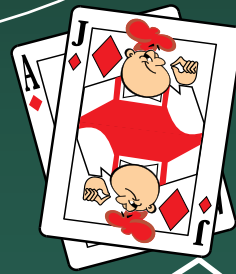


The  
**21st**  
ANNUAL  
**FAMILY CAFÉ**

HYATT REGENCY ORLANDO



**FEATURING THE GOVERNOR'S  
SUMMIT ON DISABILITIES**

JUNE 7-9, 2019 ♦ ORLANDO, FLORIDA



**RON DESANTIS**  
GOVERNOR



June 7, 2019

Dear Friends:

It is my pleasure to welcome you to the 21<sup>st</sup> Annual Family Café. It is my hope that while attending this conference, individuals with disabilities and their loved ones will connect with other families. The Café offers a wide variety of public and private resources that may be of benefit to you.

We want all Floridians to have the opportunity to go to work, including those with unique disabilities. I have recommended, and the Legislature is supporting, funding to continue the Employment Enhancement Program to provide on-the-job training and internships to people with different abilities to help them learn job skills so they are able to land a permanent position in the future.

Florida is proud of the contributions men and women with disabilities make to enhance our communities and ensure our success. We are thankful for the Agency for Persons with Disabilities and other state organizations that are committed to making sure Floridians with disabilities have the support they need to thrive. As Governor, individuals with disabilities will always have my support.

Best wishes for a successful Family Café!

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Ron DeSantis".

Ron DeSantis  
Governor



Dear Family Café Attendees,

The Annual Family Café is a three-day statewide event that has been meeting the need for information and networking among people with disabilities and/or special health care needs and their families in Florida since 1998. The Family Café Planning Committee, which is comprised of self-advocates, family members, fellow nonprofits and state agency partners, plays a central role in planning The Annual Family Café. It is our mission to provide you and your family with an opportunity for Collaboration, Advocacy, Friendship and Empowerment in a family-centered environment!

We have done our best to assemble an exciting, engaging event this year, and we think you will be impressed with the wide array of information and activities we've brought together. Our agenda of breakout sessions features over 200 sessions, with many of them organized into "tracks" by subject area. They include Advocacy, Assistive Technology, Birth through Age Five, Disaster Preparedness, Employment, Mental Health, Military Families, Recreation, Smart Money, Youth, and our newest addition, Dads. To help you navigate the tracked sessions, we've included a "track index" in the front of the program that lists every session in a given track and tells you what page to turn to for its description. No matter what type of disability you experience, what stage of life you're in, or what disability topic interests you, you are sure to find sessions that speak to your needs.

We also have a series of keynotes that address essential topics in the disability community. On Friday, we are pleased to welcome a true giant of the disability rights movement, Judy Heumann. She will share her experience bringing landmark legislation like the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA), Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act, and the Americans with Disability Act (ADA) into being. Saturday will feature executive producer and co-star of TLC's hit television show *The Little Couple*, Bill Klein. He will discuss self-esteem, confidence building, introspection, the value of constructive criticism, and overcoming obstacles. On Sunday, the final keynote will feature Dave Clark and Doug Cornfield. They will share the story of Dave's career as a baseball player with a disability, as well as the story of how a simple act of kindness can change a life, as told in their children's book, *A Pound of Kindness*.

In addition to our series of keynotes, The Annual Family Café will once again include The Annual Governor's Summit on Disabilities. The Family Café has always encouraged Floridians with disabilities and their families to develop relationships with their elected representatives and get involved in the policy-making process. The Governor's Summit on Disabilities creates a space to make that happen, with Governor Ron DeSantis, Senate President Bill Galvano, and state agency representatives sharing their vision for Floridians with disabilities, and hearing directly from attendees about their needs and concerns. We hope you take advantage of this opportunity!

When you're not in a session, enjoying a keynote, or taking part in the Governor's Summit, please take some time to visit the dozens of booths in our Exhibit Hall, which feature a wide array of organizations, including a host of self-advocate owned and operated Micro-Enterprises. We also encourage you to enjoy the adaptive recreation activities provided by our friends at the Florida Disabled Outdoors Association, visit the FFAST Assistive Technology Room, and view the great self-advocate performances throughout the weekend.

It's been our great pleasure and honor to create a truly unique space for people with disabilities and their families at The Annual Family Café for the past two decades, and we are excited to have you on hand as we celebrate our 21st birthday. We sincerely hope that your participation in The 21st Annual Family Café leaves you feeling informed, educated and empowered. As always, please let us know if there is anything we can do to serve you better!

Yours,  
The Family Café Planning Committee

June 7, 2019

Rick Scott  
Governor  
■■■  
Barbara Palmer  
Director  
■■■  
State Office  
■■■  
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 Annual Family Café Attendee:

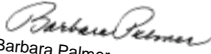
Welcome to the 21<sup>st</sup> Annual Family Café and Governor's Summit on Disabilities. On behalf of the Florida Agency for Persons with Disabilities, I encourage you to take advantage of the wonderful educational and networking opportunities provided at this conference.

Florida's Agency for Persons with Disabilities (APD) is committed to helping people with developmental disabilities live, learn, and work in their communities. The agency serves more than 55,000 people with spina bifida, autism, intellectual disabilities, cerebral palsy, Down syndrome, Phelan-McDermid syndrome, and Prader-Willi syndrome.

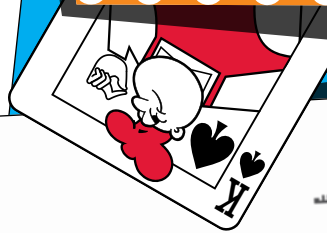
The Family Café offers people with disabilities and their families a welcoming environment to educate themselves about organizations and resources that are available in Florida. Families and organizations must work together to find solutions to meet the diversity of needs that each individual faces. APD has an online Resource Directory at [APDCares.org](http://APDCares.org) which may offer community solutions when government resources are not available. We welcome you to come by the APD booth while attending the conference for additional information.

Throughout this conference, you will have the chance to share your challenges, experiences, and solutions. There will be presenters, providers, exhibitors, and other family members that will have valuable information to benefit you, so make the most of the educational atmosphere at this conference. Again, I hope you enjoy your time here!

Sincerely,

  
Barbara Palmer  
Director

<http://apdcare.org>



April 17, 2019

Dear Frank, DWM Patient:

Delighted to have the Agency for Health Care Administration, welcome to the 21<sup>st</sup> Annual Family Café! The Agency's 2019-2020 K-0 will again serve as a partner to the 21<sup>st</sup> Annual Family Café, providing a wealth of opportunities for individuals with disabilities. You always look forward to participating in this day, all day long, and we hope to see you at the most successful Family Café to date!

As you make your way through the water, our staff will be available to offer information and guidance regarding the services and resources for individuals with disabilities and their families. I encourage everyone to take the opportunity to participate in our workshops and to stop by our booth to learn more about what our Agency can offer.

We hope to see you during the day and hope you have a wonderful time!

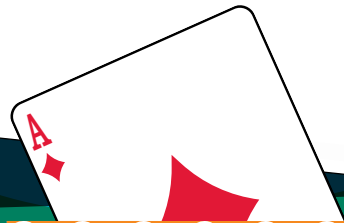
Sincerely,

  
Mary C. Mayhew  
Secretary

Florida Agency for Persons with Disabilities  
4030 Esplanade Way  
Tallahassee, FL 32399-0950



Florida Agency for Persons with Disabilities  
4030 Esplanade Way  
Tallahassee, FL 32399-0950







State Board of Education

Marva Johnson, Chair  
Andy Tuck, Vice Chair  
Members:  
Ben Gibson  
Tom Grady  
Michael Olenick  
Joe York

**FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION**  
fldoe.org

Richard Corcoran  
Commissioner of Education

June 6, 2019

Dear Conference Attendees:

Welcome to the 21<sup>st</sup> Family Café and Governor's Summit on Disabilities. At the Florida Department of Education, we are committed to working hand in hand with students, parents, teachers, educators and community members to improve Florida's education system for students of all backgrounds and abilities.

One of our main goals is to provide a high-quality education that results in each student being college, career and community ready. Currently, Florida serves nearly 24,000 pre-k children with special needs; 300,000 students with special needs in the K-12 education system; and more than 20,000 students with special needs in the Florida College System.

In addition, FDOE's Division of Career and Adult Education reports that over 8,000 adults with special needs participate in adult general education and postsecondary career and technical education programs, and over 100,000 students with special needs participate in secondary career and technical education programs.

Please enjoy the next three days and the opportunities to make new friendships and discover new information and resources. FDOE and discretionary project staff will be offering a wide variety of presentations and exhibit booths.

All of us at the Department look forward to many more years of partnerships and a lifetime of continued learning.

Sincerely,



Richard Corcoran

325 W. Gaines Street | Tallahassee, FL 32399-0400 | 850-245-0100  
www.fdoe.org



State Board of Education

Marva Johnson, Chair  
Andy Tuck, Vice Chair  
Members:  
Ben Gibson  
Tom Grady  
Michael Olenick  
Joe York

June 7, 2019

Dear Conference Attendees:

The Florida Division of Vocational Rehabilitation (VR) welcomes you to the 21<sup>st</sup> Annual Family Café Conference. This conference promises to be another wonderful opportunity for you to learn about the many services available from a wide range of providers and stakeholders for individuals with disabilities and their families.

VR is a federal/state program that works with individuals who have physical or mental disabilities to help them get or keep a job. VR is the state's employment agency for individuals with disabilities, and we are committed to helping them find meaningful careers.

If you are interested in employment, our staff will be making presentations throughout the conference about the different programs VR offers, including our Pre-Employment Transition Services, Supported Employment, and Ticket to Work through the Social Security Administration. We also have a booth where you can talk to a VR counselor and learn more about how VR can assist you with your employment goal.

I hope you enjoy the conference and take advantage of the information, activities and friendship available to you.

Sincerely,



Allison Flanagan, MEd, CRC

ALLISON FLANAGAN  
Director, Division of Vocational Rehabilitation  
2<sup>nd</sup> Floor • 4030 Eastman Way • Tallahassee, FL 32399-7016  
Toll Free: 1-800-451-4327 • 850-245-3399 • FAX: 850-245-3392 • www.rehabworks.org  
TTY users dial 711 • VP users connect via VRS



**Mission:**  
To protect, promote & improve the health of all people in Florida through integrated state, county & community efforts.



Ron DeSantis  
Governor

Vision: To be the Healthiest State in the Nation

June 7, 2019

Dear Family Café Participant:

Welcome to the 21<sup>st</sup> Annual Family Café Conference! On behalf of the Department of Health, I encourage you to take advantage of the learning and networking opportunities throughout the weekend.

The Department's mission is to protect, promote and improve the health of all people in Florida through integrated state, county and community efforts. Throughout the conference, the Department is offering workshops and exhibits with resources for you and your loved ones. This is a wonderful opportunity for us to hear your experiences and ideas as we work together to provide the most helpful services for you and your community.

The Family Café Conference brings together thousands of Floridians each year for collaboration, advocacy, friendship and empowerment. I am confident you will not only gain useful information, but also meet lifelong friends who will be of great support long after the conference concludes.

Safe travels and continued success in living your healthiest life.

Sincerely,

Cassandra G. Pasley, BSN, JD, Director  
Division of Children's Medical Services

Florida Department of Health  
Division of Children's Medical Services  
Bureau of Early Steps & Newborn Screening  
4052 Bell Cypress Way, Bin A-06 • Tallahassee, FL 32399-1701  
PHONE: 850/245-4291 • FAX: 850/922-5385  
FloridaHealth.gov



June 7, 2019

Dear Family Café Attendees,

Welcome to the 21<sup>st</sup> Annual Family Café! We are glad you are here and hope you and your fellow attendees take home valuable information and contacts that help you achieve your goals.

The CareerSource Florida network is proud of its partnership and continuing participation in this important event. Along with our state board of directors, our network includes the Florida Department of Economic Opportunity, 24 local workforce development boards and 100 career centers where job seekers and employers can go for recruiting, hiring and training assistance. Our professionals who specialize in assisting Floridians with disabilities are ready to help job seekers find meaningful work and employers connect with these talented individuals.

A diverse and inclusive workforce is essential to our state's increasing competitiveness. We all benefit when Floridians who want a job can get one and become more self-sufficient. If you are looking for employment or if you are an employer seeking to hire, please take advantage of the expertise and resources available at this conference or contact the CareerSource Florida center in your community for help with your employment and training needs.

Congratulations on this year's conference and best wishes for continued success!

Sincerely,

Michelle Dennard  
President and CEO



PO Box 13179 • Tallahassee, FL 32317  
O: (850) 692-6887 / F: (850) 304-0878  
careersourceflorida.com



Kevin Doyle  
Chairman

Michelle Dennard  
President & CEO



State of Florida  
Department of Children and Families

Ron DeSantis  
Governor

Chad Poppell  
Secretary

Dear Family Café attendees,

Welcome to the 21st Annual Family Café!

As the new Secretary for the Department of Children Families, I am excited to be a part of the Family Café. I know you have been instrumental in providing opportunities for individuals with disabilities, particularly in improving communication with families and loved ones, and providing support to challenges.

With a shared mission of protecting the vulnerable, we understand the need to provide assistance to the approximately 3.5 million Floridians with disabilities and their families. When we come together, we are stronger and can provide even greater, coordinated support for Florida's families.

I look forward to working together and wish you all the best this year.

Sincerely,

Chad Poppell  
Secretary



Wood Boulevard, Tallahassee, Florida 32399-0700

with Local Communities to Protect the Vulnerable, Promote Strong and Resilient Families, and Advance Personal and Family Recovery and Resiliency

**DIVISION OF EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT**

Dear Family Café Participants

Welcome to the 21st Annual Family Café. As the Director of the Florida Division of Emergency Management, I am honored to contribute to the work of the State.

At the Division, we are committed to making sure the state is prepared for all future events, including hurricanes, floods, wildfires, tornadoes and man-made threats such as terrorism and radiation from nuclear power plants. We make sure that Florida's emergency management is also focused on recovering from such disasters, including hurricanes, by providing training and equipment. Under the leadership of Governor DeSantis, we have put new procedures in place to make sure that the state is recovering as quickly as possible.

Hurricane Season takes place each year from June 1 - November 30. It is critical for you to have a plan in place in case disaster strikes. To make sure you have everything you need, visit FloridaPrep.org/GetPrep or to learn how to make a disaster plan and to learn about the supplies you need to have ready.

To assist Floridians with special needs, the Division works with many partners at the state and local level to make sure that every Floridian has access to resources in a disaster, including ways to receive information and a place to go for shelter. As part of this effort, the Division has a plan for reaching out to people with special needs in their homes during a disaster. This state-wide registry provides first responders with valuable information to prepare for hurricanes. To access the Florida Special Needs Registry and make sure you have all the resources you need in a disaster, please visit: FloridaPrep.org/snr

Florida has experienced the largest of four hurricanes over the past three years. As Hurricane Season has already started, now is the time to be prepared. It is important to participate in the Family Café this week. I urge you to take the time to get the information you need and if you have any questions, seek out information about emergency preparedness from the many trusted professionals.

Sincerely,

Joseph P. Felt  
Director

FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF CHILDREN AND FAMILIES  
1000 ...  
TALLAHASSEE, FLORIDA 32399-0700  
TEL: 904.201.2000  
WWW.MYFLFAMILIES.COM







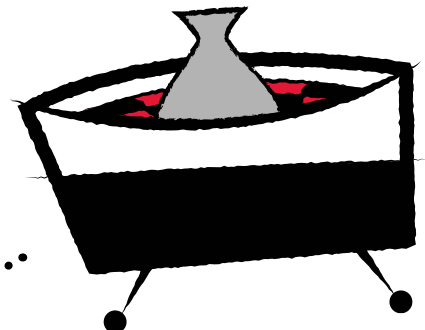
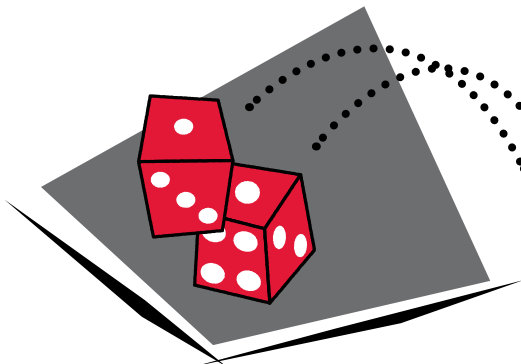
# The 21st Annual Family Café

## 2019 Sponsors

ABLE United  
CareerSource Florida, Inc.  
Disability Rights Florida  
Florida Agency for Health Care Administration  
Florida Agency for Persons with Disabilities  
Florida Alliance for Assistive Services and Technology (FAAST)  
Florida Department of Children and Families, Substance Abuse Mental Health Program  
Florida Department of Education  
Florida Department of Education/Division of Vocational Rehabilitation  
Florida Department of Health  
Volunteer Florida  
WellCare Health Plans, Inc. & Staywell, a WellCare Company

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

CareerSource Florida  
Disability Rights Florida  
The Family Café Board of Directors  
The Family Café Delegates  
Florida Alliance for Assistive Services and Technology (FAAST)  
Florida Department of Children and Families  
Florida Department of Economic Opportunity  
Florida Department of Education  
Florida Department of Education, Division of Vocational Rehabilitation  
Florida Department of Health  
Florida Disabled Outdoors Association  
Florida Youth Council  
MPower Consulting  
U.S. Military  
7-Dippity







# 2019 exhibitors

## **A&C Calzada LLC**

1650 Encanto Place #501  
Montrose, CO 81401  
(970) 318-0558  
crystalcalzadamedical@gmail.com

## **Ability Medical Supply**

1923 W Copans Road  
Pompano Beach, FL 33064  
(954) 572-7603  
mportal@abilitymedical.net  
www.abilitymedicalsupply.net

## **ABLE United**

2011 Delta Boulevard  
Tallahassee, FL 32303  
(850) 224-0174  
rachelf@themooreagency.com

## **Abram's Nation LLC**

4726 Highpoint Drive  
Gibsonia, PA 15044  
(724) 816-8282  
marketing@abramsnation.com  
www.abramsnation.com

## **Agency for Health Care Administration**

400 West Robinson Street, Suite S-309  
Orlando, FL 32801  
(407) 420-2508  
judy.jacobs@ahca.myflorida.com

## **Agency for Persons with Disabilities**

4030 Esplanade Way, Suite 380  
Tallahassee, FL 32399  
(850) 414-7551  
melanie.etters@apdcare.org  
www.apdcare.org

## **Ann's Angels Adaptive Waterski**

Foundation Inc.  
PO Box 1655  
Winter Haven, FL 33882  
(407) 342-6635  
annsangelsawf@gmail.com  
www.annsangelsawf.org

## **Arts4All Florida**

4202 East Fowle Avenue, EDU 105  
Tampa, FL 33620  
(813) 974-0715  
wfinklea@usf.edu  
www.arts4allflorida.org

## **Beach and Trail Mobility**

948 Beach Road  
Sarasota, FL 34242  
(888) 976-2525  
cjeter@trackedmobility.us  
www.trackedmobility.us

## **Beds by George**

1045 North Nappanee Street  
Elkhart, IN 46514  
(574) 333-2310  
mark@bedsbygeorge.com  
www.bedsbygeorge.com

## **Best Burn Enterprises**

85 Denison Parkway East #130  
Corning, NY 14830  
(607) 329-0010  
doug@d3day.com  
www.d3day.com

## **Best Buy Education**

7601 Penn Avenue South  
Richfield, MN 55347  
(651) 470-2695  
karla.stencil@bestbuy.com

## **Bird Dog Boats**

PO Box 100  
Wiliston, FL 32696  
(813) 507-5499  
thomas@birddogboats.com  
www.birddogboats.com

## **Bookshare/Benetech**

480 South California Avenue, Suite 201  
Palo Alto, CA 94306  
(650) 644-3459  
jeann@benetech.org  
www.bookshare.org

## **Brain Injury Association of Florida**

1637 Metropolitan Boulevard, Suite B  
Tallahassee, FL 32308  
(850) 410-0103  
operations@biaf.org  
www.biaf.org

## **Buddy Bike LLC**

2775 Sunny Isles Boulevard, Suite 118  
Miami Beach, FL 33160  
(786) 489-2453  
shelley@buddybike.com  
www.buddybike.com

## **Calmoseptine, Inc.**

16602 Burke Lane  
Huntington Beach, CA 92647  
(714) 840-3405  
kim@calmoseptine.com  
www.calmoseptine.com

## **CareerSource Florida**

PO Box 13179  
Tallahassee, FL 32317  
(850) 692-6887  
wdavis@careersourceflorida.com  
careersourceflorida.com

## **Central Florida K-9**

10810 Palmbay Drive  
Orlando, FL 32824  
(407) 926-8100  
melissa@centralfloridak9.com  
www.centralfloridak9.com

## **Custom Mobility**

7199 Bryan Dairy Road  
Largo, FL 33777  
(727) 539-8119  
pjo@custom-mobility.com  
www.custom-mobility.com

## **DentaQuest**

8300 Northwest 53rd Street, Suite 200  
Doral, FL 33166  
(941) 925-2906  
douglas.manning@dentaquest.com  
www.dentaquest.com

## **Disability Rights Florida**

2473 Care Drive, Suite 200  
Tallahassee, FL 32310  
(800) 342-0823  
paular@disabilityrightsflorida.org  
www.disabilityrightsflorida.org

