
DD/C.H.A.M.P.S.
Program Coordinator
1317 Winewood Blvd., Bldg. 3, Room 316
Tallahassee, Florida 32399-0700
(850) 414-9623
(850) 922-6456 fax
kysha_long@dcf.state.fl.us

Protecting Your Legal Rights: Options Other Than Guardianship

9:00 a.m. to 10:00 a.m.

Salon 16

This presentation will explain some of the ways to protect a person’s legal rights - whether you are concerned about your child with a disability, your aging parents or yourself! The following options will be presented by non-lawyers and family members: Power of Attorney, Representative Payee, co-signer on Bank Account, Client Advocate, as well as other pre-need directives. Copies of Florida’s “Five Wishes” will be provided to participants as well as other legal resources. Participants will be asked to share their successes on how they protected the rights of their loved ones.

Melinda Coulter
Department of Children & Families: Developmental Disabilities Program Office
1317 Winewood Blvd., Bldg. 3
Tallahassee, Florida 32399-0700
(850) 488-3698
melinda_coulter@dcf.state.fl.us

Gail Rapp
Florida Developmental Disabilities Council
2356 Foxboro Way
Tallahassee, Florida 32309
(850) 893-0892
gmrapp@msn.com

Paulie Yates
Office of the Public Guardian,
1923 B Capital Circle NE
Tallahassee, Florida 32308
(850) 487-4609
guardian21432301@yahoo.com
**Medicaid 102**

*9:00 a.m. to 10:00 a.m.*

**Salon 17**

Participants will get an overview of Medicaid Waivers. Particular focus will be placed on the Developmental Disabilities waiver. Parents of children and adults receiving services will participate and share their experiences.

Keith Young  
*Agency for Health Care Administration*  
Program Administrator  
2727 Mahan Drive, Mail Stop #20  
Tallahassee, Florida 32308  
(850) 487-2618  
(850) 414-1721 fax  
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Karen Henderson  
*Agency for Health Care Administration*  
Program Analyst  
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hendersonk@fdhc.state.fl.us

**Accessible Fun in Florida**

*9:00 a.m. to 10:00 a.m.*

**Salon 18**

Florida offers plenty of accessible fun and adventure for those with mobility impairments. Learn where you can snorkel from a boat with a hydraulic lift to get you in and out of the water, or sail in a boat with electronic controls, or go swimming with dolphins. Find out about Florida’s beach wheelchairs for loan, campgrounds with ADA bathhouses, special free events where you can try sports from water skiing to adaptive golf and much, much more.

Deborah Van Brunt  
*Wheelchairs on the Go: Accessible Fun in Florida*  
14074 Egret Lane  
Clearwater, Florida 33762  
(727) 556-0527  
(727) 812-4861 fax  
de.vb@gte.net

Randy and Michelle Stigleman  
*Wheelchairs on the Go: Accessible Fun in Florida*  
14060 Egret Lane  
Clearwater, Florida 33762  
(888) 750-6411  
(888) 812-4861 fax  
stigle@gte.net

**Drive-Thru Version of the Procedural Safeguards**

*9:00 a.m. to 10:00 a.m.*

**Salon 19**

That colored sheet that is received by parents at the beginning of every IEP meeting is important! They are the rules. This workshop is a chance to examine the fine print at a time when your focus is not on the IEP or what services your child will need. Join us to understand the opportunity families have to help shape the right educational experiences for their child.

Terry West  
*Family Network on Disabilities*  
Area Training Coordinator, Region 4  
2735 Whitney Road  
Clearwater, Florida 33760  
(727) 523-1130  
(727) 523-8687 fax  
terryw@fndfl.org
UF-UCEDD
9:00 a.m. to 10:00 a.m.
Salon 20
This presentation will give an overview of Florida’s newest University Center of Excellence in Developmental Disabilities (UF-UCEDD). UF-UCEDD’s mission is to improve the self-determination, opportunities for choice, and quality of life of adults with developmental disabilities and their families through education, training, community support and research activities.

Jeanne Repetto
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Principal Investigator and Director of the UF-UCEDD
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Elevating Life in the Disability Family
9:00 a.m. to 10:00 a.m.
Salon 21
Life is hard, even harder when families are faced with the challenge of dealing with disability. Within the family, roles are either reversed or roles need to be redefined. Fatigue, financial concerns, and isolation are all foes to the family confronting disability issues. In this workshop one will learn the LIFT model of building a successful family by laying the foundational building blocks of faith, mentorship and community.

Laura Lee Wright
Eleos-The Care Network
Family Coordinator
P.O. Box 770777
Orlando, Florida 32877
(407) 228-8343
LauraLee@elos.org

Discovering and Implementing Your Self-Determined Quality of Life
9:00 a.m. to 10:00 a.m.
Salon 22
As an individual with cerebral palsy who was discouraged from dreaming of becoming a psychotherapist, Shelly demonstrates how she achieved not only this dream, but many others in her self-determined quality of life. She uses personal and professional experiences to encourage the audience to not only dream of their ideal life, but also take steps needed to make their dreams a reality.
Voting Accessibility in Florida: Latest Developments

9:00 a.m. to 10:00 a.m.
Salon 24

This presentation will summarize developments in voting accessibility for people with disabilities in Florida that have occurred since the 2000 elections and will address developments in the 2004 Legislative Session. Included will be an overview of the requirements under the Help America Vote Act (HAVA), enacted by Congress and designed to make all voting machines and polling places accessible for people with disabilities. The presenter has served on the Secretary of State’s Select Task Force on Voting Accessibility (2001), the Governor’s 2002 Election Reform Task Force, and the State HAVA Planning Committee (2003), which drafted the State of Florida’s plan for implementing the requirements of HAVA.

Richard LaBelle
The Law Offices of Richard La Belle, P.A.
3446 Lake Drive
Dunedin, Florida 34698
(727) 784-9494
(727) 781-0013 fax
rjl87@aol.com
10:30 a.m. – 11:45 a.m.  
Closing Session - Room: Grand Ballroom  
Pete and Pam Wright  
Keynote Presentation  

From Emotions to Advocacy  

What do effective parent advocates know? What are the secrets of their success? Learn how to organize, plan, attack obstacles, and use your emotions to become an effective advocate for your child.

11:45 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.  
Closing and Door Prizes  

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See you next year for more!

Lori Jahey  Kim Dotson  Kelly Purvis  
&  
The Family Café Board
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7th Annual Family Café Conference

&

Governor's Summit on Disabilities

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Showcasing Florida’s Menu of Services