



**The  
Family  
Café**



*The*  
**family**

**Café**

*11th Annual Conference*

*Featuring the Summit on Disabilities.*

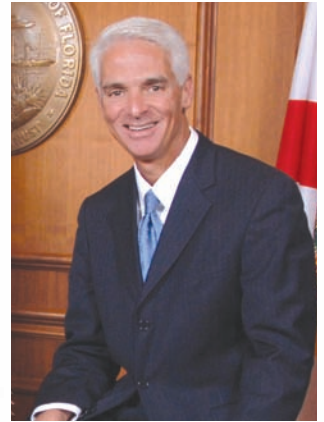


**June 5-7, 2009**

**Disney Coronado Springs Resort  
Orlando, Florida**



**CHARLIE CRIST**  
GOVERNOR



April 23, 2009

The Family Café, Inc.  
1332 North Duval Street  
Tallahassee, Florida 32303

Dear Friends:

Welcome to the 11<sup>th</sup> Annual Family Café Conference, a celebration and informational forum for Floridians with disabilities and their families at the Disney Coronado Springs Resort and Convention Center.

This year's conference provides a truly unique environment where, as Floridians, you can attend educational breakout sessions relevant to your specific needs and interact with government policymakers. I think you will enjoy the excellent speakers and exhibitors who are participating in the Family Café Conference.

I encourage you to take advantage of the opportunity to network with other families and learn about the wide range of services available to you. I support the Family Café in their mission to provide a forum for you to become better informed individuals who can make the best decisions for yourselves, and for your families. The Annual Conference is an excellent way of putting that mission into action.

I look forward to our continued partnership as we work together to improve the lives of persons with disabilities. Individuals with disabilities and their families are a diverse group, with diverse needs, and I am committed to seeing those unique challenges met with creative solutions.

Please enjoy the Family Café Conference and the special events planned for you as you interact with each other and learn about the wide range of partners, programs, and services gathered at this year's conference.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Charlie Crist".

Charlie Crist



# The 11th Annual Family Café Conference

Dear Family Café Conference Participants,

Welcome to Orlando and The 11th Annual Family Café Conference!

The Family Café Annual Conference is a statewide event designed to meet the need for information and networking among people with disabilities and/or special health care needs and their families in Florida. The Family Café Planning Committee, which is comprised of self-advocates, family members, fellow non-profits and agency partners, plays a central role in planning the Annual Conference. It is our mission to provide you with an opportunity for collaboration, advocacy, friendship and empowerment in a family-centered environment.

This year's event will once again highlight inclusive outdoor recreation, building on the success of the "Sportsability Sampler" we hosted with the help of our friends at the Florida Disabled Outdoors Association last year. In addition to activities in Veracruz C adjacent to the Exhibit Hall on Friday and Saturday, Sunday morning will feature catch and release fishing and disc golf beginning at 8:30, followed by an inspirational message from Paralympic ski racer Josh Sundquist. Please join us for some fresh air and exercise!

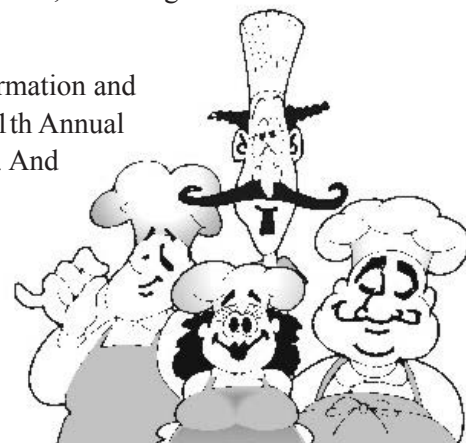
We are also very pleased to once again have Representative Bill Galvano join us to host The Annual Summit on Disabilities, which will be held on Friday evening at 6:00 p.m. As in past years, this event will provide you with a unique opportunity to engage in a conversation with a number of your elected leaders and have your questions answered and concerns addressed.

As always, the conference offers a wide range of breakout sessions on a number of subjects. To help you decide which to attend, some of the sessions have been arranged in "tracks" organized by subject. This year's tracks include Smart Money, Mental Health, Employment, Disaster Preparedness, Advocacy, Youth and Recreation. We are also placing a special emphasis on employment, with an Employment Expo hosted by the Agency for Workforce Innovation in the Exhibit Hall, and we are also excited about the official launch of CAN, The Family Café's Change Agent Network, which will help families to organize and advocate for their needs.

Of course, you will also be able to attend three engaging Keynote Addresses, browse more than 100 booths in our Exhibit Hall, and enjoy several family-friendly entertainment activities, including a Saturday night engagement with our friends from The Dueling Pianos.

On behalf of The Family Café, welcome to our second decade of providing information and training to Florida's families. We sincerely hope that your participation in The 11th Annual Family Café Conference leaves you feeling informed, educated and empowered. And as always, please let us know if there is anything we can do to serve you better!

Yours,  
The Family Café Planning Committee





Better Health Care for all Floridians

CHARLIE CRIST  
GOVERNOR

HOLLY BENSON  
SECRETARY

April 20, 2009

Dear Family Café Participants:

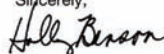
Welcome to the 11<sup>th</sup> Annual Family Café Conference and Governor's Summit on Disabilities. The Florida Agency for Health Care Administration is proud to be contributing to this event. Governor Crist and I support this conference which features such a unique opportunity for consumers and families to experience a vast array of educational activities and programs.

The Agency offers a wide range of services for eligible persons with disabilities through the Medicaid program. Participants and families should take advantage of this opportunity to learn more about Medicaid and available services from the experts. Families with children should attend the "A Overview of Florida Medicaid's Acute Care Services" and the "Medicaid Eligibility and Medicaid Services" workshops to learn about available health care options. The Agency booth exhibit will have brochures and staff to answer your individual questions about all the services offered by Medicaid.

The Agency also has specialized programs to assist persons with disabilities who choose to live and work in the community. The Developmental Disabilities Waivers, the Family Supported Living Waiver and the Consumer Directed Care program are offering workshops to inform you about the latest information available regarding home and community-based services for persons with disabilities in need of assistance to live in the community. Interested participants should attend these workshops to receive information and may pick up additional information from the Agency exhibit.

The information workshops scheduled for this event will provide you with an opportunity to share information with others, exchange ideas and interact with staff from state agencies and service providers. Please be sure to visit our Agency exhibit to learn about our role in serving people with disabilities and share with us how we might serve you better.

Once again, welcome and my best wishes to each of you.

Sincerely,  
  
Holly Benson  
Secretary



2727 Mahan Drive • Mail Stop #1  
Tallahassee, FL 32308

Visit AHCA  
<http://ahca.myfla>



  
agency for persons with disabilities  
State of Florida

Charlie Crist,  
Governor  
June 5, 2009

Jim DeBeaugrine,  
Director

4030 Esplanade  
Way,  
Suite 380  
Tallahassee,  
Florida  
32399-0950

(850) 488-4257

Fax:  
(850) 922-6456

Toll Free:

(866) APD-CARES

(866-273-2273)

Dear Conference Attendee:

Welcome to the Family Café 11<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference and Governor's Summit on Disabilities in Orlando. On behalf of Governor Charlie Crist and the Florida Agency for Persons with Disabilities, I want to encourage you to make the most of this educational opportunity.

As you may know, Florida's Agency for Persons with Disabilities program is committed to helping people with developmental disabilities live, learn, and work as part of their communities. The agency serves about 35,000 people each year with spina bifida, autism, mental retardation, cerebral palsy, and Prader-Willi syndrome.

The Family Café offers persons with disabilities and their families a unique forum to find out what is available in Florida to help meet their specific needs. In these tough financial times, all of us have to work together to come up with the needed resources. Being creative in looking for solutions will allow you to benefit most from this conference.

This weekend you will have the chance to speak with others who may be willing to share their experiences and solutions. There will be potential providers you may want to talk with and exhibitors that may have the information you need, so take full advantage of the opportunities that are here. Again, I hope you enjoy the conference!

Sincerely,

Jim DeBeaugrine  
Director

<http://apd.myflorida.com>





# FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION



Dr. Eric J. Smith  
Commissioner of Education



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June 5, 2009

Dear Conference Attendees:

Welcome to the 11th Annual Family Café Conference and Governor's Summit on Disabilities. Over the past ten years, this conference has grown from a few hundred to over 9,000 participants from across the state. We know parents' involvement in their children's lives is central to their children's success in and out of school. We appreciate your taking the time to attend this valuable conference.

During the next three days, you will have an opportunity to expand your network of support as you interact with representatives from state agencies, private providers, and other conference participants. As you look through the conference brochure, you will note sessions on topics related to education, employment, and transition. A number of projects sponsored by the Department of Education as well as our Clearinghouse Information Center have set up exhibit tables to provide you with additional information and resources.

We consider our support of Family Café as one of the many ways we can assist you in becoming more informed and effectively involved in your student's education. We hope that you will find the information provided valuable and that you enjoy the conference.

Sincerely,

Eric J. Smith  
Commissioner

# FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION



Eric J. Smith  
Commissioner of Education



STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION

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- PETER BOULWARE
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- ROBERTO MARTINEZ
- PHOEBE RAULERSON
- KATHLEEN SHANAHAN
- LINDA K. TAYLOR

June 5, 2009

Dear Conference Attendee:

Welcome to the 11<sup>th</sup> Annual Family Café Conference and Governor's Summit on Disabilities. I hope these next few days will greatly improve your knowledge about the services available in Florida for those with disabilities or special health care needs.

Florida's Vocational Rehabilitation (VR) program helps Floridians with disabilities go to work and improve their independence. Last year, VR helped 12,458 people with disabilities become or remain employed. VR may begin working with people in high school to make sure they receive the services they need to achieve their career goal. In addition, VR supports the 17 locally operated Centers for Independent Living. These Centers are an excellent source of local information and provide direct services to individuals with disabilities in becoming independent. Many of these skills are necessary prior to seeking employment.

VR has several informational sessions available to you this year. I hope you will take time to learn how VR or the Centers for Independent Living may be of assistance to you or your loved one.

Once again, welcome to our conference!

Sincerely,

Bill Palmer  
VR Director

BILL PALMER  
Director, Division of Vocational Rehabilitation

2002 Old Saint Augustine Road, Building A • Tallahassee, FL 32301-4862  
Toll Free: 1-800-451-4327 (Voice or TTY) • In Tallahassee: 850-245-3399 (Voice or TTY) • FAX: 850-245-3392  
Florida Relay Service: 1-800-955-8771 (TTY) • 1-800-955-8770 (Voice) • www.rehabworks.org

325 W. GAINES STREET • TALLAHASSEE, FL 32399-0400 • (850) 245-0505 • www.fdoe.org





Charlie Crist  
Governor

Ana M. Viamonte Ros, M.D., M.P.H.  
State Surgeon General

June 5-7, 2009

Dear Friends:

The Florida Department of Health is proud to participate in the 11<sup>th</sup> Annual Family Café Conference, a chance to join families and individuals dealing with disabilities with health care and service providers. As in previous years, the Department of Health is pleased to help sponsor this educational and empowering event along with other public and private partners.

I hope this conference will help answer your questions, offer new ideas, connect you resources, and provide a strong support network. The Conference is also a great place to meet new friends with common health care goals.

Be sure to investigate our agency's programs, presentations and displays designed to help Floridians overcome their unique health care challenges. We strive to reach all Floridians with access to affordable, quality health care. For more information about the Florida Department of Health, please contact us, review our website at [www.doh.state.fl.us](http://www.doh.state.fl.us), or visit one of our local county health departments available in all 67 counties statewide.

I know that this year's event has wonderful opportunities in store for you and your loved ones.

Sincerely,

Ana M. Viamonte Ros, M.D., M.P.H.  
State Surgeon General

4052 Bald Cypress Way • Tallahassee, FL 32399



State of Florida  
Department of Children and Families

Charlie Crist  
Governor  
George H. Sheldon  
Secretary

Dear Family Café Participants:

Welcome! This year's 11<sup>th</sup> Annual Family Café Conference promises to be an exciting event for you and your family. The Department of Children and Families is excited to take part in this growing event. It is an honor to have the opportunity to reach out to so many of you, assist in offering the resources and tools you need, and to advocate for you and your family.

This year's Conference will provide you with new insights and information that will empower you and your family to become stronger advocates. You will have an opportunity to share your personal stories and successes, and to hear from others facing similar challenges. You will be provided with the resources needed to improve your navigation of the current system of care. Please be sure to take advantage of the opportunity to collaborate with the many state agency representatives, explore the programs and services available, and broaden your system of support.

Once again, welcome. While attending the conference, please take the time to share with us ways we can better serve you and your family.

Sincerely,

George H. Sheldon  
Secretary

1317 Winewood Boulevard, Tallahassee, Florida 32399-0700

Mission: Protect the Vulnerable, Promote Strong and Economically Self-Sufficient Families, and Advance Personal and Family Recovery and Resiliency





STATE OF FLORIDA

**DIVISION OF EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT**

CHARLIE CRIST  
Governor

W. CRAIG FUGATE  
Director

June 5, 2009

Dear Family Café Participants:

Welcome to the 11<sup>th</sup> Annual Family Café Conference. The Florida Division of Emergency Management is proud to join Governor Crist and our partner state agencies in sponsorship of this important event.

What truly makes the Family Café special is that individuals and families in the disability community are given an excellent venue to learn, and develop vital relationships with their peers and partner service providers. This is the same type of collaboration that has helped Florida to become a leader in the emergency management field.

Two years ago, Governor Crist announced at this conference that the State of Florida would be hiring a full time disability coordinator to focus day to day on emergency management issues facing the disability community. This ongoing cooperative effort involving the Department of Health, the Agency for Persons with Disabilities and the Division of Emergency Management ensures that Floridians continue to have a full time advocate to ensure that the disaster-related needs of persons with disabilities are addressed and met.

During this conference Chip and other staff will be leading workshops regarding emergency preparedness. I urge you to take advantage of this opportunity to meet Chip during this conference and learn more about how you can prepare, as well as how the state intends to meet the needs of the disability community before and after disasters.

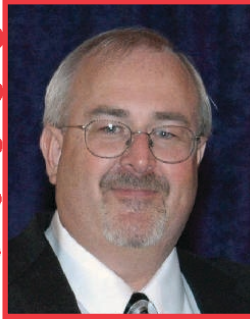
I sincerely hope this Family Café Conference will provide you with some new information, new ideas, and new resources to take back home. I also encourage you to reach out to at least four new friends while here in Orlando. As I remind attendees each year, we find that our strength in dealing with life's uncertainties and challenges comes from the ability to surround ourselves with a good solid team.

On behalf of the Division and the State Emergency Response Team, I welcome you and your loved ones to the 11<sup>th</sup> Annual Family Café Conference.

Respectfully,

W. Craig Fugate, Director  
Florida Division of Emergency Management

FLORIDA RECOVERY OFFICE • DIVISION HEADQUARTERS • STATE LOGISTICS RESPONSE CENTER  
36 Skyline Drive, Lake Mary, FL 32746-6201      2555 Shumard Oak Boulevard, Tallahassee, FL 32399-2100      2702 Directors Row, Orlando, FL 32809-5631  
Tel: 850-413-9969 • Fax: 850-488-1016  
[www.FloridaDisaster.org](http://www.FloridaDisaster.org)





# The Family Café 2009 SPONSORS

Amerigroup

Florida Department of Children and Families/Children's Mental Health

Florida Department of Education

Florida Division of Emergency Management

Publix Supermarket Charities

SeaWorld

Walt Disney World Resorts



*The Florida Youth Council poses with Governor Crist and The Family Café mascot, Guido.*







**The Family Café  
wishes to thank the  
following organizations for  
their participation in The Family Café  
Conference Planning Committee**

The Advocacy Center for Persons with Disabilities

Central Florida Parent Center

The Children's Forum, Inc.

The Family Café Board of Directors

The Family Café Delegates

Family Care Councils of Florida

Florida Agency for Persons with Disabilities

Florida Alliance for Assistive Services and Technology (FAAST)

Florida Department of Education

Florida Department of Education, Division of Vocational Rehabilitation

Florida Department of Health, CMS Early Steps Program

Florida Institute for Family Involvement

Florida Youth Council

MPower Consulting

Toni Jennings Exceptional Education Institute





# The Family Café 2009 EXHIBITORS

## **Advocacy Center for Persons with Disabilities, Inc.**

2728 Centerview Drive  
Suite 102  
Tallahassee, FL 32310  
(800) 342-0823  
paular@advocacycenter.org

## **Agency for Health Care Administration**

2727 Mahan Drive  
Mail Stop 20  
Tallahassee, FL 32308  
(850) 921-4464  
hensleyk@ahca.myflorida.com

## **Agency for Persons with Disabilities**

4030 Esplande Way  
Suite 380  
Tallahassee, FL 32399  
(850) 488-4257  
melanie\_ettters@apd.state.fl.us

## **Agency for Workforce Innovation**

107 East Madison Street  
Tallahassee, FL 32399  
(850) 245-7423  
judy.myer@flaawi.com

## **Amerigroup Community Care**

604 Courtland Street  
Suite 350  
Orlando, FL 32804  
(407) 879-6604  
ljawki4@amerigroupcorp.com

## **AMS Vans, Inc.**

5555 Oakbrook Parkway  
#500  
Norcross, GA 30093  
(888) 736-8267  
diana@amsvans.com

## **Aurora Ministries/ AudioBiblesForTheBlind.org**

PO Box 621  
Bradenton, FL 34206  
(941) 748-3031  
smattson@auroraminstries.org

## **Autism Blessings**

6970 Mapperton Drive  
Windermere, FL 34786  
(407) 731-2803  
autismblessings@aol.com

## **Beach Scoot**

P.O. Box 9320  
Panama City Beach, FL 32341  
(850) 625-5419  
beachscoot08@yahoo.com

## **Bookshare**

480 South California Avenue  
Suite 201  
Palo Alto, CA 94306  
(650) 644-3413  
mario.o@benetech.org

## **Bright Steps Forward**

4001 North Ocean Drive #305  
Lauderdale By The Sea, FL 33308  
(954) 491-6611  
annette@brightstepsforward.org

## **Calmoseptine, Inc.**

16602 Burke Lane  
Huntington Beach, CA 92647  
(714) 840-3405  
infor@calmoseptineointment.com

## **Center for Autism & Related Disabilities**

13301 Bruce B. Downs Blvd  
Tampa, FL 33612  
(813) 974-6108  
mstevens@fmhi.usf.edu

## **Central Florida Parent Center**

1021 Delaware Avenue  
Palm Harbor, FL 34683  
(727) 789-2400  
eileen@cflparents.org

## **Children's Forum/ Florida Central Directory**

2807 Remington Green Circle  
Tallahassee, FL 30308  
(850) 487-6301  
ialong@centraldirectory.org

## **Clarity**

4289 Bunny Oakes Drive  
Suite 106  
Chattanooga, TN 37406  
(423) 629-3544  
gary.moore@plantronics.com

## **College Internship Program**

17 Main Street  
Suite 1  
Lee, MA 01238  
(413) 243-0710  
msanderson@berkshirecenter.org

## **Colonial Medical Supplies**

7022 TPC Drive  
Suite 200  
Orlando, FL 32822  
(407) 849-6455  
dana@colonialmed.com

## **Delmarva Foundation**

8875 Hidden River Parkway  
Tampa, FL 33637  
(727) 224-8717  
allenk@dfmc.org

## **Discovery Toys & Wildtree**

7600 Palmer Glen Circle  
Sarasota, FL 34240  
(941) 342-8571  
amystoys@gmail.com

## **DynaVox and Mayer-Johnson**

2100 Wharton Street  
Suite 400  
Pittsburgh, PA 15203  
(412) 381-4883  
events@dynavoxtech.com

## **Emma Hemnes, PA**

309 North Parsons Avenue  
Brandon, FL 33510  
(813) 661-5297  
bonniewarren@tampabay.rr.com



**Eppy Financial Group, Inc.**  
1000 Corporate Drive  
7th Floor  
Ft. Lauderdale, FL 33334  
(954) 689-9476  
feppy@finsvcs.com

**Esther's School**  
4128 28th Street North  
St. Petersburg, FL 33714  
(727) 528-6484  
greathts@aol.com

**Euro-Peds National Center for Intensive Pediatric PT**  
461 West Huron Street #406  
Pontiac, MI 48346  
(248) 857-6979  
amancour@dhofm.com

**FAAST, Inc.**  
325 John Knox Road  
Building 400, Suite 402  
Tallahassee, FL 32303  
(850) 487-3278 106  
sbroxton@faast.org

**FDLRS Technology State Loan Library/FDLRS Tech**  
1207 South Mellonville Avenue  
Sanford, Florida 32771-2240  
(407) 320-2380  
mark\_cerasale@scps.k12.fl.us

**Florida Austim Center**  
1708 Lexington Green Lane  
Sanford, FL 32771  
(407) 413-9550  
info@floridaautismcenter.net

**Florida Center for Inclusive Communitites**  
13301 Bruce B Downs Blvd  
MHC 2319  
Tampa, FL 33612  
(813) 974-8511  
pgamache@fmhi.usf.edu

**Florida Commission for the Transportation Disadvantaged**  
605 Suwanee Street  
MS-49  
Tallahassee, FL 32399-0450  
(850) 410-5712  
john.irvine@dot.state.fl.us

**Florida Department of Children and Families**  
1317 Winewood Blvd.  
Bldg 6 Room 290  
Tallahassee, FL 32399  
(850) 921-4474  
laurie\_blades@dcf.state.fl.us

**Florida Department of Children and Families - ACCESS Program**  
1317 Winewood Blvd.  
Building 3, Room 404  
Tallahassee, FL 32303  
(850) 922-8002  
carrie\_sheffield@dcf.state.fl.us

**Florida Department of Education - Bureau of Family and Community Involvement**  
325 West Gaines Street  
Suite 544  
Tallahassee, FL 32399  
(850) 245-0842  
joyce.hobson@fldoe.org

**Florida Department of Education - Division of Blind Services**  
408 White Street  
Daytona Beach, FL 32114  
(38) 638-3603  
christian.masal@dbf.fldoe.org

**Florida Department of Education/ Clearinghouse Information Center**  
325 West Gaines Street  
Room 628  
Tallahassee, Florida 32399-0400  
(850) 245-0477  
cicbiscs@fldoe.org

**Florida Diagnostic & Learning Resource System (FDLRS)**  
3841 Reid Street  
Palatka, FL 32177  
(386) 312-2265  
ahearnm@nefec.org

**Florida Disabled Outdoors Association**  
2475 Apalachee Parkway  
Suite 205  
Tallahassee, FL 32301  
(850) 201-2944  
info@fdoa.org

**Florida Divison of Vocational Rehabilitation**  
2002 Old Saint Augustine Road "A"  
Tallahassee, FL 32301-4862  
(850) 245-3399  
susan.lombardi@vr.fldoe.org

**Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission (FWCC)**  
Farris Bryant Building 620  
Tallahassee, FL 32399  
(850) 048-8052  
bob.wattendorf@myfwc.com

**Florida Inclusion Network**  
355 North Monroe Street  
Suite B  
Tallahassee, FL 32301  
(850) 414-7593  
cliles@fsu.edu

**Florida Institute for Family Involvement (FIFI)**  
49 Christy Lane  
Sopchoppy, FL 32358  
tammy49@peoplepc.com

**Florida Telecommunications Relay, Inc./ FIRI**  
1820 East Park Avenue  
Suite 101  
Tallahassee, FL 32301  
(888) 292-1950  
rwhite@ftril.org

**Freedom Concepts, Inc.**  
1565 Inkster Blvd.  
Winnipeg, MB CANADA  
(204) 654-1074  
susana@freedomconcepts.com

**Handicapped Driver Services**  
1310 Kennestone Circle  
Suite 2  
Marietta, GA 30066  
(770) 422-9674  
ematthews@hdsfans.com

**Handwriting Without Tears**  
8001 MacArthur Blvd  
Cabin John, MD 20818  
(301) 263-2700  
deb.shapiro@hwtears.com

**Institute for Educational Leadership**  
4455 Connecticut Avenue  
Suite 310  
Washington, DC 20008  
(202) 822-8405  
fosterk@iel.org

**Lampert's Home Pediatric Clinic**  
8254 118th Ave North  
Suite 100  
Largo, FL 33773  
(727) 541-5304  
harold@lampertshometherapy.com

**Manning & Nurse: Personal Financial Advisors for Families with Special Needs**  
1010 North Florida Avenue  
Tampa, FL 33602  
(813) 658-5000  
kmanning@msc.mail.biz

**Maxium Healthcare Services, Inc.**  
445 NW Prima vista Blvd.  
Port St. Lucie, FL 34983  
(772) 340-4101  
jablack@maxhealth.com