## **Easterseals Florida Inc.**

2010 Crosby Way  
Winter Park, FL 32972  
(407) 629-4565  
jgentry@fl.easterseals.com  
www.easterseals.com/florida

## **Expo Enterprise Inc.**

3305 Spring Mountain Road, #80  
Las Vegas, NV 89102  
(702) 272-2666  
expo32832@yahoo.com

## **Family Care Council Florida**

4497 Golden Lake Drive  
Sarasota, FL 34233  
(941) 922-9647  
p\_lipps33@comcast.net  
www.fccflorida.org

## **Family Support Village**

1850 San Marco Road  
Marco Island, FL 34145  
stephanie@familysupportvillage.org  
www.familysupportvillage.org

## **FDLRS Administration Project**

3841 Reid Street  
Palatka, FL 32177  
(386) 312-2265  
paynes@nefec.org  
www.fdlrs.org

# exhibitors

## **Florida Center for Students with Unique Abilities**

PO Box 161250  
Orlando, FL 32816  
(407) 823-6115  
drew.andrews@ucf.edu  
www.fcsua.org

## **Florida Consortium on Higher Education**

4000 Central Florida Boulevard  
Ferrell Commons 7C Room 155  
Orlando, FL 32816  
(407) 823-1098  
ilisa.patterson@ucf.edu  
www.fcihe.com

## **Florida Department of Education - BEESS**

325 West Gaines Street  
Tallahassee, FL 32399  
(850) 245-0916  
aimee.kowalczyk@fldoe.org

## **Florida Department of Education Office of Independent Education & Parental Choice**

325 West Gaines Street, Suite 1044  
Tallahassee, FL 32399  
(850) 245-9266  
rashawn.williams@fldoe.org  
www.floridaschoolchoice.org

## **Florida Department of Health, Brain and Spinal Cord Injury Program**

4052 Bald Cypress Way, Bin C-25  
Tallahassee, FL 32399  
(850) 558-9508  
john.cherry@flhealth.gov  
www.floridahealth.gov/diseases-and-conditions/brain-and-spinal-cord-injuries/index.html

## **Florida Department of Health, Bureau of Chronic Disease Prevention**

4052 Bald Cypress Way, Bin A-18  
Tallahassee, FL 32399  
(850) 901-6620  
bryan.russell@flhealth.gov  
www.flhealth.gov

## **Florida Department of Health, Children's Medical Services, Early Steps Program**

4052 Bald Cypress Way, Bin A-06  
Tallahassee, FL 32399  
(850) 245-4670  
marcy.hajdukiewicz@flhealth.gov  
www.floridahealth.gov

## **Florida Department of Health, Division of Emergency Preparedness and Community Support, Bureau of Preparedness and Response**

4052 Bald Cypress Way A-23  
Tallahassee, FL 32399  
(850) 901-6865  
jennifer.moore@flhealth.gov  
www.floridahealth.gov

## **Florida Developmental Disabilities Council**

124 Marriott Drive, Suite 203  
Tallahassee, FL 32327  
(850) 488-4180  
kristenc@fddc.org  
www.fddc.org

## **Florida Disabled Outdoors Association**

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

## **Florida Division of Blind Services**

325 West Gaines Street, Suite 1114  
Tallahassee, FL 32399  
(850) 245-0358  
susan.morrison@dbs.fldoe.org

## **Florida Division of Vocational Rehabilitation**

3555 Maguire Boulevard, Suite 205  
Orlando, FL 32803  
(407) 897-2725  
nancy.pritchard@vr.fldoe.org  
www.rehabworks.org

## **Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission — Archery**

7325 Northeast 170th Avenue  
Silver Springs, FL 34488  
(352) 625-2804  
george.warthen@myfwc.com  
www.myfwc.com/hunting

## **Florida Inclusion Network**

4820 Kerry Forest Parkway, Suite B  
Tallahassee, FL 32308  
(850) 414-7593  
meverett@contactfin.com  
www.floridainclusionnetwork.com

## **Florida Justice Technology Center**

3122 Mahan Drive, Suite 802-202  
Tallahassee, FL 32308  
(904) 472-8219  
alison@floridajusticetechnologycenter.org  
floridajusticetechnologycenter.org

## **Florida KidCare**

1203 Governors Square Boulevard, Suite 400  
Tallahassee, FL 32301  
(850) 601-6168  
larae@healthykids.org  
www.floridakidcare.org

## **Florida Military Family Special Needs Network**

172 Northeast Twylite Terrace  
Port Saint Lucie, FL 34983  
(772) 342-7665  
mvbark@hotmail.com

## **Florida Self-Advocates Network'D (FLSAND)**

1532 Kingsley Avenue #112  
Orange Park, FL 32073  
(352) 224-0223  
tkgmunn@gmail.com  
www.flsand.org/www.fsacentral.org

## **Florida Telecommunications Relay, Inc. (FTRI)**

1820 East Park Avenue, Suite 101  
Tallahassee, FL 32301  
(850) 329-8227  
emoran@ftri.org  
www.ftri.org

## **Florida Youth Conservation Centers Network**

2574 Seagate Drive, Suite 100  
Tallahassee, FL 32301  
(850) 410-0656 x7336  
rae.waddell@myfwc.com  
www.myfwc.com/fishing

## **Gatorland**

14501 South Orange Blossom Trail  
Orlando, FL 32837  
(407) 856-3250  
juliebaross@gatorland.com  
www.gatorland.com

## **Grit Freedom Chair**

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(877) 345-4748  
tish@gogrit.us  
www.gogrit.us

## **Guardian Trust**

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Clearwater, FL 33756  
(727) 270-1185  
ashley@guardiantrusts.org  
www.guardiantrusts.org

## **Hawaiian Moon**

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(727) 709-1424  
hmaloeassist@gmail.com  
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## **INVO Behavior and Therapy Services**

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nmcgrath@invo-progressus.com  
www.invotherapies.com

## **Life Worth Leading/Handicapped SCUBA Association**

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Tallahassee, FL 32317  
(850) 321-8222  
gabrielle@gabrielleconsulting.com  
www.gabrielleconsulting.com

# exhibitors

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infomillenniump@yahoo.com  
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Winter Garden, FL 34787  
(727) 481-2444  
carmichael.stacy@gmail.com  
www.mindworkspsych.com

## **Mobility and Access, Inc.**

1003 International Drive  
Oakdale, PA 15071  
(412) 996-6769  
wfrank@mobilityaccess.com  
www.mobilityaccess.com

## **Mobility Works**

20354 North US Highway 27  
Clermont, FL 34715  
(484) 318-0951  
craigharlow@mobilityworks.com  
www.mobilityworks.com

## **New Horizons Service Dogs**

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Orange City, FL 32763  
(386) 456-0408  
events@nhsdi.org  
www.nhsdi.org

## **Noah's Ark Central Florida**

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natasha@noahsarkflorida.org  
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## **Northstar Financial Planners**

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allen@northstarplanners.com  
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## **NOVA Southeastern University College of Dental Medicine Special Needs Clinic**

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(954) 262-7378  
dnichols@nova.edu  
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## **Oceans of Hope Foundation**

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dpaltjon@aol.com  
www.oceansofhopefoundation.org

## **Orange County Supervisor of Elections**

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## **Parenting Special Needs Magazine**

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chantai@parentingspecialneeds.org  
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## **Professional Medical Fulfillment, Inc.**

PO Box 549  
Opelika, AL 36803  
(877) 516-4582  
jvanveen@choosepmf.com  
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## **Project 10: Transition Education Network**

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Saint Petersburg, FL 33701  
(423) 653-3581  
dphillips5@usfsp.edu  
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## **Pyramid, Inc.**

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bfuller@questman1.com  
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## **Qlarant, Inc.**

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(850) 671-5044  
johnsonch@qlarant.com  
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## **Quest, Inc.**

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(407) 218-4375  
mpannullo@questinc.org  
www.questinc.org

## **Rare Patient Voice**

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(863) 430-3733  
debi.crist@rarepatientvoice.com  
www.rarepatientvoice.com

## **Removing the Barriers Initiative**

2803 Club Circle  
Lake Wales, FL 33898  
(863) 632-1924  
bill@wildcreekadventures.com  
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## **RMTC-DHH, FIMC-VI, & FAVI**

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## **SEDNET/FLDOE BEES**

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Bassett, VA 24055  
(276) 627-0088  
adaniel@sleepsafebed.com  
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## **Social Security Administration**

5520 Gatlin Avenue, Suite 101  
Orlando, FL 32812  
(866) 964-0019  
blanca.taylor@ssa.gov  
www.ssa.gov

## **Special Needs Lawyers, P.A.**

901 Chestnut Street, Suite C  
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(727) 443-7898  
kimarie@specialneedslawyers.com  
www.specialneedslawyers.com

## **Special Olympics Florida**

1915 Don Wickham Drive  
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(352) 243-9536  
jennifermiller@sofl.org  
www.specialolympicsflorida.org

## **Springbrook Autism Behavioral Health**

1 Havenwood Lane  
Travelers Rest, SC 29690  
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admissions@springbrookbhs.com  
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## **Staywell Health Plans, Inc.**

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www.wellcare.com

## **Step Up for Students**

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slope@sufs.org  
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## **The Café TA Center**

820 East Park Avenue, Suite F-100  
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(850) 224-4670  
jcountryman@familycafe.net  
www.cafetacenter.net

## **The Columbus Organization/Support Associates of Tampa Bay, Inc.**

235 West Roosevelt Avenue, Suite 455  
Albany, GA 31701  
(229) 435-3212  
cbachman@columbus.org  
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## **The Family Café**

820 East Park Avenue, Suite F-100  
Tallahassee, FL 32301  
(850) 224-4670  
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www.familycafe.net

## **The Florida Youth Council**

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## **Therap Services**

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(386) 846-9688  
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## **Tiff's Place, Inc.**

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tiffs.place.cfl@gmail.com  
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## **Tranquility Incontinence Products**

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## **Unicorn Children's Foundation**

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anna.deluca@asgo.org  
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karlaskookies@bellsouth.net

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kierabrown01@gmail.com  
www.kieranicole.com

## **Lanno Sweet Shop**

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Orlando, FL 32811  
(407) 866-2578  
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www.lannosweetshop.com

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## **Melissa's Honeybee Meadow**

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## **National Down Syndrome Academy**

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## **The Chocolate Spectrum**

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## **The Pretzel Spot**

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## **Tom Halvorsen DBA - As Disabilities Challenges**

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Ocala, FL 34475  
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## **Zealous Women Inc.**

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Tallahassee, FL 32316  
(850) 590-2134  
zealouswomen2017@gmail.com



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

# Key for identifying "Tracked" Sessions



Sessions presented in Spanish, or with Spanish-speaking presenters, are printed in RED. *Sesiones que se presentan en español, o con el español que hablan los presentadores, están impresos en color ROJO.*

Sign language interpreters available at Silver Spring I on Convention Level, courtesy of the Florida Division of Vocational Rehabilitation.

Family changing rooms are located in Silver Spring II (Convention Level), and Rock Spring I (Lobby Level).

Wheelchair and scooter rental is available at Registration Desk, provided by The Florida Division of Vocational Rehabilitation.



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11:30 a.m. to 1:00

PLAZA INTERNATIONAL BALLROOM

## Changing The World For People With Disabilities



Judy Heumann

Judy Heumann is a major figure in disability rights history. She is a lifelong advocate for the rights of disabled people, an internationally recognized leader in the disability rights community, and a central figure in making the world more accessible and inclusive for individuals with disabilities.

Her life as a disability advocate began in Brooklyn, NY in 1949, when she contracted polio and began to experience discrimination, being told that she could not attend school because she was a "fire hazard." Judy determined that she, working in collaboration with other disabled people, had to play an increasing advocacy role as she and others experienced continuous discrimination because of their disabilities.

After graduating from Long Island University in 1969, Judy moved to California, where she received her Master's in Public Health from the University of California at Berkeley. She served as a founding member of the Berkeley Center for Independent Living, the first CIL in the United States, which helped to launch the Independent Living Movement in the US and around the World. In 1982, she cofounded the World Institute on Disability, a think tank run by disabled people focused on research to advance the Independent Living Movement, along with Ed Roberts and Joan Leon.

Over the course of her life, Judy has worked with disabled people's organizations and governments in the US and around the world to advance the human rights of disabled people. She has played a role in the development and implementation of major legislation, including the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA), Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act, the Americans with Disability Act (ADA), and the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities. Judy served as the Assistant Secretary for the Office of Special Education and Rehabilitative Services in the Department of Education during the Clinton administration. Judy has also served as the World Bank's first Advisor on Disability and Development, leading work to expand the Bank's knowledge and capability to work with governments and civil society on including disability in the global conversation. President Obama appointed Judy as the first Special Advisor for International Disability Rights at the U.S. Department of State, where she served from 2010-2017, and she was also Washington, DC's first Director for the Department on Disability Services.

She has received numerous awards, including being the first recipient of the Henry B. Betts Award in recognition of efforts to significantly improve the quality of life for people with disabilities, and the Max Starkloff Lifetime Achievement Award from the National Council on Independent Living. As a Senior Fellow at the Ford Foundation, she is currently working to help advance the inclusion of disability in the Foundation's work, and is leading a project to advance the inclusion of disabled people in the media.

Judy's goal in life is to continue to advance the rights and empowerment of ALL disabled people around the world. Please join us for this rare opportunity to hear directly from one of the people that truly changed the world for people with disabilities!

# Friday

- 8:00 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. Registration Open, *Registration Desk*  
10:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. Exhibit Hall Open, *Regency Ballroom*  
10:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. Tennis, Hoverball, and Archery, *Regency Ballroom*  
10:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. Accessible Obstacle Course, *Regency Ballroom*  
10:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. Employment Expo, *Regency Ballroom*  
10:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. Dental Screening, *Regency Ballroom*  
10:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. FAAST, Inc. Assistive Technology Room, *Regency Ballroom Q*  
10:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. The M.O.R.G.A.N. Project Sensory Room, *Orlando Ballroom L & M*  
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, *Plaza International Ballroom*  
12:00 p.m. to 1:00 p.m. Friends of Bill: AA Meeting ♿, *Rock Spring II*  
1:00 p.m. to 1:30 p.m. Pyramid Players, *Foyer*  
1:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. Registration Open, *Registration Desk*  
1:30 p.m. to 2:30 p.m. **CONCURRENT SESSIONS**  
1:30 p.m. to 3:30 p.m. Adapted Art Exploration, *Coral Spring*  
1:30 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. Early Steps, Early Wishes Playgroup, *Regency Ballroom P (English and Spanish)*  
2:30 p.m. to 3:00 p.m. Royal DJs, *Foyer*  
2:30 p.m. to 3:00 p.m. Pyramid Players, *Foyer*  
3:00 p.m. to 3:30 p.m. Wildlife Show by Gatorland, *Regency Ballroom*  
3:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. **CONCURRENT SESSIONS**  
4:00 p.m. to 4:30 p.m. Pyramid Players, *Foyer*  
4:00 p.m. to 4:30 p.m. Brazilian Voices, *Foyer*  
4:30 p.m. to 5:30 p.m. **CONCURRENT SESSIONS**  
5:30 p.m. to 5:45 p.m. Brazilian Voices, *Foyer*  
6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. The 21st Annual Governor's Summit on Disabilities, *Plaza International Ballroom*

## Accessible Obstacle Course

Friday, June 7

10:00-6:00

Regency Ballroom

The Accessible Obstacle Course is designed for any person who uses a wheelchair, or even for those who don't, to try and maneuver around obstacles like those they might encounter as part of the daily life of an individual with access and functional needs. This activity is designed for all age groups.

Linda Carter  
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Lehigh Acres, FL 33971  
(239) 826-8696  
mslindacarter@gmail.com

Mary Carter  
No Person Left Behind  
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(239) 826-8696  
marycarter@comcast.net

## The M.O.R.G.A.N. Project Sensory Room

Friday, June 7

10:00-6:00

Closed for lunch from 1:00-2:00

Orlando Ballroom L & M

Join us for an indoor sensory wonderland that is 100% wireless, wheelchair-accessible, and created just for children with physical disabilities and sensory processing issues. Brought to you by The M.O.R.G.A.N. Project, this one-of-a-kind experience based on Snoezelen principals will help you learn how the multi-sensory environment can benefit a child with physical disabilities, autism, or other sensory processing disorders. Stop by for an opportunity for your children to decompress. (Parents are required to remain with children at all times.)

Tonya Bloodgood, Director of Fun

Morgan's Place

4241 North Highway 1

Melbourne, FL 32935

(321) 506-2707

info@themorganproject.org

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, Plaza International Ballroom

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

Friends of Bill: AA Meeting , Rock Spring II

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

Pyramid Players, Foyer



### Early Steps, Early Wishes

Friday, June 15

1:30-4:00

Regency Ballroom P

The Florida Department of Health, Children's Medical Services, Early Steps Program invites families of infants and toddlers to attend a family-fun playgroup offering activities that include family photos, face-painting, puppet shows, adaptive books and toys, story time, and free play. During this event, families will be able to network with other families and interact with Family Resource Specialists and State Office staff. Children must be accompanied by an adult during the event.

Kelly Rogers

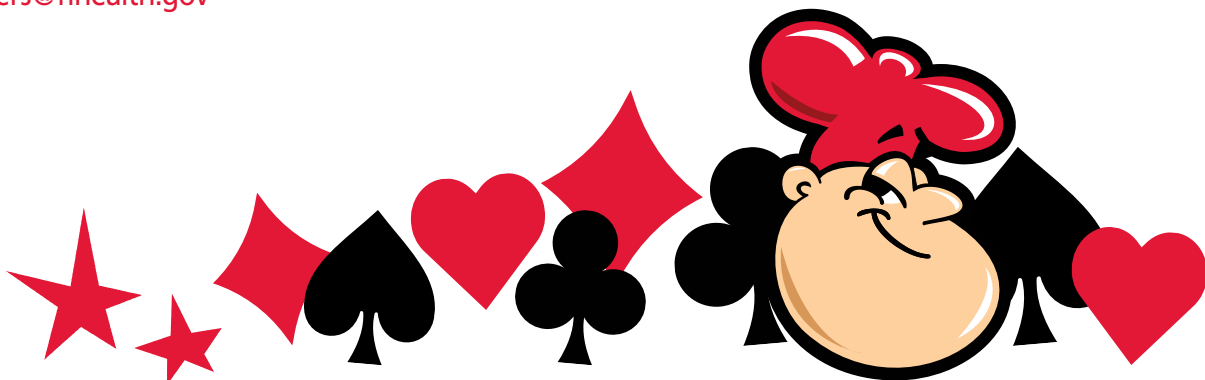
Florida Department of Health, Early Steps Program

4052 Bald Cypress Way, Bin A06

Tallahassee, FL 32399

(850) 901-6343

kelly.rogers@flhealth.gov





## Adapted Art Exploration

Friday, June 7

1:30-3:30

Coral Spring

The arts provide a wonderful way for children with disabilities to express themselves. This session will be free-exploration time for you and your child to try out adapted tools and materials. Our Arts4All Florida staff will be here to help you and answer questions. Some items that will be available to try will be iPad music making apps, Makey Makey, Quick Draw paper, raised line drawing boards, larger sized and adapted crayons, brushes, instruments, and more! All participants will leave with a resource list to continue the art making at home.

Jennifer Sabow  
Arts4All Florida (formerly VSA Florida)  
4202 East Fowler Avenue, EDU 105  
Tampa, FL 33620  
(813) 974-0766  
Jsabo@usf.edu

Dee Miller  
Arts4All Florida  
4202 East Fowler Avenue  
EDU 105  
Tampa, FL 33620

Michelle Ramirez  
Arts4All Florida  
4202 East Fowler Avenue  
EDU 105  
Tampa, FL 33620

## 1:30 p.m. to 2:30 p.m. CONCURRENT SESSIONS



### **Tactile/Hands-On Disaster Preparedness Evacuation Planning and Kit Building for Persons with Access and Functional Needs on a Low Budget, Through Recycling and Free Items**

Friday, June 7

1:30-2:30

Celebration 1

We will cover how to build an evacuation disaster kit through the use of hands-on materials and how to plan for disasters year round. We will teach you how to think outside of the box, to use recycling and free items you already have in your house in your disaster evacuation kit. In this session, you will learn how to reuse items you have that are lost, forgotten, and abandoned within your house. You will also learn how to use items you can get for free to add to your disaster evacuation kit. Finally, learn how to plan for a disaster in the event you have to evacuate, or if you have to shelter in place. We will cover what to do before a storm, during a storm, and how to survive after the storm for three days using a power generator, solar, trash cans, and a washing machine.

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marycarter@comcast.net



## **What Are Some Disability Services Available in the Sunshine State That You May Not Be Aware of, and How Can They Benefit You and Your Family?**

Friday, June 7

1:30-2:30

Celebration 2

Floridians with disabilities are often unaware of services available to them free of charge from state agencies and private nonprofit organizations. This panel presentation will highlight services for persons with impaired vision, hearing loss, other physical disabilities, and mental processing challenges. Agency representatives and clients with experience navigating disability services and with community advocacy backgrounds will offer real-world advice and applications. Questions from the audience will be addressed, with Spanish language interpretation available. Following the presentation, eligible persons may apply for services. This is your chance to hear from our experienced and informed presenters.

Katherine Searle-Acevedo  
Florida Regional Braille and Talking Books Library  
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Daytona Beach, FL 32114  
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Jeff Whitehead, M.P.A., M.S.  
Florida Division of Blind Services (DOE)  
408 White Street  
Daytona Beach, FL 32114  
(386) 254-3838 or (800) 741-3826  
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Sheila Young  
Greater Orlando Council of the Blind  
2304 Amherst Avenue  
Orlando, FL 32804  
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sheilayoung125@att.net

Marilyn Baldwin, B.S.  
City of Orlando (Retired)  
8427 Lainie Lane  
Orlando, FL 32818  
(407) 293-0565  
commmdb@aol.com

Wendy Wilson  
National Federation of the Blind  
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DeLand, FL 32721  
(386) 848-1747  
lionheart815@cfl.rr.com

Doug Hall, M.Ed. Nancy  
Division of Blind Services  
1405 Edgewater Road  
Daytona Beach, FL  
(386) 255-0377  
dhall318@cfl.rr.com

Burgess-Hall, M.A.  
Volusia County Schools  
1405 Edgewater Road  
32114 Daytona Beach, FL 32114  
(386) 255-0377  
ndbh16@gmail.com

## **Zero Tolerance: Breaking Down the Wall of Silence**

Friday, June 7

1:30-2:30

Celebration 4

The Zero Tolerance Initiative represents an aggressive multi-pronged approach to dealing with the problem of abuse, neglect, and exploitation committed against individuals with developmental disabilities; using national research to determine ways to improve the initiative, training, monitoring and quality assurance activities, as well as propose changes to operating procedures and processes within the agency. Individuals with developmental disabilities are at a higher risk of being victims of abuse, neglect, and/or exploitation. Awareness and understanding are key in helping to develop and implement preventative measures to protect the health, safety, and wellbeing of these very vulnerable individuals. This presentation will provide an overview of the Agency for Persons with Disabilities' Zero Tolerance Initiative to End Abuse, Neglect, and Exploitation against individuals living with disabilities.

Cassandra Jenkins  
Agency for Persons with Disabilities  
4030 Esplanade Way, Suite 380  
Tallahassee, FL 32399  
cassandra.jenkins@apdcares.org

## **True Colors: Discovering Your Child's Personality Style**

Friday, June 7

1:30-2:30

Celebration 5

Knowing your True Colors, and how to discover the True Colors of your family, helps us to recognize differences and similarities in communication styles, behaviors, and preferences. True Colors uses the colors of gold, green, blue, and orange to represent the personality characteristics of each of us. This fun and interactive workshop includes individual and group activities that are designed to create an atmosphere of learning and sharing. This is an especially useful model to use in the difficult job of parenting! This workshop is designed to improve communication between parent and child as well as communication between siblings.

Sandra Hoenigman  
FDLRS  
7227 Land O' Lakes Boulevard  
Land O' Lakes, FL 34638  
(813) 794-2618  
shoenigm@pasco.k12.fl.us

Marty Massimo  
FDLRS  
2929 County Road 193  
Clearwater, FL 33759  
(727) 793-2723  
massimom@pcsb.org



## **Council for Educational Excellence: A Model Partnership Between MacDill Air Force Base and Hillsborough County Public Schools**

Friday, June 7

1:30-2:30

Celebration 6

This session will provide information about the MacDill Council for Education Excellence (MCEE). The partnership provides an avenue for Hillsborough County Public Schools and MacDill AFB Wing Leadership to engage in frank conversations about the status of education for military-connected students. Quarterly meetings of the MCEE focus on problem-solving and supporting the unique needs of military-connected students and their families. Notable successes include altered school choice policies, extended application and acceptance into International Baccalaureate programs, an expedited process for Individual Education Programs, acceptance of gifted designation from other states, continuity of services, and grade point average (GPA) re-assessments for transferring students.

Ms. Nelly Richards  
Florida State Education Compact Council Member  
MacDill Air Force Base  
Tampa, FL 33621  
(818) 828-0146

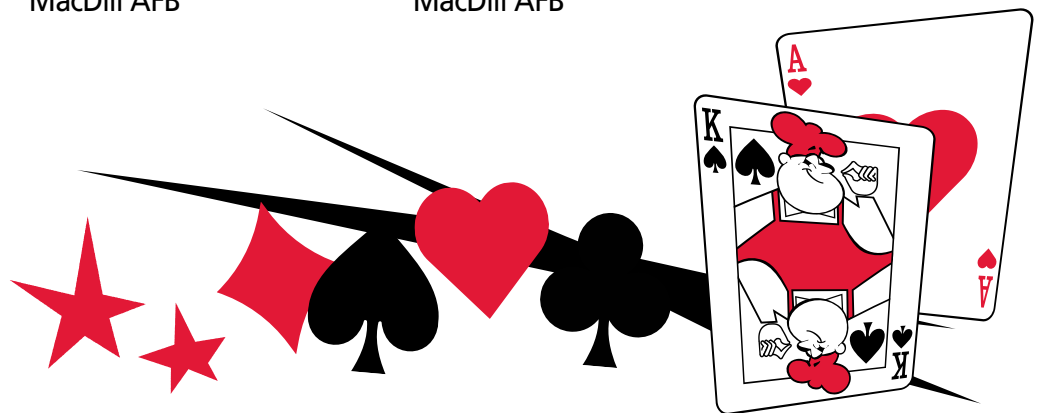
Mrs. Van Ayres  
Hillsborough County Public Schools

Ms. Kim Sukach  
Hillsborough County Public Schools

Dr. Dora Mays  
MacDill AFB

Ms. Brenda Ricker  
MacDill AFB

Ms. Venetia Waters  
MacDill AFB



## **The Third Wheel in Marriage**

Friday, June 7

1:30-2:30

Celebration 8

Most people marry vowing to love in sickness or health, better or worse, rarely expecting to test that vow through disability joining the family. Rarely do we consider how disability impacts our marriages. Disability (in a child, sibling, or spouse) often becomes the largely ignored third wheel in marriage. Learn to identify ways this third wheel impacts your marriage and gain practical tips to recharge your marriage and family. Attendees will learn: 1) Why it is important to prioritize their marriage; 2) How to prioritize marriage; 3) Simple tips to refresh marriage even when disability is the third wheel.

Joan Borton  
Unleashed Potential  
2752 Canyon Crest Drive  
Lakeland, FL 33811  
(215) 380-2485  
jjborton@gmail.com

Jerry Borton  
Unleashed Potential  
2752 Canyon Crest Drive  
Lakeland, FL 33811  
(215) 570-2679  
jjborton@gmail.com

## **Peers as Partners in Learning**

Friday, June 7

1:30-2:30

Celebration 9

Learn about the power of peer supports! This session will provide an overview of Florida's Peers as Partners in Learning course for high schools, and the supporting curriculum developed by the Florida Inclusion Network (FIN) with input from many stakeholders. Come hear about this program from multiple perspectives, including video clips from administrators, teachers, and students. Take part in a short lesson that high school peer support students can experience through this program!

JaSheena Ekhatior  
Florida Inclusion Network  
4820-B Kerry Forest Pkwy  
Tallahassee, FL 32309  
(850) 414-7593  
jekhatior@contactfin.com

Kelly Claude  
Florida Inclusion Network  
4820-B Kerry Forest Pkwy  
Tallahassee, FL 32309  
(850) 414-7593  
kclaude@contactfin.com

## **Life in the World of Rare Disease**

Friday, June 7

1:30-2:30

Celebration 11

Do you or your family member have a rare disease? This is the session for you. We will be discussing finding resources for rare disease, educating doctors, and being an advocate. We will also be discussing how to cope with the emotions involved with rare disease.

Sara Holloway  
573 Oakleaf Plantation Parkway  
Orange Park, FL 32065  
(904) 327-7970  
sarabeth.holloway@gmail.com



### **Where Mental Illness and Finances Intersect**

Friday, June 7  
1:30-2:30  
Celebration 12

When your adult son or daughter is diagnosed with a serious mental illness or any serious disability, everything changes. Suddenly all your financial planning is thrown into turmoil as your focus turns from your needs to the immediate and long-term needs of your child. The costs of diagnosis and treatments can derail your financial plan unless you develop a financial strategy that provides for your child's future, while safeguarding your own. Allen Giese, author of "When Mental Illness Strikes," has been where you are, and in this practical, compassionate talk, he offers invaluable advice, solutions, resources, and hope.

Allen Giese, CLU, CHFC  
Northstar Financial Planners  
1250 South Pine Island Road, #275  
Plantation, FL 33324  
(954) 693-0030  
allen@northstarplanners.com



### **So You Think You Want To Run A Self-Advocacy Group (Trials, Triumphs, and Tips)**

Friday, June 7  
1:30-2:30  
Celebration 13

Various leaders of the grassroots self-advocacy organizations throughout Florida discuss the ins and outs of starting and running a self-advocacy organization. Get tips and valuable insights from these local leaders that have come together to form a statewide, nonprofit, self-advocacy organization!

Amanda Baker  
Florida Self Advocates Network'D  
1542 Kingsley Avenue, Suite 136  
Orange Park, FL 32076  
(850) 691-7872  
amandajoebaker@gmail.com





## **Florida Statewide Quality Assurance Program — Offering Quality Improvement Strategies Designed to Promote a Person-Directed Service-Delivery System**

Friday, June 7  
1:30-2:30  
Celebration 14

This presentation will provide information on the Florida Statewide Quality Assurance Program. This is a joint presentation from Qlarant (formerly known as Delmarva Foundation) and the Agency for Persons with Disabilities (APD). Self-advocates, family members, and providers who attend this session will learn about the role of a Qlarant Quality Assurance Reviewer and how Person Centered Reviews (PCRs) and Provider Discovery Reviews (PDRs) assess the quality of services & supports to waiver recipients. APD will provide information on the “next steps” after a PDR or PCR has been completed. This process drives the remediation efforts to ensure providers are compliant with requirements and fosters continuous improvement.

Theresa Skidmore  
Qlarant  
2039 Centre Pointe Boulevard  
Tallahassee, FL 32308  
(850) 671-5044  
skidmot@qlarant.com

Edwin DeBardeleben  
Agency for Persons with Disabilities  
4030 Esplande Way  
Tallahassee, FL 32399  
(850) 414-9273  
edwin.debardeleben@apdcares.org

## **Going to College and Excelling as a Student with a Disability**

Friday, June 7  
1:30-2:30  
Celebration 15

Selecting a university, with or without a disability, is one of the most significant decisions that a young person will make. To help with this decision-making process attendees will learn how to become “otherwise qualified” to attend and to thrive in a college environment. Specifically, we will examine what types of challenges a person with a disability might encounter with regards to their university experience: housing, independent living, academic accommodations, experiential learning, and student life challenges. We will also highlight how some current students at Florida State University (FSU) are excelling and overcoming architectural, programmatic, communication, and attitudinal barriers within a preeminent institution.

JR Harding, Ed.D  
Florida State University  
821 Academic Way, College of Business Room 414  
Tallahassee, FL 32304  
(850) 510-4628  
jharding@fsu.edu

## **ABA Therapy**

Friday, June 7  
1:30-2:30  
Celebration 16

If you are considering Applied Behavior Analysis (ABA) therapy for your child, have mixed thoughts about ABA, or want to learn about positive behavior change interventions, then this is a presentation for you! The presenter will provide brief overviews of the history of ABA, explain what behavior therapists do, teach you how to see through the eyes of a Behavior Analyst, and what to expect if your child begins ABA therapy services.

Melissa Giblin  
7302 Sunshine Circle  
Tampa, FL 33634  
(772) 634-5265  
melissa.giblin.fl@gmail.com



## **Advocacy 102**

Friday, June 7  
1:30-2:30  
Bayhill 17

In most advocacy training courses and sessions, I am certain that they teach the basics. I believe that there is more to learn beyond this basic knowledge. Using these fundamental points, I will expand and go further in depth on these points. Even going step by step on some of the very tools that advocates use. Also discussed will be defining the very lingo and terms that advocates use daily. I want to be able to go past glancing and expand on the tools and skills necessary. I truly think that knowing these skills and terms can improve an advocate and make them more effective for change.

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9204 Dayflower Drive  
Tampa, FL 33647  
(813) 407-2880  
ryanneodt@aol.com

Tammy Turner  
9204 Dayflower Drive  
Tampa, FL 33647  
(813) 298-8012  
tammyvturner@aol.com

## **Divorce Law and Autism**

Friday, June 7  
1:30-2:30  
Bayhill 18

When the parents of a child with autism divorce, autism in the child and one or more of the parents involved can significantly impact many of the decisions made concerning separation, divorce, custody, and child support. A parent's responsibility to support an autistic child may extend beyond the age of 18. This presentation will discuss how courts often focus on parental capacity and the impact of that capacity on the parent's ability to take advantage of available services for their child.

Roberto Cruz  
Cruz Law, PLLC  
5401 South Kirkman Road  
Orlando, FL 32819  
(407) 712-0348  
robertocruz@cruzlaw.org



## **Why We Use: Parenting During Addiction**

Friday, June 7  
1:30-2:30  
Bayhill 19

We often hear stories surrounding the negative effects of parental substance abuse on children. These stories are often followed by questions such as "How could they be more concerned with using drugs than their own children?" Parents with addictions often feel guilt, shame, and insecurity of their fitness to parent. So, why do they continue to use? This presentation will delve into the factors of addiction, its effect on parenting, and the often-unaddressed perspective of those who parent during active addiction. The audience will gain a deeper understanding of the parent's perspective, hear communication techniques that will open the lines of communication, and empower those with substance use disorders, and distinguish common myths from facts.

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Florida Department of Children and Families  
705 West 15th Street  
Panama City, FL 32401  
(850) 814-1481  
renata.chambers@myflfamilies.com

NaKeisha Phillips, MS, CAP  
Florida Department of Children and Families  
117 South Waukesha Street  
Bonifay, FL 32425  
(850) 688-5339  
Phillips.NaKeisha@myflfamilies.com

## **"It's Not Personal, It's Autism!" My Personal Advocacy Journey**

Friday, June 7

1:30-2:30

Bayhill 20

Nothing can prepare you for being a parent of a child with a disability. The paperwork, the doctors' appointments, the meetings, the medications, the schools, the teachers, the therapists . . . it can make you feel like you have lost control of your life! If you are tired of feeling helpless and are looking for effective ways to regain control of your life, learn from this story. From living as a single mom of twins with autism on food stamps in HUD housing to Executive Director of the Autism Society of Florida, Jill Morrison shares her journey using humor, personal stories, and effective practical techniques she developed on a shoestring budget. This session will provide techniques and resources to help at IEP meetings, at school, and at home. These tools, tips, and techniques represent seventeen years of Jill's personal successes and failures in all these areas, and can help parents regardless of their child's diagnosis. These simple, inexpensive, real-life solutions will help improve communication, reduce stress, and help you train your child to become a stronger self-advocate. It doesn't matter where you come from, what your income level is, or how much education you have: all you need is the desire to do the best you can for your child.

Jill Singer Morrison  
Autism Society of Florida  
435 Elkwood Lane  
Orlando, FL 32825  
(407) 256-4212  
jill.morrison@autismfl.com



## **Your Dependent With Special Needs: Making Their Future More Secure**

Friday, June 7

1:30-2:30

Bayhill 21

Families with children and other dependents with special needs, no matter what the age or disability, face many serious questions about how to best prepare for their future well-being. This workshop addresses such critical issues as protecting government benefit eligibility for Supplemental Security Income (SSI) and Medicaid, creating Special Needs Trusts, the importance of a Will, Guardianship, Financial Strategies, and considering a Letter of Intent. The workshop will also address ABLE Accounts, which are tax-advantaged savings accounts for qualified individuals with disabilities and their families. Taking steps now can help arrange for a loved one's well-being today and tomorrow.

Douglas A. Vogel  
MassMutual Special Care  
370 West Camino Gardens Boulevard, Suite 305  
Boca Raton, FL 33432  
(561) 757-6767  
dvoegel@financialguide.com



## **Physical Fitness and Activity in Children – Aptitud Física Y Actividad en Los Niños**

Friday, June 7

1:30-2:30

Bayhill 22

My child has a disability, how much should exercise they do? Evidence indicates that children with disabilities do not meet the recommended amount of physical activity per day. The presenter will share published medical information and examples of activities for children and adolescents with disabilities.

Martha H. Boyer  
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mhb79@miami.edi



## **AHH Network**

Friday, June 7

1:30-2:30

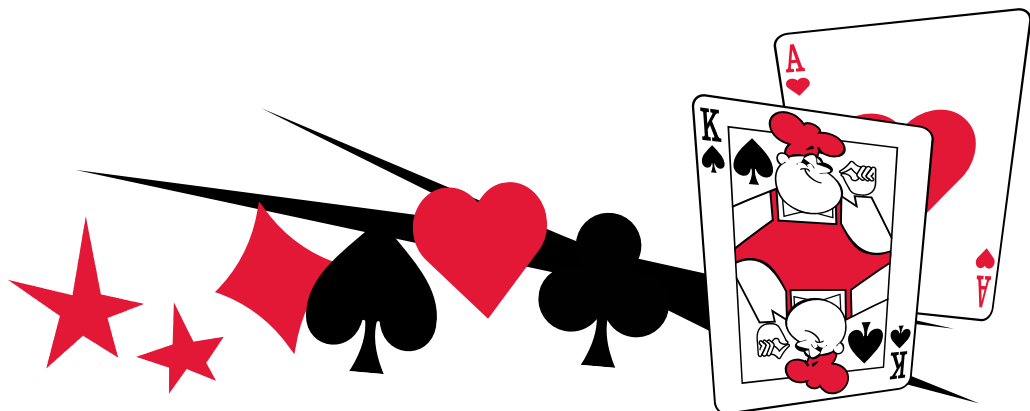
Bayhill 24

Anointed Hands Home (AHH) Network would like to present a refreshing and innovative perspective on Supportive Employment for young adults with developmental and intellectual disabilities. AHH Network's goal aims to make finding and securing employment an enjoyable and exciting experience. We have an Activities Department fully dedicated to making this possible by presenting discovery and skills training in a way that is tailored to the interests of the individual. The focus is to help discover barriers and find practical solutions. The approach we use is very motivating as the experience is fun and engaging for our consumers.

It is AHH's Mission to Help, Mentor, Guide, Teach, and Inspire developmentally challenged youth into a world of possibilities by preparing them for the independence that most are seeking. We have an experienced and well-trained Employment Support Team who use customized skill discovery to aid these individuals in the search for employment. We believe that we can accomplish our mission by being a sustainable source of positive support, helping to instill confidence and self-sufficiency. AHH Network looks to gain partnerships with major employers such as: Disney, IKEA, Hotel/Motels, and Retail/Grocery store chains to help us execute our plan of uncovering areas of career exploration, job training, relationship building, budgeting, and self-discovery for whom we serve.

AHH Network was founded upon the basic principle that the best way to help people is to make it possible for them to help themselves.

Lynette Teasley  
AHH Network  
9332 Daney Street  
Gotha, FL 34734  
(216) 551-2854







### **LIFE: Being an Active Part of the Community!**

Friday, June 7

1:30-2:30

Bayhill 25

Self-determination is the right to live, work, play, retire, and die in the community of our choice with dignity. Shortly after Congress passed the ADA in 1989, I learned about the principles of the self-determination movement. I live my life by these five principals and want to teach others to live by this same philosophy. It allows me to live an independent life, in my own house, as a self-employed individual.

Ellen Perry

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### **IEPs for Dads**

Friday, June 7

1:30-2:30

Bayhill 26

Welcome to IEPs for Dads. This workshop will demystify the Individualized Education Plan process for fathers to easily understand, enabling them to become active participants. I am a father of two sons, one with a disability, and was a stay at home dad after my youngest became sick at six months. I navigated hospitals, pediatricians, the early intervention program and the public school system successfully. I was responsible for the IEP and did all the meetings until my son was old enough to make his own decisions.

Wilbur Hawke

South Florida Parent Center

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Naples, FL 34116

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wilburhawke@embarqmail.com

### **CBD and the Web Spun by Charlotte**

Friday, June 7

1:30-2:30

Bayhill 27

The CNN documentary "Weed" sparked worldwide interest in the use of marijuana for seizures. It told the story of a young girl in Colorado with Dravet Syndrome suffering with up to 300 seizures a week. She had a miraculous response to a form of medical marijuana that was high in cannabidiol (CBD) and low in Tetrahydrocannabinol (THC). People long suffering with epilepsy and/or family members watched this on TV and wanted this miracle. But it was not legal in all states and still illegal federally. This sparked families to move to states where medical marijuana was legal; others sought to change state laws, and they did.

Doctors were not comfortable using a drug that had not been studied. There were some pharmaceutical companies involved in studying CBD, but people weren't willing to wait for the rigorous process it takes for a drug to come to market. There was much chatter over the internet and people began to order it online or get it at a local dispensary if it was legal in their state.

Currently there are at least 2 pharmaceutical companies studying CBD in epilepsy and Greenwich Pharma has a product on the market, Epidiolex, approved for treating seizures associated with Dravet Syndrome and Lennox-Gastaut syndrome.

This talk will briefly describe the history of medical marijuana and state laws. It will look at some of the issues surrounding obtaining marijuana at a dispensary or online. It will explain the composition of the plant and how it affects seizures. It will also talk about what has been learned from the clinical trials and what is next.

Patricia M. Dean APRN, MSN, CCRN  
Epilepsy Program Specialist

Nicklaus Children's Hospital  
Board Chair, Epilepsy Florida

### **Social Security Presents: What You Need To Know About Your Supplemental Security Income (SSI) When You Turn 18**

Friday, June 7  
1:30-2:30  
Bayhill 28

Your SSI could change when you turn 18 as you prepare to transition to higher education and employment. Social Security has supports to help you prepare for a successful transition to adulthood.