**Miracle League**  
2475 Apalachee Parkway, Suite 205  
Tallahassee, FL 32301  
(850) 201-2944  
info@fdoa.org



**Miriam's Busy Fingers, LLC**

1113 McKenzie Avenue  
Panama City, FL 32401  
(850) 215-1029  
meshutesllc@aol.com

**National Ambucs/Amtryke, LLC.**

P.O. Box 5127  
High Point, NC 27262  
(336) 852-0052  
roxannen@ambucs.org

**National Certified Pediatric Technicians Association and Institute**

1400 Gulf Blvd  
#501  
Clearwater, FL 33767  
(727) 596-5203  
essentiaeducation@msn.com

**National MS Society**

4919 Memorial Highway  
Suite 160  
Tampa, FL 33634  
(813) 889-8303  
doris.lill@nmss.org

**National Organization to End the Waitlist (NOEWAIT)**

PO Box 411  
Parker, CO 80134  
(303) 773-3890  
noewait@noewait.org

**Nature's Place Therapy Center & Learning Institute**

1316 South Blvd. West  
Davenport, FL 33837  
(863) 421-0556  
naturesplace@aol.com

**Noah's Ark of Central Florida**

P.O. Box 92221  
Lakeland, Florida 33804-2221  
(863) 687-0804  
jack@jackkosik.com

**Nova Southeastern University  
Advanced Education in Dentistry**

3200 South University Drive  
Ft. Lauderdale, FL 33328-2018  
(954) 262-7378  
dnichols@nova.edu

**Option Care of NW Florida**

1415 Hickory Avenue  
Panama City, FL 32401  
(850) 819-3007  
carolk@barneshc.com

**Orange County Supervisor of Elections**

PO Box 562001  
Orlando, FL 32856  
(407) 254-6531  
lucy.melendez@ocfelections.com

**Piper Medical, Mobility & Accessibility**

1885 NE 149th Street  
Suite A  
North Miami, FL 33181  
(305) 940-2030  
info@pipermed.com

**Prentke Romich Company**

PRC 1022 Heyl Road  
Wooster, OH 44691  
(800) 262-1984  
tlb@prentrom.com

**Project 10: Transition Education Network**

140 7th Ave South  
SVB112  
St. Petersburg, FL 33701  
(727) 873-4662  
jknab@stpete.usf.edu

**Pyramid, Inc.**

1349 East Lafayette Street  
Tallahassee, FL 32301  
(850) 671-1690  
bfuller@pyramidinc.org

**Rep Richard, LLC**

PO Box 3405  
Riverview, FL 33568  
(813) 695-5469  
richp2005@verizon.net

**Ride Away**

54 Wentworth Avenue  
Londonderry, NH 03053  
(603) 216-3955  
rgartmayer@ride-away.com

**SeeMyIEP.com**

17340 Wildwood Road  
Jupiter, FL 33478  
(561) 747-0081  
jforan@hotmail.com

**Shelton Technologies And Resources (STAR)**

213 Bay Street East  
Lakeland, FL 33801  
(863) 603-7827  
info@staracc.com

**Social Security Administration**

1835 20th Street  
Vero Beach, FL 32960  
(772) 562-5330 102  
marlene.a.ulisky@ssa.gov

**Specialty Brace & Limb**

915 Lucerne Terrace  
Orlando, FL 32806  
(407) 843-4200  
roy@specialtybrace.com

**Spectrum Life Care Services, Inc.**

1011 Sheridan Street  
Suite 304  
Cooper City, FL 33026  
(954) 499-5794  
fred@spectrumlifecare.com

**SSA Ticket to Work**

6858 Old Dominion Drive  
Suite 250  
McLean, VA 22101  
(703) 448-6155  
gwilliams@cessi.net

**Sunrise Community, Inc.**

9040 Sunset Drive  
Miami, FL 33173  
(305) 710-6134  
kthompson@sunrisegroup.org

**The Family Café, Inc.**

1332 North Duval Street  
Tallahassee, FL 32303  
(850) 224-4670  
info@familycafe.net

**The Florida Youth Council**

1332 N. Duval St.  
Tallahassee, FL 32303  
(850) 224-4670  
abrown@familycafe.net

**Therap Services**

562 Watertown Avenue  
Waterbury, CT 06708  
(203) 596-7553  
kara@therap.us

**UCANSKI2**

Winter Haven, FL  
(863) 967-2575  
annsitski@verizon.net

**United Spinal Association**

75-20 Astoria Blvd.  
Jackson Heights, NY 11370  
(718) 803-3782  
ccary@unitedspinal.org

**Volunteer Florida - The Governor's Commission on Volunteerism and Community Service**

401 South Monroe Street  
Tallahassee, FL 32301  
(850) 414-0093  
paul@volunteerflorida.org



**Woodbury Products**

P.O. Box 250  
Island Park, NY 11558  
(888) 444-3331  
bdarling@woodburyproducts.com

**Wow Green International**

13227 SW 44 Lane  
Miami, FL 33175  
(305) 227-2646  
buy\_green@bellsouth.net

**MICRO ENTERPRISES**

**Alphonso Bakes O Yeah Cakes,  
Cookies, Pies**

4520 Mill Pond Lane  
Tampa, FL 33624  
yoyophonz@yahoo.com

**ART**

5600 Parkview Lake Drive  
Orlando, FL 32821  
(407) 477-1087  
pollyadams31@yahoo.com

**Break Through, Inc.**

P.O. Box 284  
Amery, WI 54001  
(715) 554-1179  
by@bendanderson.com

**Moon Scapes Web Solution**

4215 SE 59th Street  
Ocala, FL 34480  
(352) 502-5994  
fjmoon@moonscapes.org

**Natural As Can Be by Lora Nichelle**

2570 W. Bird St.  
Tampa, FL 33614  
courtcourt@ymail.com

**Space World PC**

923 NE 6th Street  
Ocala, FL 34470  
(352) 789-6833  
sales@spaceworldpc.com

**The Strength Coach**

3624 Perryman Road  
Ocean Springs, MS 39564  
(228) 818-4799  
strengthcoach@bellsouth.net

**Venture Forward Technologies LLC/  
Cape Bike**

341 Oleander Way  
Casselberry, FL 32707  
(407) 332-6914  
r4@capebike.com





# The Family Café CONFERENCE AT A GLANCE

Sessions presented in Spanish, or with Spanish-speaking presenters, are printed in RED.

Sign language interpreters available at Veracruz registration across from the Exhibit Hall, courtesy of the Center for Independent Living.

Some of the sessions at this year's event have been organized into "tracks" based on subject. This key will help you to identify the "tracked" sessions.

Advocacy



Youth



Employment



Disaster Preparedness



Recreation



Mental Health



Smart Money



## Friday, June 5, 2009

10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.

**Registration Open, Central and North Registration**

10:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.

**Exhibit Hall Open, Veracruz Exhibit Hall**

10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

**Scooter Rental Available, Central and North Registration**

11:00 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.

**Pyramid Players, Foyer**

11:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

**Opening Session & Keynote Address, Coronado Ballroom**

1:00 p.m. to 5:30 p.m.

**Registration Open, Central and North Registration**

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

**CAN Platform Building Session, Part 1, Fiesta 6**

1:30 p.m. to 5:30 p.m.

**Dental Screening, Veracruz Exhibit Hall**

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

**Concurrent Sessions**

**The Parent-Teacher Connection: What's That?**

Acapulco



**Planning for your Dependent with Special Needs both Legal and Financial**

Baja

**The Florida D.D. Council Presents: Lighting the Way to Guardianship and Other Decision Making Alternatives**

Cancun



**Social Security Disability Programs, Work Incentives and The Ticket to Work: What You Need to Know to Keep It Working For You (English/Spanish)**

Durango 1



**The Future of Vocational Rehabilitation in Florida**

Durango 2

**Accessing CARD Services**

Monterrey 1



**Navigating the "System of Care" in Mental Health**

Monterrey 2

**Service Animals and Positive Actions – Education Beats Litigation Any Day!**

Monterrey 3

**It's Those Wonderful Rights**

Yucatan 1



**Pasando Por Encima de la Pared: La Comunicacion en el IEP**  
Yucatan 2

**Shining Some Light on Ways to Provide Decision-Making Assistance: Guardianship and Florida's Less Restrictive Alternatives**

Yucatan 3

**New Creative Ideas for Sensory Exploration in the Classroom and at Home!**

Coronado A



**ABC's of Family Disaster Preparedness**

Coronado B



**Creating Mentoring Programs**

Coronado C/D



**The Florida Youth Council: A Year in Review**

Coronado E/F



**Quality Inclusion – It's Time for Awareness and Action!**

Coronado S/T



**Going Beyond Everybody Else's Expectations**

Coronado Q/R

**General Overview of CMS Programs and Services**

Coronado N/P

**Flu and Pneumonia Immunizations for Adults**

Coronado M

**From Foster Care to Business Owner: The Right Supports and Attitude Make a Difference**

Fiesta 1/2

**Sign Language for Exceptional Children and Their Families**

Fiesta 3/4

**Reading Strategies = Thinking Strategies**

Fiesta 9/10



**Needs and Benefits of Accessible Recreation**

Fiesta 7/8

2:30 p.m. to 3:00 p.m.

**Pyramid Players, Foyer**

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

**Concurrent Sessions**

**A Family Guide to Response to Intervention**

Acapulco



**Special Needs Financial Planning**

Baja

**Traveling the Seas of Families, Feelings and Emotions: A New Star Workshop**

Cancun



**Autism: Believe in the Future, HOW?**

Durango 1



**Self-Employment – The Focus on Entrepreneurs**

Durango 2

**Parenting Special Needs: Sharing Life's Lessons**

Monterrey 1



**Challenges of Raising a Bipolar Child**

Monterrey 2

**Introduction to Active Parenting Now (Ages 5-12) and Active Parenting of Teens**

Monterrey 3

**IEP Jeopardy**

Yucatan 1

**IEP Jeopardy en Español**

Yucatan 2

**Poison Prevention for Children**

Yucatan 3

**Special Smiles: Oral Care for Persons with Special Needs**

Coronado A



**Advocating with Emergency Management**

Coronado B



**A Family Affair: We're All in This Together**

Coronado C/D



**It's Time to Learn Our History and Get Involved: Youth Voting and Disability History!**

Coronado E/F



**How To Become An Effective Advocate**

Coronado S/T



**Partners in Policymaking Graduates: Improving the Lives of People with Developmental Disabilities**

Coronado Q/R



**Estate Planning for Families with Developmental Disabilities**

Coronado N/P

**The Great Grocery Grab: The Latest and Greatest from WIC**

Coronado M



**Project SOURCE: What's Happening in College Experience Programs for Students with Intellectual Disabilities**

Fiesta 1/2

**Meeting the Needs of Students with Behavior Problems**

Fiesta 3/4

**New Horizon Fund**

Fiesta 9/10



**Creating a Community-Based Recreation and Leisure Plan**

Fiesta 7/8

4:00 p.m. to 4:30 p.m.

**Pyramid Players, Foyer**

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

**CAN Platform Building Session, Part 1, Fiesta 6**

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

**Concurrent Sessions**

**Dyslexia: How to Make the Most of What You've Got to Be the Best That You Can Be**  
Acapulco



**Social Security Benefits and Family Values**

Baja



**The Truth about Creating a Safe Legal Haven for a Family with Special Needs**

Cancun



**Support for Moving from Benefits to Work through PASS and other SSA Work Incentives**

Durango 1



**Transition from School to Work – Ages 14 to Adult**

Durango 2

**An Overview of Florida Medicaid's Acute Care Services**

Monterrey 1



**School to Jail Pipeline**

Monterrey 2

**Transplant Foundation: The Gift of Life**

Monterrey 3

**Getting Over the Wall – Communicating in the IEP**

Yucatan 1

**Son Unas Derechos Maravillosos**

Yucatan 2



**Growing Up With Disabled Siblings**

Yucatan 3

**Create Disability Understanding in Your School**

Coronado A







**ABC's of Family Disaster Preparedness**

Coronado B



**Creating Employment Solutions for Youth with Mental Health Needs**

Coronado C/D



**It Is Time to Get Involved**

Coronado E/F

**A Primer on Medicaid Waivers**

Coronado G



**Interested in Being a Leader in Your Community? Partners in Policymaking May Be for You!**

Coronado S/T



**Friendship for All: Developing Real Relationships in Natural Environments for School-Age Children with Developmental Disabilities**

Coronado Q/R



**Sunrise, Sunset: What Legal Steps Should I Consider as my Special Needs Child Becomes a Special Needs Adult?**

Coronado N/P

**Meet the Director of the Agency for Persons with Disabilities**

Fiesta 1/2

**Fetal Alcohol Syndrome: The Truth About Alcohol and Pregnancy**

Fiesta 3/4

**Positive Parenting Skills**

Fiesta 9/10



**Intro and Info on Adaptive / Inclusive Sports**

Fiesta 7/8

5:30 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.

**Pyramid Players**, Foyer

5:30 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.

**Sea World's Shamu and Friends**, Foyer

6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.

**The 11th Annual Summit on Disabilities**, Coronado Ballroom

**Saturday, June 6, 2009**

8:00 a.m. to 12:00 a.m.

**Registration Open**, Central and North Registration

8:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.

**Exhibit Hall Open**, Veracruz Exhibit Hall

9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

**Scooter Rental Available**, Central and North Registration

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

**Keynote Address**, Coronado Ballroom

9:00 a.m. 5:00 p.m.

**Dental Screening**, Veracruz Exhibit Hall

10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.

**Arts & Crafts**, Fiesta 5

10:00 a.m. to 10:30 a.m.

**Special Kids Dance**, Foyer

10:00 a.m. to 10:30 a.m.

**Pyramid Players**, Foyer

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

**CAN Platform Building Session, Part 2**, Fiesta 6

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

**Concurrent Sessions**

**What My Son Taught Me About Attention Deficit Disorder**

Acapulco



**Income Tax Planning for Special Needs Families**

Baja

**Structuring Your Home for the Best Possible Behavior**

Cancun





**That's the Ticket! The New Ticket to Work Program – New Program, New Opportunities**

Durango 1

**Communication Strategies: How Florida Residents with Hearing Loss and/or Speech Disability Can Receive Specialized Communications Devices at No Cost**

Durango 2

**Restraint and Seclusion: What You Need to Know**

Monterrey 1



**Family-to-Family Education Program**

Monterrey 2

**Transportation Disadvantaged – Coordinated System**

Monterrey 3

**The Future of Quality Assurance**

Yucatan 1

**Sing, Play and Learn! Handwriting Development for the Young Child**

Yucatan 2

**The Secrets of Successful Relationships**

Yucatan 3



**Delegate Roundtable: Cerebral Palsy**

Coronado A



**Advocating with Emergency Management**

Coronado B



**Time to Hop on the Road to Self-Sufficiency**

Coronado C/D



**A Youthful Perspective on Inclusion and Disability Etiquette**

Coronado E/F

**Fun D'Mental Solution – Ready to Learn Series Offering Simple Solutions for Learners of Any Age or Ability**

Coronado G



**The Advocacy Center – Helping You Get What You Need**

Coronado S/T



**My Journey Through Life with Autism – Learning To Live**

Coronado Q/R

**Including Your Child in School Success**

Coronado M



**Swine Flu**

Coronado N/P

**The Silent Epidemic: Abuse, Neglect and Exploitation of Persons with Developmental Disabilities**

Fiesta 1/2

**Women's Enrichment Session**

Fiesta 3/4



**Delegate Roundtable: ADHD/Tourette's**

Fiesta 9/10



**Being a Self-Advocate – Your Rights to Recreation**

Fiesta 7/8

12:30 p.m. to 1:00 p.m.












**Pyramid Players, Foyer**

1:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.

**Registration Open, Central and North Registration**

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

**Concurrent Sessions**

-  **The Journey So Far . . . From the NICU to College**  
Acapulco
-  **Special Needs Financial Planning**  
Baja
- Parents and School Districts Working Together for Students**  
Cancun
-  **Florida Vocational Rehabilitation: All About Supported Employment Today**  
Durango 1
-  **Working in the Community**  
Durango 2
- Never Underestimate a Child: Using Intensive Physical Therapy to Teach New Skills**  
Monterrey 1
-  **Mental Health Focus Group with Families and Stakeholders**  
Monterrey 2
- Man Laws for Moms: Understanding Dads and Why We Do What We Do**  
Monterrey 3
- Edible Math: Using Concrete, Representational and Abstract**  
Yucatan 1
- Paths to Medicaid – What You Should Know About Medicaid Eligibility**  
Yucatan 2
- How the Café Made a Difference in Karla's Life**  
Yucatan 3
-  **Delegate Roundtable: Down Syndrome**  
Coronado A
-  **ABC's of Family Disaster Preparedness**  
Coronado B
- Meet Bambi Lockman, Bureau Chief, Bureau of Exceptional Education and Student Services, Department of Education**  
Coronado C/D
-  **Successful Transition Doesn't Just Come from One Place**  
Coronado E/F
- Preventative Health Care**  
Coronado G
-  **The More You Know Me, The More You Learn**  
Coronado S/T
-  **Getting Services for Your Child from the Public School System**  
Coronado Q/R
- ADHD & Autism Are Not Hopeless!**  
Coronado N/P
- Moving On Up**  
Coronado M
- What's So Good about Supported Living?**  
Fiesta 1/2
- Recipe For Resolving Relationship Conflicts in the Special Needs Home**  
Fiesta 3/4
-  **Recreation Assistive Technology**  
Fiesta 7/8

2:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.

**Arts & Crafts, Fiesta 5**

2:00 p.m. to 2:30 p.m.

**Pyramid Players, Foyer**

2:00 p.m. to 2:30 p.m.

**Special Kids Dance, Foyer**

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

**CAN Platform Building Session, Part 2, Fiesta 6**

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

**Concurrent Sessions**



**Bringing You Protected Tomorrows: Creating the Future Care Plan for Family Members with Special Needs**

Acapulco



**So Who's Going To Pay for All the Care A Family Provides into the Future?**

Baja

**How to Become Your Adult Child's Guardian Advocate (English/Spanish)**

Cancun



**National Disability Institute**

Durango 1

**Sailing Through Transition**

Durango 2



**Project 10: Addressing Transition Needs of Youth with Disabilities across the State of Florida**

Monterrey 1



**Overview of the Children's Mental Health System of Care**

Monterrey 2

**Parent Survival Skills**

Monterrey 3

**Project SEARCH – A Business Led High School Transition Model**

Yucatan 1

**Intensive Therapy Utilizing the Therasuit Method**

Yucatan 2

**How To Tell Your Story in the Form of a Book**

Yucatan 3



**Delegate Roundtable: Autism**

Coronado A



**ABC's of Family Disaster Preparedness**

Coronado B

**A Conversation with Dads for Dads**

Coronado C/D



**The Real World: Your Life – Leaving Home and Independence**

Coronado E/F

**B-HIP: A Behavior-Health Information Program for Children and Adults with Disabilities (English/Spanish)**

Coronado G



**Conquering My Dreams**

Coronado S/T



**The Florida D.D. Council Presents: The Self-Advocacy Grassroots Movement in Florida**

Coronado Q/R

**Medicaid Eligibility and Medicaid Services**

Coronado N/P

**Parent Power for Children on the Spectrum**

Fiesta 3/4



**Delegate Roundtable: Sibling Support**

Fiesta 9/10



**Kickball for Persons of All Abilities: Everyone Can Participate**

Veracruz C

3:30 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.

**Pyramid Players, Foyer**

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

**Concurrent Sessions**

**Safety and Tae Kwon Do**

Acapulco

**How to Get a Great IEP for Your Child**

Baja



**The John M. McKay Scholarship Program for Students with Disabilities**  
Cancun



**Employment Challenges and Successes: Making Employment Work**  
Durango 1

**Blenderized Diet via G-Tube**  
Durango 2

**Consumer Directed Care Program**  
Monterrey 1



**Navigating Systems of Care for Children & Adolescents with Co-Occurring Disabilities and Mental Health Needs**  
Monterrey 2

**Dads – Getting in the Game**  
Monterrey 3



**Disability Life: An Example of What's Possible**  
Yucatan 1

**Home Schooling for Person-Centered Education**  
Yucatan 3



**Delegate Roundtable: Intellectual Disabilities**  
Coronado A



**Advocating with Emergency Management**  
Coronado B

**A Primer on Medicaid Waivers**  
Coronado C/D



**Successfully Interacting Socially (Youth Only)**  
Coronado E/F



**Legislative Session Summary and What Do I Do Next?**  
Coronado S/T



**Current Trends in Self-Advocacy**  
Coronado Q/R

**Independent Travel Needed in Transitional Goals**  
Coronado N/P



**The Insider's Guide to Understanding and Using the Social Security Work Incentives and The Ticket to Work**  
Fiesta 1/2

**Sustaining Faith Through These Challenging Times**  
Fiesta 3/4



**Delegate Roundtable: Diabetes**  
Fiesta 9/10



**Transition from School to Community Living through Active Leisure**  
Fiesta 7/8

5:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. **Pontoon Boat Rides**, Lago Dorado

7:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. **Family Entertainment featuring Dueling Pianos**, Coronado Ballroom

## Sunday, June 7, 2009

8:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. **Exhibit Hall Open**, Veracruz Exhibit Hall

8:30 a.m. to 10:30 a.m. **Outdoor Activities: Catch and Release Fishing, Adaptive Water Skiing Demonstration, Disc Golf**

10:45 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. **Keynote Address**, Coronado Ballroom

12:00 p.m. to 12:30 p.m. **Closing and Door Prizes**, Coronado Ballroom



# Friday, June 5, 2009

11:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. Coronado Ballroom



**MARCO RUBIO**

Former Florida Speaker of the House Marco Rubio was first elected to public office in 1988 on the West Miami City Commission where he served until January of 2000, when he was elected in a special election to fill a vacancy in the state House of Representatives. He was subsequently re-elected three times. In 2003, his House colleagues designated him to become Speaker for a term of two years, effective November, 2006. As Speaker of the House, Rubio is best known for his tireless efforts to eliminate property taxes in Florida—or at the very least, to make meaningful cuts in property taxes and to bring fairness to the property tax system.

He is recognized as the originator of "100 Innovative Ideas for Florida's Future," a unique effort to let the people of Florida chart the state's future. "100 ideas" has now spread to Oklahoma, Georgia and other states where politicians are demonstrating that the best ideas for government emerge from the citizens government is supposed to serve.

10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.	<b>Registration Open</b> , Central and North Registration
10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.	<b>Scooter Rental Available</b> , Central and North Registration
10:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.	<b>Exhibit Hall Open</b> , Veracruz Exhibit Hall
11:00 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.	<b>Pyramid Players</b> , Foyer
11:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.	<b>Opening Session &amp; Keynote Address</b> , Coronado Ballroom
1:00 p.m. to 5:30 p.m.	<b>Registration Open</b> , Central and North Registration
1:30 p.m. to 2:30 p.m.	<b>CAN Platform Building Session, Part 1</b> , Fiesta 6
<b>1:30 p.m. to 2:30 p.m.</b>	<b>Concurrent Sessions</b>
1:30 p.m. to 5:30 p.m.	<b>Dental Screening</b> , Veracruz Exhibit Hall
2:30 p.m. to 3:00 p.m.	<b>Pyramid Players</b> , Foyer
<b>3:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.</b>	<b>Concurrent Sessions</b>
4:00 p.m. to 4:30 p.m.	<b>Pyramid Players</b> , Foyer
4:30 p.m. to 5:30 p.m.	<b>CAN Platform Building Session, Part 1</b> , Fiesta 6
<b>4:30 p.m. to 5:30 p.m.</b>	<b>Concurrent Sessions</b>
5:30 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.	<b>Pyramid Players</b> , Foyer
5:30 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.	<b>Sea World's Shamu and Friends</b> , Foyer
6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.	<b>The 11th Annual Summit on Disabilities</b> , Coronado Ballroom

## Friday 1:30 p.m. to 2:30 p.m. Concurrent Sessions

### ***The Parent-Teacher Connection: What's That?***

Friday, June 5

1:30 - 2:30

Acapulco

Parents of children with special needs have experienced a multitude of issues with their child long before their child has his or her first educational experience. Teachers generally have little or no concept of the emotional highs and lows, the fears, decisions, hurdles and other experiences that the special needs family must navigate from the very beginning of the child's life (or from the onset of an injury, accident or illness). When an educator enters the child's life, it is important that the teacher understands that the child's needs and the parent's concerns are often inseparable. If the teacher "doesn't get it," the educational process is compromised, resulting in the loss of productive learning time as well as possible emotional and/or behavioral issues. However, if the parent and teacher can reach a mutual understanding that puts the child's needs first, the parent-teacher connection will have been established. We will attempt to discuss the needs for such a connection, and how to achieve it, from both the parent/guardian's perspective, and from the perspective of the teacher/therapist/professional working with your child.