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Jacksonville, FL 32256  
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Blanca Taylor  
Social Security Administration  
5520 Gatlin Avenue  
Orlando, FL 32812  
(866) 964-0019 x 15522  
Blanca.Taylor@ssa.gov

### **Extended School Year: The Who, What, and When of ESY**

Friday, June 7  
1:30-2:30  
Bayhill 29

This presentation will focus on educating parents on their student's right to education beyond the regular school day/year. Topics will include how to determine whether a student is eligible for ESY services, and if so, how to determine the amount and duration of services the student requires. This presentation will equip attendees with the basic knowledge necessary to handle discussions with school staff related to the provision of ESY services.

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natelya@disabilityrightsflorida.org

Megan Collins  
Disability Rights Florida  
Times Building, Suite 640, 1000 North Ashley Drive  
Tampa, FL 33602  
(850) 488-9071  
meganc@disabilityrightsflorida.org

## **Supportive Positive Behavior Strategies During Reading Practice**

Friday, June 7

1:30-2:30

Bayhill 30

Children who struggle with reading have difficulty understanding what they read, while children who struggle with behavior have difficulty accepting support or instruction. When children do not understand what they read and struggle to modify their behavior, it becomes challenging for them to embrace reading and learning. In this session, parents engage in hands-on activities to gain practical knowledge about positive behavior strategies according to principles of Applied Behavior Analysis and meaningful strategies that proficient readers use, based on *7 Keys to Comprehension: How to Help your Kids Read it And Get It* by Susan Zimmerman.

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Florida Diagnostic and Learning Resources System (FDLRS)  
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## **Be the Change You Want to See in Florida: Come Learn about the Florida Family Leader Network**

Friday, June 7

1:30-2:30

Bayhill 31

Join us to learn about (or become part of!) the Florida Family Leader Network (FFLN). The FFLN is comprised of caregivers/youth self-advocates who use knowledge and skills gained through their personal experiences to help others navigate and advocate within systems serving CYSHCN (children/youth with high health/disability needs). FFLN members come from across the state, from community agencies, hospitals, and clinical settings. They are in paid and volunteer positions and bound by a passion for the work they do serving families. Current members will share about the Network's family leadership activities and skill building opportunities as well as how to connect with us.

Angela Miney  
University of Florida Pediatric Pulmonary Center  
Archer Road  
Gainesville, FL 32610  
(352) 273-8508  
aminey@peds.ufl.edu



## **Not Talking Yet? Using AAC to Facilitate Communication**

Friday, June 7

1:30-2:30

Rainbow Spring I

We will present the concept of AAC and how it can help parents establish meaningful dialogue with their children. From the basics to the most sophisticated, it is possible to utilize the family dynamics and optimize communication for everyone. Learning to navigate the AAC world can be both confusing and overwhelming. We want to help ease those fears and set sights for forward progress, because everyone has the right to speak and be heard.

Heather Osteen  
Wakulla County School Board  
PO Box 100 kim.Galant@Saltillo.com  
Crawfordville, FL 32327  
(850) 926-0065  
heather.osteen@wcsb.us

Dr. Kim Galant, SLP  
Saltillo Corporation

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



### **Gatorland Wildlife Show/Active Leisure for Life!**

Friday, June 7  
3:00-3:30  
Regency Ballroom

Be introduced to Florida's most famous resident and watch as the excitement builds when an American alligator enters the room! You will meet an entertaining Gator Wrangler from GATORLAND who will share stories of close encounters with some of the world's most feared predators. Then get ready for your own up-close encounter with an American alligator! Learn about wildlife native to Florida. Meet the reptiles, mammals, and birds up close and in person that you don't see every day!

## **3:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. CONCURRENT SESSIONS**



### **On Demand Advocacy: One Person's Experience After Hurricane Irma**

Friday, June 7  
3:00-4:00  
Celebration 1

This presentation will enhance your advocacy skills when dealing with hurricanes and having a disability. Imagine what it's like for a disabled widow and her young child during a hurricane advisory. What options are available? Do we shelter-in-place? Evacuate? Do we have enough food and water? Participants will receive a checklist to assist with these difficult decisions and more. What do you do after a hurricane? Learn how to navigate the various aspects of recovery benefits and supports. This presentation will prepare you for the next Hurricane Michael.

Christinne Rudd  
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Ocoee, FL 34761  
(407) 697-1297  
c\_rudd\_rep@yahoo.com

### **Search for Resources**

Friday, June 7  
3:00-4:00  
Celebration 3

The Agency for Persons with Disabilities has created two web-based tools to assist individuals with developmental disabilities and their families. The Community Resource Directory connects individuals with disabilities to available resources and organizations, as well as events in their respective areas. Additionally, the agency has launched the Florida Navigator, a tool designed to inform users on state government programs available in Florida. This tool provides a simplified path of information where users may tailor the results to their specific needs.

Stephanie Rogers  
Agency for Persons with Disabilities  
4030 Esplanade Way, Suite 380  
Tallahassee, FL 32399



## **STOP Your Hiring Frustrations! CDC+ Employee Background Screening Education and Helpful Tips**

Friday, June 7

3:00-4:00

Celebration 4

One of the many benefits of CDC+ is the ability recruit your own employees. Although this is an empowering action, it comes with responsibility that can seem overwhelming at times. However, the process isn't as difficult as it may seem! This session is for potential and current CDC+ participants and is designed to help you learn about and navigate through the background screening clearinghouse system with ease. We will discuss the registration process, how to complete screenings, how to add employees, and address questions related to the clearinghouse.

Mindy Whitehead

Agency for Persons with Disabilities

4030 Esplanade Way, Suite 380

Tallahassee, FL 32399

## **The Perfectly Unbalanced Life**

Friday, June 7

3:00-4:00

Celebration 5

We are all searching for the perfectly balanced schedule that allows us to move through our lives and effortlessly check off everything on our to-do lists. The sad truth is, there is no such thing as a perfectly balanced life. In this presentation you will learn strategies for identifying priorities, reducing stress, and organizing your workload.

Trasetta Alexander

Trasetta Alexander Enterprises

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trasetta@trasettaalexander.com



## **Successfully Transitioning into the Workforce**

Friday, June 7

3:00-4:00

Celebration 6

Is a family member with special needs preparing to enter the workforce? A panel of experts will discuss solutions to overcome educational, technical workforce training, and interpersonal skill challenges that produce barriers to employment. The panel will discuss strategies to aid your loved one in starting a successful career that will help them lead an independent life. The panel will also address some of the workforce challenges relating to the military lifestyle.

Scott Sevin

Florida Military Family Special Needs Network

1313 Ponce de Leon Boulevard, Suite 301

Coral Gables, FL 33134

(305) 535-0914

scott@7-dippity.com

Connie Brown-Wilson

Jacksonville Unit 08F, Division of Vocational Rehabilitation

Ellisa Hayes

Duval County Public Schools

Eric Sherman

Department of Defense



### **Impact of Trauma on Development**

Friday, June 7  
3:00-4:00  
Celebration 7

This presentation will discuss the impact of trauma on brain development and why trauma is a developmental disability. Participants will learn about what happens to brain development, current research, and the difference between trauma and other developmental disabilities.

Cheryl Albright  
Soul To Soul Yoga/All Ages Therapy Services  
4734 Sabal Key Drive  
Bradenton, FL 34203  
cheryl@soultosoulyogasrq.com

### **Best Practices in Inclusion**

Friday, June 7  
3:00-4:00  
Celebration 9

What is inclusion? How do you know when a classroom or school is inclusive? The Florida Inclusion Network (FIN) will provide information on best practices used by inclusionary schools and classrooms serving students with disabilities. Inclusive scheduling, collaboration, use of data-based decision making, and accommodations/modifications in general education classrooms are among these practices. Background information will include the legal basis for inclusion, Florida's definition, the benefits of inclusion, and practices and beliefs that make inclusion work.

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Tallahassee, FL 32309  
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JaSheena Ekhatior  
Florida Inclusion Network  
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### **Your Winning Ticket: Making Work Pay — Understanding Vocational Rehabilitation, Social Security, Medicare, and Medicaid**

Friday, June 7  
3:00-4:00  
Celebration 10

In this session, we will discuss the employment of persons with disabilities and the impact of employment on Social Security benefits, Medicare, Medicaid, and Medicaid Waivers. We will provide updates to the programs including Partnership Plus and upcoming changes. Experts from Vocational Rehabilitation and Disability Rights Florida will discuss how benefits are affected and can be maintained through Ticket to Work, SSI, and SSDI employment support programs, and the use of trusts for maintaining Medicaid eligibility, all in plain and understandable language.

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Victor Panoff  
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Times Building, Suite 640, 1000 North Ashley Drive  
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## **Fun! Fun! Fun! Family Fun Ways to Build Essential Skills**

Friday, June 7

3:00-4:00

Celebration 11

Come prepared to be engaged in fun family activities to build essential skills known as executive functioning skills. These skills include impulse control, emotional control, planning/prioritizing, flexibility, working memory, task initiation, organization, and self-monitoring. Most children today spend the majority of their time watching television, playing video/computer games, and being involved in adult-structured activities. This leaves very little time for children to build imagination and self-talk. This session will allow you to experience a variety of games and resources that your family can do together that build executive functioning skills in fun ways!

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### **Getting It All in Order**

Friday, June 7

3:00-4:00

Celebration 12

Oftentimes family members know that they need to plan for the future, but it can be overwhelming to think about where to start the discussion. This presentation will give families the big picture of the many topics, subjects and resources to explore, plan for and protect our child or loved one with special needs. We will discuss the basics of estate planning, including powers of attorney, advance directives, wills, and trusts, particularly special needs trusts. We will discuss incorporating the financial plan with the legal plan and then what to consider about guardianship. Finally, we will discuss the public benefits programs to know about such as the various Social Security and Medicaid programs.

Travis Finchum

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### **REVUP Florida! An Introduction**

Friday, June 7  
3:00-4:00  
Celebration 13

REVUP Florida! is a state chapter of AAPD’s REVUP Campaign. REV UP stands for: Register! Educate! Vote! Use your Power! The chapter is a statewide coalition of organizations and self-advocates that are working to raise awareness about issues that impact persons with disabilities, encourage people with disabilities to participate in the voting process, and educate elected officials on issues important to persons with disabilities. The presentation will explain who REVUP Florida! is, what we have done so far, and what we plan to do in the future. The presentation will encourage self-advocates to join and become involved.

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REVUP Florida!  
24th Terrace  
Ocala, FL 34480  
(352) 622-2342  
jasonhahr@gmail.com

Tony DePalma  
Disability Independence Group  
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2473 Care Drive, Suite 2007451 SE  
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tonyd@disabilityrightsflorida.org

### **Raising a Disabled Child With a Partner Who is in Denial**

Friday, June 7  
3:00-4:00  
Celebration 14

Raising a disabled child with a partner who is accepting of the child’s disability can be challenging. Co-parenting with a partner who is in denial of the child’s disability can present even more challenges. Throw a divorce into the equation and a whole new set of challenges surface.

Irene Nicola  
2509 Wood Oak Drive  
Sarasota, FL 34232  
(941) 724-5964  
srqmom@yahoo.com

### **Preparing Teens for Transition to Adult Health**

Friday, June 7  
3:00-4:00  
Celebration 15

The best way to ensure good health in adulthood is for teens, as developmentally able, to understand their health needs and become active participants in health care decision-making. Florida Health and Transition Services (HATS) supports young Floridians, including those with disabilities or special health care needs, as they transition from child-focused to adult-oriented systems of care. We will discuss the importance of preparation for health care transition; describe how providers, teachers, and caregivers can help youth become more independent in managing their own care; and demonstrate tools and resources that can assist in the process.

Dr. John Riess  
Department of Pediatrics  
University of Florida  
johnreiss@gmail.com

## **What's an ABA?**

Friday, June 7

3:00-4:00

Celebration 16

So you have heard from a few people that you need ABA (Applied Behavior Analysis), but you are not quite sure what to expect. You have seen Facebook posts and information online, but now learn what is typically going to occur with home and community based services.

Tiki Fiol

Florida Association for Behavior Analysis

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(850) 264-4060

leighstehlik@gmail.com



## **IEP Jeopardy**

Friday, June 7

3:00-4:00

Bayhill 17

It's all fun and games! We want to test your knowledge of IEP meetings and/or IEP facts. The Florida Youth Council will be exploring our IEP guide with you as we play Jeopardy. Everyone likes games. So let's play and win some candy!

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Florida Youth Council  
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(850) 224-4670  
ngermain@familycafe.net

Derek Carraway  
Florida Youth Council

Shevie Barnes  
Florida Youth Council

Josue Tapia-Ortiz  
Florida Youth Council

Dakota Smoot  
Florida Youth Council

## **Divorce Law and Autism**

Friday, June 7

3:00-4:00

Bayhill 18

When the parents of a child with autism divorce, autism in the child and one or more of the parents involved can significantly impact many of the decisions made concerning separation, divorce, custody, and child support. A parent's responsibility to support an autistic child may extend beyond the age of 18. This presentation will discuss how courts often focus on parental capacity and the impact of that capacity on the parent's ability to take advantage of available services for their child.

Roberto Cruz  
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robertocruz@cruzlaw.org





### **Mental Health Roundtable**

Friday, June 7  
3:00-4:00  
Bayhill 19

Roundtable sessions provide an opportunity for individuals and families dealing with similar circumstances to learn from each other and find support. This session will bring together attendees to talk about mental health, how it impacts our families and communities, and what we do to stay well and thrive with a mental health diagnosis. Learn about what The Family Café is doing to bring attention to mental health in Florida, and share your own thoughts, questions and concerns on the issue in this open conversation!

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The Family Café  
CAFÉ TA Center  
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jcountryman@familycafe.net

### **Seven Keys to Unlock Your Child's Potential — Real Life Lessons Learned from Raising a Child with Special Needs**

Friday, June 7  
3:00-4:00  
Bayhill 20

This presentation provides information and practical tips learned from raising a child with special needs. Explore real-life situations backed up with positive solutions. "Seven Keys" will help you unlock your child's potential, learn the key to acceptance, and discover the ABC's of what being an advocate means. Learn where to find resources and how to contact them. Chantai Snellgrove, founder of Parenting Special Needs Magazine, shares her experiences of the challenges that crossed her path and how she discovered a better way to handle them. Get helpful tips and solutions to the challenges of parenting a child with special needs.

Chantai Snellgrove  
Parenting Special Needs Magazine  
516 North Valencia Circle SW  
Vero Beach, FL 32968  
(772) 532-4423  
chantai@parentingspecialneeds.org



### **Camp as Respite**

Friday, June 7  
3:00-4:00  
Bayhill 22

Respite is an important aspect of parenting a child with a disability. Caregivers need rest and children need the opportunity to thrive in environments away from their primary home. Camping programs provide that respite experience for caregivers and children without the often experienced caregiver feelings of guilt associated with saying "I need a break." Respite provides the opportunity for children (and adults) to engage in adaptive activities in a safe environment, make new friends, and have shared experiences with their peers. Respite provides caregivers the chance to relax and focus on self-care techniques that may feel impossible much of the time.

Maggie Denk  
Easterseals Florida  
31600 Camp Challenge Road  
Sorrento, FL 32776  
(352) 455-7420  
mdenk@fl.easterseals.com

## **Taking Care of the Caregiver**

Friday, June 7

3:00-4:00

Bayhill 23

Stress is a fact of life, but being stressed out is not. Caregiver stress occurs when the responsibilities and challenges of caring for a loved one places significant stress on the family caregiver. These stresses can build up to actually cause caregiver distress or stress overload. This leaves the caregiver susceptible to other health risks, such as high blood pressure, diabetes, stroke, and even heart disease. We will offer a host of practical ideas and simple solutions to help you deal with stress, and live a happier, healthier, fuller life. Live your best life now!

Djenaba Burns

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## **Employment Mentoring: Everyone Does Not Know How to Work, But Can Learn**

Friday, June 7

3:00-4:00

Bayhill 24

This is what is needed for some students. They have effective Vocational Rehabilitation Counselors and Job Coaches, but need more individual assistance and time to deal with specific issues. Staff is dealing with supervisors and helping the person work in the job. Some students need something more. They need that additional, individual mentoring that can help them to be successful in the job setting. This can be done in person or through Zoom meetings as needed.

Christine Benes

Keiser University KUMDC

1900 Commercial Boulevard

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cbenes@keiseruniversity.edu



## **Dads to Dads**

Friday, June 7

3:00-4:00

Bayhill 26

This session will provide an opportunity for dads to talk about their kids, share their experiences with other dads, and talk about their victories or struggles. Come join other dads to network and chat.

Tim Turner

9204 Dayflower Drive

Tampa, FL 33647

(813) 504-2912

turner697@aol.com

## **Life Beyond High School: Postsecondary Education Programs for Students with Intellectual Disabilities**

Friday, June 7  
3:00-4:00  
Bayhill 27

Planning for life after high school is what transition planning is all about. Successful adult outcomes depend on planning for both secondary and postsecondary education. For students with intellectual disabilities, the Florida Postsecondary Comprehensive Transition Program (FPCTP) provides resources and supports to postsecondary programs. The Florida Postsecondary Comprehensive Transition Program Act created the Florida Center for Students with Unique Abilities at the University of Central Florida and charged them with increasing the number of postsecondary opportunities throughout Florida. The act also provides student scholarships to attend approved programs as well as start-up and enhancement grants to support programs development.

Paula Kohler  
Florida Center for Students with Unique Abilities, UCF  
PO Box 161250  
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## **The ABCs of IEPs**

Friday, June 7  
3:00-4:00  
Bayhill 29

Navigating the world of special education services can be daunting when you feel like you need a translator just to keep up with all the acronyms thrown around by school districts and advocates alike. This presentation will explain the IEP process (and all the many acronyms that go along with it). We will make sense of the language of special education as we walk through the process of identification, evaluation, initial eligibility for an Individualized Education Plan, and the IEP amendment process, using hypotheticals and sample forms.

Megan Collins  
Disability Rights Florida  
Times Building, Suite 640, 1000 North Ashley Drive  
Tampa, FL 33602  
(850) 488-9071  
meganc@disabilityrightsflorida.org

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

Friday, June 7  
3:00-4:00  
Bayhill 30

This workshop explores reasons why dads do the things that they do related to family involvement. The session looks at why dads sometimes seem to disengage from emotional or stressful family situations. Then the session will look at strategies that can be used 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  
Resource Materials Technology Center for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing  
207 San Marco Avenue  
Saint Augustine, FL 32084  
(904) 827-2731  
mark.keith@rmtcdhh.org

## **Music Therapy 101**

Friday, June 7

3:00-4:00

Bayhill 31

Music Therapy 101 will provide a general overview of what music therapy is and who can benefit. Learn about goals and objectives, along with intervention examples commonly utilized in music therapy sessions, along with practical ideas to use music in everyday life. The presentation will be presented by Ashlee Hughes, Board Certified Music Therapist from Beachside Music Lessons & Therapy in Volusia County. Ashlee's experience includes music therapy and adapted music lessons for people with special needs, medical music therapy (including stroke and TBI), hospice, juvenile detention, behavioral health, seniors (including dementia, Alzheimer's, and Parkinson's) and more.

Ashlee Huges

Beachside Music Lessons & Therapy

113 Green Heron Court

Daytona Beach, FL 32119

(386) 320-7762

ashlee@beachsidemusiclessons.com

## **On the Eleventh Day a Manifestation Determination Review Was Created**

Friday, June 7

3:00-4:00

Bayhill 32

A Manifestation Determination Review (MDR) is required when a public school student with a disability, covered under the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act or Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act, is considered for a significant change of placement due to suspension/expulsion. We will focus on how to prepare for a manifestation determination, what constitutes a significant change of placement, and the legal requirements and rights of the individual student with (or suspected of having) a disability. This presentation will outline and highlight steps you can take to acquire behavioral supports for your child, such as Functional Behavioral Assessments and Positive Behavioral Intervention Plans. In addition, this presentation will include scenarios and strategies, relevant case law, regulations, and state and federal laws that govern the process and provide procedural safeguards/due process for students with disabilities to afford them access to a free appropriate public education. The presentation will consist of case scenarios with open dialogue between presenter and participants to identify the issues and how to effectively advocate to resolve the matter, and information regarding federal and state law, case law and state board rules.

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natelya@disabilityrightsflorida.org



## **Bilingual Communication Devices**

Friday, June 7

3:00-4:00

Rainbow Spring I

This presentation demonstrates English/Spanish options for individuals needing communication assistance. FFAST, with its partner, Saltillo, will show how MultiChat 15 Spanish, MultiChat 15 Bilingual, and WordPower Español meet the communications needs of a wide group of individuals in Spanish speaking cultures. These systems include easy to access basic communication for beginning communicators, as well as sophisticated language and grammar for individuals with advanced cognitive and linguistic abilities.

Jesse Hansen

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The Family Café

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## **WellCare’s Community Connection Help Line: “Getting You Connected”**

Friday, June 7

3:00-4:00

Rainbow Spring II

Are you in need of support but don’t know where to turn? WellCare offers a Community Connection Help Line. This line is a toll-free, nationwide line open to the general public that offers real-time assistance to connect you to resources in your community such as food, financial assistance (utility or rent), transportation, education, support groups, respite care, and more. Our Peer Coaches work one-on-one with you to problem-solve and refer you to nearby social services and agencies. Our goal is to get you to the right services at the right time, so that you and your family can prioritize just that—your family.