Meredith Syed

12001 Romero Court

Orlando, FL 32837

(407) 873-2664

meredithsyed@hotmail.com



### ***Planning for your Dependent with Special Needs both Legal and Financial***

Friday, June 5

1:30 - 2:30

Baja

As a parent/caregiver of a Dependent with Special Needs, one of the most important things you can do is ensure that a proper financial plan has been established to provide for your loved one when you are no longer able to care for them. We have found that many parents/caregivers don't have the necessary information to help insure the proper protection for their loved one and we want to help. Did you know . . . If your Dependent receives \$2000 or more as the direct beneficiary of a Life Insurance Policy, 401(K) Retirement Plan, IRA, Pension Plan, Annuity, Real Estate or any other Investment Vehicle that they could lose their governmental benefits (i.e. Medicaid) and have to pay it ALL back? If a proper plan is not in place at the time you are no longer able to care for the Special Needs Dependent, your loved one could be turned over to the state.

Other items to be covered include: Financial Implications of Caring for a Dependant with Special Needs; Proper Financial Planning for Dependents with Special Needs; What you need to be aware of as Caregivers; How Insufficient Estate Planning can jeopardize your Dependant's future; The essential role of a Special Needs Trust; and the role of Public Assistance Programs in your Dependant's life.

Jeff Rupp

Project Wings

2702 E. Robinson Street

Orlando, FL 32803

(407) 206-7643

jrupp@delaneyparkfinancial.com

Barbara Coenson

Project Wings

5728 Major Blvd, Suite 600

Tallahassee, FL 32819

(704) 363-9020

bcoenson@kimlawfirm.com

### ***The Florida D.D. Council Presents: Lighting the Way to Guardianship and Other Decision Making Alternatives***

Friday, June 5

1:30 - 2:30

Cancun

The Florida Developmental Disabilities Council's Program Manager and Project Administrator will provide information on a new series of guardianship training workshops sponsored by the Council. The Office of the Public Guardian has partnered with the Council to plan and implement three two-day workshops throughout the state. Participants will learn the objectives of the "Lighting the Way" project and obtain a summary of topics to be covered during the workshops. At the conclusion of the presentation, attendees will have the opportunity to register to attend a workshop (which will be held during the summer of 2009).





Karen Campbell, Esq.  
Office of the Public Guardian, Inc.  
2292 Wednesday Street, Suite 1  
Tallahassee, FL 32308  
(850) 487-4609

Latarsha Williams, MPA  
FDDC  
124 Marriott Drive Suite 203  
Tallahassee, FL 32301  
(850) 488-4180  
latarshaw@fddc.org



### **Social Security Disability Programs, Work Incentives and The Ticket to Work: What You Need to Know to Keep It Working For You**

Friday, June 5  
1:30 - 2:30  
Durango 1

Several million disabled persons receive monthly benefits from the Social Security Disability Programs. Many also utilize Medicare or Medicaid to aid them with their medical expenses. Often persons with disabilities worry that working or attempting to work may make them ineligible for these benefits forever. Social Security recognizes this fear and has responded with developing the Ticket to Work Program. The presenter, a firm believer in these programs, full of enthusiasm, will introduce you to the Social Security Disability Programs, the Work Incentive Provisions and the Ticket to Work Program. You'll leave with a clear understanding of the subject. This presentation was made based on his own experiences in explaining it to family and friends. Mr. Toraño has almost 30 years of experience working for the Social Security Administration. After the session, the floor will be open for questions. If you have personal questions he will be available to talk with you at the end of the session.

Frank Toraño  
Social Security Administration  
3415 E. Frontage Rd.  
Tampa, FL 33607  
8132282093 3061  
francisco.torano@ssa.gov



### **The Future of Vocational Rehabilitation in Florida**

Friday, June 5  
1:30 - 2:30  
Durango 2

This presentation will include a review of new policies recently implemented in the Florida Vocational Rehabilitation program and how these changes have impacted our consumers. Last April VR implemented a Financial Participation policy requiring consumers to participate in the cost of certain services based on family income. In August of last year VR implemented the Order of Selection which creates a waiting list for all consumers until budget is available for VR to serve them. These new policies have significantly changed the way VR does business. Our goal is to serve the Most Significantly Disabled and the financially needy populations first. The need for these policies will be explained and questions regarding the impact on consumers will be answered.

Wayne Olson  
Division of Vocational Rehabilitation  
3555 Maguire Blvd. Suite 205  
Orlando, FL 32803  
wayne.olson@vr.fldoe.org

### **Accessing CARD Services**

Friday, June 5  
1:30 - 2:30  
Monterrey 1

This presentation will describe the services of the statewide Centers for Autism and Related Disabilities (CARD) system. CARD's mission is to optimize the potential of people with autism, dual sensory impairments, and related disabilities. Participants will learn about this outreach and support program which serves people with autism and related disabilities, their families, and professionals. The discussion will include information on how to access services such as individual and family support services, program consultation and technical assistance, parent and professional training, as well as public awareness and community outreach through their regional CARD center.

**FRIDAY**



Deborah Chin  
UM-NSU Center for Autism and Related Disabilities  
5665 Ponce de Leon Blvd  
Coral Gables, FL 33146  
dchin@psy.miami.edu

Lizette Rivera  
UM-NSU Center for Autism and  
Related Disabilities  
5665 Ponce de Leon Blvd.  
P.O. Box 248768  
Coral Gables, FL 33124-0725  
(954) 262-7901  
lrivera@psy.miami.edu



### **Navigating the "System of Care" in Mental Health**

Friday, June 5  
1:30 - 2:30  
Monterrey 2

Learning to navigate the systems of care is an essential part of becoming a powerful advocate for your child. This endeavor, however, can be overwhelming for families. The overall focus of this session is identifying systems, and challenges which may be encountered. Each family will have individual needs, however in principle we all need to know the "basics." There is an essential need for building a strong support system. How can this be accomplished?

Cynthia Johnston  
Florida Peer Network  
71 Colechester Lane  
Palm Court, FL 32317  
(386) 986-9273  
cynthiajohnston@yahoo.com

### **Service Animals and Positive Actions – Education Beats Litigation Any Day!**

Friday, June 5  
1:30 - 2:30  
Monterrey 3

Florida Service Dogs, Inc. will provide the attendees with an overview of federal and state statutes regarding the legal rights and responsibilities of services animals. We will provide a live demonstration of service animals in action as well as field questions from the audience and encourage participation and discussions. We will explain the process of obtaining, training and maintaining service animals. We will discuss who may train and/or use a service animal and the costs involved.

Carol Christopherson  
Florida Service Dogs, Inc.  
Box 14810  
Jacksonville, FL 32238  
(800) 549-2600  
buddynme@bellsouth.net

Linda McCook  
Florida Service Dogs, Inc.  
Box 14810  
Jacksonville, FL 32238  
(850) 549-2600

Kay Crickmore  
Florida Service Dogs, Inc.  
Box 14810  
Jacksonville, FL 32238  
(800) 549-2600

### **It's Those Wonderful Rights**

Friday, June 5  
1:30 - 2:30  
Yucatan 1

Characters from the holiday classic movie "It's a Wonderful Life" assist in presenting this fun and interactive presentation about procedural safeguards. These provisions, in compliance with the Individuals with Disabilities Education Improvement Act (IDEA), protect parents' and students' rights with respect to the provision of a free appropriate public education (FAPE). With rights come responsibilities, and understanding their rights and responsibilities will help parents to become informed and active participants in the special education process. Come celebrate those Wonderful Rights!

Anna Brynild  
Central Florida Parent Center  
1021 Delaware Avenue  
Palm Harbor, FL 34683  
(727) 789-2400  
anna@cflparents.org

Jill Fane  
Central Florida Parent Center  
1021 Delaware Avenue  
Palm Harbor, FL 34683  
jill@cflparents.org



## **Pasando Por Encima de la Pared: La Comunicacion en el IEP**

Friday, June 5

1:30 - 2:30

Yucatan 2

Ambos padres y educadores reportan que las reuniones de IEP es uno de los eventos mas estresante del ano escolar. Por que? Porque causa tanto estres esta reunion la cual generalmente toma lugar una vez al ano? Este taller divertido e interactivo examina la experiencia del IEP desde ambas partes de la mesa y explora las soluciones proactivas para obtener resultados cooperativos y comunicacion positiva.

Millagros Pou

Central Florida Parent Center

1021 Delaware Avenue

Palm Harbor, FL 34683

(727) 789-2400

millie@cflparents.org

## **Shining Some Light on Ways to Provide Decision-Making Assistance: Guardianship and Florida's Less Restrictive Alternatives**

Friday, June 5

1:30 - 2:30

Yucatan 3

Do you know the decision-making options available in Florida to assist people with disabilities? Do you know how to match those options to the abilities of the person? Come join other self-advocates and family members in discussing these options, as well as ways to access various types of affordable legal assistance. The following areas will be discussed: guardianship, guardian advocacy, durable power of attorney, client advocate, representative payee, co-signer on checking accounts, health care surrogate, medical proxy, and special needs trusts. Information will also be provided about free, full-day sessions to be held in Jacksonville, Sarasota and West Palm Beach for self-advocates, families and legal professionals as well as a pilot webinar project all fo which are funded by the Florida Developmental Disabilities Council.

Melinda Coulter

Agency for Persons with Disabilities

4030 Esplanade Way Suite 380

Tallahassee, FL 32399

(850) 488-9546

melinda\_coulter@apd.state.fl.us

Gerald Hemness

Center for Guardian Advocacy

309 North Parsons Avenue

Brandon, FL 33510

(813) 661-5297

geraldhemness@tampabay.rr.com

## **New Creative Ideas for Sensory Exploration in the Classroom and at Home!**

Friday, June 5

1:30 - 2:30

Coronado A

We learn about the world around us by using our five senses to explore our environment. Because of various delays and disabilities, some people find this exploration of the environment to become more challengng. Disruption in this sensory processing system can result in various developmental issues such as poor self-regulation, inattentiveness, developmental delays, difficulty with social interaction skills and many others. Come explore our engaging sensory environments and take home a packet of simple ideas and activities that you can create either at home or in your classroom!

Maxine Duke

PARC

3100 75th Street North

St. Petersburg, FL 33710

(727) 345-9111 x 6911

mduke@parc-fl.org

Julie Ann McGary

PARC

3100 75th Street North

St. Petersburg, FL 33710

(727) 345-9111 x 6912

FRIDAY





**ABC's of Family Disaster Preparedness**

Friday, June 5  
1:30 - 2:30  
Coronado B

There is a saying that all disasters are local. While this is true, preparing for disasters is personal. This session will help you learn to prepare your family for disasters and increase the chances of being a survivor. Nobody wants to think a disaster will happen to them personally. But, it really is not a question of if something will happen, but when something will happen.

Chip Wilson  
Division of Emergency Management  
2555 Shumard Oaks Blvd.  
Tallahassee, FL 32399  
(850) 413-9892  
chip.wilson@em.myflorida.com



**Creating Mentoring Programs**

Friday, June 5  
1:30 - 2:30  
Coronado C/D

Mentoring is recognized as one of the most important strategies for assisting youth in making a positive transition into adulthood. Both caring adults and peers may play a key role in mentoring. Despite all of the information available on mentoring, there is very little about mentoring youth with disabilities or about career-focused mentoring of older youth. This workshop will describe how the publication *Paving the Way to Work: A Guide to Career-Focused Mentoring*, developed by the National Collaborative on Workforce and Disability for Youth (NCWD/Youth) can be used in developing the needed mentoring programs on the local, state, and national level.

Rebecca Cokley  
National Collaborative on Workforce and Disability for Youth  
4455 Connecticut Ave NW Suite 310  
Washington, DC 20008  
(202) 822-8405  
cokleyr@iel.org

Rhonda Basha  
U.S. Department of Labor  
200 Constitution Ave, NW Room 5-1011  
Washington, DC 20210  
basha.rhonda@dol.gov  
(202) 693-7936



**The Florida Youth Council: A Year in Review**

Friday, June 5  
1:30 - 2:30  
Coronado E/F

The Florida Youth Council has been very busy in the last year. Come meet the members of the FYC and hear about the activities that they have been involved with. These activities include the continuing promotion of the Disability History and Awareness legislation past last year, their hugely successful Florida Youth Summit, and their work on an IEP guide for students. This will be an intimate session with plenty of time for questions from the audiences.

Alex Brown  
Florida Youth Council  
Florida Youth Council  
1332 N. Duval St.  
Tallahassee, FL 32303  
(850) 224-4670  
abrown@familycafe.net

- Lizzy Barrows
- Matthew Boselli
- Mason Hunter Charles
- J. T. Davis
- Carly Fahey
- Nick Grabowski
- Grier Harris

Whitney Harris  
Cynthia Melgar  
Christopher M. Regan  
Sara Romine  
Josue E. Tapia Ortiz  
Matthew Zebroski



**Quality Inclusion – It's Time for Awareness and Action!**

Friday, June 5  
1:30 - 2:30  
Coronado S/T

Come hear how Awareness and Action Partners makes a positive impact in the lives of people with disabilities. Founder of AAA Partners, Sara Romine, a 2009 high school graduate, has been included since kindergarten. Her first project, "Disability History and Awareness Weeks" video, has been shown in classrooms throughout Florida. Her interviews with youth with disabilities, communicate how we are all more alike than different. Sara believes learning about important people in history with disabilities will motivate



everyone to work hard to achieve their goals too. Participants will develop their own awareness and action plans to make a difference!

Sara Romine  
Awareness and Actions Partners  
2718 Collins Ave  
Lakeland, FL 33803  
(863) 682-5584  
saracoolnicole@aol.com

Lilly Romine  
Awareness and Actions Partners  
2718 Collins Ave  
Lakeland, FL 33803  
(863) 682-5584



### **Going Beyond Everybody Else's Expectations**

Friday, June 5  
1:30 - 2:30  
Coronado Q/R

Author Ben D. Anderson will talk about psychological and emotional effects on a person with a disability and family; how it affects that person from the standpoint of a person with a disability himself; how to overcome obstacles and become a self-advocate and how the community can be part of that advocacy; and how a person with a disability can attain greater expectations. The audience will gain insight into the needs and desires of a person with a disability and how to address those issues. He will talk about his life experiences from being misdiagnosed with a low IQ: attending private school for people with disabilities from 3 1/2 to 12 years old; going to jr/senior high in Special Education; and graduating with a B.S. degree.

Ben Anderson  
Break Through, Inc.  
P.O. Box 284  
Amery, WI 54001  
(715) 554-1179  
by@bendanderson.com

### **General Overview of CMS Programs and Services**

Friday, June 5  
1:30 - 2:30  
Coronado N/P

This presentation will offer an overview of the services that Children's Medical Services can provide you and your family.

Barbara Ray  
Executive Community Health Nursing Director  
Department of Health - Children's Medical Services  
7040 Lake Ellenor Drive  
Orlando, FL 32809-  
(407) 858-5577  
barbara\_ray@doh.state.fl.us

### **Flu and Pneumonia Immunizations for Adults**

Friday, June 5  
1:30 - 2:30  
Coronado M

Do I really need to get a flu shot every year? Can a flu shot give you the flu? Who needs to get a pneumonia shot? These questions and more will be discussed. Find out what everyone should know about flu and pneumonia and how you can protect yourself and your family from serious illness and what you can do if you get sick.

Patricia Stuart  
Assistant Community Health Nursing Director  
Orange County Health Department  
6101 Lake Ellenor Dr.  
Orlando, FL 32809  
(407) 858-1400 x 1267  
patricia\_stuart@doh.state.fl.us

**FRIDAY**



**From Foster Care to Business Owner: The Right Supports and Attitude Make a Difference**

Friday, June 5

1:30 - 2:30

Fiesta 1/2

Thomas Moon is an independent adult with a disability. He and his father will talk about Thomas's journey, from being in Foster Care to starting his own business. They will share anecdotal stories of choice and success. Choosing the right team, making the right choices, keeping a positive attitude and never giving up are just some of the topics they will talk about. As a person with a disability, Thomas knows what it is like to overcome obstacles and still keep a positive attitude.

Thomas Moon  
4215 SE 59th Street  
Ocala, FL 34480  
(352) 502-5994  
tj@moonscapes.org

Howard Moon  
4215 SE 59 Street  
Ocala, FL 34480  
(352) 427-5935  
howard@howsmoon.com

**Sign Language for Exceptional Children and Their Families**

Friday, June 5

1:30 - 2:30

Fiesta 3/4

This session is extremely "hands-on" and will have you learning American Sign Language (ASL) the fun way through the use of songs, games and stories. Time to Sign's program has demonstrated educational enhancements for exceptional children such as getting and keeping the attention of children better than the spoken word. It helps children make eye contact, stay more focused in their communication with others; decreases frustration in classroom settings, home, work and surroundings; improves language, literacy and concept retention; increases I.Q. Enhancing communication for Downs Syndrome, Autistic and other exceptional children; as well as enhancing socialization skills in school, home and public settings.

Diana Leahy  
Time to Sign, Inc.  
215 Beverly Ct.  
Melbourne Beach, FL 32951  
(321) 726-6410  
dleahy@timetosign.com

Lillian Hubler  
Time to Sign, Inc.  
211 Fourth Avenue  
Indialantic, FL 32903  
(321) 726-9466  
lhubler@timetosign.com

**Reading Strategies = Thinking Strategies**

Friday, June 5

1:30 - 2:30

Fiesta 9/10

Reading does not start nor stop with decoding words on a page. Successful readers are also successful thinkers. Participants will explore research based reading strategies all good readers use. This session will also provide concrete ways in which parents and caregivers can use everyday objects, art, wordless books and everyday learning opportunities to reinforce these strategies. Presenters will showcase various resources to empower parents and caregivers when reading with their child.

Tracie Snow, MA  
Florida School for the Deaf and the Blind  
207 N. San Marco Ave.  
St. Augustine, FL 32084  
(904) 827-2931  
snowt@fsdb.k12.fl.us

David B. Snow  
University of North Florida  
1 UNF Drive  
Jacksonville, FL 32224  
(904) 620-1617  
david.snow@unf.edu

**Needs and Benefits of Accessible Recreation**

Friday, June 5

1:30 - 2:30

Fiesta 7/8

Regular physical activity has been shown to diminish the risks and effects of many health problems associated with a sedentary lifestyle, including obesity, as well as the loss of lean muscle tissue and bone mass. The important mental, social and emotional benefits will also be discussed. Learn about the value of active leisure!



David Jones  
Florida Disabled Outdoors Association  
2475 Apalachee Parkway Suite 205  
Tallahassee, FL 32301  
(850) 201-2944  
info@fdoa.org

2:30 p.m. to 3:00 p.m. **Pyramid Players**, Foyer

## Friday 3:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. Concurrent Sessions

### **A Family Guide to Response to Intervention**

Friday, June 5  
3:00 - 4:00  
Acapulco

What is RtI - Response to Intervention? What does it mean for your child? This session will help you develop a basic understanding of the RtI and the family's role in the process. Florida's Statewide RtI Implementation Plan acknowledges that parents are critical to the process and their participation should be facilitated throughout. These members of Florida's RtI State Transformation Team will help you learn the key features of RtI and how you can become involved in the process at your child's school.

Karen Childs  
Florida Mental Health Institute - USF  
Florida's Positive Behavior Support Project  
13301 Bruce B. Downs Blvd. MHC2113A  
Tampa, FL 33612  
(813) 974-7358  
childs@fmhi.usf.edu

Clark Dorman  
Project Leader  
Problem Solving & Response to Intervention Project  
4202 East Fowler Ave, EDU 162  
Tampa, FL 33620  
(813) 391-3059  
dorman@coedu.usf.edu



### **Special Needs Financial Planning**

Friday, June 5  
3:00 - 4:00  
Baja

For parents or caregivers of a loved one with special needs, there is a poignant realization that there may come a time, through sickness, disability or death, when they will not be able to provide care for them. This presentation will examine Special Care Planning and what it encompasses. Topics that will be covered are: protection of government benefits, wills, health care surrogates, how HIPPA laws can effect direction of care, living wills and durable power of attorney, special needs trusts, funding a special needs trust, letter of intent (instructions to the next caregiver), guardianship, accepting a financial gift and finally, how to retire and still fund your special needs trust.

Joseph Eppy  
Eppy Financial Group, Inc.  
1000 Corporate Drive 7th Floor  
Ft. Lauderdale, FL 33034  
(954) 689-9476  
jeppy@finsvcs.com

### **Traveling the Seas of Families, Feelings and Emotions: A New Star Workshop**

Friday, June 5  
3:00 - 4:00  
Cancun

The unexpected has happened. Your child has a disability – neither you nor your family expected this or quite know how to deal with it. You have feelings and emotions that you never had before. This is an interactive workshop that explores the variety of feelings and emotions families of children with disabilities experience. If you like, be prepared to share your story with us. Coping skills, family dynamics and interactions will be addressed. This workshop, part of the New Star training series, was written by and for families. It is specifically geared for families in the Early Steps Program, but is beneficial for all families. Through parent to parent support, we help one another. This, and all New Star workshops, are presented by parents, for parents.



Sue Cannon  
 Early Steps  
 991 Grapefruit Road SE  
 Palm Bay, FL 32909  
 (321) 725-5763  
 sue-cannon@doh.state.fl.us

Sherry Blanco  
 Early Steps  
 1401 S. Federal Highway  
 Ft. Lauderdale, FL 33316  
 (954) 712-5030  
 sblanco@browardhealth.org



**Autism: Believe in the Future, HOW?**

Friday, June 5  
 3:00 - 4:00  
 Durango 1

Every IEP and treatment plan must have employment as the ultimate goal. Our daughter's intellectual and autism disabilities were in infancy. At 22 years old she could express basic simple needs to her family and she was appropriate in public most of the time. We wanted more! Today, Robin is 38 years old. In spite of her autism, she is a cashier at Publix Supermarket, YMCA Membership Receptionist, lives in her own condo, and drives her own car. She receives support from the Medicaid Waiver and loves her life. Our family wants to share what benefited Robin. It's never too late!

Ann Millan  
 3144 Brooker Creek Way  
 Palm Harbor, FL 34685  
 (727) 785-0112  
 amnvc@tampabay.rr.com

Robin Millan  
 Adult with Autism

Bob Millan



**Self-Employment – The Focus on Entrepreneurs**

Friday, June 5  
 3:00 - 4:00  
 Durango 2

The Agency for Persons with Disabilities, the University of South Florida and the Agency for Workforce Innovation are involved in a collaborative project called "Start-Up/Florida." This project is part of the "Start-Up/USA" and is funded through the Department of Labor, Office of Disability Employment Policy (DOL/ODEP). The purpose is to look at the effectiveness of self-employment models being implemented in Florida and to provide training and technical assistance to individuals with disabilities who want to start their own small business. Both presenters have experience in presenting both the BOSS (Briding Opportunity for Self-Sufficiency) and METTA (Micro-Enterprise Training and Technical Assistance) models of self-employment. However, this presentation is planned to showcase entrepreneurs in all phases of small business development: start-up, operations and growth management.

Debra Noel  
 Agency for Persons with Disabilities at USF  
 Florida Mental Health Institute  
 13301 N. Bruce B. Downs Blvd MCH 2113A  
 Tampa, FL 33612  
 (813) 974-9011  
 dnoel@fmhi.usf.edu

Miriam Shutes  
 1113 McKenzie Avenue  
 Panama City, FL 32401  
 (850) 215-1029  
 meshutesllc@aol.com

**Parenting Special Needs: Sharing Life's Lessons**

Friday, June 5  
 3:00 - 4:00  
 Monterrey 1

This presentation is designed to inform and educate, but also, to share information and "practical tips" through lessons learned from "real life" with a special needs child; real life situations that are backed-up with positive solutions. Come and learn about acceptance and what it means. Learn about what being an advocate REALLY means. Discover where you can go to find out about resources and how to contact them. Chantai Snellgrove, Founder of Parenting Special Needs Magazine, shares her stories and experiences of how she approached certain challenges and figured out a better way. She even makes available helpful tips, solutions, and applications to those challenges!

Chantai Snellgrove, Parenting Special Needs Magazine  
 310 21st Court SW  
 Vero Beach, FL 32962  
 (772) 532-4423  
 chantai@parentingspecialneeds.org







## **Challenges of Raising a Bipolar Child**

Friday, June 5

3:00 - 4:00

Monterrey 2

Bipolar disorder is a disorder of the brain marked by extreme changes in mood, energy, thinking and behavior. Learning that one's child has bipolar disorder can be traumatic. Diagnosis usually follows months or years of the child's mood instability, school difficulties, and damaged relationships with family and friends. However, diagnosis can and should be a turning point for everyone concerned. Once the illness is identified, energies can be directed towards treatment, education, and developing coping strategies.

Cynthia Johnston  
Florida Peer Network  
71 Colechester Lane  
Palm Court, FL 32317  
(386) 986-9273  
cynthiajohnston@yahoo.com

## **Introduction to Active Parenting Now (Ages 5-12) and Active Parenting of Teens**

Friday, June 5

3:00 - 4:00

Monterrey 3

This workshop will provide an overview of the nationally recognized Active Parenting Program. In a series of six workshops, parents receive guidance and support to transform the challenges of raising their children into opportunities for growth. Learning objectives include: styles of parenting; clear, honest communication; respectful discipline techniques; building self-esteem; preventing risky behavior and helping your child resist peer pressure; solving methods; decreasing power struggles; and handling anger. Parents learn how to become an encouraging parent and much more. Active Parenting helps families make positive and realistic changes in their family's daily routine to gain greater happiness at home!

Kimberly DiLuzio  
Broward County Public Schools  
600 SE 3rd Avenue  
Ft. Lauderdale, FL 33301  
(754) 321-2211  
kimberly.diluzio@browardschools.com

## **IEP Jeopardy**

Friday, June 5

3:00 - 4:00

Yucatan 1

Enjoy yourself and learn in this fun and interactive presentation in which your host takes you through the fast-paced game of IEP Jeopardy. Categories include: So What's the Big IDEA, Evaluation and Eligibility, The IEP Meeting, Paperwork, Goals, and Finding Solutions. Work together in teams to find the "question" in Double Jeopardy. Will your team win it all in Final Jeopardy?

Anna Brynild  
Central Florida Parent Center  
1021 Delaware Avenue  
Palm Harbor, FL 34683  
(727) 789-2400  
anna@cflparents.org

Jill Fane  
Central Florida Parent Center  
1021 Delaware Avenue  
Palm Harbor, FL 34683  
jill@cflparents.org

## **IEP Jeopardy en Español**

Friday, June 5

3:00 - 4:00

Yucatan 2

Tomare "Que hay de bueno sobre la ley IDEA" por \$200.00 Traiga su gorra de pensar y unase con nosotros para esta presentacion interactiva y divertida sobre el proceso del Plan/Programa de Educacion Individualizado (PEI) o (IEP). Exploren las categorias tales como: La Evaluacion y Elegibilidad, la Reunion de IEP, Miren todos estos papeles, Las Metas y los Servicios y Descubriendo Soluciones. Tiene usted preguntas sobre los Niveles Presente de Educacion? Como escribir Metas en la Reunion de IEP? Como medir el progreso? Unase con su presentador para revelar las contestaciones de IEP Jeopardy!



Millagros Pou  
 Central Florida Parent Center  
 1021 Delaware Avenue  
 Palm Harbor, FL 34683  
 (727) 789-2400  
 millie@cflparents.org

**Poison Prevention for Children**

Friday, June 5  
 3:00 - 4:00  
 Yucatan 3

This session will cover poison prevention tips and advice for the home. Discussion topics include how familiar you are with common items around the home that may be toxic, your poison IQ, first aid and ending with information about calling the poison center.

Bonnie McDougle  
 Community Educator  
 Florida Poison Information Center  
 P.O. Box 1289  
 Tampa, FL 33601  
 bmcdougle@tgh.org

Joann Chambers-Emerson  
 Education Coordinator  
 Florida Poison Information Center  
 P.O. Box 1289  
 Tampa, FL 33601  
 jchambers@tgh.org

**Special Smiles: Oral Care for Persons with Special Needs**

Friday, June 5  
 3:00 - 4:00  
 Coronado A

This session seeks to provide persons with disabilities, family members, and other significant caregivers with useful information to enable them to maintain the status of oral health and healthy smiles. The goals of the session are to educate participants about the relationship between and importance of good oral hygiene and oral health; to identify helpful techniques for enhancing self care and/or providing oral health care to persons with disabilities; and to present ways for the participants to become individual advocates to improve the current landscape for oral health among persons with disabilities, including the necessary legislative changes.

Diane Ede-Nichols, DMD, MHL  
 Nova Southeastern University  
 College of Dental Medicine  
 3200 S. University Drive  
 Ft. Lauderdale, FL 33138  
 (954) 262-7378  
 dnichols@nova.edu

Steven Ellen, DDS  
 Nova Southeastern University  
 College of Dental Medicine  
 3200 S. University Drive  
 Ft. Lauderdale, FL 33138  
 (954) 262-1805  
 stevell@nova.edu

Timothy Garvey, DDS  
 University of Florida  
 College of Dentistry  
 P.O. Box 100426  
 Gainesville, FL 32610  
 (352) 955-5616  
 tgarvey@dental.ufl.edu



**Advocating with Emergency Management**

Friday, June 5  
 3:00 - 4:00  
 Coronado B

The best time to work with emergency management is not after a disaster hits. The best time is before a disaster affects you and your family. Do you know who your emergency management officials are? Do you know all the groups involved in emergency management? This session will provide insights on advocating for inclusion in all aspects of emergency preparations.

Chip Wilson  
 Division of Emergency Management  
 2555 Shumard Oaks Blvd.  
 Tallahassee, FL 32399  
 (850) 413-9892  
 chip.wilson@em.myflorida.com





### **A Family Affair: We're All in This Together**

Friday, June 5  
3:00 - 4:00  
Coronado C/D

Brandon is a 15 year old teenager who lives with Bipolar Disorder and ADHD. Having a mental illness often brings frustration and chaos into the household. Come hear Brandon talk about his daily struggles with school, medication, and relationships with his family members. Brandon's siblings will join him in a discussion about family dynamics and the strategies they use to handle the daily challenges of living with a family member with Bipolar Disorder.

Brandon Stallard  
2266 Broadwater Drive  
Jacksonville, FL 32225  
(904) 683-7072  
macdozer@yahoo.com

Adam Stallard  
2266 Broadwater Drive  
Jacksonville, FL 32225  
(904) 683-7072  
spanishgum@yahoo.com

Caitlynn Stallard  
2266 Broadwater Drive  
Jacksonville, FL 32225  
(904) 707-7914  
caitlynnngirl@yahoo.com

**FRIDAY**



### **It's Time to Learn Our History and Get Involved: Youth Voting and Disability History!**

Friday, June 5  
3:00 - 4:00  
Coronado E/F

The Florida Youth Council is committed to leadership and support of their peers here in Florida. The FYC has made disability history a special part of their mission since creating and passing Disability History and Awareness legislation in 2008. Come learn about the rich history and important contributions of persons with disabilities in our nation, as well as the power of exercising your civil right to vote!

Alex Brown  
Florida Youth Council  
1332 N. Duval St.  
Tallahassee, FL 32303  
(850) 224-4670  
abrown@familycafe.net

- Lizzy Barrows
- J. T. Davis
- Carly Fahey
- Whitney Harris
- Sara Romine



### **How To Become An Effective Advocate**

Friday, June 5  
3:00 - 4:00  
Coronado S/T

This session will walk participants through the Florida legislative process, from working with their local representative both in the House and Senate through their district offices and their offices in Tallahassee. It will explain the committee process and the appropriations and budget process that determines how programs are passed and funded. The session will teach participants about the most effective ways to approach their legislators, including what information they should provide and how to handle questions. Finally the session will also include information about the new House Speaker and Senate President and their goals, as well as the Committee structures and the Chairmen and members of the Senate Children and Families Committee and House Healthy Families and Ways and Means Committees.

Todd Parrish  
Todd Parrish Governmental / Political Consulting  
302 P. Highland Ave  
Winter Garden, FL 34787  
gatorboytodd@aol.com



### **Partners in Policymaking Graduates: Improving the Lives of People with Developmental Disabilities**

Friday, June 5  
3:00 - 4:00  
Coronado Q/R

Are you one of approximately 300 graduates of Partners in Policymaking in the State of Florida? If so, please visit us as we connect and network with one another and hear how Partners graduates are continuing their advocacy work to improve lives of Floridians with developmental disabilities. Cindy Tan, Special Projects Manager and Debbie Hannifan, Coordinator of the Partners in Policymaking program will be facilitating the discussion and will discuss continued education and opportunities through the Partners Graduate Program. Join us and connect with other graduates, encourage, and collaborate with one another in your ongoing advocacy activities.



Debbie Hannifan  
Florida Developmental Disabilities Council  
P.O. Box 2864  
Lakeland, FL 33806  
(863) 738-6367  
dhannifan@tampabay.rr.com

Cindy Nipper Tan  
Florida Developmental Disabilities Council  
124 Marriott Drive, Suite 203  
Tallahassee, FL 32301  
(850) 488-4180  
cindyn@fddc.org



### **Estate Planning for Families with Developmental Disabilities**

Friday, June 5  
3:00 - 4:00  
Coronado N/P

Estate Planning is necessary for all families in order to protect their loved ones with special needs. Failure to do so may prevent persons with developmental disabilities from maintaining or qualifying for valuable government assistance benefits, such as SSI, SSI-related Medicaid, Housing, and Wartime Veterans' Dependent Benefits to name a few. Attorney Emma Hemness dispels misinformation which prevails in the Special Needs Community with respect to estate planning using special needs trusts as asset protection vehicles. She will explain the distinctions between self-settled special needs trusts and third party special needs trusts; and provide an easy to remember rule to understand the critical distinction between these two categories of special needs trusts. As time permits Mrs. Hemness will also be able to answer questions involving distributions from special needs trusts which may disrupt benefits, as well as differentiate between means-tested programs and those that are not means-tested.

Emma Hemness  
Law Offices of Emma Hemness  
309 N. Parsons Ave.  
Brandon, FL 33510

### **The Great Grocery Grab: The Latest and Greatest from WIC**

Friday, June 5  
3:00 - 4:00  
Coronado M

The new WIC food package provides a healthy bag of groceries. WIC serves many thousands of moms, babies and children and the foods WIC provides to these important groups of people are about to get a lot better! Find out about whole grains, fruits, vegetables and other healthy foods that WIC provides and learn about the latest in nutrition for yourself and your family.

Mary Stickney  
Senior Public Health Nutritionist Supervisor  
Orange County Health Department  
6101 Lake Ellenor Dr.  
Orlando, FL 32809  
(407) 858-1400 x 1189  
mary\_stickney@doh.state.fl.us

Shendy Lalmansingh  
Nutrition Educator  
Orange County Health Department  
6101 Lake Ellenor Dr.  
Orlando, FL 32809  
(407) 858-1400 x 78039  
shendy\_lalmansingh@doh.state.fl.us



### **Project SOURCE: What's Happening in College Experience Programs for Students with Intellectual Disabilities**

Friday, June 5  
3:00 - 4:00  
Fiesta 1/2

Join us for an exciting discussion on Project SOURCE, funded by the Florida Developmental Disabilities Council. There is growing recognition that individuals with developmental disabilities may benefit from opportunities to attend post-secondary institutions. Audit options for non-matriculating students, multilevel curriculum and instruction, syllabi adaptation, and participation contracts are a few of the recognized methods for students with developmental disabilities to have an authentic college experience. Come learn how The University of North Florida has been working with a group of Florida stakeholders to complete an Action Plan for replicating postsecondary educational programs for students with developmental disabilities across the state over the next three years.



Debbie Reed  
University of North Florida  
1 UNF Drive  
Jacksonville, FL 32224  
(904) 620-1809  
stad0012@unf.edu

Kristine W. Webb  
University of North Florida  
1 UNF Drive  
Jacksonville, FL 32224  
(904) 620-1807  
kwebb@unf.edu

**Meeting the Needs of Students with Behavior Problems**

Friday, June 5  
3:00 - 4:00  
Fiesta 3/4

Students who have "Behavior Disorders" present challenges to families and school personnel regardless of their disability. This presentation will assist families and caregivers in targeting behaviors of students with behavior disorders. This presentation will also cover how to navigate the system and obtain quality IEPs and Behavior Intervention Plans and get them implemented! A good BIP should focus on the cause of the behavior and development of pragmatic strategies to assist the child in the classroom and home. The session will allow for questions and interaction with the presenter.

Lee Clark, PhD  
Advocacy Center for Persons with Disabilities, Inc.  
2728 Centerview Drive Suite 102  
Tallahassee, FL 32301  
(850) 342-0823  
leec@advocacycenter.org

**New Horizon Fund**

Friday, June 5  
3:00 - 4:00  
Fiesta 9/10

Come hear about The Florida Alliance for Assistive Services and Technology's NEW HORIZON FUND. The Assistive Technology Loan Program and the Home Based Business Loan Program will be discussed during this presentation. Both programs will be individually explained in detail during the first segment of the presentation. The second segment will be an informal questions and answer session that will address topics including, but not limited to, the application process and qualifying equipment and services for both programs. Informational literature and application materials will be available.

Kristina Torrance  
FAAST  
325 John Knox Road, Bldg 400, Suite 402  
Tallahassee, FL 32303  
(850) 487-3278  
ktorrance@faast.org



**Creating a Community Based Recreation and Leisure Plan**

Friday, June 5  
3:00 - 4:00  
Fiesta 7/8

There are many options of accessible programs, events, destinations and products. Florida Disabled Outdoors Association will assist you in finding these community resources. You may be surprised at how many options are available in your area.

David Jones  
Florida Disabled Outdoors Association  
2475 Apalachee Parkway Suite 205  
Tallahassee, FL 32301  
(850) 201-2944  
info@fdoa.org

Kristy Carter, CTRS  
Florida Disabled Outdoors Association  
2475 Apalachee Parkway, Suite 205  
Tallahassee, FL 32301  
(850) 201-2944 x3  
kcarter@fdoa.org

4:00 p.m. to 4:30 p.m.  
4:30 p.m. to 5:30 p.m.

**Pyramid Players, Foyer**  
**CAN Platform Building Session, Part 1, Fiesta 6**

**FRIDAY**



## Friday 4:30 p.m. to 5:30 p.m. Concurrent Sessions

### **Dyslexia: How to Make the Most of What You've Got to Be the Best That You Can Be**

Friday, June 5

4:30 - 5:30

Acapulco

Dyslexia: How to make the most of what you've got to be the best that you can be? What works? How to help? What is Multi-Sensory Structured Language Teaching? What accommodations might be appropriate? What assistive technologies are available and how do they work? Shorten your learning curve with real life demonstrations by a student currently using these programs. This presentation will hope to empower and inform regarding potential effective options that are already available.

Darla Hatton  
Reading Specialist  
SPELL  
801 Cavesmill Way  
Tarpon Springs, FL 34689  
(727) 692-0988  
dhfl143@yahoo.com

Kaila Hatton  
Student  
SPELL  
801 Cavesmill Way  
Tarpon Springs, FL 34689



### **Social Security Benefits and Family Values**

Friday, June 5

4:30 - 5:30

Baja

This presentation is about Social Security benefits, family values, and the effect they have on the disabled community. Come listen to one family's story about having their Social Security benefits reduced because of their marriage.

Dina Stevens  
8264 Maritime Flag Street #1404  
Windermere, FL 34786  
(407) 654-0656  
fosters3@yahoo.com



### **The Truth about Creating a Safe Legal Haven for a Family with Special Needs**

Friday, June 5

4:30 - 5:30

Cancun

Based on the book, *Special People, Special Planning*, this workshop, presented by co-author Peggy Hoyt, is about creating a financial and legal blueprint to address the special person's unique personal and social needs. Families of people with special needs face planning challenges that accompany longer life expectancies – a future without full independence – and the need to maintain an outstanding quality of life. You will gain an overview of the three main federal disability programs and learn how to create a customized, comprehensive plan for your special person.

Margaret "Peggy" Hoyt  
The Law Offices of Hoyt and Bryan, LLC  
254 Plaza Drive  
Oviedo, FL 32765  
(407) 977-8080  
peggy@hoytbryan.com

Kendra Ferreri  
The Law Offices of Hoyt and Bryan, LLC  
254 Plaza Drive  
Oviedo, FL 32765



### **Support for Moving from Benefits to Work through PASS and other SSA Work Incentives**

Friday, June 5

4:30 - 5:30

Durango 1

The presentation will describe the PASS and other work incentives available to support individuals with disabilities crossing over from benefits to employment. For students the Student Earned Income Exclusion is a very valuable tool to gain work experience, get paid and not worry about the effects the work would have on SSI benefits or Medicaid. There are many valuable tools that are available through Social Security's work incentives for support to go from benefits to employment or a combination of both work and benefits together in some cases.



Yana Wiggins  
Social Security Administration  
P.O. Box 830684  
Birmingham, AL 35282  
(205) 801-4630  
yana.wiggins@ssa.gov



### **Transition from School to Work – Ages 14 to Adult**

Friday, June 5  
4:30 - 5:30  
Durango 2

This session will teach parents and students about advocating for individualized school-to-work supports and services. For example, it will teach participants how to write and request individualized school-to-work IEP goals; how to request and receive supplementary aids and services related to transition; and what supported employment is and how it works for students with mild to significant disabilities. This workshop will also cover how to achieve a seamless transition from school employment training to Vocational Rehabilitation Services, and explain how VR works.

Brian Johnson  
Advocacy Center for Persons with Disabilities, Inc.  
4411 Sheridan Street  
Hollywood, FL 33021  
(850) 350-4556

### **An Overview of Florida Medicaid's Acute Care Services**

Friday, June 5  
4:30 - 5:30  
Monterrey 1

The Agency for Health Care Administration will provide general information on the following Medicaid services: the Family Planning Waiver, Durable Medical Equipment, Non-Emergency Transportation, Child Health Check-Up, Prescribed Pediatric Extended Care (PPEC), Medical Foster Care, and Therapies.

Dan Gabric  
Agency for Health Care Administration  
2727 Mahan Drive  
Tallahassee, FL 32308  
(850) 488-9347  
gabricd@ahca.myflorida.com



### **School to Jail Pipeline**

Friday, June 5  
4:30 - 5:30  
Monterrey 2

Too many kids with emotional and mental health troubles are being charged for school related behaviors that are not appropriately addressed by school based services. According to the Southern Poverty Law Center, seven out of every ten children in the juvenile justice system have an educational disability. This presentation, by attorneys at the Legal Advocacy Center of Central Florida, Inc. is aimed at concerned parents, advocates, and ESE professionals and will look at some alarming Florida school arrest statistics. We will discuss a collaborative project that is trying to put the plug into the School to Jailhouse Pipeline.

Roberto Cruz  
Legal Advocacy Center of Central Florida, Inc.  
315-A Magnolia Ave  
Sanford, FL 32771  
(407) 708-1020  
robertoc@laccf.org

Mary Raspet  
Legal Advocacy Center of Central Florida, Inc.  
315-A Magnolia Ave.  
Sanford, FL 32771  
(407) 708-1020  
maryr@laccf.org

Barbara Glass  
Legal Advocacy Center fo Central Florida, Inc.  
315-A Magnolia Ave  
Sanford, FL 32771  
(407) 708-1020  
barbg@laccf.org

**FRIDAY**



**Transplant Foundation: The Gift of Life**

Friday, June 5  
4:30 - 5:30  
Monterrey 3

This presentation will entail topics on organ donation and transplantation. It will create a better understanding of the donation and transplantation process. The presentation will bring awareness and educate the community about the existence of Transplant Foundation, the importance of organ donation and the "Donate Organs, Pass it On" Florida Speciality License Plate. The audience will have the opportunity to ask questions. Handouts and brochures will be passed out to further educate the audience on organ donation and Transplant Foundation.

Jenny Garcia  
Transplant Foundation, Inc.  
701 SW 27th Ave., Suite 705  
Miami, FL 33135  
(305) 817-5645  
jgarcia16@med.miami.edu

**Getting Over the Wall – Communicating in the IEP**

Friday, June 5  
4:30 - 5:30  
Yucatan 1

Both parents and educators report that IEP meetings are some of the most stressful events of each school year. Why? Why would a meeting which generally only takes place once each year bring about such stress?

Eileen Gilley  
Central Florida Parent Center  
1021 Delaware Avenue  
Palm Harbor, FL 34683  
(727) 789-2400  
eileen@cflparents.org

Diane Joslin  
Central Florida Parent Center  
diane@cflparents.org

**Son Unas Derechos Maravillosos**

Friday, June 5  
4:30 - 5:30  
Yucatan 2

Los caracteres de la pelicula clasica navidena "It's a Wonderful Life", "Es una Vida Maravillosa" now ayudan a presentar este taller divertido e interactivo sobre las Garantias de Procedimientos, escrito por la ley IDEA, la cual protegé los derechos de los padres y los estudiantes con respeto a las provisiones de una Educacion Publica Gratuita y Apropiada (FAPE). Con los derechos vienen las responsabilidades y tener el entendimiento de sus derechos y responsabilidades les ayudara a usted estar mas informado, y ser un participante activo en el proceso de educacion especial de su nino. Ven y celebren estos Derechos Maravillosos!

Millagros Pou  
Central Florida Parent Center  
1021 Delaware Avenue  
Palm Harbor, FL 34683  
(727) 789-2400  
millie@cflparents.org

**Growing Up With Disabled Siblings**

Friday, June 5  
4:30 - 5:30  
Yucatan 3

Through the eyes of two young women you will experience the ups and downs of having a sibling with disabilities. Listen to their stories, learn how it affects their lives and simply get the perspectives that are heard less often. You will laugh and you may even cry, but there is no doubt that you will leave with the knowledge that having a sibling with disabilities can make you a better person. Hope to see you there!

Rachel Reese  
14496 Iroquois Ave.  
Largo, FL 337744408  
rpeanut87@msn.com

Sarabeth Lewis  
sbgiggle521@aol.com





## **Create Disability Understanding in Your School**

Friday, June 5

4:30 - 5:30

Coronado A

YES! of America United is comprised of individuals who understand what it means to live with a disability. YES! is determined to make a difference for our youth by fostering inclusiveness, education, and empowerment within our schools.

With the passage of the Disability Awareness and History Bill, YES! developed a website and curriculum dedicated to assisting educators and parents with the training and tools necessary to perform age-appropriate disability awareness programming in the K-12 schools.

This session will provide strategies for you to get started today creating disability understanding and awareness in your school.

Becki Forsell

YES! of America United, Inc.

9502 N. Florida Ave.

Tampa, FL 33612

yesunited2@msn.com



## **ABC's of Family Disaster Preparedness**

Friday, June 5

4:30 - 5:30

Coronado B

There is a saying that all disasters are local. While this is true, preparing for disasters is personal. This session will help you learn to prepare your family for disasters and increase the chances of being a survivor. Nobody wants to think a disaster will happen to them personally. But, it really is not a question of if something will happen, but when something will happen.

Chip Wilson

Division of Emergency Management

2555 Shumard Oaks Blvd.

Tallahassee, FL 32399

(850) 413-9892

chip.wilson@em.myflorida.com



## **Creating Employment Solutions for Youth with Mental Health Needs**

Friday, June 5

4:30 - 5:30

Coronado C/D

Youth with mental health needs (MHN) often face unemployment, underemployment, and discrimination when they enter the workforce. As a result, large numbers of youth with both diagnosed and undiagnosed MHN who are transitioning into young adulthood, employment, and postsecondary education are likely to experience significant difficulties. This session provide research based strategies and resources that have been combined into a holistic approach to meeting the needs of youth with MHN to improve their transition outcomes.

Rebecca Cokley

NCLD - Youth

4455 Connecticut Ave NW Suite 310

Washington, DC 20008

(202) 822-8405

cokleyr@iel.org

Rhonda Basha

National Collaborative on Workforce and Disability for Youth

U.S. Department of Labor

200 Constitution Ave, NW Room 5-1011

Washington, DC 20210

(202) 693-7936

basha.rhonda@dol.gov



## **It Is Time to Get Involved**

Friday, June 5

4:30 - 5:30

Coronado E/F

As People with disabilities have been given equal rights and power it has become easier for them to get involved in their communities. The Florida Youth Council will be going over how they have used their equal power to get involved in their own communities. They will also share some ideas on how other people can do the same.



Alex Brown  
Florida Youth Council  
1332 N. Duval St.  
Tallahassee, FL 32303  
(850) 224-4670  
abrown@familycafe.net

- Lizzy Barrows
- Carly Fahey
- Whitney Harris
- Cinthia Melgar
- Sara Romine
- Josue E. Tapia Ortiz

### **A Primer on Medicaid Waivers**

Friday, June 5  
4:30 - 5:30  
Coronado G

This is an overview of all Florida Medicaid Home and Community-Based Waivers. Information will be provided on the purpose of waiver programs and their relationship to regular Medicaid services and general eligibility information. Emphasis will be placed on the services available on the Developmental Disabilities Home and Community-Based Services Waiver, the Family and Supported Living Waiver, and the new Tier Two and Tier Three Waivers for Individuals with Developmental Disabilities.

Pamela Kyllonen  
Agency for Health Care Administration  
2727 Mahan Drive Mail Stop #20  
Tallahassee, FL 32308  
(850) 414-9756  
kyllonep@ahca.myflorida.com



### **Interested in Being a Leader in Your Community? Partners in Policymaking May Be for You!**

Friday, June 5  
4:30 - 5:30  
Coronado S/T

Cindy Tan, Special Projects Manager with the Florida Developmental Disabilities Council (FDDC) and Debbie Hannifan, Coordinator of the Partners in Policymaking program, will discuss the role of the FDDC and its support and funding of the Partners in Policymaking program. Partners in Policymaking is a leadership and advocacy training program that teaches self-advocates and parents to be community leaders and how to obtain best available services for themselves and others. Based on a national model, the overall goal of Partners is to develop productive partnerships between people who need and use services and those in a position to make policy and law. Partners participants are able to accomplish this by having opportunities to meet and talk to national leaders in the field of developmental disabilities. Partners will hear presentations about current issues and state-of-the-art practices, as well as policymaking and legislative processes at local, state and national levels. The Partners program is offered once a year and consists of six two-day sessions within the Central Florida area. Those individuals interested in applying can pick up an application for the 2009 program at the informational session.