Cara Meeks

WellCare Health Plans, Inc.

2724 NE 14th Street

Ocala, FL 34470

(352) 840-1109

[cara.meeks@wellcare.com](mailto:cara.meeks@wellcare.com)

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

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

Pyramid Players, Foyer

Brazilian Voices, Foyer





## 4:30 p.m. to 5:30 p.m. CONCURRENT SESSIONS



### **Apoyo inmediato: Cómo sobrevivir un huracán cuando se tiene un impedimento. La experiencia de una persona después del huracán Irma.**

Friday, June 7  
4:30-5:30  
Celebration 1

Reglas de cómo una persona impedida puede enfrentar un huracán. Imagina cuan difícil es para una viuda impedida con un hijo sobrevivir un huracán. Una vez escuchan el aviso que un huracán se acerca, ¿qué opciones tiene para actuar con la cabeza fría? ¿Qué sería mejor para salvarse? ¿Qué opciones hay disponibles? ¿Vamos a un refugio especial? ¿Abandonamos nuestra casa? ¿Tenemos suficiente comida y agua? Los participantes recibirán información útil para el huracán. ¿Qué hace después de un huracán? Aprenda cómo investigar las técnicas de beneficios, de recuperación y apoyo. Esta presentación la preparará a usted para el próximo Michael.

Christinne Rudd  
470 Little Rock Street  
Ocoee, Florida 34761  
407-697-1297  
c\_rudd\_rep@yahoo.com

### **Pink Art Party**

Friday, June 7  
4:30-5:30  
Celebration 2

CALLING ALL LADIES! Prepare for the pink art party with a powerful purpose! Get ready to "Sip-and-Share" as colorful companions COME ALIVE! Join us as we use creative visual art to expose and express the emotional, spiritual, and physical journeys you and other women are on and the challenges faced daily. Certified Life Coach Specialists will lead the charge to help you explore the huge impact of caring for your loved ones with special needs.

Charmaine Jennings  
Chosen Life Specialists, LLC  
1746 St. Joseph Street  
Tampa, FL 33067  
(813) 927-0562  
chosenlifspecialists@gmail.com

LaKeesha Hines  
Fire Starter Coaching Services, LLC  
PO Box 484  
Valrico, FL 33594  
(727) 217-8247  
igniteitright@gmail.com

### **Effective Advocacy with APD**

Friday, June 7  
4:30-5:30  
Celebration 3

This presentation will provide information on how to effectively advocate for yourself or your loved one when working with the Agency for Persons with Disabilities (APD). When you have a question or problem regarding APD, a Service Provider, or a Waiver Support Coordinator, finding the right person to talk with can sometimes feel like a challenge. This presentation will guide you in knowing who to contact and when to contact them. It will also provide beneficial tips that will not only aid you in being a strong advocate but will also help you when speaking with the agency, service providers, and Waiver Support Coordinators.

Natalie Jean  
Agency for Persons with Disabilities  
4030 Esplanade Way, Suite 380  
Tallahassee, FL 32399  
natalie.jean@apdcares.org

## **Application, Eligibility Determination, and Enrollment Requirements for Participation in APD Services**

Friday, June 7

4:30-5:30

Celebration 4

This session will provide helpful information about who is eligible to receive services from the Agency for Persons with Disabilities ("APD"), the application and eligibility determination criteria, and the enrollment requirements for participation in Florida's Medicaid Individual Budgeting (iBudget) waiver. The session will also cover the Waiting List for enrollment on the waiver, the Waiting List Priority Categories, and what happens when there has been a change in circumstance in the person's life or that of their caregiver(s). The presenter will describe the various methods for waiver enrollment, including crisis, waiting list offers, transitions from Intermediate Care Facilities / Skilled Nursing Facilities to the waiver, Community Based Care to the waiver, dependents of active duty military service members, and individuals with Phelan-McDermid syndrome.

Liesl Ramos  
Agency for Persons with Disabilities  
4030 Esplanade Way, Suite 380  
Tallahassee, FL 32399  
liesl.ramos@apdcares.org

Amanda Soule  
Agency for Persons with Disabilities  
4030 Esplanade Way, Suite 380  
Tallahassee, FL 32399  
amanda.soule@apdcares.org

## **The Unseen Special Need**

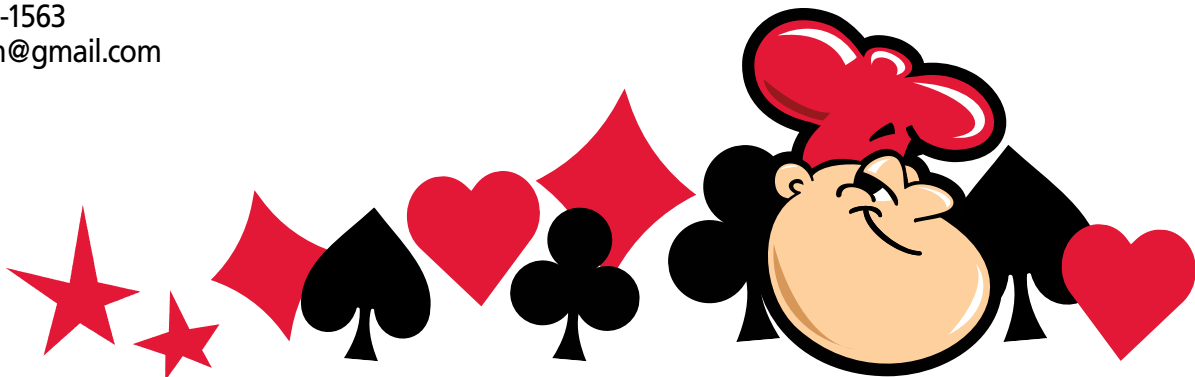
Friday, June 7

4:30-5:30

Celebration 5

This highly inspiring faith-based session will be unlike any that you may have attended and is open to anyone who desires to be strengthened and encouraged in their personal development, family, marriage, and relationship. Learn key principles of how to navigate through the challenges of life and to be spiritually equipped to face the "Unseen Special Need" that we may encounter on a daily basis. Many unseen special needs are so deeply hidden that their existence has been locked away. Experience a motivating message to help you live more victoriously over the pressures of life! This session will enable you to move forward . . . through the power of God!!! Pastor William Alexander knows first hand of having to overcome challenges in life at a young age. His jovial mannerism and unique motivational delivery is a testament to a life that refused to be stifled and hindered by circumstances that few knew the he encountered growing up.

William Alexander  
William Alexander Ministries  
PO Box 3443  
Tallahassee, Florida 32315  
(850) 491-1563  
gotowam@gmail.com



## **Homeschooling Your Child with Special Needs**

Friday, June 7

4:30-5:30

Celebration 8

Have you ever wondered if homeschooling is right for your child? Join Melissa Walley Packwood, M.S. Ed. for a vibrant discussion of the ways to homeschool in Florida. You will learn how homeschooling can benefit your child, how to get started, and what to do when you hit a bump in the road. You will also learn about unschooling and deschooling. Ideas to teach lessons so they meet your child's needs will also be presented. As Melissa says, "Put my experience to work for you!"

Melissa Walley Packwood  
The Reading Coach at Intuitive Strategies  
Sunshine State Homeschool Academy Umbrella School  
123 Bayou Circle  
Leesburg, FL 34748  
(407) 712-4368  
lissa\_kaye54@yahoo.com



## **Work Makes the World Go Round**

Friday, June 7

4:30-5:30

Celebration 10

The Division of Vocational Rehabilitation (VR) has an extensive array of services and programs available to individuals of all ages—"young" and "not-so-young." This presentation will review the wide variety of services that can be customized to meet individuals' employment and training needs so that each person receives the support they need for success. It will highlight the new and expanded services available for youth. This session will also allow time to answer audience questions as well as provide an opportunity for individuals to learn how to apply and receive VR services.

Jan Pearce  
Division of Vocational Rehabilitation  
4070 Esplanade Way  
Tallahassee, FL 32399  
jan.pearce@vr.fldoe.org



## **Making Connections: Technology and Learning Connections**

Friday, June 7

4:30-5:30

Celebration 11

This session is designed to equip you with online strategies and resources for teaching and learning with technology. Explore the free and innovative online resources that are available on the Technology and Learning Connections website. Take a closer look at Tools for Engagement, Adventures in Reading, Math and Science Supports and Data Tools. Learn more about the free Assistive Technology (AT) & Universal Design for Learning (UDL) Newsletter and gain a better understanding of the tools that can be borrowed from the AT & UDL Loan Library.

Tara Jeffs  
USF - MTSS-PS-Rtl-Tech  
1610 Reynolds Road  
Lakeland, FL Florida 33801  
(252) 321-0108  
tjeffs@usf.edu

Janet Good  
USF - MTSS-PS-Rtl-Tech  
4558 S. Clyde Morris Blvd  
Port Orange, FL 32129  
(386) 761-9909  
jgood@usf.edu

Lauren Servidio  
PS/Rtl - Technology  
4558 South Clyde Morris Blvd, Suite #2  
Port Orange, FL 32129  
(386) 761-9909



### **ABLE United: The Basics on ABLE Accounts**

Friday, June 7  
4:30-5:30  
Celebration 12

The Achieving a Better Life Experience (ABLE) Act allows individuals with disabilities to save money tax-free for a wide variety of future expenses – including transportation, housing, and education — while maintaining benefits, such as SSI and Medicaid. ABLE United, Florida’s qualified ABLE program, provides opportunities and can change the way you plan for short-term expenditures and establish long-term savings. In this session, we’ll discuss everything you need to know about the ABLE Act and how you can start achieving a better life experience through ABLE United.

John Finch  
ABLE United  
1801 Hermitage Boulevard  
Tallahassee, FL 32308  
(850) 488-8514  
john.finch@ableunited.com



### **Winning Them Over: Processes for Advocating for People with Differences**

Friday, June 7  
4:30-5:30  
Celebration 13

When health care workers, educators, employers, and other people fail to speak directly to our family members with differences, are we relieved, frustrated, belligerent? Our first responses may be justifiable, but are they helpful? And what happens when we cannot be there to advocate for family members and others with differences? This interactive workshop will help parents, caregivers, and professionals appreciate the process by which we may win over other people so that they appreciate the capacity of individuals with differences. And by so doing we can help people with differences learn to be self-advocates that gain respect and admiration.

LouAnne Hawkins, MACP, MAGP  
The Arc Jacksonville  
3675 Kirbo Way  
Jacksonville, FL 32224  
(904) 721-5063  
lhawkins@arcjacksonville.org

### **Phelan-McDermid Syndrome (PMS) Roundtable**

Friday, June 7  
4:30-5:30  
Celebration 14

Phelan-McDermid Syndrome is a rare specific chromosomal abnormality. APD now serves those with Phelan-McDermid Syndrome (PMS). This session will give an introduction to this syndrome, which is characterized by low muscle tone, absent to severely delayed speech, moderate to profound intellectual disability, motor delays, symptoms of autism spectrum disorder and epilepsy. This is a chance for families to connect with each other, network and share experiences and resources. PMS – it’s not what you think . . . .

Vicki Kurkimilis  
18222 Oriole Road  
Fort Myers, FL 33967  
(239) 340-4247  
VickiKurkimilis@gmail.com

## **Behavior Management Tips for Parents**

Friday, June 7  
4:30-5:30  
Celebration 15

This workshop will help parents with some behavior management techniques and strategies that will work to reduce problematic behavior. Techniques such as setting limits, staying calm when your child acts up, rules, consequences, and consistency will be addressed, using the Dr. Fred Jones parenting series.

Helen Burton  
SEDNET Region 8B  
25 East Hickpochee Avenue  
Labelle, FL 33935  
(863) 674-4164  
burtonh@hendry-schools.net

## **Parents Helping Parents and the Gardiner Scholarship**

Friday, June 7  
4:30-5:30  
Celebration 16

In 2014, as parents of new recipients, we had no consistent source of information on how to use this scholarship. Many other parents were in the same boat. We started a Facebook support group to share information. We have over 3,000 members, parents and providers, helping each other learn how to use the scholarship, submit claims, and get help when a problem arises. This is a no-drama group that works for positive changes in the scholarship. If you have or are seeking this scholarship, find out if this group is right for you.

Tracy Card  
Florida Gardiner Scholarship Parents and Providers Facebook Group  
1317 West Hampshire Boulevard  
Citrus Springs, FL 34434  
(386) 690-9986  
ladyjackfl@aol.com



## **Come Chat with The FYC**

Friday, June 7  
4:30-5:30  
Bayhill 17

Come sit and talk with The Florida Youth Council. We would love to get to know you while you learn about what The Florida Youth Council is, what we do, and who we are as individual council members.

Natasha Germain  
Florida Youth Council  
820 East Park Avenue, Suite F-100  
Tallahassee, FL 32301  
(850) 224-4670  
ngermain@familycafe.net

John Baldino  
Florida Youth Council

Shevie Barnes  
Florida Youth Council

Derek Carraway  
Florida Youth Council

Alexander Gonzalez  
Florida Youth Council

Leah Gorman  
Florida Youth Council

Emma Massey  
Florida Youth Council

Dakota Smoot  
Florida Youth Council

Josue Tapia-Ortiz  
Florida Youth Council

Christina Waldron  
Florida Youth Council

Serena Wetmore  
Florida Youth Council

Brandon White  
Florida Youth Council

Allilee Wood  
Florida Youth Council





### **Trauma and Individuals with Disabilities**

Friday, June 7  
4:30-5:30  
Bayhill 19

This presentation will introduce a brief overview of trauma and why everyone should be aware of its importance: what trauma is and what some possible causes of trauma are; the importance of taking trauma into consideration in all aspects of life and care; the potential effects of trauma; potential causes and the impact of trauma specifically on individuals with disabilities; available therapies for trauma; and what trauma-informed care is. Available resources related to trauma-informed care will be provided.

Joanne Sagona  
9020 NW 8th Street  
Miami, FL 33172  
(407) 319-2085  
jsagona@hotmail.com

### **Autism & The Law — Part 1: Preparing Your Child with Autism**

Friday, June 7  
4:30-5:30  
Bayhill 20

This is the first of a four part series that focuses on what parents/guardians need to know to better prepare their child with autism for law enforcement officer interaction. This session will focus on the importance of rules, goals for IEPs, identification of the officer and the individual with autism, and issues every parent/guardian needs to know when contacting law enforcement officers.

Donna Lorman  
Autism Society of Greater Orlando  
1650 Sand Lake Road  
Orlando, FL 32809  
(407) 855-0235  
dlorman@asgo.org

Hector Gonzalez  
Autism Society of Greater Orlando  
1650 Sand Lake Road  
Orlando, FL 32809  
(407) 855-0235  
hgonzalez@balharbourfl.gov



### **What's New in the World of Recreation for People of ALL Abilities**

Friday, June 7  
4:30-5:30  
Bayhill 22

Learn about the latest options, trends, and benefits of recreation and active leisure for people of ALL abilities! This will be a fun session where you may ask your individual questions.

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

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

Thomas Griffin  
Bird Dog Boats  
(813) 507-5499  
thomas@birddogboats.com

## **Handwriting and Disability: Perspectives from the Inside**

Friday, June 7

4:30-5:30

Bayhill 23

Prepare for surprises! Adults with one or more neurological disabilities share their “lives with handwriting” — why it still matters to them, what their struggles mastering this skill (including the vexing matter of reading cursive!) were, and which self-remediation strategies empowered them to help themselves and eventually help others with handwriting issues. Their differing perspectives raise questions: How can handwriting instruction become more accessible to all students? When may a program or technique become unintentionally counterproductive? How can methods, styles, and techniques be adapted to each learner, instead of expecting the learner to fit the method?

Kate Gladstone  
Handwriting Repair/Handwriting That Works  
165 North Allen Street  
Albany, NY 12206  
(518) 928-8101  
handwritingrepair@gmail.com

Andrew S. Haber  
165 North Allen Street, First Floor  
Albany, NY 12206  
(518) 928-1430  
ashelred@gmail.com



## **Raising the Bar on Transitioning to Adulthood and Employment**

Friday, June 7

4:30-5:30

Bayhill 24

For parents of teens with disabilities, it may seem that pursuing employment is a bit like having a joust with a windmill: it is an impossible dream. But what if the impossible dream were possible? What if successful transition to adulthood with a higher education and/or a career that provides self-sufficiency were possible? Come join us for a conversation about raising the bar on expectations for transition to adulthood. Let's chase the impossible dream together by exploring Vocational Rehabilitation, the Division of Blind Services, the Agency for Persons with Disabilities, accommodations and more.

Janniell Vazquez  
Disability Rights Florida  
1930 Harrison Street, Suite 104  
Hollywood, FL 33020  
(840) 488-9071  
janniellv@disabilityrightsflorida.org

Wendy Vance  
Disability Rights Florida  
2473 Care Drive, Suite 200  
Tallahassee, FL 32308  
wendyv@disabilityrightsflorida.org

## **Wandering and Elopement Behavior: Risk Factors and Strategies**

Friday, June 7

4:30-5:30

Bayhill 25

Wandering and elopement behavior is a dangerous but common behavior of individuals with Autism Spectrum Disorders. Risk factors associated with wandering and elopement, the purpose or function of wandering and elopement, and strategies are addressed during this session. Also, the collaboration between FAU-Center for Autism and Related Disabilities and law enforcement agencies in St. Lucie County, called Project L.O.S.T., will be presented. Representatives from Project L.O.S.T. will be present to discuss the process they endured to get the program implemented.

Cathy Allore  
FAU-Center for Autism and  
Related Disabilities (CARD)  
500 NW California Boulevard  
Port Saint Lucie, FL 34986  
(772) 873-3367  
callore@fau.edu

Deputy Shirley Lindstadt  
4700 West Midway Road  
Port Saint Lucie, FL 34981  
(772) 871-5303

Sargeant Charles Lumpkin  
Port St. Lucie Police Department  
121 SW Port Saint Lucie Boulevard  
Port Saint Lucie, FL 34952  
(772) 871-5106  
CLumpkin@cityofpsl.com



## **PLAY BALL! Building an Annual Tradition With Your Child with Special Needs**

Friday, June 7

4:30-5:30

Bayhill 26

Let's face it. Although gender roles in today's world are often more elastic than in the past, it is still a fact that many dads are so busy with being a breadwinner that it is hard for them to be actively involved with their child on a day-to-day basis. But, just like how families often have yearly traditions (annual Christmas party, the yearly spring break trip, the summer at the lake house), dads can build a memorable one-on-one tradition with their child with special needs, one that cements the bond between parent and child and builds lasting memories. In this session last year's keynote speaker, Steve Browne, will share one such tradition from his experience in raising a child with special needs, and how he developed an annual baseball spring-training trip with his daughter that is now going on fifteen years. He will then lead a discussion on how dads can start to develop and nourish such traditions with their own special needs children.

Steve Browne  
3 Colleen Circle  
Carson City, NV 89703  
(775) 741-3277  
carcigar@aol.com

## **Introduction to Discrimination Against People with Disabilities**

Friday, June 7

4:30-5:30

Bayhill 27

People with disabilities are subject to discrimination in all areas of life. Additionally, solutions are either little-known or hard to obtain. This seminar is designed to assist individuals with disabilities and their families with self-advocacy. This session will briefly cover your rights, where and how a person with a disability may be discriminated against — education, housing, employment, etc. — what remedies are available, and how to access them.

Andrew Sagona  
9020 NW 8th Street  
Miami, Florida 33172  
(407) 319-0615  
andrew.sagona@gmail.com

## **Things You Wish You Knew**

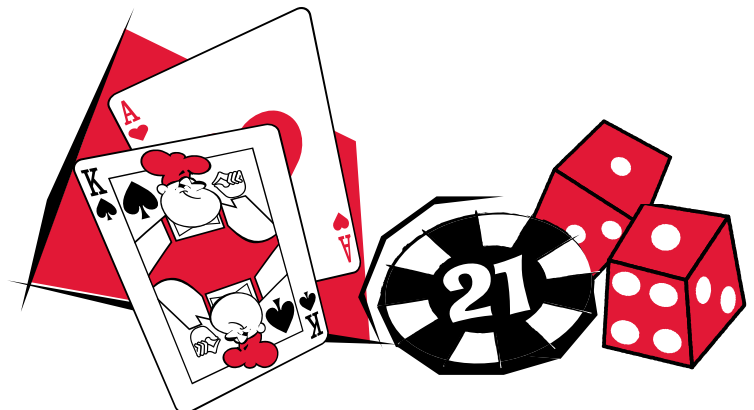
Friday, June 7

4:30-5:30

Bayhill 28

If parents knew then what they know now, it would have made the whole process easier as it relates to their loved one or self-advocates with disabilities. The goal of this session is to target parents and provide parent-to-parent information exchange on certain topics.

Patricia Ann Oglesby  
Family Care Council Florida  
5644 Lochness Court  
North Fort Myers, FL 33903  
(239) 246-3623  
patriciaaoglesby@aol.com



## **Navigating the Response to Intervention (Rtl) Process**

Friday, June 7

4:30-5:30

Bayhill 29

This presentation will focus on educating parents on the Response to Intervention (Rtl) process. This presentation will explain what the Rtl process is, how parents can be involved in it, and what happens next. This presentation will equip attendees with the basic knowledge necessary to handle discussions with a school district related to the Response to Intervention and Eligibility Process.