Debbie Hannifan  
Florida Developmental Disabilities Council, Inc.  
P.O. Box 2864  
Lakeland, FL 33806  
(863) 738-6367  
dhannifan@tampabay.rr.com

Cindy Nipper Tan  
Florida Developmental Disabilities Council, Inc.  
124 Marriott Drive, Suite 203  
Tallahassee, FL 32301  
(850) 488-4180  
cindyn@fddc.org



### **Friendship for All: Developing Real Relationships in Natural Environments for School-Age Children with Developmental Disabilities**

Friday, June 5  
4:30 - 5:30  
Coronado Q/R

Friendship and social belonging play an integral role in the quality of life of individuals with complex developmental disabilities. This presentation highlights programs focused on developing relationships between typical peers and school-age students with developmental disabilities in Florida schools and neighborhoods. Successful techniques utilized in training typical peers in the areas of problem solving, positive behavior supports, getting to know the child they will support, and team building will be shared through interactive, hands on activities and case examples. You will leave this presentation with steps you can take to start developing meaningful peer connections.



Nila Benito  
University of South Florida-UCEDD  
13301 Bruce B. Downs Blvd  
Tampa, FL 33612  
(813) 974-7875  
benita@fmhi.usf.edu



***Sunrise, Sunset: What Legal Steps Should I Consider as my Special Needs Child Becomes a Special Needs Adult***

Friday, June 5  
4:30 - 5:30  
Coronado N/P

You'll never stop being their parent, but when your special needs child turns 18 you will lose the ability to make decisions on their behalf unless you take some affirmative steps. There's no time like the present to start considering the future. Allow attorney Daniel Alan Turner, Esq., partner at Solkoff Legal, P.A., to guide you through the process of planning for your child's future legal and special needs.

Ben Greenberg  
Solkoff Legal, P.A.  
2605 W. Atlantic Ave. #A-103  
Delray Beach, FL 33445  
(561) 733-4242  
bgreenberg@solkoff.com

***Meet the Director of the Agency for Persons with Disabilities***

Friday, June 5  
4:30 - 5:30  
Fiesta 1/2

Jim DeBeaugrine was appointed director of the Agency for Persons with Disabilities in August of 2008 and was confirmed to this post by the Florida Senate in May 2009. DeBeaugrine will share his vision for the agency and several new initiatives that were approved during the 2009 Legislative session, including the expansion of the Consumer Directed Care Plus program and bringing more financial flexibility into the meaningful day activities of the Medicaid waiver.

Jim DeBeaugrine  
Agency for Persons with Disabilities  
4030 Esplanade Way Suite 380  
Tallahassee, FL 32399-0950  
(850) 488-4257  
jim\_debeaugrine@apd.state.fl.us

***Fetal Alcohol Syndrome: The Truth About Alcohol and Pregnancy***

Friday, June 5  
4:30 - 5:30  
Fiesta 3/4

Of all substances of abuse, alcohol causes the most serious long term effects in a fetus, resulting in permanent brain damage. Each year, more than 5,000 babies are born with Fetal Alcohol Syndrome (FAS) and nearly 50,000 babies are born under the broader umbrella of fetal alcohol spectrum disorders (FASD). The Florida Center houses the first and only FASD clinic in the state and is dedicated to preventing and treating FAS. During this presentation participants will learn about early identification of FAS, the challenges FAS children experience, the importance of appropriate referrals, and receive a brief introduction on promising interventions.

Samantha Ericson, MA  
FASD Clinic Director / Behavior Support Supervisor  
The Florida Center for Child and Family Development  
4620 17th Street  
Sarasota, FL 34235  
(941) 371-8820 X 1026

**FRIDAY**



**Positive Parenting Skills**

Friday, June 5

4:30 - 5:30

Fiesta 9/10

This session will give you an effective alternative to traditional parenting styles by teaching the skills of positive parenting that will improve communication, increase cooperation, and motivate your children of any age or (dis)ability. This broad and practical philosophy is based on the five positive parenting messages children need to learn to become productive and happy adults.

Melodie Tucker

Mars Venus Coaching

605 Andrix Street

Merritt Island, FL 32953

(321) 459-1399

melodietucker@marsvenuscoaching.com

**Intro and Info on Adaptive / Inclusive Sports**

Friday, June 5

4:30 - 5:30

Fiesta 7/8

People with disabilities can participate and enjoy recreation with their family and friends. Each person has different interests and activities that inspire and motivate them. This session will provide information on how and where to participate in a variety of active leisure options. You won't want to miss the excitement of the many options available to you.

David Jones

Florida Disabled Outdoors Association

2475 Apalachee Parkway Suite 205

Tallahassee, FL 32301

(850) 201-2944

info@fdoa.org

Bob Wattendorf

Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission

Joanne Peagler

Florida Fish and Wildlife Commission

Ann O'Brine-Satterfield

UCANSKI2

Florida Disabled Outdoors Association

Annsitski@verizon.net

(863) 967-2575

5:30 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.

**Pyramid Players**, Foyer

5:30 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.

**Sea World's Shamu and Friends**, Foyer

6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.

**The 11th Annual Summit on Disabilities**, Coronado Ballroom



**GET A  
PLAN!**  
FloridaDisaster.org

## So you think your family is prepared for a hurricane...

### WOULD YOU STAKE YOUR LIFE ON IT?

In the hours and days immediately following a hurricane, the top priorities for first responders and emergency personnel will be search and rescue and law enforcement. It's your personal responsibility to provide the first line of defense for your family.

#### ASK YOURSELF:

- ▶ Is your family prepared to be on its own for 3 days or more?
- ▶ Do you have enough food, water and other critical supplies for your entire family to last at least 3 days?
- ▶ Do you live in an evacuation zone? If so, do you have an evacuation plan?
- ▶ Do any or your family members have medical or other Special Needs?
- ▶ Do you have a plan for your pets?

#### IS YOUR FAMILY READY?



**IF NOT,  
IT'S TIME TO  
GET A PLAN!**



Log on to [www.FloridaDisaster.org](http://www.FloridaDisaster.org) today to develop a free customized hurricane preparedness plan for your family. (See reverse for details.)

## The first step toward protecting your family is to make sure you have a Family Disaster Plan.

Creating your own plan is simple and it only takes a few minutes. Just visit [www.FloridaDisaster.org](http://www.FloridaDisaster.org) and click "Get a Family Plan." Completing the plan is as easy as doing an Internet search or downloading music. And having a plan for your family will help ensure their safety and comfort before, during and after a storm.

Once at [www.FloridaDisaster.org](http://www.FloridaDisaster.org), you will be asked to provide information about your home, your family, and pets. Using this information, the website will create a personalized Family Disaster Plan that you can print and save for future emergencies.

### Included in your plan will be:

- ▶ Recommended amounts of food and water based on the size of your family.
- ▶ Contact information for your local emergency responders and maps of your local Evacuation Zones.
- ▶ Checklists of important steps to take before, during, and after a disaster.

### Your Family Disaster Plan will also include detailed instructions on creating a disaster supply kit for your family.

#### This kit should include:

- ▶ At least three days worth of drinking water and non-perishable food for your entire family.
- ▶ At least three days worth of batteries for flashlights and radios.
- ▶ At least three days worth of vital prescription drugs.
- ▶ At least three days worth of diapers and essential baby supplies if you have small children.
- ▶ An outdoor grill and fuel.
- ▶ A generator with fuel.

### Don't have Internet access at home? You can still get a plan.

Visit your local library and ask for assistance logging onto [www.FloridaDisaster.org](http://www.FloridaDisaster.org). You can create and print your plan from the library's public computer.

## TAKE ACTION TO PROTECT YOUR FAMILY TODAY!

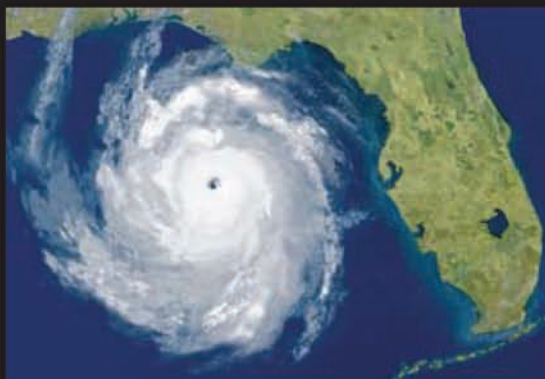
### 1. Log onto [FloridaDisaster.org](http://FloridaDisaster.org).



### 2. Enter in your personal information and answer a series of questions about your household.



### 3. Print your personalized Family Disaster Plan and review it with your entire family.



# The 11th Annual Summit on Disabilities



**Hosted by  
Representative Bill Galvano**

**June 5, 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.  
Coronado Ballroom**



Representative Bill Galvano was first elected to the Florida House of Representatives, District 68, in November 2002 and has been reelected to his fourth term without opposition. Currently, Galvano serves on the Full Appropriations Council on General Government & Health Care, the Government Accountability Act Council, the Joint Legislative Budget Commission, and the Policy Council. In addition, the Representative serves in House leadership as the Chairman of both the Rules and Calendar Council and the Select Committee on the Seminole Indian Compact Review. Galvano is recognized by groups across the state for his support of Florida Kidcare, affordable housing, the Bright Futures Scholarship program, the developmentally disabled—for which he was awarded the 2005 Herb Morgan Legislator of the Year—the mentally ill, and the welfare of our children. Representative Galvano has been a long-time supporter of The Family Café, and has spent much time in the Legislature working on issues related to persons with disabilities. He will share his thoughts on the state's efforts to meet the needs of persons with disabilities, and the role of the Legislature in that process. His address will be followed by a question and answer session and open discussion about the Legislative concerns of conference attendees. This is your chance to gain some insight into the workings of your state government, and to engage in open conversation about your concerns with a key elected representative. Please join us, and take advantage of this opportunity to learn about the Legislature's relationship to persons with disabilities.





# Saturday, June 6, 2009

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

## How to Build Inner Strength for Victory in the Game of Life

In sports, teams and individuals don't win games on the day of the event. They win games from hard work and discipline in practice and conditioning well before they hit the field. The same is true in life. To become successful and victorious in life, we must build our inner strength. We must lift the weights of life's challenges and become stronger and more confident as a result. In this presentation, Greg will turn the meeting room into a locker room as "The Strength Coach," and will reveal three keys your attendees will be able to use immediately to build inner strength!



GREG SMITH

8:00 a.m. to 12:00 a.m.	<b>Registration Open</b> , Central and North Registration
8:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.	<b>Exhibit Hall Open</b> , Veracruz Exhibit Hall
9:00 a.m. to 10:00 a.m.	<b>Keynote Address</b> , Coronado Ballroom
9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.	<b>Scooter Rental Available</b> , Central and North Registration
9:00 a.m. 5:00 p.m.	<b>Dental Screening</b> , Veracruz Exhibit Hall
10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.	<b>Arts &amp; Crafts</b> , Fiesta 5
10:00 a.m. to 10:30 a.m.	<b>Special Kids Dance</b> , Foyer
10:00 a.m. to 10:30 a.m.	<b>Pyramid Players</b> , Foyer
10:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.	<b>CAN Platform Building Session, Part 2</b> , Fiesta 6
<b>10:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.</b>	<b>Concurrent Sessions</b>
12:30 p.m. to 1:00 p.m.	<b>Pyramid Players</b> , Foyer
1:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.	<b>Registration Open</b> , Central and North Registration
<b>1:00 p.m. to 2:00 p.m.</b>	<b>Concurrent Sessions</b>
2:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.	<b>Arts &amp; Crafts</b> , Fiesta 5
2:00 p.m. to 2:30 p.m.	<b>Pyramid Players</b> , Foyer
2:00 p.m. to 2:30 p.m.	<b>Special Kids Dance</b> , Foyer
2:30 p.m. to 3:30 p.m.	<b>CAN Platform Building Session, Part 2</b> , Fiesta 6
<b>2:30 p.m. to 3:30 p.m.</b>	<b>Concurrent Sessions</b>
3:30 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.	<b>Pyramid Players</b> , Foyer
<b>4:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.</b>	<b>Concurrent Sessions</b>
5:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.	<b>Pontoon Boat Rides</b> , Lago Dorado
7:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.	<b>Family Entertainment featuring Dueling Pianos</b> , Coronado Ballroom



## Saturday 10:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. Concurrent Sessions

### **What My Son Taught Me About Attention Deficit Disorder**

Saturday, June 6

10:30 - 11:30

Acapulco

Una perspectiva distinta sobre la Deficiencia de Atencion (ADHD), aprenda tecnicas practicas e informacion valiosa que le va ayudar en el dia a dia tanto en su vida familiar como personal.

Cecilia Nieto

FDLRS - South

5555 SW 93rd Ave.

Miami, FL 33165

(305) 274-3501 x168

cmgnieto@dadeschools.net



### **Income Tax Planning for Special Needs Families**

Saturday, June 6

10:30 - 11:30

Baja

Parents of loved ones with special needs incur a myriad of expenses for their special child or adult, including therapies, educational training, tutoring, personal care aides, transportation, home modifications, educational and medical supplies. Many of these expenses may be tax deductible, but are often overlooked by tax professionals who are unfamiliar with the types and categorization of expenses incurred by the special needs family. These unique tax benefits may entitle parents to additional refunds. Learn how to identify these often missed tax deductions, and other tools available to save on your family's federal and state income tax. Includes a basic review of the tax implications of various types of Special Needs Trusts.

Karen Greenberg

Prosperity Life Planning

4673 Brady Blvd

Delray Beach, FL 33445

(561) 638-6945

kfgreenberg@cs.com

Jaret Vogel

Prosperity Life Planning

4673 Brady Blvd

Delray Beach, FL 33445

(561) 865-2921

jaretlvogel@aol.com

### **Structuring Your Home for the Best Possible Behavior**

Saturday, June 6

10:30 - 11:30

Cancun

This workshop will guide parents and other caregivers through an individualized problem-solving process to make family life more positive and reduce challenging behavior. This "whole family" focus involves a proactive approach in how we manage our lives and interact with each other. Topics will include: establishing goals and consistent expectations, organizing space and time, responding to behavior effectively, and problem-solving difficult routines.

Karen Childs

Florida Mental Health Institute - USF

Florida's Positive Behavior Support Project

13301 Bruce B. Downs Blvd. MHC2113A

Tampa, FL 33612

(813) 974-7358

childs@fmhi.usf.edu

Meme Hieaeman, Ph.D., BCBA

Positive Family Intervention Project / USF

Florida's Positive Behavior Support Project

140 7th Ave South Ter 402

St. Petersburg, FL 33701

(727) 873-4814

eno@spadmin.usf.edu



### **That's the Ticket! The New Ticket to Work Program – New Program, New Opportunities**

Saturday, June 6

10:30 - 11:30

Durango 1

The Social Security Administration's (SSA) Ticket to Work (TTW) Program is a voluntary program that offers Social Security beneficiaries with disabilities increased choice for getting free job-related services and supports. As a TTW participant, you choose a service provider authorized by SSA to assist you with job-related supports such as help finding a job, education and training, vocational rehabilitation, and



ongoing supports and services – all part of a plan to reach your personal employment goals. Explore your choices regarding TTW, learn about work incentives and safety nets and hear about people who effectively used TTW to achieve their work goals.

Leslie Barrett  
CESSI  
6858 Old Dominion Drive Suite 250  
McLean, VA 22101  
(703) 448-6155 x228  
lbarrett@cessi.net

Deborah Cortright  
Social Security Administration  
6401 Security Blvd, OSEP  
Altmeyer Building, Room 107  
Baltimore, MD 21235  
(410) 966-1546  
debbie.cortright@ssa.gov

### **Communication Strategies: How Florida Residents with Hearing Loss and/or Speech Disability Can Receive Specialized Communications Devices at No Cost**

Saturday, June 6  
10:30 - 11:30  
Durango 2

Florida Telecommunications Relay, Inc. (FTRI) provides specialized telephones and ring signaling devices to Florida residents who are Deaf, Hard of Hearing, Deaf/Blind and Speech Impaired at no cost. This presentation includes information on: what types of specialized phones are available, who is eligible for the program and how they qualify, the Florida Relay Service and how it functions, as well as many other resources for teachers, businesses, and family members who come in contact with individuals who struggle every day communicating over the phone.

Jonathan Gray  
Florida Telecommunications Relay  
1820 E. Park Ave. Suite 101  
Tallahassee, FL 32301-4860  
(888) 292-1950 x233  
jgray@ftri.org

Roland White  
Florida Telecommunications Relay  
1820 East Park Avenue, Suite 101  
Tallahassee, FL 32301  
(888) 292-1950  
rwhite@ftril.org

### **Restraint and Seclusion: What You Need to Know**

Saturday, June 6  
10:30 - 11:30  
Monterrey 1

This presentation will provide information about the current use of restraint and seclusion in schools. Discussion will focus on practices, policies, and what you need to know to protect your child. Current policies and ways to ensure districts comply with keeping your child safe will be included. The presentation will also inform participants of any late breaking changes in law. The presentation will allow for open dialogue between presenter and participants.

Lee Clark, PhD  
Advocacy Center for Persons with Disabilities, Inc.  
2728 Centerview Drive Suite 102  
Tallahassee, FL 32301  
(850) 342-0823  
leec@advocacycenter.org

### **Family-to-Family Education Program**

Saturday, June 6  
10:30 - 11:30  
Monterrey 2



The Family-to-Family course consists of a series of classes for family members of adults with serious and persistent mental illness as well as those whose behaviors suggest such a diagnosis. It is designed to help families face the challenges of brain disorders and find support, resources, and coping strategies. The course is provided free of charge. Family-to-Family is an experiential education course on mental illness that meets twelve weeks, two and a half hours per week. The course uses a combination of lecture, interactive exercises and group processes. The curriculum consists of Brain Biology, Schizophrenia, Major Depression, Mania and Schizoaffective Disorder, Mood Disorders, Borderline Personality Disorder, Anxiety Disorders, Dual Diagnosis, Basics about the Brain, Problem Solving Skills, Medication Review, Empathy and Understanding, Communication Skills, Self-Care, Recovery, Advocacy, Review and Evaluation.



Judith Evans  
NAMI Florida  
316 E. Park Ave  
Tallahassee, FL 32301  
(850) 671-4445  
jevans9062@aol.com

### **Transportation Disadvantaged – Coordinated System**

Saturday, June 6  
10:30 - 11:30  
Monterrey 3

Mobility is freedom. Without reliable, safe, and affordable transportation, persons with disabilities are literally handicapped by their disabilities and are unable to be independent. The Transportation Disadvantaged presentation will provide the participant with an overview of what the Commission for the Transportation Disadvantaged is and how qualified individuals can use this mobility system for their independence.

JR Harding  
Vocational Rehabilitation  
6028 Ox Bottom Manor Dr.  
Tallahassee, FL 32312  
(850) 510-4628  
jcfsu@comcast.net

John Irvine  
Florida Commission for the Transportation Disadvantaged  
605 Suwannee St. MS-49  
Tallahassee, FL 32399-0450  
(850) 410-5700  
john.irvine@dot.state.fl.us

### **The Future of Quality Assurance**

Saturday, June 6  
10:30 - 11:30  
Yucatan 1

This presentation will provide an overview of how quality assurance of your Medicaid waiver services is measured and what steps are taken to improve service delivery. We will describe the process of how state agencies work together to accomplish these goals.

Kelly Hensley  
Agency for Health Care Administration  
2727 Mahan Drive  
Mail Stop 20  
Tallahassee, FL 32308  
(850) 921-4464  
hensleyk@ahca.myflorida.com

### **Sing, Play and Learn! Handwriting Development for the Young Child**

Saturday, June 6  
10:30 - 11:30  
Yucatan 2

This interactive session will offer fun and engaging letter play activities to develop skills that lay the foundation for legible penmanship. Develop children's handwriting using creative multi-sensory activities, by demonstration and hands-on strategies. Learn about emergent forms of writing such as drawing shapes, coloring and creating letters and numbers using wooden pieces, dough, and a slate chalkboard. Meet Mat Man, who teaches drawing skills, body awareness and number awareness. This session will include music, movement and manipulatives to develop emergent writing skills for children who have diverse learning styles and abilities. Come prepared to PLAY!

Susan Hermes  
Handwriting Without Tears  
3865 Branch Avenue  
Mount Dora, FL 32757  
(352) 385-2907  
skees@comcast.net

Bobbie J. Vaughn, Ph.D, BCBA  
Florida Center for Inclusive Communities  
College of Behavioral and Community Sciences  
13301 Bruce B. Downs Blvd, MHC2-113A  
Tampa, FL 33612  
(813) 974-6104  
bvaughn@fmhi.usf.edu

**SATURDAY**



## **The Secrets of Successful Relationships**

Saturday, June 6

10:30 - 11:30

Yucatan 3

This relationship enrichment session will help you understand and appreciate the Mars and Venus characteristics, the different needs and communication styles of men and women, plus how we uniquely experience and manage stress. You will learn practical ideas and proven strategies to deal with difficult emotions, develop effective conflict resolution skills and improve communications with your mate, family and co-workers.

Melodie Tucker

Mars Venus Coaching

605 Andrix Street

Merritt Island, FL 32953

(321) 459-1399

melodietucker@marsvenuscoaching.com



## **Delegate Roundtable: Cerebral Palsy**

Saturday, June 6

10:30 - 11:30

Coronado A

One of the best ways for people that are new to a situation to become educated about their options is to speak with someone that has "been there" and "done that." This year at the Annual Conference, The Family Café Delegates will be hosting roundtable conversations where parents can network with other parents to share experiences and strategies that have worked for them. If you are new to parenting a child with a disability, or if you have a particular challenge your family is facing, this session may provide the support and guidance you need.

This roundtable session will be dedicated to cerebral palsy. Sessions on other disabilities will be held throughout the day on Saturday.

Tim Turner

The Family Café Delegates

1406 Delano Trent Street

Ruskin, FL 33570

(813) 641-2323

mpowerconsulting@aol.com



## **Advocating with Emergency Management**

Saturday, June 6

10:30 - 11:30

Coronado B

El mejor tiempo para trabajar con el manejo de emergencia no es luego de un desastre. El mejor tiempo es antes de que un desastre afecte a su familia. ¿Usted sabe quines son lo oficiales del manejo de emergencias? ¿Usted conoce a todos los grupos que estan envueltos en el manejo de emergencias? Este curso le dara informacion para advocar en favor a la inclusion en todos los aspectos del manejo de emergencias.

Pablo Pantoja

Division of Emergency Management

2555 Shumard Oaks Blvd.

Tallahassee, FL 32399

pablo.pantoja@em.myflorida.com



## **Time to Hop on the Road to Self-Sufficiency**

Saturday, June 6

10:30 - 11:30

Coronado C/D

Based off of a *Guide to Entrepreneurship for Youth with Disabilities*, this presentation will provide resources for organizations working with youth on career exploration and employment options, and policymakers who support youth programs through policy and practice. Participants in this presentation will learn how entrepreneurship education can be implemented in programs and offers suggestions on how to introduce self-employment as an option for all youth, including youth with disabilities. Find out what youth with disabilities need to make entrepreneurship an option that works!



Rebecca Cokley  
NCLD - Youth  
4455 Connecticut Ave NW Suite 310  
Washington, DC 20008  
(202) 822-8405  
cokleyr@iel.org

Rhonda Basha  
U.S. Department of Labor  
200 Constitution Ave, NW Room 5-1011  
Washington, DC 20210  
(202) 693-7936  
basha.rhonda@dol.gov



### **A Youthful Perspective on Inclusion and Disability Etiquette**

Saturday, June 6  
10:30 - 11:30  
Coronado E/F

In this session The Florida Youth Council will provide a youthful perspective on the challenging issue of both inclusion and disability etiquette. Join them as they tackle two of the issues which affect all people with disabilities. There will be a time at the end of this session for questions and answers.

Alex Brown  
Florida Youth Council  
1332 N. Duval St.  
Tallahassee, FL 32303  
(850) 224-4670  
abrown@familycafe.net

- Lizzy Barrows
- Matthew Boselli
- Mason Hunter Charles
- Carly Fahey
- Grier Harris
- Christopher M. Regan
- Sara Romine

### **Fun D'Mental Solution – Ready to Learn Series Offering Simple Solutions for Learners of Any Age or Ability**

Saturday, June 6  
10:30 - 11:30  
Coronado G

Learning is a life-long activity! At this session the participants will be shown 2-3 simple solutions (time permitting) that can be applied to a wide range of learners. Simple solutions for transition, homework, recognizing readiness, and tools for identifying resources will be available to families who attend our sessions. Passive/active learning and formal/informal experiences will be reviewed. Time, the right tools and the importance of making and saving memories will be introduced as a way to inventory your child's interests, abilities and assets.

Patricia Lynn Fry  
FunD'Mental Solutions LLC  
1008 Calle Rosa Place  
Ruskin, FL 33573  
(813) 625-9735  
imaparefugee@earthlink.net



### **The Advocacy Center – Helping You Get What You Need**

Saturday, June 6  
10:30 - 11:30  
Coronado S/T

Need an advocate to investigate abuse or neglect? Need help with an equal access or discrimination problem? Want to become a stronger self-advocate? The Advocacy Center assists people with disabilities with a variety of problems and in a variety of ways. If an agency has denied you a right, service or accommodation, you need to know about the Advocacy Center. If you need help with inclusion or employment, you need to know about the Advocacy Center. Come learn and get a refresher course in self-advocacy skills.

Paula Roberts  
Advocacy Center for Persons with Disabilities, Inc.  
2728 Centerview Drive Suite 102  
Tallahassee, FL 32310  
(800) 342-0823  
paular@advocacycenter.org

**SATURDAY**





## **My Journey Through Life with Autism – Learning To Live**

Saturday, June 6

10:30 - 11:30

Coronado Q/R

Growing up with Autism and not even knowing it, I am going to discuss my own personal journey through life with Autism, and how I learned to live a relatively normal and very productive life. Having grown up with Autism in the 1960's and 1970's, before Autism was known, I will describe my own experiences of living, learning, and overcoming the obstacles of Autism. From being nonverbal at 6, getting 3 Fs and 2 Ds in 2nd grade, I will talk about my journey through a BS, MS, Doctorate, marriage and family. It will be an inspirational story.

Dr. Brian H. Abrams  
Florida Autism Coalition  
129 Forrester Place  
Palm Coast, FL 32137  
(386) 447-9970  
brijul1@juno.com

### **Including Your Child in School Success**

Saturday, June 6

10:30 - 11:30

Coronado M

This presentation will highlight some of the many benefits of active parental involvement in children's educational experience. Based upon research and current literature, participants will hear about their child's basic psychological and physical needs for emotional health and school success. Parents' roles in helping to meet these needs in the home and the importance of collaboration with school personnel to support their children in the school environment will be highlighted. Parents/caregivers will leave with practical strategies that can be used in the home and useful tools to facilitate home/school communication.

Stan Weser  
Florida Inclusion Network  
10501 FGCU Blvd South  
Ft. Myers, FL 33965  
(239) 590-7745  
sweser@fgcu.edu

Sallie Payne  
Florida Inclusion Network  
355 N. Monroe Street, Suite B  
Tallahassee, FL 32301  
(850) 921-0747  
spayne@lsi.fsu.edu

**SATURDAY**



### **Swine Flu**

Saturday, June 6

10:30 - 11:30

Coronado N/P

Are you feeling confused, overwhelmed, and alarmed from all the media attention to the recent H1N1 (Swine Flu) activity? Come and get important information that you and your family needs to know about Swine Flu. A public health expert will help you sort out the facts from the myths.

Betty Omerod  
Nursing Program Specialist  
Orange County Health Department  
6101 Lake Ellenor Dr.  
Orlando, FL 32809  
(407) 858-1400 x 1290  
betty\_omerod@doh.state.fl.us

### **The Silent Epidemic: Abuse, Neglect and Exploitation of Persons with Developmental Disabilities**

Saturday, June 6

10:30 - 11:30

Fiesta 1/2

National statistics reveal that the vast majority of individuals with developmental disabilities will be the victims of abuse, neglect, and/or exploitation at some point during their lives. This presentation will explore the factors behind the alarming prevalence of such crimes committed against this population, identify common characteristics of perpetrators, provide tips for detecting and reporting the signs and symptoms of potential maltreatment, and offer concrete safety and prevention strategies that parents, caregivers, and self-advocates can implement immediately. An overview of the Agency's Zero Tolerance Initiative



to End Abuse, Neglect, and Exploitation against Floridians with Developmental Disabilities will also be provided.

Tom Rice  
Agency for Persons with Disabilities  
4030 Esplanade Way Suite 380  
Tallahassee, FL 32399  
(850) 414-7649  
tom\_rice@apd.state.fl.us

### **Women's Enrichment Session**

Saturday, June 6  
10:30 - 11:30  
Fiesta 3/4

Calling all moms, female caregivers, grandmothers, aunts, sisters, etc., etc., etc. (you get the point). It's our time to come together to encourage and edify one another. We know first-hand of the oftentimes challenging balancing act we perform on a daily basis caring for our families. This is a brief opportunity to learn, share, be inspired and get updated since meeting last year. We've got a full agenda, come ready so we can start on time. This year's session will be better than ever with helpful information . . . and of course, let's not forget the surprises!!!

Malverna N. Streater  
Team Streater Seminars  
6330 Coach House Court  
Tallahassee, FL 32312  
(850) 553-4334  
nowsucces4u@yahoo.com



### **Delegate Roundtable: ADHD/Tourette's**

Saturday, June 6  
10:30 - 11:30  
Fiesta 9/10

One of the best ways for people that are new to a situation to become educated about their options is to speak with someone that has "been there" and "done that." This year at the Annual Conference, The Family Café Delegates will be hosting roundtable conversations where parents can network with other parents to share experiences and strategies that have worked for them. If you are new to parenting a child with a disability, or if you have a particular challenge your family is facing, this session may provide the support and guidance you need.

This roundtable session will be dedicated to ADHD/Tourette's. Sessions on other disabilities will be held throughout the day on Saturday.

Tim Turner  
The Family Café Delegates  
1406 Delano Trent Street  
Ruskin, FL 33570  
(813) 641-2323  
mpowerconsulting@aol.com



### **Being a Self-Advocate – Your Rights to Recreation**

Saturday, June 6  
10:30 - 11:30  
Fiesta 7/8

Interested in recreation? It's everyone's right to be able to enjoy recreation and active leisure! This session will teach you how to become a self-advocate for your rights to recreate. Everyone is not sitting around the house. People can and do enjoy participating in recreation activities regardless of their ability level. Learn about the options of accessible inclusion for persons with disabilities. Participants will be made aware of opportunities, issues, challenges and solutions for increased inclusion in programs within their community. Highlighted will be the therapeutic value of recreation for all.

Kristy Carter, CTRS - Florida Disabled Outdoors Association  
2475 Apalachee Parkway, Suite 205  
Tallahassee, FL 32301  
(850) 201-2944 x3  
kcarter@fdoa.org

**SATURDAY**



12:30 p.m. to 1:00 p.m. **Pyramid Players**, Foyer  
1:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. **Registration Open**, Central and North Registration

## Saturday 1:00 p.m. to 2:00 p.m. Concurrent Sessions



### **The Journey So Far . . . From the NICU to College**

Saturday, June 6  
1:00 - 2:00  
Acapulco

Shelby Nurse and her father Tom Nurse return to reflect on the lessons learned from the early days of the NICU, early intervention and inclusion, through elementary, middle and high school. Shelby is an engaging graduating high school student who will share her perspectives on growing up with spastic quadriplegia cerebral palsy as a result of being born three months early in 1991. From the beginning, Shelby and her family have engaged in finding solutions, options and opportunities to make the best of life. Together with her Dad, they will share the joys and challenges of high expectations and the appreciation of the help and support of so many. This is a positive story meant to inspire and enthuse the audience and to also recognize the critical benefits of hard and collaborative work, because at the end of the day, the harder you work, the luckier you get!

Shelby Nurse  
c/o 1010 North Florida Ave  
Tampa, FL 33602  
(727) 403-3513  
shelbynurse@aol.com

Thomas J. Nurse  
Special Needs Financial Advisor  
Manning and Nurse - Personal Financial Advisors to  
Families with Special Needs  
1010 North Florida Ave  
Tampa, FL 33602  
(813) 658-5000  
tnurse@mscmail.biz

**SATURDAY**



### **Special Needs Financial Planning**

Saturday, June 6  
1:00 - 2:00  
Baja

For parents or caregivers of a loved one with special needs, there is a poignant realization that there may come a time, through sickness, disability or death, when they will not be able to provide care for them. This presentation will examine Special Care Planning and what it encompasses. Topics that will be covered are: protection of government benefits, wills, health care surrogates, how HIPPA laws can effect direction of care, living wills and durable power of attorney, special needs trusts, funding a special needs trust, letter of intent (instructions to the next caregiver), guardianship, accepting a financial gift and finally, how to retire and still fund your special needs trust.

Joseph Eppy  
Eppy Financial Group, Inc.  
1000 Corporate Drive 7th Floor  
Ft. Lauderdale, FL 33034  
(954) 689-9476  
jeppy@finsvcs.com

### **Parents and School Districts Working Together for Students**

Saturday, June 6  
1:00 - 2:00  
Cancun

This session will address communication and problem-solving skills that parents and school districts can use to work together for the educational benefit of students. In addition, the presentation will include data and information regarding Florida exceptional student education (ESE) monitoring and dispute resolution.

Patricia Howell, Florida Department of Education  
325 West Gaines Street Suite 614  
Tallahassee, FL 32399-0400  
(850) 245-0476  
patricia.howell@fldoe.org







### **Florida Vocational Rehabilitation: All About Supported Employment Today**

Saturday, June 6

1:00 - 2:00

Durango 1

Come meet Pam Hinterlong, DVR Program Administrator as we discuss Supported Employment and other DVR programs for individuals with disabilities. Ms. Hinterlong will explain all about Supported Employment, new DVR initiatives, and how you can get involved. Audience participation will be encouraged with time for comments, questions and answers.

Pam Hinterlong  
Florida Division of Vocational Rehabilitation  
2002 Old St. Augustine Road, Bldg. A  
Tallahassee, FL 323013366  
(850) 245-3302  
pam.hinterlong@vr.fldoe.org



### **Working in the Community**

Saturday, June 6

1:00 - 2:00

Durango 2

Employment is one of the most meaningful activities individuals with or without disabilities can do as members of the community. Work challenges the mind, produces earned income, and creates a sense of community. Today, finding meaningful work for individuals with disabilities is harder than ever before. Participants will leave with a better understanding of which employers have an affinity for hiring persons with disabilities, how to market the skill sets of individuals with disabilities, and how to not take no for an answer.

JR Harding  
Vocational Rehabilitation  
6028 Ox Bottom Manor Dr.  
Tallahassee, FL 32312  
(850) 510-4628  
jcfsu@comcast.net

### **Never Underestimate a Child: Using Intensive Physical Therapy to Teach New Skills**

Saturday, June 6

1:00 - 2:00

Monterrey 1

Parents of children with special needs often say, "We were told that my child would never walk/talk/learn." The motivation underlying Intensive Pediatric Physical Therapy is "Never Underestimate A Child." Intensive PT, brought to the United States by EuroPeds in 1999, is widely recognized as an effective treatment to teach new functional skills to children and young adults with gross motor delays. McGinnis will define "Intensive PT" using video examples and research, and will specify how specially-trained therapists combine intensity with a wide variety of therapeutic modalities to help the patients reach their full potentials. Applications of European-inspired "suit therapy" and the Universal Exercise Unit (UEU) are also discussed.

Melissa McGinnis  
Euro-Peds  
461 West Huron Street #406  
Pontiac, MI 48341  
(248) 857-7490  
mmcginnis@dlhofm.com



### **Mental Health Focus Group with Families and Stakeholders**

Saturday, June 6

1:00 - 2:00

Monterrey 2

This session is designed to gather input from parents/caregivers and stakeholders on specific topics related to the children's mental health system of care. Topics will include: strategies to implement family driven and youth guided care, cross agency coordination of services and supports, self advocacy to obtain services and to impact policy and practice, gaps in services and supports. Additional topics will be



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requested from the participants.

Laurie Blades  
Department of Children and Families  
1317 Winewood Blvd., Bldg 6 Room 290  
Tallahassee, FL 32399  
(850) 921-4474  
laurie\_blades@dcf.state.fl.us

### ***Man Laws for Moms: Understanding Dads and Why We Do What We Do***

Saturday, June 6  
1:00 - 2:00  
Monterrey 3

This session for moms will explore some of the reasons why dads do the things that they do related to family involvement. Then this session will look at strategies that moms can use to help encourage dad to be more involved with a child with special needs and the additional responsibilities that often surround raising the child.

Mark Keith  
Florida School for the Deaf and the Blind  
207 North San Marco Avenue  
Saint Augustine, FL 32084  
(904) 827-2731  
keithm@fsdb.k12.fl.us

### ***Edible Math: Using Concrete, Representational and Abstract***

Saturday, June 6  
1:00 - 2:00  
Yucatan 1

Edible Math is a tool designed to assist in reinforcing mathematics concepts at home and in school using food. Research has shown that in order to reach the necessary level of abstract thinking in mathematics, students must start at the concrete level and gradually move through the representational level. The activities presented in this hands-on workshop represent lessons that occur at the concrete and representational level in mathematics to foster important math skills for all children.

Marcey Kinney, Ph.D.  
RTI Teaching Learning Connections  
1973 Mason Ave, Suite 207  
Daytona Beach, FL 32117  
(386) 274-0175  
RTITLC@mail.ucf.edu

### ***Paths to Medicaid - What You Should Know About Medicaid Eligibility***

Saturday, June 6  
1:00 - 2:00  
Yucatan 2

This presentation will outline the basic eligibility requirements for a variety of Medicaid coverage groups available to persons with disabilities. It will include a discussion of Medicaid for SSI recipients, Family Medicaid, Medicaid for the Aged and Disabled, Protected Medicaid for Disabled Adult Children (DACs) and the Home and Community Based Services Medicaid Waiver programs.

Kane Lamberty  
Department of Children and Families  
DCF ACCESS Program  
P.O. Box 1831  
Orlando, FL 32802-1831  
(407) 245-0450 x 114  
kane\_lamberty@dcf.state.fl.us

Carrie Sheffield  
Florida Department of Children and Families - ACCESS Program  
1317 Winewood Blvd.  
Building 3, Room 404  
Tallahassee, FL 32303  
(850) 922-8002  
carrie\_sheffield@dcf.state.fl.us

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## **How the Café Made a Difference in Karla's Life**

Saturday, June 6

1:00 - 2:00

Yucatan 3

At this workshop attendees will have the opportunity to become re-acquainted with Karla, who has come a long way as a result of the many things she learned through the years at The Family Café. You will hear how the materials learned at the different workshops were used to achieve a work outcome. A baking demonstration is included at this workshop and an opportunity to taste freshly baked products.

Karla Herrera

Karla's Kookies

17338 NW 61st Place

Miami, FL 33015

karlaskookies@bellsouth.net



## **Delegate Roundtable: Down Syndrome**

Saturday, June 6

1:00 - 2:00

Coronado A

One of the best ways for people that are new to a situation to become educated about their options is to speak with someone that has "been there" and "done that." This year at the Annual Conference, The Family Café Delegates will be hosting roundtable conversations where parents can network with other parents to share experiences and strategies that have worked for them. If you are new to parenting a child with a disability, or if you have a particular challenge your family is facing, this session may provide the support and guidance you need.

This roundtable session will be dedicated to Down Syndrome. Sessions on other disabilities will be held throughout the day on Saturday.

Tim Turner

The Family Café Delegates

1406 Delano Trent Street

Ruskin, FL 33570

(813) 641-2323

mpowerconsulting@aol.com



## **ABC's of Family Disaster Preparedness**

Saturday, June 6

1:00 - 2:00

Coronado B

Hay un refran que dice los desastres son todos locales. Aunque esto sea cierto, la preparacion para los desastres es personal. Este curso le ayudara a aprender a preparar a su familia para los desastres e incrementar su oportunidad de sobrevivir. Nadie quiere pensar que un desastre le pueda ocurrir personalmente. Pero en realidad no es una pregunta en cuanto a si le pueda ocurrir, mas bien cuando le vaya a ocurrir.

Pablo Pantoja

Division of Emergency Management

2555 Shumard Oaks Blvd.

Tallahassee, FL 32399

pablo.pantoja@em.myflorida.com

## **Meet Bambi Lockman, Bureau Chief, Bureau of Exceptional Education and Student Services, Department of Education**

Saturday, June 6

1:00 - 2:00

Coronado C/D

The Bureau of Exceptional Education and Student Services administers education programs for students with disabilities and for gifted students. Additionally, the bureau coordinates student services throughout the state and participates in multiple interagency efforts designed to strengthen the quality and variety of services available to students with special needs. During this session, Bambi Lockman will update participants on some of the latest initiatives and activities within the Bureau.



Bambi Lockman  
Bureau of Exceptional Education and Student Services, Florida Department of Education  
325 W. Gaines St.  
Tallahassee, FL 32399  
bambi.lockman@fldoe.org



### **Successful Transition Doesn't Just Come from One Place**

Saturday, June 6  
1:00 - 2:00  
Coronado E/F

The diverse and complex needs of today's youth cannot be met by any one family, school district, government program, or private organization acting alone. The successful transition of all youth to adulthood and a productive, independent, self-sufficient life demands coordination and collaboration across systems and across agencies and demands that parents and families have the support that they need to help their son or daughter make the right choices at the right times based off the right information. This workshop will describe how the Family Guideposts, developed by the National Collaborative on Workforce and Disability for Youth (NCWD/Youth) can be used to help parents and families navigate the complicated field of transition. The Family Guideposts are a comprehensive framework that identifies the content of what all youth need to transition to adulthood and can be used as a tool to determine what resources are available to assist parents and families of young adults with disabilities to better equip their child to make the jump from school to careers.

Rebecca Cokley  
NCLD - Youth  
4455 Connecticut Ave NW Suite 310  
Washington, DC 20008  
(202) 822-8405  
cokleyr@iel.org

Rhonda Basha  
U.S. Department of Labor  
200 Constitution Ave, NW Room 5-1011  
Washington, DC 20210  
(202) 693-7936  
basha.rhonda@dol.gov

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### **Preventative Health Care**

Saturday, June 6  
1:00 - 2:00  
Coronado G

This session will provide individuals with developmental disabilities a basic understanding of preventative health care needs throughout their lifetime. Information related to specific diagnoses will also be presented. Healthy living and healthy lifestyles will also be discussed. This session will provide an opportunity for questions and answers and will incorporate interactive role-playing.

Linda Tupper  
Delmarva Foundation  
8875 Hidden River Parkway, #275  
Tampa, FL 33637  
(813) 972-8100  
tupperl@dfmc.org



### **The More You Know Me, The More You Learn**

Saturday, June 6  
1:00 - 2:00  
Coronado S/T

I am a 15 year old boy with Developmental Verbal Apraxia, Tourette Syndrome, and Diabetes. I have been through a lot of good and bad experiences. I just finished my first year of high school, taking all honors classes despite my many challenges. I want to share how I deal with my many challenges and how I feel I can best meet the challenges that lie ahead. My long term goal is to go to college then start my own business.

Ryan Turner  
1406 Delano Trent Street  
Ruskin, FL 33570  
(813) 641-2323

Tammy Turner  
1406 Delano Trent Street  
Ruskin, FL 33570  
(813) 641-2233  
peanut0967@aol.com





## **Getting Services for Your Child from the Public School System**

Saturday, June 6  
1:00 - 2:00  
Coronado Q/R

Learn about your rights under the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) that gives children with special needs the right to a public education; How to get the school to pay for independent evaluations, by the provider of your choice, at school expense; What to do when the school denies you a service, ignores your request for testing, or limits your IEP meeting to only 30 minutes. The McKay Scholarship: How it works and increasing the matrix for more money. Simple techniques you can use to improve the outcome of your IEP meeting and improve the services for your child.

Pam Lindemann  
6628 Piccadilly Lane  
Orlando, FL 32835  
(407) 342-9836  
pamkatjon@hotmail.com

## **ADHD & Autism Are Not Hopeless!**

Saturday, June 6  
1:00 - 2:00  
Coronado N/P

Dr. Nelson Mane will speak on the latest advancements of Hemispheric Integration Therapy with regard to ADHD and Autism Spectrum Disorders. If you are not familiar with the concepts of Epigenetics, Neuroplasticity, Temporal Coherence, Motor Cognitive Binding, Hemisphericity, then you need to attend. If you have tried treatments such as A.B.A., D.A.N. Protocols, H.B.O.T., Visual or Auditory Therapy, Sensory Integration Therapy and did not get the results you wanted, we still may be able to help. In fact, if you have experienced improvement with one of these therapies, we may be able to enhance those results. If you would like your child to get more out of tutoring, we may be able to help. Come find out why. Have the doctor answer all your questions!

Nelson Mane, PhD  
Mane Center for Non-Surgical Solutions  
1602 W. Sligh Ave. Suite 500  
Tampa, FL 33604  
(813) 935-4744  
info@manecenter.com

## **Moving On Up**

Saturday, June 6  
1:00 - 2:00  
Coronado M

Chautauqua Charter School was created to meet the needs of exceptional students over 18 who are in the process of transitioning into the adult world. Using a Service Learning approach students are empowered to function independently in their community, advocate for their own needs and contribute to the society in which we all live. This workshop will provide information on how to create and sustain a similar charter school, as well as creating a volunteer program for special needs young adults over 22. Among other things, participants will receive information on how to write a charter, prepare a board, and access VISTA volunteers to implement a program that meets the needs of their students.

Mary Pat Zebroski  
Chautauqua Learn and Serve Charter School  
1118 Magnolia Ave.  
Panama City, FL 32401  
mpzebro@aol.com

Misty Fowler  
Chautauqua Learn and Serve Charter School  
1118 Magnolia Ave.  
Panama City, FL 32401  
fowlermd@bay.k12.fl.us

## **What's So Good about Supported Living?**

Saturday, June 6  
1:00 - 2:00  
Fiesta 1/2

This presentation will provide information about the supported living model and cover the basics on how you can begin to live an everyday life in a home of your own. Residential options for individuals with developmental disabilities have historically been based on program models that are segregated,

**SATURDAY**



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 in nonsegregated settings. Staff from the Agency for Persons with Disabilities will offer information about the supported living model and cover the basics on how you can begin to live an everyday life in a home of your own.

Ed Rousseau  
Agency for Persons with Disabilities  
4030 Esplanade Way, Room 360  
Tallahassee, FL 32301  
(850) 414-7787  
ed\_rousseau@apd.state.fl.us

Deb Blizzard  
Agency for Persons with Disabilities  
4030 Esplanade Way, Room 360  
Tallahassee, FL  
(850) 414-7787  
deb\_blizzard@apd.state.fl.us

### **Recipe For Resolving Relationship Conflicts in the Special Needs Home**

Saturday, June 6

1:00 - 2:00

Fiesta 3/4

There are key ingredients necessary that blend together when dealing with sensitive issues that can cause chaos and conflict in the family. Because we are living in such a challenging time in our economy, many marriages and relationships are being tested due to increased stress and strain on the family. Spouses are experiencing difficulty in communicating, coupled with the conflicts that parents encounter, especially parents of teenagers. We need for our marriages to stay strong and our relationships with our families to maintain to be healthy! This session will help you to first recognize when there is a concern that needs to be addressed and how to best deal with it. There is not just one method for every situation. Using the correct amount of certain ingredients, knowing how and when to apply it, and understanding the importance of patience is vital to the outcome and the desired results that you hope would be achieved.

For example, most of us enjoy a good cake, especially if it's made from scratch using quality ingredients. Well, think about it . . . what quality ingredients are included in your marriage & relationship? In a cake preparation, there is a process in which certain items are gradually added at the right time, then blended in a certain way and baked at the correct temperature for the required length of time needed to achieve the desired result. You wouldn't put a cake batter in the oven and five minutes later expect it to be done. Likewise, we must put forth the time needed in working toward resolving any conflicts that may arise within our homes. This session is good for anyone who wants to collect a good recipe for now or to have it to use later on. You just may need them. Let's put on our chef's hat and apron with renewed determination to create that specialized family recipe that will fulfill the need and satisfy the hunger for consistent love, peace and harmony in the home. "It's a piece of cake!"

Robert Streater III  
Team Streater Seminars  
6330 Coach House Court  
Tallahassee, FL 32312  
(850) 553-4334  
nowsucceed4u@yahoo.com

### **Recreation Assistive Technology**

Saturday, June 6

1:00 - 2:00

Fiesta 7/8

Discover the latest in recreation assistive technology and adaptive sports. This will be a hands-on session where participants can experience the latest in tools and toys.

David Jones  
Florida Disabled Outdoors Association  
2475 Apalachee Parkway Suite 205  
Tallahassee, FL 32301  
(850) 201-2944  
info@fdoa.org

Kristy Carter, CTRS  
Florida Disabled Outdoors Association  
2475 Apalachee Parkway, Suite 205  
Tallahassee, FL 32301  
(850) 201-2944 x3  
kcarter@fdoa.org

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2:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. **Arts & Crafts**, Fiesta 5  
 2:00 p.m. to 2:30 p.m. **Pyramid Players**, Foyer  
 2:00 p.m. to 2:30 p.m. **Special Kids Dance**, Foyer  
 2:30 p.m. to 3:30 p.m. **CAN Platform Building Session**, Fiesta 6

## Saturday 2:30 p.m. to 3:30 p.m. Concurrent Sessions



### **Bringing You Protected Tomorrows: Creating the Future Care Plan for Family Members with Special Needs**

Saturday, June 6  
 2:30 - 3:30  
 Acapulco

As family members of a person with a disability, we so often tend to view life in light of the challenges presented to us. Bringing You Protected Tomorrows looks at our lives in a whole new light, as Mary Anne Ehlert provides a passionate glimpse of her life with her sister, Marcia. The presentation will be uplifting and entertaining, as well as provide a good basic understanding of some important facts. The Protected Tomorrows presentation is an interactive workshop which provides a good basic understanding of some important facts, such as how to apply for government benefits such as SSI, SSDI, Medicare, and Medicaid. The presentation also reviews in an uncomplicated manner how to prepare financially, and how to have your family's wills and trusts set up so as not to disqualify your loved one from benefits in the future. Finally, and most importantly, the topic of family communication is covered in a fun yet serious manner.