Megan Collins  
Disability Rights Florida  
Times Building, Suite 640, 1000 North Ashley Drive  
Tampa, FL 33602  
(850) 488-9071  
meganc@disabilityrightsflorida.org

## **Tools and Supports for Building Your Family Run Organization**

Friday, June 7

4:30-5:30

Bayhill 30

If you are looking to build or strengthen your family organization this session is for you! Join the Family Run Organizational Movement (FROM) for three mini-trainings and to learn more about what we can offer your organization. The mini sessions will focus on Business Plan Development, Engaging New Members, and Telling Your Story, all vital components for building a strong family organization. Let us help your organization reach its full potential!

Beth Picora, B.S., CRPS-F  
Central Florida Behavioral Network  
(813) 740-4811  
cpicora@cfbh.org

John Ferrone  
Ferrone Associates  
1126 Country Club Dr.  
Hastings, NE 68901  
402-462-0244  
jferrone@ferroneassociates.com

## **Narcolepsy and Idiopathic Hypersomnia (IH): Coping Skills and Treatment Options**

Friday, June 7

4:30-5:30

Bayhill 31

Narcolepsy is a serious life-long disorder caused by the brain's inability to regulate sleep-wake cycles. It is almost always caused by a lack of a neurotransmitter called hypocretin. Having Narcolepsy or IH, you may need to learn coping skills and follow the latest treatment options to 1.) Minimize Excessive Daytime Sleepiness (EDS); 2.) Reduce overwhelming urges to sleep; and 3.) Improve concentration and deficits in memory. Come and share your experiences and learn more about these sleep disorders, which have no medical or mental disorder, and account for the symptoms that affect 1 in 2000 people.

Michael E. Miller Sr.  
People With Narcolepsy Tampa (PWNT)  
1908 Winn Arthur Drive  
Valrico, FL 33594  
(813) 653-4285  
PeopleWithNarcolepsyTampa@gmail.com



### **Everyday Items for Early Intervention: Using What You Have on Hand**

Friday, June 7  
4:30-5:30  
Bayhill 33

Learn how to enhance learning in the home environment, support cognitive growth, and promote language development. Inspiration, Modification, and Creation are the guiding themes when constructing a plan to use in the home or natural environment. Cognitive and language milestones addressed are most appropriate for those with a cognitive age of birth-six.

Misty Porter  
Florida School for the Deaf and the Blind  
207 North San Marco Avenue  
St. Augustine, FL 32086  
(904) 827-2988  
porterm@fsdb.k12.fl.us



### **Surviving Accidental Submersions (SACS) Aquatic Therapy Can Help Improve Paralysis**

Friday, June 7  
4:30-5:30  
Quiet Pool

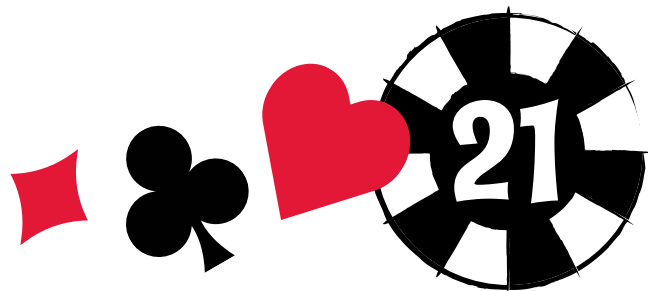
Surviving Accidental Submersions (SACS) Aquatic Therapy can help improve paralysis. Rehabilitation in an aquatic environment provides patients with a unique medium for neuromuscular reeducation and strengthening for children with medical and orthopedic conditions, as well as neurological disorders that may reduce the ability to bear weight on the legs, tolerate impact exercise on land, or move against the forces of gravity. We create a special swim program that is designed to provide an educational and therapeutic environment for children with special needs. Surviving Accidentally Clothed Submersions (SACS) is incorporated in all of these important goals.

Adriana Neves  
Swim Academy Nada Mejor, Inc.  
19591 Havensway Court  
Boca Raton, FL 33498  
(954) 8650842  
adriananeves@gmail.com

David Hoyos  
David Hoyos Swim School  
19591 Havensway Court  
Boca Raton, Florida 33498  
(954) 865-2118  
adriananeves@gmail.com

5:30 p.m. to 5:45 p.m.  
6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.

*Brazilian Voices, Foyer*  
**The 21st Annual Governor's Summit on Disabilities,**  
*Plaza International Ballroom*







Governor Ron DeSantis

**Friday, June 7, 2019**

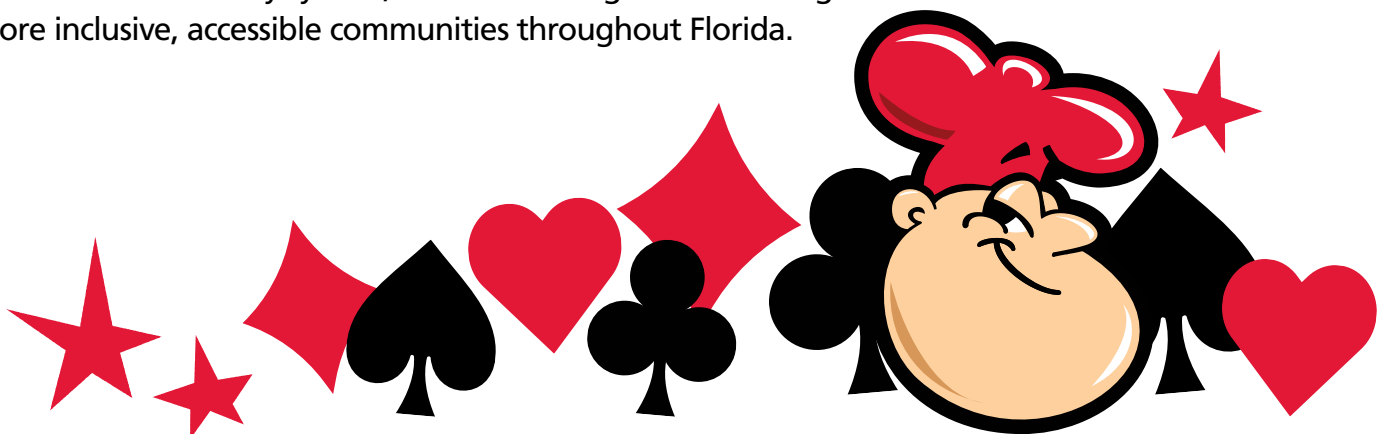
**6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.  
Plaza International Ballroom**

# **The 21st Annual Governor's Summit on Disabilities**

Join us for The 21<sup>st</sup> Annual Governor's Summit on Disabilities, featuring Governor Ron DeSantis. Beginning with The 1<sup>st</sup> Annual Family Café in June of 1999, The Family Café has upheld the tradition of creating a space where our attendees can connect with the elected officials and policymakers whose actions so profoundly impact individuals with disabilities and their families.

The Annual Governor's Summit on Disabilities presents a unique opportunity to hear from leaders of both the Executive and Legislative branches of our state government, as well as representatives of multiple State Agencies that serve people with disabilities in our state. We are very proud to continue the practice of connecting Floridians with disabilities with decision makers at the highest level of state government, to foster a productive dialogue about the issues facing Floridians with disabilities, and the impact public policy has on their daily lives.

The Family Café is pleased to welcome Governor Ron DeSantis. Governor DeSantis was elected to office in 2018, and is setting a new course for disability policy in our state. He will be joined by leaders from State Agencies that serve Floridians with disabilities. Together, they will share their vision for our state's service delivery system, and their thoughts on building more inclusive, accessible communities throughout Florida.





# Governor's Summit Double Bet!



Senate President Bill Galvano

The Summit will also include Senate President Bill Galvano. Senator Galvano was first elected to the State Senate in 2012, after serving in the Florida House from 2002 through 2010. He is a long-time supporter of The Family Café, having attended our event for over a decade, and a champion for Floridians with disabilities in Tallahassee. As the leader of the upper house of Florida's legislature, Senator Galvano has unique insight into legislative priorities and processes. Senator Galvano will share the legislative perspective on disability issues.

The 21st Annual Governor's Summit on Disabilities promises to be both informative and memorable. The Family Café is committed to helping policy makers to understand what daily life is like for the people with disabilities and families that they serve, and to giving our attendees a chance to better understand the policy making process by hearing from the Governor, Legislators and State Agency representatives directly. We sincerely hope you take advantage of this opportunity to have your voice heard at The 21st Annual Summit on Disabilities!



The 21st Annual Summit on Disabilities will feature a musical performance by Staar Fields. She is a singer/songwriter, and the parent of a child with autism, and she is excited to spread her message of hope and encouragement with everyone at The Family Café. For more information, visit [staarfields.com](http://staarfields.com)



Staar Fields



# Saturday, June 8, 2019

9:00 a.m. to 10:30 a.m.

Plaza International  
Ballroom



## Don't Sell Yourself Short



Bill Klein

Join us for the Saturday keynote with the executive producer and co-star of TLC's hit television show *The Little Couple*, Bill Klein. Bill is a disability advocate, and a serial entrepreneur who has grown successful businesses in healthcare and retail. He is also a bona fide inventor, with a patent in the pet product space, and the author of *Think Big: Overcoming Obstacles with Optimism*.

Bill attributes his success to his upbringing, his ultra-supportive spouse, tenacity, and humor. Business successes aside, Bill's crowning achievement is becoming a parent to the most amazing children in the world, Will and Zoey. Today, Bill and his family live in St. Petersburg, FL. He manages his businesses with regular travel to Houston and China and a lot of conference calls, while enjoying life closer to the water and extended family.

His inspirational talk will focus on self-esteem, confidence building, introspection, and the value of constructive criticism (and will also include a lot of humor along the way).

Sharing stories from his life, Bill will also address career struggles/motivations, relationships, and life on television. He will also share his thoughts on overcoming obstacles along the way.



A limited number of complimentary copies of *Think Big: Overcoming Obstacles with Optimism* will be distributed at this keynote.





volunteerflorida

**Be prepared – have a family emergency plan!  
Assess your capabilities, as well as your needs, and  
create a plan that will ensure your family's safety during an  
emergency or a disaster.**

## Checklist

- Build a disaster supply kit
- Identify a support network
- Complete an Emergency Health Card (EHC)
- Arrange an out-of-town contact
- Stay informed on local disaster procedures
- Develop a plan for service animals/pets

## Disaster Supply Kit

- Water (1 gallon per person per day)
- Non-perishable food (3-day supply)
- Manual can opener
- Flashlight and batteries
- Battery-operated or hand-crank radio
- NOAA Weather Radio
- First aid kit
- Medications and medical supplies (2-week supply)
- Medical records and primary care physician contact information
- Supplies and paperwork for service animals/pets

**Visit *FloridaDisaster.org* to build a customized  
family emergency plan.**





volunteerflorida

**Volunteer Florida is the state's lead agency for mobilizing volunteers and directing donations before, during and after disasters.**


**The Emergency Management department is also responsible for Emergency Support Function (ESF) 15 Volunteers and Donations for the Florida Division of Emergency Management.**

**Other duties include:**

- Managing the Florida Disaster Fund
- Coordinating with Florida Voluntary Organizations Active in Disaster (VOAD) and local and state government agencies to meet volunteer and donation needs
- Administering Community Emergency Response Teams (CERT)
- Providing training and presentations on volunteer and donations management

**For more information, please visit  
*VolunteerFlorida.org.***

# Saturday

8:00 a.m.	to 9:00 a.m.	Registration Open, <i>Registration Desk</i>
8:00 a.m.	to 9:00 a.m.	Zumba, <i>Regency Ballroom Foyer</i>
8:00 a.m.	to 9:00 a.m.	Yoga, <i>Peacock Spring</i>
8:30 a.m.	to 5:30 p.m.	Exhibit Hall Open, <i>Regency Ballroom</i>
8:30 a.m.	to 5:30 p.m.	Dental Screening, <i>Regency Ballroom</i>
8:30 a.m.	to 5:00 p.m.	Tennis, Hoverball, and Archery, <i>Regency Ballroom</i>
8:30 a.m.	to 5:00 p.m.	Accessible Obstacle Course, <i>Regency Ballroom</i>
8:30 a.m.	to 5:30 p.m.	FAAST, Inc. Assistive Technology Room, <i>Regency Ballroom Q</i>
8:30 a.m.	to 5:30 p.m.	The M.O.R.G.A.N. Project Sensory Room, <i>Orlando Ballroom L &amp; M</i>
9:00 a.m.	to 10:30 a.m.	Keynote Address, <i>Plaza International Ballroom</i>
10:30 a.m.	to 11:00 a.m.	Wildlife Show by Gatorland, <i>Regency Ballroom</i>
10:30 a.m.	to 11:00 a.m.	Brazilian Voices, <i>Foyer</i>
10:30 a.m.	to 11:00 a.m.	Royal DJs, <i>Foyer</i>
10:30 a.m.	to 12:30 a.m.	Adaptive Scuba and Paddle Board, <i>Quiet Pool</i>
10:30 a.m.	to 3:00 p.m.	Registration Open, <i>Registration Desk</i>
11:00 a.m.	to 12:00 p.m.	Early Steps Playgroup, <i>Orlando Ballroom N</i>
11:00 a.m.	to 12:30 p.m.	2019 Celebration of Life Ceremony: Honoring Our Loved Ones, <i>Blue Spring II</i>
11:00 a.m.	to 12:30 p.m.	Mary Poppins by Synchrony Arts Productions, <i>Barrel Spring</i>
<b>11:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.</b>		<b>CONCURRENT SESSIONS</b>
12:00 p.m.	to 1:00 p.m.	Friends of Bill: AA Meeting  , <i>Rock Spring II</i>
12:30 p.m.	to 1:00 p.m.	Pyramid Players, <i>Foyer</i>
12:30 p.m.	to 1:00 p.m.	FRIENDS Choir, <i>Foyer</i>
1:00 p.m.	to 5:00 p.m.	Arts and Crafts, <i>Orlando Ballroom N</i>
<b>1:00 p.m. to 2:00 p.m.</b>		<b>CONCURRENT SESSIONS</b>
2:00 p.m.	to 2:30 p.m.	Pyramid Players, <i>Foyer</i>
2:00 p.m.	to 2:30 p.m.	FRIENDS Choir, <i>Foyer</i>
2:00 p.m.	to 2:30 p.m.	Chance2Dance, <i>Foyer</i>
<b>2:30 p.m. to 3:30 p.m.</b>		<b>CONCURRENT SESSIONS</b>
3:30 p.m.	to 4:00 p.m.	Pyramid Players, <i>Foyer</i>
3:30 p.m.	to 4:00 p.m.	Royal DJs, <i>Foyer</i>
<b>4:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.</b>		<b>CONCURRENT SESSIONS</b>
5:00 p.m.	to 5:30 p.m.	Pyramid Players, <i>Foyer</i>
5:00 p.m.	to 5:30 p.m.	Solar Flair, <i>Foyer</i>
7:00 p.m.	to 9:00 p.m.	Family Entertainment featuring DJ Scully, <i>Plaza International Ballroom</i>





## **The M.O.R.G.A.N. Project Sensory Room**

Saturday, June 8

8:30-5:30

Closed for lunch from 1:00-2:00

Orlando Ballroom L & M

Join us for an indoor sensory wonderland that is 100% wireless, wheelchair-accessible, and created just for children with physical disabilities and sensory processing issues. Brought to you by The M.O.R.G.A.N. Project, this one-of-a-kind experience based on Snoezelen principals will help you learn how the multi-sensory environment can benefit a child with physical disabilities, autism, or other sensory processing disorders. Stop by for an opportunity for your children to decompress. (Parents are required to remain with children at all times.)

Tonya Bloodgood, Director of Fun

Morgan's Place

4241 North Highway 1

Melbourne, FL 32935

(321) 506-2707

info@themorganproject.org

## **Accessible Obstacle Course**

Saturday, June 8

8:30-5:00

Regency Ballroom

The Accessible Obstacle Course is designed for any person who uses a wheelchair, or even for those who don't, to try and maneuver around obstacles like those they might encounter as part of the daily life of an individual with access and functional needs. This activity is designed for all age groups.

Linda Carter

No Person Left Behind

704 Homer Avenue North

Lehigh Acres, FL 33971

(239) 826-8696

mrlindacarter@gmail.com

Mary Carter

No Person Left Behind

704 Homer Avenue North

Lehigh Acres, FL 33971

(239) 826-8696

marycarter@comcast.net



## **Gatorland Wildlife Show/Active Leisure for Life!**

Saturday, June 8

10:30 a.m. to 11:00 a.m.

Regency Ballroom

Be introduced to Florida's most famous resident and watch as the excitement builds when an American alligator enters the room! You will meet an entertaining Gator Wrangler from GATORLAND who will share stories of close encounters with some of the world's most feared predators. Then get ready for your own up-close encounter with an American alligator! Learn about wildlife native to Florida. Meet the reptiles, mammals, and birds up close and in person that you don't see every day!

10:30 a.m. to 11:00 a.m.      **Brazilian Voices, Foyer**  
10:30 a.m. to 11:00 a.m.      **Royal DJs, Foyer**

### **Adaptive SCUBA and Paddle Board**

Saturday, June 8  
10:30-12:30  
Quiet Pool

SCUBA is for everyone that has an interest. Come to this to session to learn what is possible. The session is held at the Quiet Pool so several participants may actually try on the equipment and get into the water. No prior knowledge is required. While you're at the pool, you can also try out a paddle board.

Dr. Gabrielle Gabrielli  
Life Worth Leading  
PO Box 12861  
Tallahassee, FL 32317  
(850) 321-8222  
gabrielle@scubawithgabrielle.com

David Jones  
Florida Disabled Outdoors Association  
2213 Tallahassee Drive  
Tallahassee, FL 32308  
(850) 510-7323  
davidjones@fdoa.org



### **2019 Celebration of Life Ceremony: Honoring Our Loved Ones**

Saturday, June 8  
11:00-12:30  
Blue Spring II

When we lose someone dear to us, we experience deep sadness and even despair, wondering how we will survive. We have longings to know they are fine and to know we were good enough, in their eyes. The healing process we embark upon continues throughout our lives. For this reason, our Celebration of Life Ceremony is for anyone who has lost a loved one, at any time. We believe that by coming together in the Family Café community, where the common bond of disability unites us in a special way, a profound healing occurs.

In this year's Celebration of Life Ceremony, you will remember the gifts and contributions of your loved one — and will include those on Family Café's Web of Life, which represents the eternal interconnectedness of all that is. Through a guided meditation, you will be invited to let go of regrets and receive the gift of Light and Love. Dr. Paula Petry will share about the loss of her daughter, Alexandra, and what helped her through her deep grief. Accompanying Paula is sound healer, Jeff Deen and the internationally renowned female vocalists, Brazilian Voices. Your remembrance will be represented in a sand dollar which you will take with you.

Paula Petry, Ph.D. spent many years in academia and engaged in parent support and disability public policy. With her daughter's death and subsequent divorce in 1996, she pursued an intuitive healing arts path that has given her unique insights and wisdom that she shares with loving kindness. She is the author of the upcoming book, *News From Oz: A Mother's Journey Through Grief Toward Wholeness*.

Paula Petry, PhD  
Nothing Trumps Hope, LLC  
9 Saints Rest Lane  
Cooperstown, NY 13326  
(305) 807-7594  
paula@paulapetry.com

## 11:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. CONCURRENT SESSIONS



### **Sesame Street — Let's Get Ready/Planning Together for Emergencies Disaster Preparedness**

Saturday, June 8

11:00-12:00

Celebration 1

This session will help motivate children of all ages to understand why it is important to help mom and dad to know their name, phone number, and where they live so that they can summon help or help their parents during a disaster and what they need to put in their disaster to-go kit.

Linda Carter  
No Person Left Behind  
704 Homer Avenue North  
Lehigh Acres, FL 33971  
(239) 826-8696  
mslindacarter@gmail.com

Mary Carter  
No Person Left Behind  
704 Homer Avenue North  
Lehigh Acres, FL 33971  
(239) 826-8696  
marycarter@comcast.net

### **Meet Dr. Verra-Tirado, Chief, Bureau of Exceptional Education and Student Services, Florida Department of Education**

Saturday, June 8

11:00-12:00

Celebration 2

Dr. Verra-Tirado will provide participants with an update on the latest initiatives and activities of the bureau, which administers education programs for students with disabilities, coordinates student services throughout the state, and participates in multiple inter-agency efforts designed to strengthen the quality and variety of services available to students with special needs.

Dr. Monica Verra-Tirado  
Florida Department of Education  
325 West Gaines Street Suite 615  
Tallahassee, Florida 32308  
850-245-0916  
aimee.kowalczyk@fldoe.org



## **Introduction to the Consumer Directed Care Plus (CDC+) Program**

Saturday, June 8

11:00-12:00

Celebration 3

Have you ever wondered what CDC+ is and if it is right for you? The Agency for Persons with Disabilities will provide an overview of the CDC+ program. This presentation will provide you with an introduction to CDC+ and give a brief overview of program requirements. Bring any questions you have about CDC+; we'll be happy to answer as many as time will allow.

Lydia Bustillo

Agency for Persons with Disabilities

4030 Esplanade Way, Suite 380

Tallahassee, FL 32399

lydia.bustillo@apdcares.org

## **Dental Visits Made Easy for Kids with Autism**

Saturday, June 8

11:00-12:00

Celebration 5

Getting Oral Health Care for kids on the autism spectrum has many difficulties. We will review specific strategies to help your child have successful dental visits. We will also show how to plan to prepare for the visits and what you can do at home to help promote positive Oral Health Care.

Margie Garlin

CARD Center for Autism UF

3617 NW 30th Boulevard

Gainesville, FL 32605

(352) 846-2762

mlgarlin@ufl.edu





## **Helping Families with Special Needs through Transfers and Transitions**

Saturday, June 8

11:00-12:00

Celebration 6

Families are relocating more often. Whether they relocate due to military lifestyle, natural disaster, or job necessity, families with special needs will benefit greatly with a little planning. What are your legal rights and requirements for support after moving your family to a new location? What support is available to help you during the transition? A panel of agency experts will discuss concepts to help plan, organize, and initiate transfers between new locations, and talk about lessons learned from Hurricane Michael.

Scott Sevin

Florida Military Family Special Needs Network

1313 Ponce de Leon Boulevard, Suite 301

Coral Gables, FL 33314

(305) 535-0914

scott@7-dippity.com

Eric Sherman

Department of Defense-State Liaison Office

Karen Hagan

Agency for Persons with Disabilities

Curtis Jenkins

Florida Department of Education

Cheryl McGrew

Navy Region Southeast



## **Florida's Behavioral Health System for Children, Youth, and Young Adults**

Saturday, June 8

11:00-12:00

Celebration 7

Florida's behavioral health system has undergone significant changes over the last five years, resulting in a system that is confusing and challenging for parents, caregivers, and professionals assisting them. This presentation will provide an overview of Florida's current behavioral health system for children, youth, and young adults. Participants will learn about what agencies provide behavioral health services, what services and supports are covered by the department, and how to access them. In addition, the presenter will provide resource information targeted to parents, caregivers, and youth. The presentation will also provide an overview of System of Care Principles which the Department of Children and Families is working to infuse into the service delivery system.

Mary Schrenker

Florida Department of Children and Families

1317 Winewood Boulevard

Building 6, Room 281

Tallahassee, FL 32399

(850) 717-4712

mary.schrenker@myflfamilies.com

## **Down Syndrome Roundtable**

Saturday, June 8

11:00-12:00

Celebration 8

Are you looking for a chance to network with other families? This is a chance for families to connect with each other and share their experiences. Sometimes, the best education you can get is from another parent or caregiver. If you would like to talk about your experience with Down Syndrome, join us for this informal conversation.

Irene Nicola  
2509 Wood Oak Drive  
Sarasota, FL 34232  
srqmom@yahoo.com

## **Our “Differently Abled” Circles of Friends: Stories of Social Success Within Communities of People with Disabilities**

Saturday, June 8

11:00-12:00

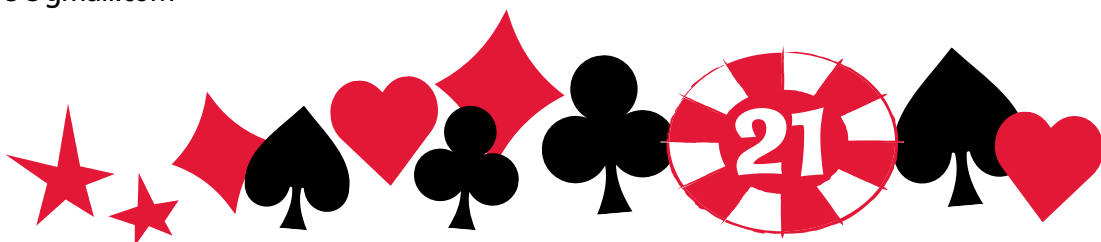
Celebration 9

Many people with disabilities often make and maintain successful friendships within communities of people with their disability or other disabilities. Meanwhile, social issues and needs routinely differ among different people with disabilities. In this presentation, a group of “differently abled” adults with different disabilities will discuss their experiences building and maintaining friendships among people with disabilities (and abilities) different than theirs, why some friendships worked and others didn’t for them within the disability community, and how people with disabilities can maintain lasting friendships among people with disabilities and abilities vastly different from theirs.

James Williams  
Wisconsin’s Community of Practice on Autism Spectrum Disorders and Developmental Disabilities  
1827 Sunnyside Circle  
Northbrook, IL 60062  
(224) 628-6629  
jmw820@comcast.net

Rebecca Marshall  
Winter Springs, FL 32708  
(407) 592-1721  
kidatheart195@gmail.com

Narottam Cecil  
Gainesville, FL 32601  
mtrempe108@gmail.com







## **Your Winning Ticket: Making Work Pay — Understanding Vocational Rehabilitation, Social Security, Medicare, and Medicaid**

Saturday, June 8

11:00-12:00

Celebration 10

In this session, we will discuss the employment of persons with disabilities and the impact of employment on Social Security benefits, Medicare, Medicaid, and Medicaid Waivers. We will provide updates to the programs including Partnership Plus and upcoming changes. Experts from Vocational Rehabilitation and Disability Rights Florida will discuss how benefits are affected and can be maintained through Ticket to Work, SSI, and SSDI employment support programs, and the use of trusts for maintaining Medicaid eligibility, all in plain and understandable language.

Willette Bowers  
Division of Vocational Rehabilitation  
4070 Esplanade Way, Room 225A  
Tallahassee, FL 32399  
willette.bowers@vr.fldoe.org

Debbie Baker  
Florida Division of Vocational Rehabilitation  
3191 Maguire Boulevard, Suite 246  
Orlando, FL 32803  
(407) 897-2732  
debbie.baker@vr.fldoe.org

Barry Shalinsky  
Florida Division of Vocational Rehabilitation  
1313 North Tampa Street, Suite 801  
Tampa, FL 33602  
(813) 233-3624  
barry.shalinsky@vr.fldoe.org

Victor Panoff  
Disability Rights Florida  
Times Building, Suite 640, 1000 North Ashley Drive  
Tampa, FL 33602  
victorp@disabilityrightsflorida.org

## **It's Not Magic, It's Music Therapy**

Saturday, June 8

11:00-12:00

Celebration 11

Come play instruments, sing, dance, and enjoy this musically interactive session! Music Therapy is an established healthcare profession that has been around in the U.S. since World War I. So why are there still so many people that do not have a clear understanding of this comprehensive approach? In this session, we will give you a brief history of how music therapy became a profession in the U.S., what it takes to become a music therapist, and how music therapy can be beneficial to people of all ages and stages of life, from infants in the NICU, to elders at the end stages of life, and everyone in between.

Tamela Ponder, MT-BC  
Joyful Music Therapy  
719 Lee Road  
Orlando, FL 32810  
(407) 489-1783  
tponder@joyfulmusictherapy.com

Amy Gower, MT-BC  
Joyful Music Therapy  
719 Lee Road  
Orlando, FL 32810  
(407) 489-1783



### **ABLE United: The Basics on ABLE Accounts 2.0**

Saturday, June 8

11:00-12:00

Celebration 12

ABLE United, Florida's qualified ABLE program, provides new opportunities for people with disabilities and can change the way you plan for short-term expenditures and establish long-term savings. In this session, you'll learn about how ABLE United could benefit you or your loved ones, how ABLE United helps you save without negatively impacting federal benefits, and how ABLE United differs from other savings options such as Special Needs Trusts.

John Finch  
ABLE United  
1801 Hermitage Boulevard  
Tallahassee, FL 32308  
(850) 488-8514  
john.finch@ableunited.com



### **AACID — Advocates for Adult Children with Intellectual Disabilities**

Saturday, June 8

11:00-12:00

Celebration 13

AACID — Advocates for Adult Children with Intellectual Disabilities: Come learn how this Advocate group went from 12 to 170+ family members in just 4 short years. Learn how to establish your own group and the techniques that will make it successful, from its monthly meeting to its outreach in the community.

John Langan  
AACID – Advocates for Adult Children with Intellectual Disabilities  
2173 Arrobes Place  
The Villages, FL 32162  
(352) 633-1136  
jtklangan@aol.com

### **ABA Therapy**

Saturday, June 8

11:00-12:00

Celebration 14

If you are considering Applied Behavior Analysis (ABA) therapy for your child, have mixed thoughts about ABA, or want to learn about positive behavior change interventions, then this is a presentation for you! The presenter will provide brief overviews of the history of ABA, explain what behavior therapists do, teach you how to see through the eyes of a Behavior Analyst, and tell you what to expect if your child begins ABA therapy services.

Melissa Giblin  
7302 Sunshine Circle  
Tampa, FL 33634  
(772) 634-5265  
melissa.giblin.fl@gmail.com

## **Amor y Alegría en Armonía**

Saturday, June 8

11:00-12:00

Celebration 15

Motivar e inspirar a través de mi experiencia como madre de dos Hijos con autismo proveído herramientas para crear armonía e integración familiar.

Maria "Lalita" Tooley

*Abraza La ViDa, una Guía para Padres con Hijos Especiales*

9826 Lychee Loop Apt. 104

Riverview, FL 33569

(813) 789-0203

[embracinglifeas1@gmail.com](mailto:embracinglifeas1@gmail.com)

## **Medical Marijuana in the Medical Field**

Saturday, June 8

11:00-12:00

Celebration 16

Medical marijuana is becoming very popular in today's medical field. There are still several hoops to get through to access this age old medication. Additionally, we will discuss what Florida law is currently saying about medical marijuana. Furthermore, learn how medical marijuana can help many illnesses and also prevention of some of our biggest health issues.

Laura K. Roza

Tampa Fibro Friends

24135 Painter Drive

Land O Lakes, FL 34639

(813) 482-2835

[savie4@aol.com](mailto:savie4@aol.com)

Nedra Rich

Tampa Fibro Friends

24135 Painter Drive

Land O Lakes, FL34639

(813) 928-3371

[savie4@aol.com](mailto:savie4@aol.com)

Michael Miller

Tampa Fibro Friends

24135 Painter Drive

Land O Lakes, FL 34639

(813) 508-2986

[savie4@aol.com](mailto:savie4@aol.com)





**Exclusive Scope of The FYC**

Saturday, June 8  
11:00-12:00  
Bayhill 17

Come to this session to find out what the day-to-day lives of Florida Youth Council members are like. What are the daily experiences of youth leaders with disabilities? What challenges do we face? How do we see the world, and what would that world look like if it were truly inclusive of young people with disabilities? Join us to find out!

Natasha Germain  
Florida Youth Council  
820 East Park Avenue, Suite F-100  
Tallahassee, FL 32301  
(850) 224-4670  
ngermain@familycafe.net

John Baldino  
Florida Youth Council

Leah Gorman  
Florida Youth Council

Christina Waldron  
Florida Youth Council

Shevie Barnes  
Florida Youth Council

Emma Massey  
Florida Youth Council

Serena Wetmore  
Florida Youth Council

Derek Carraway  
Florida Youth Council

Dakota Smoot  
Florida Youth Council

Brandon White  
Florida Youth Council

Alexander Gonzalez  
Florida Youth Council

Josue Tapia-Ortiz  
Florida Youth Council

Allilee Wood  
Florida Youth Council

**Reducing Disparities in Accessing Social and Health Care Services for Adults with Down Syndrome at Risk for Alzheimer’s Disease**

Saturday, June 8  
11:00-12:00  
Bayhill 18

The adult Down syndrome population is at high risk for early onset of Alzheimer’s disease, complicated by overlapping health conditions. Increasing concerns for these individuals and their caregiver parents are the barriers in accessing appropriate health care. These barriers include appropriate assessment of dementia; recognition of health problems; the need for cross network home and community based services supporting the needs of the families; and most importantly, the lack of awareness of these concerns by the social, health, and medical care communities. These all place stress on the aging parents who are caregivers. This presentation will review some of the barriers to accessing appropriate social and healthcare and services related to dementia and will provide some simple solutions for parents to reduce these barriers.

Ronald Lucchino, PhD  
Lucanus Developmental Center - Hollywood  
1211 Gulf of Mexico Drive  
Longboat Key, FL 34228  
(941) 685-8056  
rvluc1@gmail.com



## **You Can't Pour From an Empty Cup**

Saturday, June 8

11:00-12:00

Bayhill 19

Surviving childhood trauma, nasty traffic accidents, multiple surgeries, a murder, severe anxiety and depression, is just the start of this presentation! "You Can't Pour From an Empty Cup" will give professionals, caretakers and those struggling with disabilities and/or mental illness, real strategies to cope when you think you cannot take the next step forward. Attendees will learn self-advocacy and self-care as part of the process of restorative healing and refilling their own cups.

Leah D. Suarez  
325 SE 15th Avenue  
Okeechobee, FL 34974  
(863) 697-8718  
lsuarez40@gmail.com

## **Everything You Thought You Knew About Service Animals**

Saturday, June 8

11:00-12:00

Bayhill 20

Participants will learn what is and isn't a service animal, how they should act in public, and where they can and cannot go. They will see a live demo and PowerPoint and will be able to ask questions. We discuss the 'fake' issues and what the main problems are for both individuals and businesses causing friction.

Carol Christopherson  
Florida Service Dogs, Inc.  
14897 Yellow Water Lane  
Jacksonville, FL 32234  
(904) 226-6982  
buddynme@bellsouth.net

Niki Crossway  
Florida Service Dogs, Inc.  
14897 Yellow Water Lane  
Jacksonville, FL 32234  
(904) 226-6982  
buddynme@bellsouth.net





## **Benefits and Tax Savings for Families with Special Needs**

Saturday, June 8

11:00-12:00

Bayhill 21

Parents of children with special needs incur a variety of expenses for their child or adult, including therapies, educational training, personal care aides, transportation, home modifications, medical supplies, and special diets. Many of these expenses may be tax deductible, but are often overlooked by other tax professionals, who are unfamiliar with the types and categorization of qualified expenses. 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 taxes. Includes an important overview of Life Planning tools for the most protected future for your child, including information on public benefits, trusts, guardianships, Medicaid, SSI and SSDI. Also, updates on all the new A.B.L.E. 529 accounts across the United States, which allow up to \$100,000 in savings while still retaining SSI and Medicaid.

Karen F. Greenberg  
Prosperity Life Planning, Inc.  
4673 Brady Boulevard  
Delray Beach, FL 33445  
(561) 638-6945  
kfgreenberg@cs.com

Jaret L. Vogel  
Prosperity Life Planning, Inc.  
4673 Brady Boulevard  
Delray Beach, FL 33445  
(561) 239-0054  
jaretlvogel@aol.com

## **Moms to Moms**

Saturday, June 8

11:00-12:00

Bayhill 23

When we are together as mothers, sharing our experience as parents of children with special needs, it feels good! We can empathize and be compassionate to each other and our unique situation. Overtly, we have something in common (our children). We can also learn, laugh, and build friendships. Here is your opportunity to experience all that is mentioned above . . . you are invited to join us for an interactive, informal, relaxing conversation. Let's talk about experiences and concerns of interest to you!

Pam Kissoondyal  
Florida & Virgin Islands Deaf Blind Collaborative (FAVIDBC)  
1600 SW Archer Road  
Gainesville, FL 32610  
(352) 672-4598







### **Strategies to Develop Employable Job Candidates with Disabilities**

Saturday, June 8

11:00-12:00

Bayhill 24

National Disability Institute, World Services for the Blind, and the National Association of Certified Credit Counselors will conduct a workshop on the research in the area of financial capability of adults with disabilities. The workshop will specifically address actionable knowledge focusing on the need for all Americans to have access to the education, resources and tools they need to build credit, manage money with confidence, and become better candidates for employment opportunities in the community.

Nancy Boutot  
National Disability Institute  
1667 K Street NW  
Washington, DC 20006  
(904) 687-9188  
nboutot@ndi-inc.org



### **How Best Buddies Works and How It Helps People with Disabilities**

Saturday, June 8

11:00-12:00

Bayhill 25

Best Buddies Florida is an organization that helps people with disabilities by pairing them with a non-disabled partner and helps them create friendships and gather information about advocating for themselves. Michele and her Best Buddy Jocelyn will share insight to this program available throughout the state of Florida.

Michele Edmunds  
Best Buddies Florida  
7735 Plantation Bay Drive  
Jacksonville, FL 32221  
Grits7018@gmail.com

Jocelyn Popick  
Best Buddies Florida



### **Dadvocacy**

Saturday, June 8

11:00-12:00

Bayhill 26

Welcome to the Florida Father's Network workshop. The purpose of this workshop is to stress the importance of fathers being included in all aspects of the life of their child with a disability. We encourage you as a father to get involved and become aware of resources that are available to help you.

Wilbur Hawke  
South Florida Parent Center  
4260 Jefferson Lane #204  
Naples, FL 34116  
(239) 417-3636  
wilburhawke@embarqmail.com

## **Taming Your IEP Dragons**

Saturday, June 8

11:00-12:00

Bayhill 27

This workshop discusses the importance of the IEP process and discusses five areas of importance that parents must understand to be effective members of the IEP team. The session discusses education, preparation, attitude, collaboration, and involvement and how they link together with the IEP process. Understanding these areas equips the parent with the knowledge to work effectively with the other members of the IEP team and to support and speak to their child's educational needs.

Mark Keith

Resource Materials and Technology Center for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing

207 San Marco Avenue

Saint Augustine, FL 32084

(904) 827-2731

mark.keith@rmtcdhh.org

## **Preparing our Loved One for Independent Living**

Saturday, June 8

11:00-12:00

Bayhill 28

Noah's Ark of Central Florida, Inc. has been a pioneer in making planned residential communities a reality in Florida. The Noah's Ark communities are the culmination of the dreams of hundreds of families and volunteers who have helped during the past 20 years. There are currently 140+ residents living independently with the help of their fellow residents, family, friends, caregivers, and supports. They are able to enjoy an active lifestyle and, most importantly, continue to develop the skills needed to ensure independent living. By attending, you will discover how best to prepare your loved one to live independently when you are no longer able to care for them. You will hear from actual residents how their quality of life has been enriched by moving into a community with their peers.

Susan Harding

Noah's Ark of Central Florida, Inc

500 Inspiration Drive

Lakeland, FL 33805

(863) 512-1368

susan.harding@hbitax.com

Falon Alo

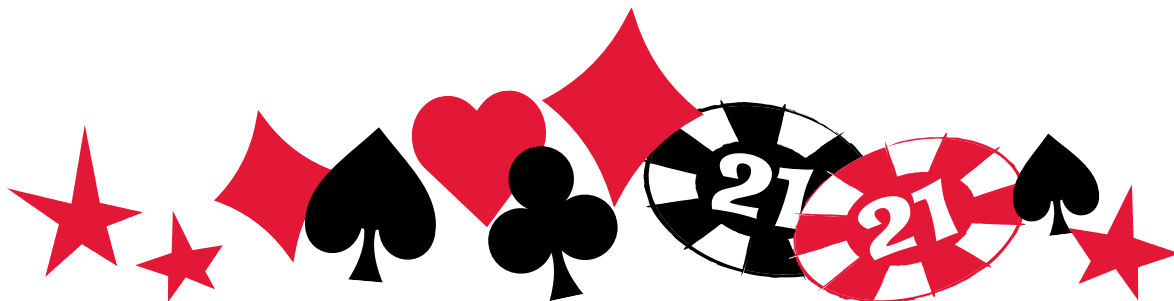
Noah's Ark of Central Florida, Inc.

500 Inspiration Drive

Lakeland, FL 33805

(863) 687-0804

director@noahsarkflorida.org



## **Successful Transitioning from Elementary to Middle and Middle to High School**

Saturday, June 8

11:00-12:00

Bayhill 29

Transitioning from one school to another is stressful enough for any student, but add a disability on top of that, and things become even more challenging. Many students with disabilities walk into new schools without the strategies to support the transition. There are steps and strategies that can be implemented by students, families, and schools to increase the chances of a successful transition. This presentation will discuss the strategies that parents, students, and schools can use to ensure the successful transition of students with disabilities. After the strategies, a student's perspective on her transition from elementary to middle school will be shared. She will discuss what has worked for her and what did not.

Dr. Jayme Joslyn  
Pinellas County Schools  
9700 1st Street North  
Saint Petersburg, FL 33702  
(727) 452-8564  
jaymejoslyn@gmail.com

Gracie Joslyn  
Thurgood Marshall Fundamental Middle School  
9700 1st Street North  
Saint Petersburg, FL 33702  
(727) 452-8564  
jaymejoslyn@gmail.com



## **My Preschooler Has a Disability, What Happens Next?**

Saturday, June 8

11:00-12:00

Bayhill 30

Being new to the special education process can be overwhelming. Where do I get help? Where do I find resources? Am I making the right decisions for my child?

LeNita Winkler  
(850) 245-0475  
lenita.winkler@fldoe.org

## **Guardianship and Guardianship Alternatives**

Saturday, June 8

11:00-12:00

Bayhill 31

This session is about empowering individuals in making an informed choice regarding assisting an individual in the decision process regarding life choices. Topics will include self-determination, the supported decision making process, and requirements for the guardianship and guardianship advocate process. The main goal of our presentation is to equip attendees with the basic knowledge of the rights of the adult who may require assistance in making decisions in his/her life.

Z. Felicia Jordan  
Disability Rights Florida  
1930 Harrison Street, Suite 104  
Hollywood, FL 33020  
(850) 488-9071  
feliciaj@disabilityrightsflorida.org

## **Getting the Services You Need from the Florida Medicaid Developmental Disability Individual Budgeting (iBudget) Waiver**

Saturday, June 8

11:00-12:00

Bayhill 32

This session will include advocacy tips for individuals who are applying for or receiving services from the Florida Medicaid Development Disabilities iBudget Waiver. The presentation will focus on topics which include preparing for your application, when to complete a crisis application if you are on the iBudget Waiver Waitlist, and when to make a significant additional needs funds request. The session will also provide a general overview on how to request and prepare for an appeal following a denial or service reduction.