Mary Anne Ehlert  
 Protected Tomorrows, Inc.  
 103 Schelster Road  
 Lincolnshire, IL 60069  
 (847) 522-8086  
 melhlert@protectedtomorrows.com



### **So Who's Going To Pay for All the Care A Family Provides into the Future?**

Saturday, June 6  
 2:30 - 3:30  
 Baja

One of the greatest long term concerns families caring for a loved one with special needs have is how the care will work into the future. Specifically, an AARP published study entitled "Valuing the Invaluable" found that the economic value of uncompensated family care is considered the largest source of covering the long term care of someone with special needs. However with life expectancy for special needs populations continuing to lengthen, planning for care beyond the parent's life is becoming more critical. Join Tom Nurse and Kevin Manning, nationally recognized experts in special needs financial planning, as they explain the importance of family special needs plan for life's transitions, the coordination of public and private funded care, as well as the purpose and function of special needs trust, and some financial strategies that can help both now and into the future. This workshop can help both families and professionals make some sense of the maze of programs, eligibility requirements, health care access, and quality of life concerns that can seem so overwhelming.

Kevin Manning  
 Manning and Nurse - Personal Financial Advisors to  
 Families with Special Needs  
 1010 North Florida Ave  
 Tampa, FL 33602  
 (813) 658-5000  
 kmanning@mscmail.biz

Thomas J. Nurse  
 Special Needs Financial Advisor  
 Manning and Nurse - Personal Financial Advisors to  
 Families with Special Needs  
 1010 North Florida Ave  
 Tampa, FL 33602  
 (813) 658-5000 x1  
 tnurse@mscmail.biz

### **How to Become Your Adult Child's Guardian Advocate (English/Spanish)**

Saturday, June 6  
 2:30 - 3:30  
 Cancun

Guardian Advocacy is a special process for families, caregivers, and friends of individuals with developmental disabilities (DD) to obtain guardian advocacy without having the individual declared



incapacitated under Chapter 744 Florida Statutes. The law makes obtaining guardian advocacy less expensive and less difficult for families. The recent changes to the law are important because now the law will better protect individuals with developmental disabilities and protect their rights to self-determination. The Legal Advocacy Center of Central Florida, Inc. (LACCF) has developed a pro se packet, so you can petition the court to appoint you as a Guardian Advocate.

Roberto Cruz  
Legal Advocacy Center of  
Central Florida, Inc.  
315-A Magnolia Ave  
Sanford, FL 32771  
(407) 708-1020  
robertoc@laccf.org

Barbara Glass  
Legal Advocacy Center of  
Central Florida, Inc.  
315-A Magnolia Ave  
Sanford, FL 32771  
(407) 708-1020  
barbg@laccf.org

Mary Raspet  
Legal Advocacy Center of  
Central Florida, Inc.  
315-A Magnolia Ave  
Sanford, FL 32771  
(407) 708-1020  
maryr@laccf.org



### **National Disability Institute**

Saturday, June 6

2:30 - 3:30

Durango 1

NDI will share the successes in linking our programs throughout Florida as multiple agencies take steps to collaborate and enhance access to employment, training and education and asset development for people with disabilities.

Sharon Brent  
National Disability Institute  
1667 K. Street NW, Suite 640  
Washington, DC 20006  
(202) 296-2045  
sbrent@ndi-inc.org

Elizabeth Jennings  
National Disability Institute  
1667 K Street NW Suite 640  
Washington, DC 20006  
(202) 296-2045  
ejennings@ndi-inc.org

Michael Raush  
National Disability Institute  
1667 K Street NW Suite 640  
Washington, DC 20006  
(727) 278-1352  
mraush@ndi-inc.org

### **Sailing Through Transition**

Saturday, June 6

2:30 - 3:30

Durango 2

This presentation, in addition to defining "transition," explores the different transitions that occur between birth and age three. We will look at ways to make a smooth transition from the Early Steps Program at age three, including the development of a transition plan on the IFSP. This workshop, part of the New Start training series, was written by and for families. It is specifically geared for families in the Early Steps Program, but is beneficial for all families. Through parent to parent support, we help one another. This, and all New Start workshops, are presented by parents, for parents.

Kelli Lizarraga  
Early Steps  
914 Harrison Ave  
Panama City, FL 32401  
(850) 747-5411  
kelli.lizarraga@chsfl.org

Sue Loftis  
Early Steps  
1801 Miccosukee Commons Drive  
Tallahassee, FL 32308  
(850) 981-0330 x322  
susan.loftis@chsfl.org



### **Project 10: Addressing Transition Needs of Youth with Disabilities across the State of Florida**

Saturday, June 6

2:30 - 3:30

Monterrey 1

This presentation will introduce a new statewide endeavor, Project 10: Transition Education Network, to families across the state of Florida. Project 10 is funded through the Florida Department of Education's Bureau of Exceptional Education and Student Services. The project's current initiatives are: capacity building to implement secondary education services, interagency collaboration, transition legislation and policy, and student development and outcomes. Session attendees will have the opportunity to: (1) Learn about the goals of Project 10, (2) Examine some of the materials currently available through the project and on its website, (3) Learn more about their own role in the transition process, and (4) Ask transition-relevant questions of the Project 10 staff.





Jordan Knab  
Project 10: Transition Education Network  
140 7th Ave South SVB112  
St. Petersburg, FL 33701  
(727) 873-4662  
jknab@stpete.usf.edu

Ingrid D. Figueroa, MSW  
Childrens Mental Health  
Department of Children and Families  
400 W. Robinson Street, Suite 1106  
Orlando, FL 32801  
(407) 245-0420 x229  
ingrid.figueroa@dcf.state.fl.us

Sheryl Lyons, LMHC  
400 W. Robinson Street, Suite 1106  
Orlando, FL 32801  
(407) 245-0420 x244  
sheryl\_lyons@dcf.state.fl.us



### **Overview of the Children's Mental Health System of Care**

Saturday, June 6

2:30 - 3:30

Monterrey 2

This session will provide an overview of the children's mental health system of care. Information will be provided on how to access publicly-funded mental health services from multiple sources, the array of services and supports available, and resources for parents and caregivers to obtain information and support.

Laurie Blades  
Florida Department of Children and Families  
1317 Winewood Blvd., Bldg 6 Room 290  
Tallahassee, FL 32399  
(850) 921-4474  
laurie\_blades@dcf.state.fl.us

### **Parent Survival Skills**

Saturday, June 6

2:30 - 3:30

Monterrey 3

This session explores the family dynamics of having a child with a disability and looks at the impacts that can occur on the social and professional relationships in and around the family. The session stresses the need for internal communication in the family as well as developing strategies to cope with issues and stresses that may arise for the family members.

Mark Keith  
Florida School for the Deaf and the Blind  
207 North San Marco Avenue  
Saint Augustine, FL 32084  
(904) 827-2731  
keithm@fsdb.k12.fl.us

### **Project SEARCH – A Business Led High School Transition Model**

Saturday, June 6

2:30 - 3:30

Yucatan 1

Project SEARCH is a high school transition program which began in Cincinnati Ohio thirteen years ago and has now been replicated throughout the country. Through this program students spend their entire school year at a host business participating in internships and are totally immersed in the work culture. The employment rate for students is much higher than the national average with individuals obtaining very non-traditional, high paying positions in prestigious companies. The Florida Developmental Disabilities Council is in their second year of funding and supporting replication of this program throughout Florida with eight sites established and more in development.

Michael Kiser, Florida Developmental Disabilities Council  
1683 SE Pomeroy Street  
Stuart, FL 34997  
(772) 631-3610  
jmichaelkiser@hotmail.com

**SATURDAY**



## **Intensive Therapy Utilizing the Therasuit Method**

Saturday, June 6

2:30 - 3:30

Yucatan 2

Intensive therapy utilizing the Therasuit Method is an intense therapy protocol used for children with neurological disorders such as cerebral palsy. The protocol utilizes specialized equipment and techniques to help children gain strength and endurance needed for movement. Some of the benefits of this therapy include the following: retrains the central nervous system, normalizes muscle tone, corrects gait pattern, improves balance, increases strength, and improves bone density. Harold Lampert, MS, OTR/L of Lampert's Pediatric Clinic in Largo, FL will present on this amazing technique. The presentation will include a history of the TheraSuite, benefits of this technique, equipment utilized, and an overview of a typical Intensive Therapy session.

Harold Lampert

Lampert's Pediatric Clinic

8254 118th Ave North Suite 100

Largo, FL 33773

(727) 541-5304

harold@lampertshometherapy.com

## **How To Tell Your Story in the Form of a Book**

Saturday, June 6

2:30 - 3:30

Yucatan 3

How many times have you thought your story should be published or that a movie should be made about your life? In this session, we'll learn from someone who has actually done both. Greg Smith is the author of "On A Roll: Reflections from America's Wheelchair Dude with the Winning Attitude," and the subject of the award-winning PBS film, "On A Roll: Family, Disability and the American Dream." In this session, Greg will take us step-by-step through the process of developing a manuscript, editing, publishing and marketing a book you can be proud of.

Greg Smith

3624 Perryman Road

Ocean Springs, MS 39564

(228) 818-4799

strengthcoach@bellsouth.net

## **Delegate Roundtable: Autism**

Saturday, June 6

2:30 - 3:30

Coronado A



One of the best ways for people that are new to a situation to become educated about their options is to speak with someone that has "been there" and "done that." This year at the Annual Conference, The Family Café Delegates will be hosting roundtable conversations where parents can network with other parents to share experiences and strategies that have worked for them. If you are new to parenting a child with a disability, or if you have a particular challenge your family is facing, this session may provide the support and guidance you need.

This roundtable session will be dedicated to Autism. Sessions on other disabilities will be held throughout the day on Saturday.

Tim Turner

The Family Café Delegates

1406 Delano Trent Street

Ruskin, FL 33570

(813) 641-2323

mpowerconsulting@aol.com

## **ABC's of Family Disaster Preparedness**

Saturday, June 6

2:30 - 3:30

Coronado B



There is a saying that all disasters are local. While this is true, preparing for disasters is personal. This session will help you learn to prepare your family for disasters and increase the chances of being



a survivor. Nobody wants to think a disaster will happen to them personally. But, it really is not a question of if something will happen, but when something will happen.

Chip Wilson  
Division of Emergency Management  
2555 Shumard Oaks Blvd.  
Tallahassee, FL 32399  
(850) 413-9892  
chip.wilson@em.myflorida.com

**A Conversation with Dads for Dads**

Saturday, June 6  
2:30 - 3:30  
Coronado C/D

This is a session where dads can vent with other dads, a time to share feelings and experiences.

Tim Turner  
Mpower Consulting  
1406 Delano Trent Street  
Ruskin, FL 33570  
(813) 641-2323  
mpowerconsulting@aol.com



**The Real World: Your Life – Leaving Home and Independence**

Saturday, June 6  
2:30 - 3:30  
Coronado E/F

Come join some of the FYC members as they share how they transitioned from High School into the real world. They will share what went well, what went badly, and how they became more independent. At the end, you will have a chance to ask them questions, so that you can better prepare yourself for the real world.

Alex Brown  
Florida Youth Council  
1332 N. Duval St.  
Tallahassee, FL 32303  
(850) 224-4670  
abrown@familycafe.net

- Matthew Boselli
- Cinthia Melgar
- Christopher M. Regan
- Josue E. Tapia Ortiz
- Matthew Zebroski

**B-HIP: A Behavior-Health Information Program for Children and Adults with Disabilities (English/Spanish)**

Saturday, June 6  
2:30 - 3:30  
Coronado G

This presentation will offer families, educators, and other providers training and tips to promote the health and wellness of people with disabilities. The training will provide practical suggestions on such topics as: engaging in daily physical activity, maintaining good oral health, sleeping better, eating better, and being protected from abuse and exploitation. Tip sheets will be provided that will offer information, resources, and suggestions on healthy lifestyle habits and fun activities to B-HIP.

Susan M. Haverkamp, PhD  
13301 Bruce B. Downs Blvd MHC2113A  
Tampa, FL 33612  
(813) 974-7076  
shavercamp@fmhi.usf.edu

Myrna Veguilla, MSMS  
Florida Center for Inclusive Communities  
University of South Florida  
13301 Bruce B. Downs Blvd, MHC 2113A  
Tampa, FL 33612  
(813) 974-7008  
mveguilla@fmhi.usf.edu

**SATURDAY**





### **Conquering My Dreams**

Saturday, June 6  
2:30 - 3:30  
Coronado S/T

This presentation is about an individual who has a disability. His mission is to educate the world in how people with disabilities can become independent and integrated into society.

Idelio Valdes  
10247 SW 24th Street Apt D-476  
Miami, FL 33165  
ideliovaldes@hotmail.com



### **The Florida D.D. Council Presents: The Self-Advocacy Grassroots Movement in Florida**

Saturday, June 6  
2:30 - 3:30  
Coronado Q/R

The Florida Developmental Disabilities Council's Program Manager and Project Administrator will provide information on a grass roots self-advocacy project sponsored by the Council. The Center for Human Policy at Syracuse University has partnered with the Council to develop, train and assist local self-advocacy groups throughout the state. Participants will learn the objectives of the Council's self-advocacy project and obtain an overview of work done to date. At the conclusion of the presentation, attendees will have the opportunity to network with members of the self-advocacy groups.

Bob Ciota  
The Center on Human Policy At Syracuse University  
805 South Crouse Ave  
Syracuse, NY 13244  
(315) 443-3851

Latarsha Williams, MPA  
FDDC  
124 Marriott Drive Suite 203  
Tallahassee, FL 32301  
latarshaw@fddc.org  
(850) 488-4180

### **Medicaid Eligibility and Medicaid Services**

Saturday, June 6  
2:30 - 3:30  
Coronado N/P

This presentation provides an overview of Florida Medicaid eligibility and services. Participants will learn how Medicaid eligibility is determined and how to access services. The presentation focuses on people enrolled in one of the Developmental Disabilities Medicaid Waiver programs and their families and care providers. We will explain Medicaid and medical waiver services and the process for choosing the best services for each person's needs.

Leigh Meadows  
Agency for Health Care Administration  
2727 Mahan Drive Mail Stop #20  
Tallahassee, FL 32308  
(850) 414-2773  
meadowsl@ahca.myflorida.com

### **Parent Power for Children on the Spectrum**

Saturday, June 6  
2:30 - 3:30  
Fiesta 3/4

This presentation is aimed at giving parents the necessary tools to be effective in dealing with their children's education plan. The presenters are all parents of children on the spectrum who have graduated from the public school system. They will share their combined experience in a practical approach to handling the challenges that they faced in educating their children.

Joy Karp  
13501 Sol Vista Drive  
Largo, FL 33774  
(727) 596-8668  
joyeye@aol.com



**SATURDAY**



### **Delegate Roundtable: Sibling Support**

Saturday, June 6

2:30 - 3:30

Fiesta 9/10

One of the best ways for people that are new to a situation to become educated about their options is to speak with someone that has "been there" and "done that." This year at the Annual Conference, The Family Café Delegates will be hosting roundtable conversations where parents can network with other parents to share experiences and strategies that have worked for them. If you are new to parenting a child with a disability, or if you have a particular challenge your family is facing, this session may provide the support and guidance you need.

This roundtable session will be dedicated to Sibling Support. Sessions on other disabilities will be held throughout the day on Saturday.

Tim Turner  
The Family Café Delegates  
1406 Delano Trent Street  
Ruskin, FL 33570  
(813) 641-2323  
mpowerconsulting@aol.com



### **Kickball for Persons of All Abilities: Everyone Can Participate**

Saturday, June 6

2:30 - 3:30

Veracruz C

Learn first-hand the value and benefits of a pick-up kickball game. Come play with us! All ages and abilities are welcome!

David Jones  
Florida Disabled Outdoors Association  
2475 Apalachee Parkway Suite 205  
Tallahassee, FL 32301  
(850) 201-2944  
info@fdoa.org

3:30 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. **Pyramid Players**, Foyer



## **Saturday 4:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. Concurrent Sessions**

### **Safety and Tae Kwon Do**

Saturday, June 6

4:00 - 5:00

Acapulco

Individuals with cognitive or physical disabilities are especially vulnerable to assault. Their innocence, physical impairment, or lack of comprehension make them easy targets for all types of abuse or abduction. It could be from a stranger or someone they know very well. Teaching special needs individuals a safety oriented TKD class will give them the knowledge and tools to help them be more prepared for the worst case scenario. It will describe what we as parents, teachers, and advocates need to know to protect our most precious assets from those who wish them harm. This workshop is about one class doing just that.

Kim Siewert  
Special Kids Dance and Performing Arts  
12189 1/2 Murray Ave  
Largo, FL 33778  
RKSiewert@msn.com

### **How to Get a Great IEP for Your Child**

Saturday, June 6

4:00 - 5:00

Baja

In this presentation parents will learn new strategies for getting their child a high quality IEP with ample



services and accommodations. The presenters will discuss ideas and tools for understanding how to negotiate with school district staff. Ideas will be shared to create a win-win environment while getting each child the most appropriate services. Parents will learn more about their rights and how to advocate for their child in a way that is effective and productive.

Jim Forgan  
Advocacy Consultants  
17340 Wildwood Road  
Jupiter, FL 33478  
(561) 747-0081  
jforgan@hotmail.com

Mary Lou Duffy  
Advocacy Consultants  
81 Akron Road  
Lake Worth, FL 33467  
(561) 799-8715  
mlduffy@earthlink.net

### ***The John M. McKay Scholarship Program for Students with Disabilities***

Saturday, June 6

4:00 - 5:00

Cancun

The Department of Education's Office of Independent Education and Parental Choice will present information about the John M. McKay Scholarship Program for Students with Disabilities. This program was established to provide Florida parents and students with educational options and operates under the premise that the parents should make decisions regarding their child's education. The program offers student-directed funding and parent-directed choices. The presentation will include eligibility requirements, participation statistics, and requirements for private schools, public school districts, and parent/student responsibility.

Pam London

Florida Department of Education  
Office of Independent Education and Parental Choice  
325 West Gaines Street Suite 522  
Tallahassee, FL 32311  
pamela.london@fldoe.org



### ***Employment Challenges and Successes: Making Employment Work***

Saturday, June 6

4:00 - 5:00

Durango 1

This session will provide information on the challenges of obtaining employment and suggest solutions to these challenges. Issues discussed will be: work disincentives, becoming a part of the work place, maintaining needed health services, job accommodations, arranging personal care assistance on the job, and matching the right job for you. An individual with a disability will share his story concerning how he found work, overcame his frustrations and dealt with many of these employment barriers. Discussion will also include new direction for the employment of people with disabilities in Florida.

J.B. Black

Agency for Persons with Disabilities  
4030 Esplanade Way, Suite 380  
Tallahassee, FL 32399  
(850) 488-1552  
jb\_black@apd.state.fl.us

### ***Blenderized Diet via G-Tube***

Saturday, June 6

4:00 - 5:00

Durango 2

Blenderized Diet is the use of whole real foods to feed your loved one who's fed via a G-tube. One of the biggest advantages to using Blenderized Diet is the ability to involve the whole family in feeding your loved one. Your loved one or your patients may now feel more a part of the family because the same foods that other family member's eat orally are now being fed to the G-tube family member. One really big savings is on the cost of formula. The average monthly cost of formula is between \$600-\$1200 per month depending on the type of formula and amount needed. Blenderized Diet can be as little as \$300 per month. During this workshop you will learn how to prepare Blenderized Diet, count calories, and what equipment is needed to utilize Blenderized Diet. My goal is to have families leave this workshop with a sense of empowerment.



Lesley Marino  
2280 Glenmoor Road North  
Clearwater, FL 33764  
(727) 644-1683  
ninabean@tampabay.rr.com

Beverly Hanset Burch  
Child/Family Advocate  
beverlyhansetburch@verizon.net

### **Consumer Directed Care Program**

Saturday, June 6  
4:00 - 5:00  
Monterrey 1

This presentation will provide an update on the Consumer Directed Care Plus Medicaid program from the Agency for Health Care Administration. Presentation content will include current information and updates regarding the program, as well as information about fiscal/employer agent activities with the Agency for Persons with Disabilities.

Vennie Smith  
Agency for Health Care Administration  
2727 Mahan Drive  
Tallahassee, FL 32308  
(850) 414-8599



### **Navigating Systems of Care for Children & Adolescents with Co-Occurring Disabilities and Mental Health Needs**

Saturday, June 6  
4:00 - 5:00  
Monterrey 2

This presentation is designed to assist attendees to recognize and effectively advocate for necessary clinical services for children and adolescents with co-occurring disabilities and mental health issues. The presentation will have an emphasis upon the disability, mental health and education systems. Attendees will be given information to assist them to: identify warning signs indicative of possible service needs; advocate for the provision of needed services; and recognize providers familiar with best practices in service delivery.

David A. Ott, Ph.D.  
Devereux Florida  
5850 TG Lee Blvd, Suite 400  
Orlando, FL 32765  
(407) 362-9279  
dott@devereux.org

### **Dads – Getting in the Game**

Saturday, June 6  
4:00 - 5:00  
Monterrey 3

This workshop works to help fathers better understand the importance of their role with their children and family. The session attempts to get fathers to evaluate their current level of involvement with their children and begin considering how they can work to improve that relationship and level of involvement.

Mark Keith  
Florida School for the Deaf and the Blind  
207 North San Marco Avenue  
Saint Augustine, FL 32084  
(904) 827-2731  
keithm@fsdb.k12.fl.us



### **Disability Life: An Example of What's Possible**

Saturday, June 6  
4:00 - 5:00  
Yucatan 1

When faced with living with a disability, an individual has the opportunity to make as little or as much of their life as their boundaries permit. Evan Piper has defined the example of making the most out of



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this type of situation. Since becoming a paraplegic from a 2001 accident, Evan has managed to excel beyond the boundaries that could have limited him. Evan will share his story and at the same time share several inspiring ideas.

Evan Piper  
Piper Medical, Mobility and Accessibility  
1885 NE 149th St. Suite A  
North Miami, FL 33181  
(305) 940-2030  
info@pipermed.com

### **Home Schooling for Person-Centered Education**

Saturday, June 6  
4:00 - 5:00  
Yucatan 3

Florida allows parents to home school their children. Parents have quite a bit of freedom to direct their children's education. Children across Florida are home schooled and are entering and succeeding in college and the work force. Home schooling offers parents a real opportunity to develop a person-centered education plan for their child. You are in charge of the education and the educational opportunities available to your child. Parents have the opportunity to customize their child's curriculum to meet their specific needs. You have the opportunity to provide just what your child needs to integrate into the community upon their graduation.

Howard Moon  
4215 SE 59th Street  
Ocala, FL 34480  
(352) 427-5935  
howard@howmoon.com



### **Delegate Roundtable: Intellectual Disabilities**

Saturday, June 6  
4:00 - 5:00  
Coronado A

One of the best ways for people that are new to a situation to become educated about their options is to speak with someone that has "been there" and "done that." This year at the Annual Conference, The Family Café Delegates will be hosting roundtable conversations where parents can network with other parents to share experiences and strategies that have worked for them. If you are new to parenting a child with a disability, or if you have a particular challenge your family is facing, this session may provide the support and guidance you need.

This roundtable session will be dedicated to Intellectual Disabilities. Sessions on other disabilities will be held throughout the day on Saturday.

Tim Turner  
The Family Café Delegates  
1406 Delano Trent Street  
Ruskin, FL 33570  
(813) 641-2323  
mpowerconsulting@aol.com



### **Advocating with Emergency Management**

Saturday, June 6  
4:00 - 5:00  
Coronado B

The best time to work with emergency management is not after a disaster hits. The best time is before a disaster affects you and your family. Do you know who your emergency management officials are? Do you know all the groups involved in emergency management? This session will provide insights on advocating for inclusion in all aspects of emergency preparations.

Chip Wilson, Division of Emergency Management  
2555 Shumard Oaks Blvd.  
Tallahassee, FL 32399  
(850) 413-9892  
chip.wilson@em.myflorida.com





## **A Primer on Medicaid Waivers**

Saturday, June 6

4:00 - 5:00

Coronado C/D

This is an overview of all Florida Medicaid Home and Community-Based Waivers. Information will be provided on the purpose of waiver programs and their relationship to regular Medicaid services and general eligibility information. Emphasis will be placed on the services available on the Developmental Disabilities Home and Community-Based Services Waiver, the Family and Supported Living Waiver, and the new Tier Two and Tier Three Waivers for Individuals with Developmental Disabilities.

Pamela Kyllonen

Agency for Health Care Administration

2727 Mahan Drive Mail Stop #20

Tallahassee, FL 32308

(850) 414-9756

kyllonep@ahca.myflorida.com



## **Successfully Interacting Socially (Youth Only)**

Saturday, June 6

4:00 - 5:00

Coronado E/F

Interacting with your peers can be a challenging experience. Throw in a disability and the experience becomes so much more challenging. This session is all about how the Florida Youth Council members have dealt with the challenge of interacting socially. They will go over their challenges and successes. There will be an opportunity for questions at the end of the session.

Alex Brown

Florida Youth Council

1332 N. Duval St.

Tallahassee, FL 32303

(850) 224-4670

abrown@familycafe.net

- Lizzy Barrows
- Matthew Boselli
- Mason Hunter Charles
- J. T. Davis
- Carly Fahey
- Nick Grabowski
- Grier Harris

Cynthia Melgar

Christopher M. Regan

Sara Romine

Josue E. Tapia Ortiz

Matthew Zebroski

Whitney Harris



## **Legislative Session Summary and What Do I Do Next?**

Saturday, June 6

4:00 - 5:00

Coronado S/T

The presentation will begin with a report on the Florida Developmental Disabilities Council's 2009 Legislative Platform and the legislative outcomes for individuals with developmental disabilities and their families from the 2009 Legislative Session. The presentation will also include the Council's preparation for the 2010 Legislative session and Advocacy techniques for consumers and families who want to learn about the legislative process and educate their legislators about the needs of individuals with developmental disabilities.

Margaret S. Hooper

Florida Developmental Disabilities Council

124 Marriott Drive, Suite 203

Tallahassee, FL 32301

(850) 488-1284

margaretd@fddc.org



## **Current Trends in Self-Advocacy**

Saturday, June 6

4:00 - 5:00

Coronado Q/R

This proposal will provide information about national trends in self-advocacy. Ms. O'Brien will provide information about current self-advocacy groups in Florida and how The Family Café attendees might join the movement.

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Eileen O'Brien  
Agency for Persons with Disabilities  
1313 Tampa Street Suite 515  
Tampa, FL 33602  
(813) 233-4317  
eileeno\_obrien@apd.state.fl.us



### **Independent Travel Needed in Transitional Goals**

Saturday, June 6  
4:00 - 5:00  
Coronado N/P

Independent travel is needed in transitional planning on the IEP. It is needed to address going to work, shopping and medical needs, and Reading the Florida drivers' manual with counseling. Individuals should learn the rules of walking, wheelchair, scooters and riding a bike on the sidewalk and road. Travel skills are needed for planning a trip by using a taxi, a bus, and trains, and individuals should know about new rules and restrictions about flying and sailing. It is also important to know what legal papers are needed to travel, how medications can be transported, and how much money is needed to cover a trip.

Linda Montalbano  
3125 Elaine Drive  
Lorida, FL 33857  
(863) 655-4196  
urania32@hotmail.com



### **The Insider's Guide to Understanding and Using the Social Security Work Incentives and The Ticket to Work**

Saturday, June 6  
4:00 - 5:00  
Fiesta 1/2

This presentation will discuss the Social Security work incentives and the Ticket to Work program in everyday language. The presenter, a senior employee with the Agency, will discuss the benefits of working, the responsibilities of a working beneficiary, how SSA recognizes work which is not reported to the Agency, and how SSA applies the work incentives. This session will tell you everything you always wanted to know about work incentives and more and you will learn how to maintain cash benefits, Medicare and/or Medicaid - the CHOICE will be yours!

Marlene A. Ulisky  
Social Security Administration  
1835 20th Street  
Vero Beach, FL 32960  
(772) 562-5330 x102  
marlene.a.ulisky@ssa.gov

### **Sustaining Faith Through These Challenging Times**

Saturday, June 6  
4:00 - 5:00  
Fiesta 3/4

This Faith-based session is presented to inspire and encourage families with special needs. So often we hear the word "faith" mentioned or printed on plaques, pins, pictures, etc. There are countless numbers of books about it, but how can we activate our faith to apply it in our everyday lives? Rev. Robert E. (Bob) Streater, III, M.A. shares a motivating message for families who are facing challenges. Understand key biblical principles that can give you renewed strength and determination in your spirit, mind and body! You'll leave feeling uplifted, empowered and ready to deal with life's issues with faith and not fear and doubt.

Robert Streater III  
Encouragement House Family Outreach  
6330 Coach House Court  
Tallahassee, FL 32312  
(850) 553-4334  
nowsucces4u@yahoo.com





### **Delegate Roundtable: Diabetes**

Saturday, June 6

4:00 - 5:00

Fiesta 9/10

One of the best ways for people that are new to a situation to become educated about their options is to speak with someone that has "been there" and "done that." This year at the Annual Conference, The Family Café Delegates will be hosting roundtable conversations where parents can network with other parents to share experiences and strategies that have worked for them. If you are new to parenting a child with a disability, or if you have a particular challenge your family is facing, this session may provide the support and guidance you need.

This roundtable session will be dedicated to Diabetes. Sessions on other disabilities will be held throughout the day on Saturday.

Tim Turner  
The Family Café Delegates  
1406 Delano Trent Street  
Ruskin, FL 33570  
(813) 641-2323  
mpowerconsulting@aol.com



### **Transition from School to Community Living through Active Leisure**

Saturday, June 6

4:00 - 5:00

Fiesta 7/8

Leaving the school environment is difficult. This session will show ways that active leisure and recreation can assist people in becoming a part of their community. Each person is different and therefore motivated by different things, but there is something for everyone. Recreation can be the link to community integration in social activity, job placement, and general well-being.

David Jones  
Florida Disabled Outdoors Association  
2475 Apalachee Parkway Suite 205  
Tallahassee, FL 32301  
(850) 201-2944  
info@fdoa.org

5:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. **Pontoon Boat Rides**, Lago Dorado

Enjoy the socialization and networking benefits of participating in this enjoyable leisure activity. Experience the therapeutic value of outdoor recreation. Come play with us! All ages and abilities are welcome!

7:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. **Family Entertainment featuring Dueling Pianos**, Coronado Ballroom

**SATURDAY**



# SATURDAY NIGHT FAMILY ENTERTAINMENT

Join us in welcoming our old friends

## *The Dueling Pianos*

back to The Family Café Annual Conference!



The Dueling Pianos are more than just music! They're comedy, interactive fun, and a real-live jukebox all rolled into one! They'll be joining us for our Saturday Evening Dance, where they will be sure to get everyone singing, dancing and laughing.

**REMEMBER, REQUESTS ARE ALWAYS WELCOME!**

# SATURDAY ENTERTAINMENT HIGHLIGHTS

## Special Kids Dance

Special Kids Dance & Performing Arts is a nonprofit organization that offers classes for kids and young adults with special needs. It is a unique program within the Greater Tampa Bay Area and is the first of its kind in the state of Florida, with two locations in Pinellas County! Classes offered are: Ballet, Tap, Hip Hop, Tae Kwon Do, Art, Music and Drama.



This program is beneficial to help improve muscle strength, coordination, balance, self-confidence and social skills. Students range in age from 4 to 24 with various special needs such as Down syndrome, Autism, Cerebral Palsy, ADHD, Visually & Hearing impaired, Aspergers and Charge syndrome. They all have one thing in common, however, and that is they LOVE TO DANCE!

10:00 a.m. to 10:30 a.m. Special Kids Dance, Foyer  
2:00 p.m. to 2:30 p.m. Special Kids Dance, Foyer



## Pyramid Players



The Pyramid Players are rapidly becoming known throughout central and north Florida and beyond for their skilled, rousing vocal and dance performances. They have been a favorite at the Family Café for three years, demonstrating that people with developmental disabilities have great talent. The performers come from Tampa, Tallahassee, Fort Walton Beach and Pensacola. Pyramid artists demonstrate equal talent and discipline. Pyramid's gallery at the Café attracts crowds of admirers each year.

10:00 a.m. to 10:30 a.m. Pyramid Players, Foyer  
12:30 p.m. to 1:00 p.m. Pyramid Players, Foyer  
2:00 p.m. to 2:30 p.m. Pyramid Players, Foyer  
3:30 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. Pyramid Players, Foyer

## Arts & Crafts

VSA arts of Florida presents two unique art activities for the enjoyment of Family Café Conference guests! The first is a take-home activity where participants will create their very own mosaic tile using a variety of colored tiles, glue and beads. Guests are encouraged to get imaginative incorporating shapes, letters, or abstract designs for their take-home creation. The second is an interactive activity, painting on silk. Painting on silk is a very tactile and visually exciting medium. The brush loaded with paints touches the silk and feels so soft as it is stroked across the fabric. The paints travel quickly creating a beautiful watercolor effect and will end up an amazing collaborative piece created by Family Café guests!

10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. Arts & Crafts, Fiesta 5  
2:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. Arts & Crafts, Fiesta 5



## Sunday, June 7, 2009

10:45 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. Coronado Ballroom

Josh Sundquist is a Paralympic ski racer and nationally known inspirational speaker. He has been featured on CNN and in USA TODAY and has spoken to hundreds of thousands of people across the country.

At age nine Josh Sundquist was diagnosed with a rare form of bone cancer and given a fifty percent chance to live. He spent a year on chemotherapy treatments and his left leg was amputated. Doctors declared Josh cured of the disease at age thirteen and he took up ski racing three years later. He trained for the next six years and in 2006 he was named to the US Paralympic Ski Team for the 2006 Paralympics in Turino, Italy.

Josh began speaking to groups about his experiences at age ten. He has since shared his story as a keynote speaker at schools, Fortune 500 companies, and in Washington, DC at the White House. At eighteen, he was the second youngest person ever accepted as a Professional Member of the National Speaker's Association.

As a writer, Josh has been published in *The Washington Post*, *Daily Guideposts*, and *Current*, *Newsweek's* college magazine. In 2003 he co-authored the teen devotional book *Forty Voices: Stories of Hope from Our Generation*.

Josh served a two-year tenure as the National Spokesperson for the Combined Federal Campaign, an effort that raises over \$300 million dollars a year for charities. He is an honorary member of the US Postal Service Cycling



Team, and he received The Heroes Among Us award from the Virginia State Legislature, The Discovery Card Tribute award and he was a winner of the American Eagle Outfitters 2006 Live Your Life Contest. He was a 2006 Body-for-Life Grand Champion and is a Certified Personal Trainer.

He is currently featured on the back of Doritos bags nationwide for being the founder of LessThanFour.org, the world's largest social networking website for amputees.

Josh received a degree in business from the College of William and Mary and a Master's in Communications from the University of Southern California.



JOSH SUNDQUIST

## Sunday, June 7, 2009

8:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

**Exhibit Hall Open**, Veracruz Exhibit Hall

8:30 a.m. to 10:30 a.m.

**Outdoor Activities:** Catch and Release Fishing, Adaptive Water Skiing Demonstration, Disc Golf

10:45 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.

**Keynote Address**, Coronado Ballroom

12:00 p.m. to 12:30 p.m.

**Closing and Door Prizes**, Coronado Ballroom





**The  
Family  
Café**



**SEE YOU NEXT YEAR**

**at**

**The 12<sup>th</sup> Annual  
Family Café Conference**



**June 17-20, 2010**

**Disney Coronado Springs Resort  
Orlando, Florida**



**[www.FamilyCafe.net](http://www.FamilyCafe.net)  
888 309 CAFÉ (2233)**







# *The Family Café* **CHANGE AGENT NETWORK**

## **CAN PLATFORM BUILDING SESSION**

**Part 1** – Friday, June 5, 1:30 p.m. or 4:30 p.m., Fiesta 6

**Part 2** – Saturday June 6, 10:30 a.m. or 2:30 p.m., Fiesta 6

Do you want to be a leader and a voice for individuals with disabilities in your community? Do you want to make a real difference for the more than 3.5 million people with disabilities living in Florida? Do you want to have a voice in shaping the policies that affect the daily lives of individuals with disabilities and their families? Do you want to start a movement? Learn how you can by becoming part of The Family Café **CHANGE AGENT NETWORK!**

To learn more, plan to attend the **CAN** two-part breakout sessions at The Family Café.

**Part 1**, which will be held twice on **Friday, June 5th**, will focus on how we can launch a movement by organizing at the community level, the tools that The Family Café will help make available to you if you get involved, and why **CAN** is different from any grassroots organizational effort in which you've ever been involved.

**Part 2**, which will be held twice on **Saturday, June 6th**, you will help develop the policy platform that **CAN** will pursue at the state and local level and learn some practical techniques for affecting change in your community.

***We hope to see you there!***



# The Family Café CHANGE AGENT NETWORK

Do you want to be a leader and a voice for individuals with disabilities in your community?

Do you want to make a real difference for the more than 3.5 million people with disabilities living in Florida?

Do you want to have a voice in shaping the policies that affect the lives individuals with disabilities and their family members every day?

Now you can, by becoming part of the The Family Café **CHANGE AGENT NETWORK!**

Too often, people with disabilities are left out of the policy-making process that shapes the lives of many families in our state. It can be intimidating for one person to speak out, take action, and feel like they have a genuine impact on how individuals with disabilities are treated in our society.

But by bringing our many voices together, we **CAN** make a real difference!

If you would like to take the next step on the road to active advocacy on behalf of individuals with disabilities and their families, join us today! Together, we can make a real difference, and take our rightful place as leaders in charting the course for disability policy in years to come!

## CAN Membership Application Policy - General

**Please provide contact information.**

First Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Last Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Work Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

FAX: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

**Membership Category** (please check the membership category that applies to you)

Policy \$25

General \$15

Please send checks to: The Family Cafe, Inc.  
1332 N. Duval St.  
Tallahassee, FL 32303  
[www.familycafe.net](http://www.familycafe.net)



**Contribute to**  
**The Family Cafe**  
**Governor's Scholarship Fund**

**The Family Café Governor's Scholarship Fund** was established in 2006 as a means for private individuals to support The Family Café's efforts to provide information, training and networking opportunities to individuals with disabilities and their families.

- **All contributions go directly to provide Financial Assistance to help families attend the Annual Conference.**
- **All contributions are fully tax deductible.**

We are proud of the job we do to bring together an unprecedented amount of information at our Annual Conference, and we are committed to sharing resources with as many families as possible.

***Would you please help us to fulfill that mission by contributing to  
The Governor's Scholarship Fund today?***

**No amount is too small, and every donation counts.**

To make a contribution, you can send your payment to:

**The Family Café**  
**1332 North Duval St.**  
**Tallahassee, FL 32303**

Or simply give your form and check, credit card or cash payment to one of our volunteers at the Conference Registration Desk.

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Donation:  \$100     \$50     \$20     \$10     Other \$ \_\_\_\_\_

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\*(On the back of your card, locate the final 3 digit number; for AmEx this number is 4 digits and appears on the front of the card)

You may also make a payment to [info@familycafe.net](mailto:info@familycafe.net) through PayPal, the internet's most secure transaction site, at [www.PayPal.com](http://www.PayPal.com), or by calling The Family Café toll-free at 1-888-309-CAFÉ (2233) at any time.

**Thank You for Your Support!**



# *The Florida Youth Council*

*invites all youth and emerging leaders with disabilities  
between the ages of 13 and 30*

*to*

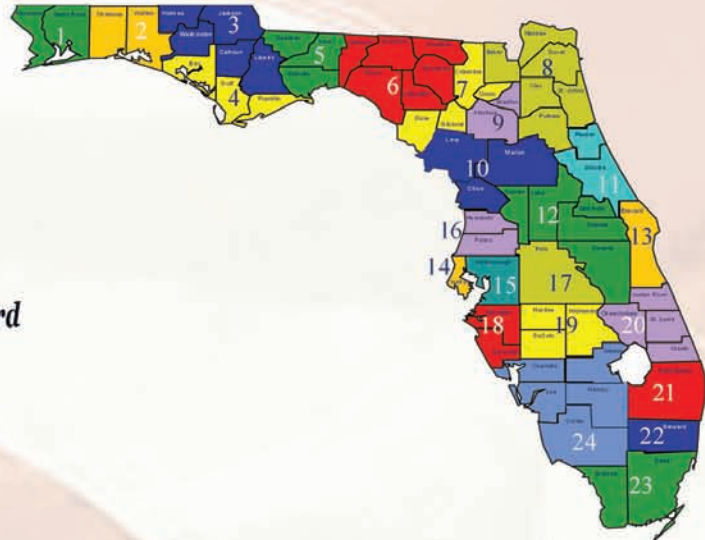
*The 2nd Annual Youth Summit  
August 7-8, 2009  
The Florida Hotel and Conference Center  
at the Florida Mall  
Orlando, Florida*

*Join youth and emerging leaders from  
throughout Florida for two days of education,  
information and fun this August!*

*No registration fee \* Financial Assistance Available*

*To register, visit [www.familycafe.net](http://www.familycafe.net) or [www.floridayouthcouncil.com](http://www.floridayouthcouncil.com)  
or call 888-309-2233*

Visit the Agency for Workforce Innovation at our booth in the exhibit hall for more information about One-Stop Career Centers.



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**1 Workforce Escarosa, Inc.**  
Escambia, Santa Rosa  
<http://www.escarosa.org/>
- 

**2 Workforce Development Board of Okaloosa and Walton Counties**  
Okaloosa, Walton  
<http://www.jobsplusonestop.com/>
- 

**3 Chipola Regional Workforce Planning Board**  
Calhoun, Holmes, Jackson, Liberty, Washington  
<http://www.onestopahead.com/>
- 

**4 Gulf Coast Workforce Development Board**  
Bay, Franklin, Gulf  
<http://www.workforcecenter.org/>
- 

**5 Workforce Plus**  
Gadsden, Leon, Wakulla  
<http://www.wfplus.org/>
- 

**6 North Florida Workforce Development Board**  
Hamilton, Jefferson, Lafayette, Madison, Suwannee, Taylor  
<http://www.nfwdb.org/>
- 

**7 Florida Crown Workforce Development Board**  
Columbia, Dixie, Gilchrist, Union  
<http://www.floridacrown.org/>
- 

**8 WorkSource**  
Baker, Clay, Duval, Nassau, Putnam, St. Johns  
<http://www.worksourcefl.com/>
- 

**9 Alachua/Bradford Regional Workforce Board**  
Alachua, Bradford  
<http://www.alachuaonestop.org/web/>
- 

**10 Citrus Levy Marion Regional Workforce Development Board**  
Citrus, Levy, Marion  
<http://www.clmworkforce.com/>
- 

**11 Workforce Development Board of Flagler and Volusia Counties, Inc.**  
Flagler, Volusia  
<http://www.centerforbusinessexcellence.net/>
- 

**12 Workforce Central Florida**  
Orange, Osceola, Seminole, Lake, Sumter  
<http://www.workforcecentralflorida.com>
- 

**13 Brevard Workforce Development Board, Inc.**  
Brevard  
<http://www.brevardjoblink.org/>
- 

**14 WorkNet Pinellas**  
Pinellas  
<http://www.worknetpinellas.org/>
- 

**15 Tampa Bay WorkForce Alliance, Inc.**  
Hillsborough  
<http://www.tampabayworkforcealliance.com/>
- 

**16 Pasco-Hernando Jobs and Education Partnership Regional Board, Inc.**  
Hernando, Pasco  
<http://www.pasco-hernando.com/>
- 

**17 Polk County Workforce Development Board, Inc.**  
Polk  
<http://www.polkworks.org/content/>
- 

**18 Suncoast Workforce Board, Inc.**  
Manatee, Sarasota  
<http://www.swdb.org/>
- 

**19 Heartland Workforce Investment Board, Inc.**  
DeSoto, Hardee, Highlands  
<http://www.heartland-workforce.org/>
- 

**20 Workforce Development Board of the Treasure Coast**  
Indian River, Martin, Okeechobee, St. Lucie  
<http://www.tcjobs.org/>
- 

**21 Workforce Alliance, Inc.**  
Palm Beach  
<http://www.pbcalliance.com/>
- 

**22 Broward Workforce Development Board**  
Broward  
<http://www.wfibroward.com/>
- 

**23 South Florida Workforce Board**  
Miami-Dade, Monroe  
<http://www.southfloridaworkforce.com/>
- 

**24 Southwest Florida Workforce Development Board**  
Charlotte, Collier, Glades, Hendry, Lee  
<http://www.careerandservicecenter.org/>



# SUNSHINE STATE SPORTSABILITY<sup>®</sup> SAMPLER

**Florida Disabled Outdoors Association (FDOA) enriches lives through accessible inclusive recreation and active leisure for all.**



FDOA is partnering with the Family Café to provide this weekend's **SPORTSABILITY SAMPLER**. Experience how much fun recreation and wellness can be!

Visit the booth in the exhibit hall and experience indoor activities and attend the recreation education track to learn about your leisure options!

On Saturday evening from 5:00 PM to 8:00 PM, take a relaxing **ride on a pontoon boat** around the Coronado Springs Lake.

On Sunday from 8:00 AM to 10:00 AM, lakeside activities will include:

- **Sit Water Ski Demonstration** by UCAN SKI2
- **"Catch of the Day" Fishing (catch and release)** by Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission and B.A.S.S.  
*Tackle, bait and assistance will be provided.*
- **Disc Golf Experience**

**Everyone is invited to participate!**

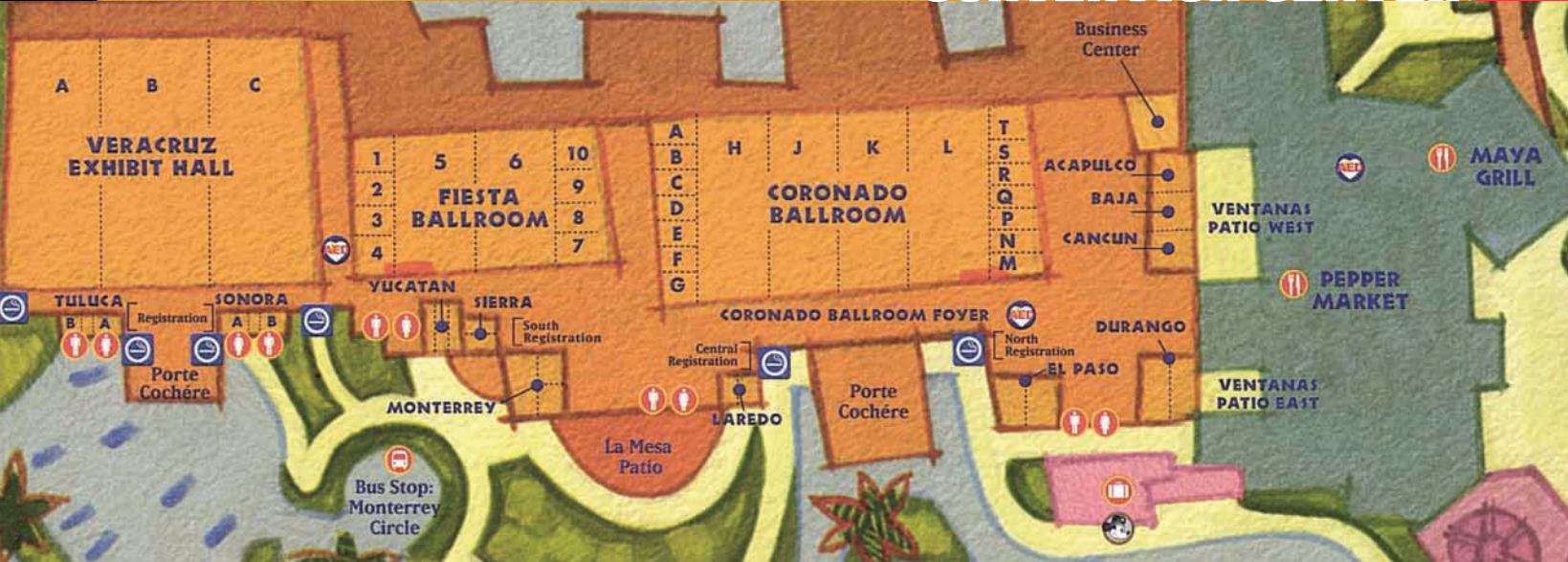


For more information contact:  
**Florida Disabled Outdoors Association**  
2475 Apalachee Parkway, Suite 205  
Tallahassee, FL 32301  
(850) 201-2944  
[www.fdoa.org](http://www.fdoa.org)  
[info@fdoa.org](mailto:info@fdoa.org)

# DISNEY CORONADO SPRINGS RESORT



## CONVENTION CENTER





**THEY  
NEED  
YOU!**

**I WANT  
YOU!**

**JOIN...**

*The Family Café*  
**CHANGE AGENT NETWORK**

**WWW.FAMILYCAFE.NET**



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