Rachel Siegel-McLaughlin, Esq.  
Disability Rights Florida  
2473 Care Drive, Suite 200  
Tallahassee, FL 32308  
(850) 488-9071  
rachels@disabilityrightsflorida.org

Jatinique Randal, Esq.  
Disability Rights Florida  
1000 North Ashley Drive  
Tampa, FL 33602  
(850) 488-9071  
jatiniquer@disabilityrightsflorida.org



### **Recycled Fun to Help Infants and Toddlers**

Saturday, June 8

11:00-12:00

Bayhill 33

Presented by an Early Steps Family Resource Specialist, this workshop will show you some easy low-tech ideas to help your developing infant or toddler using everyday items around your home, and creating items by recycling. We will also help give you ideas on how to incorporate learning into your everyday routines and activities.

Paula Keyser  
West Central Early Steps  
480 4th Avenue South  
St. Petersburg, FL 33701  
(727) 767-6705



### **Shaping Behavior with Apps for iPad**

Saturday, June 8

11:00-12:00

Rainbow Spring I

This workshop will help parents use iPad apps to shape their child's behavior. There are many apps available to use for scheduling, timers, rewards, and organization. This would be especially helpful for parents with children with Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder (ADD or ADHD), Autism (ASD), Asperger's, Specific Learning Disability (SLD), or Emotional Behavioral Disability (EBD). So bring your iPad and let's find some helpful apps!

Helen Burton  
SEDNET Region 8B  
25 East Hickpochee Avenue  
Labelle, FL 33935  
(863) 674-4164  
burtonh@hendry-schools.net



## Caring for the Caregiver: Mindful Meditation

Saturday, June 8  
11:00-12:00  
Rainbow Spring II

Mindfulness might simply be described as paying attention in a particular way: on purpose, to the present moment, non-judgmentally. By practicing mindfulness using the meditations taught at the acclaimed Mindfulness Based Stress Reductions program, we begin to have a different experience with life. Mind you, nothing on the outside changes, it's just that our experiences of different situations change. Crystal Bowl Sound Baths are part meditation, part listening exercise, Sound Baths are healing musical performances played with crystal singing bowls and chimes promoting a state of deep relaxation.

Camille Sacco  
Certified Meditation Instructor  
(321) 960-3382  
info@camillesacco.com  
www.camillesacco.com

## Early Steps of SWFL Playgroup

Saturday, June 8  
11:00-12:00  
Orlando N

Playgroups provide caregivers the opportunity:

- To socialize with families that can relate to what you are experiencing
- To gain information on community resources
- To find support from other parents and caregivers
- To exchange ideas and solutions to the many challenges that arise

Playgroups offer children the opportunity:

- To interact with peers
- To participate in group play
- To take part in activities that help to stimulate development

Playgroups will be open to all families with a child or children 0-5 years of age.

Jeremi Grosser  
Early Steps SWFL  
8961 Daniels Center Drive, Suite 401  
Fort Myers, FL 33912  
(239) 433-6706  
jeremigrosser@hpcswf.com

Imperia Torres  
Early Steps SWFL  
8961 Daniels Center Drive, Suite 401  
Fort Myers, FL 33912  
(239) 292-2995  
imperiatorres@hpcswf.com

12:00 p.m. to 1:00 p.m.	Friends of Bill: AA Meeting  , Rock Spring II
12:30 p.m. to 1:00 p.m.	Pyramid Players, Foyer
12:30 p.m. to 1:00 p.m.	FRIENDS Choir, Foyer
1:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.	Arts & Crafts, Orlando Ballroom N

## 1:00 p.m. to 2:00 p.m. CONCURRENT SESSIONS



### **Emergency Planning and Preparedness for Caregivers**

Saturday, June 8

1:00-2:00

Celebration 1

What if you had to choose between the life of your husband with disabilities or that of your unborn child? What if you didn't know where you could go with your nonverbal child with special needs in a disaster? We don't want these questions to ever be asked by another family caregiver ever again. We suffered enough. We are here to help you know what you should plan and prepare for and how you can implement your plan. Then we can all be safe together!

Laura George  
5789 Adrian Lane  
Gainesville, GA 30506  
(770) 330-5653  
pobox2lg@gmail.com

Jackie Schwab  
Mindlight, LLC  
4875 North 110 Street  
Milwaukee, WI 53225  
(414) 617-4320  
jackies@mindlightllc.com

### **Developing an ESE Parent Advisory Council in Your School District**

Saturday, June 8

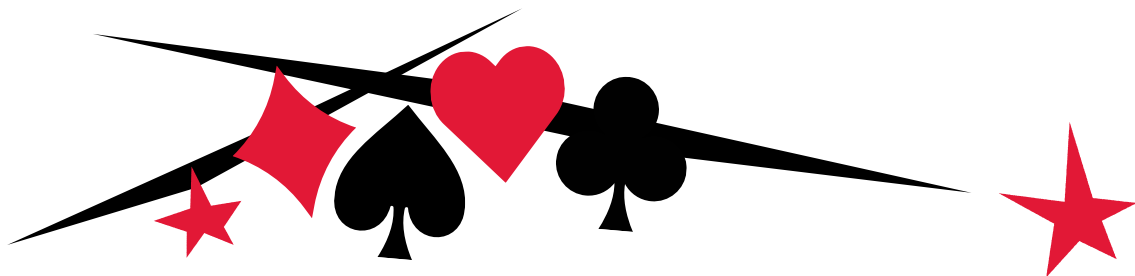
1:00-2:00

Celebration 2

Are you interested in developing an ESE Parent Advisory Council within your school district? Would you like your voice heard on ESE student education matters? Creating an ESE Parent Advisory Council within your district is a way to work with the school district to better improve the ESE educational systems. The role of the committee is not only to share your experiences but also to advise and suggest on ESE. If you are interested in creating this type of committee this presentation is for you.

Aimee Kowalczyk  
Bureau of Exceptional Education and Student Services  
325 West Gaines Street, Suite 614  
Tallahassee, FL 32399  
aimee.kowalczyk@fldoe.org

Jessica Brattain  
Florida Department of Education  
325 West Gaines Street  
Tallahassee, FL 32399  
(850) 245-0475  
jessica.brattain@fldoe.org





## **The Sixty Minute Mom's Retreat . . . "Refreshing Your Greatness!"**

Saturday, June 8

1:00-2:00

Celebration 5

Much will be accomplished within the time span of this session. An absolutely exciting opportunity awaits all women desiring to experience a relaxing informational and inspirational fellowship to energize your Spirit, Mind, and Body. Many can relate to the feeling of being overwhelmed and depleted sometimes, whether you are a mom or female caregiver. This nurturing session explores avenues to strengthen and equips us to better care for ourselves and others. It is imperative that we continue to nourish the greatness within us and maintain a sense of priority and urgency to it because it is easy to put ourselves on the backburner when it comes to the needs of the family. Ladies, look forward to a power-packed hour of sheer encouragement for your wellbeing!!!

Malverna N. Streater  
Team Streater Seminars  
3550 Esplanade Way  
Tallahassee, Florida 32311  
(850) 661-1202  
malverna1@yahoo.com



### **How/Ways Joint Services Improve the Quality of Life for Our Exceptional Families**

Saturday, June 8

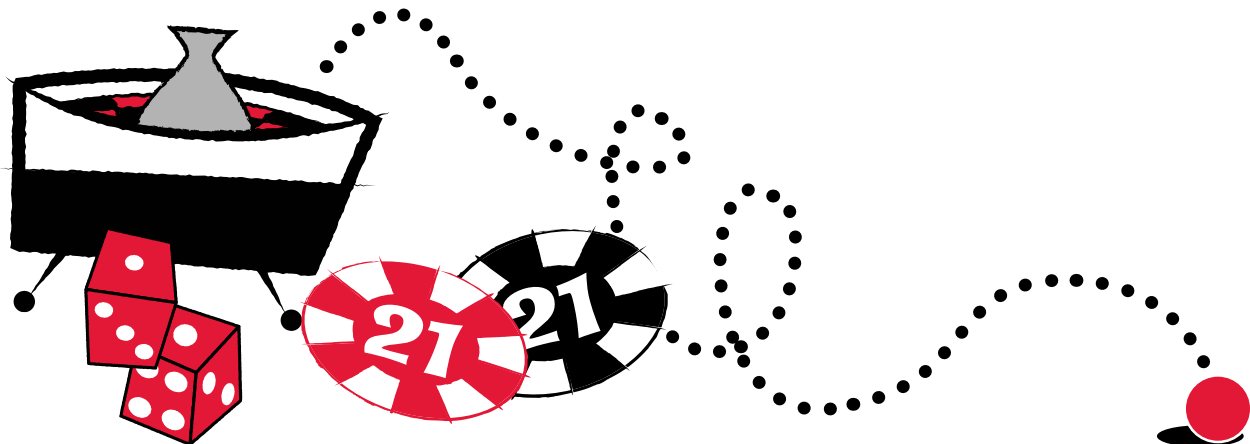
1:00-2:00

Celebration 6

Learn how to utilize your Exceptional Family Member Program (EFMP) support family staff! Come join the EFM staff in discovering how we work together in meeting the mission of family support across all services.

Scott Sevin  
Florida Military Family Special Needs Network  
1313 Ponce De Leon Boulevard, Suite 301  
Coral Gables, FL 33134  
(305) 535-0914  
scott@7-dippity.com

Maria Barkmeier  
Special Education Consultant  
Florida Military Family Special Needs Network  
172 NE Twylite Terrace  
Port Saint Lucie, FL 34983  
(772) 342-7665  
mvbark@hotmail.com





## **The Opioid Crisis in Florida and What Communities Are Doing About It**

June 8

1:00-2:00

Celebration 7

The opioid crisis has brought an awareness through a lens that we have not looked through before as a society. Substance abuse and mental health are at the forefront and affecting more families than ever before. Recovery is possible. Ending the stigma is essential. This presentation will provide an overview as to how the opioid crisis in the state of Florida is bringing new resources to our communities. Florida is on the second grant provided through the federal government to assist in combating opioid use to save lives. Through each of the grants, each DCF region across the state has been able to hire behavioral health consultants and certified peer recovery specialists. This presentation will discuss the role of a behavioral health consultant and how they are assisting child welfare in learning about opiates and medication assisted treatment programs, as well as how the peer with true lived experience can make a difference in the lives of those in recovery living in our community. Further detail will be given as to how peers with lived experience are able to be certified through the Florida Certification Board as well as types of work and advocacy that peers are able to obtain (those in recovery from substance abuse and/or mental health as well as family members). These grant activities are going on around the state of Florida as well as numerous areas across the country. However, we feel that in the NW region of Florida we are moving forward promptly through collaborations with Dept of Corrections, the Florida Peer Coalition, churches and other providers in the community. Our staff is working on true warm handoffs for individuals reentering the community from jails and state hospitals in a way that is assisting with family support, jobs, housing and other resources which are necessary for recovery. Engaging the family in an individual's recovery is key to success.

Missy Lee  
Florida Department of Children and Families  
117 South Waukesha Street  
Bonifay, FL 32425  
(850) 251-7350  
mylisa.lee@myflfamilies.com

Jennifer Williams  
Florida Department of Children and Families

Joseph Cantin  
Florida Department of Children and Families

## **Cerebral Palsy Roundtable**

Saturday, June 8

1:00-2:00

Celebration 8

Are you looking for a chance to network with other families? This is a chance for families to connect with each other and share their experiences. Sometimes, the best education you can get is from another parent or caregiver. If you'd like to talk about your experience with cerebral palsy, join us for this informal conversation.

Cathy Seacrist  
3600 Arthur Street  
Hollywood, FL 33021  
cathybear143@aol.com

## **Making Sense of Sound**

Saturday, June 8

1:00-2:00

Celebration 9

Noise surrounds us; sometimes making sense of it all can be difficult, especially for children who are blind/visually impaired or have sensitivities to sounds. Join in for tips & techniques on promoting your child's understanding of environmental sounds and an introduction to the benefits of advanced listening skills for cognitive and social development.

Misty Porter

Florida School for the Deaf and the Blind

207 North San Marco Avenue

Saint Augustine, FL 32086

(904) 827-2988

porterm@fsdb.k12.fl.us



## **Social Security Basics and the Impact of Work on Beneficiaries with Disabilities and Youth with Disabilities**

Saturday, June 8

1:00-2:00

Celebration 10

This presentation will examine:

- Overview of Social Security Disability Insurance (SSDI)
- The impact of work on SSDI
- Overview of Supplemental Security Income (SSI)
- The impact of work on SSI
- Youth with disabilities who receive SSI and SSDI
- Where to turn for assistance

Victor Panoff

Disability Rights Florida

Times Building, Suite 640, 1000 North Ashley Drive

Tampa, FL 33602

victorp@disabilityrightsflorida.org

## **College? Really? How? Students with Intellectual Disabilities Succeed in College, Q&A**

Saturday, June 8

1:00-2:00

Celebration 11

This session will provide families with the WHY their sons and daughters with intellectual disability should attend college, what to expect, and how these students can succeed in college content and finish with a college certificate. A wealth of resources are presented for participants to take home and explore.

Dr. Kathleen Becht

University of Central Florida

4000 Central Florida Boulevard, Ferrell Commons, 7C

Orlando, FL 32816

(407) 823-1099

kathleen.becht@ucf.edu



## **The Anime Connection: Utilizing Anime, Manga, and Related Media to Teach Disability Awareness**

Saturday, June 8  
1:00-2:00  
Celebration 13

Many individuals with disabilities enjoy anime series and manga books. In addition, many anime series, manga books, and related media feature characters with disabilities, and reference issues and situations commonly experienced by people with disabilities (directly and indirectly) that can be utilized to teach awareness of varying disabilities. In this presentation, listen to two anime fans with disabilities describe and discuss how anime, manga, and related media can be utilized by people with disabilities and advocates alike to teach disability awareness.

James Williams  
Author and Presenter with Autism  
1827 Sunnyside Circle  
Northbrook, IL 60062  
(224) 628-6629  
jmw820@comcast.net

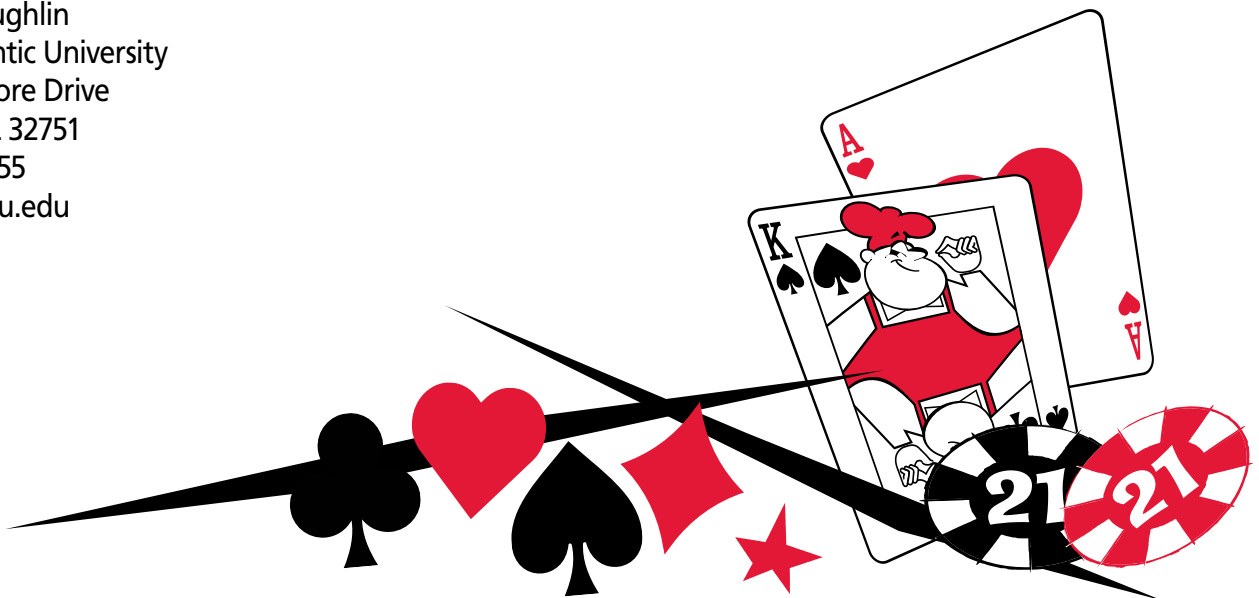
Hailey Buxton  
Pinellas Park, FL 33780  
(727) 415-8834  
kbuxton@tampabay.rr.com

## **Strategies to Improve Handwriting for Children with Autism Spectrum Disorder**

Saturday, June 8  
1:00-2:00  
Celebration 14

Children with Autism Spectrum Disorder often demonstrate handwriting difficulties. While some people think of technology as a replacement for handwriting, research consistently points out the importance of developing handwriting skills in early years of school. This presentation provides practical ideas and teaching strategies to help children on the spectrum develop and improve many elements that comprise handwriting performance, e.g. sequence of letter strokes, letter size, and directionality. It includes ideas on engaging students' gifts and talents in handwriting instruction, and how to gradually build up their writing stamina. The presentation is based on relevant research-based pedagogical and therapeutic resources.

Elena McLaughlin  
Florida Atlantic University  
503 Lake Shore Drive  
Maitland, FL 32751  
(561) 251-6555  
ewebb6@fau.edu



## **Supporting Students Toward Good Health: Health Literacy and Transition**

Saturday, June 8

1:00-2:00

Celebration 15

When youth/young adults understand and engage in their own health care, they have a greater opportunity to thrive. Families and professionals can do much to help students advance in this often-overlooked and critical part of transition, health literacy learning and healthcare transition planning, through use of current research, resources, and evidence-based practices. The American Academy of Pediatrics and related organizations recognize healthcare literacy and transition as critical concerns, and research shows most youth are unprepared for transfer to adult healthcare, medical practices lack processes to help young people increase health literacy and transition skills, and education systems seldom bring health literacy and transition into the planning process. Come learn what you can do — early and often — to support health literacy and transition.

Linda Starnes

PEART

1710 Greystone Court

Longwood, FL 32779

(407) 538-7180

L\_H\_Starnes@aol.com

## **Simplifying the Legal Process: How to Smoothly Transition Your Child into Adulthood**

Saturday, June 8

1:00-2:00

Celebration 16

While transitioning your child, family member, or friend with a disability into adulthood may seem overwhelming, we are here to break it all down for you. We will be discussing the process and reasons for obtaining Guardianship Advocacy, Special Needs Trusts and why they are important, and why you should have a Letter of Intent. Our presentation will assist you in determining the best options to protect your loved one, set them up to be as successful and financially secure as possible, and inform you of what legal options may be best for you and your situation.

Jeff Kaufman

Kaufman and Lynd, PLLC

200 East Robinson Street, Suite #250

Orlando, FL 32801

(407) 706-3535

jkaufman@kaufmanlynd.com

Lauren Lorman

Kaufman and Lynd, PLLC

200 East Robinson Street, Suite #250

Orlando, FL 32801

(407) 706-3535

llorman@kaufmanlynd.com





### **Let's Get Motivated**

Saturday, June 8  
1:00-2:00  
Bayhill 17

In this session we will talk about how to stay motivated and how not to give up on your goals. Let us sit down and talk with you about your dreams, goals, and aspirations.

Natasha Germain  
Florida Youth Council  
820 East Park Avenue, Suite F-100  
Tallahassee, FL 32301  
(850) 224-4670  
ngermain@familycafe.net

Alex Gonzalez  
Florida Youth Council

Josue Tapia-Ortiz  
Florida Youth Council

Shevie Barnes  
Florida Youth Council

Christina Waldron  
Florida Youth Council

### **Ian's Mom, Ian's Sister: A Parent and Sibling Discussion**

Saturday, June 8  
1:00-2:00  
Bayhill 18

In this session, a mother and sister compare and contrast perspectives on key life moments with their special needs family member. They will discuss sharing caretaker responsibilities, joys, embarrassments, and hard decisions like moving to a group home and planning for the future. They will also share tips for navigating the parent-sibling relationship and helping the neuro-typical sibling develop a sense of self apart from the role of sibling.

Cathy Allore  
FAU-Center for Autism and Related Disabilities (CARD)  
500 NW California Boulevard  
Port Saint Lucie, FL 34986  
(772) 873-3367  
callore@fau.edu

Megan Bishop  
3311 Bonaparte Way  
Durham, NC 27707  
(772) 418-6645  
megbish2@gmail.com



### **Family-to-Family**

Saturday, June 8  
1:00-2:00  
Bayhill 19

Family-to-Family is a FREE twelve-week education course designed to foster learning, healing, and empowerment among families, friends, and caregivers of individuals with mental illness. Course elements include: coping skills; handling periods of crisis and relapse; up-to-date information on medications; guidance on locating appropriate resources; and caring for the caregiver.

Paula Kegelman  
NAMI Greater Orlando  
5051 North Lane, Suite 21  
Orlando, Florida 32808  
(407) 253-1900  
paula.kegelman@namigo.org



**Autism & The Law — Part 2:  
Current Trends of Police Interaction & Individuals with Autism**

Saturday, June 8  
1:00-2:00  
Bayhill 20

This is the second in a four part series that focuses on what parents/guardians need to know to better prepare their child with autism for law enforcement officer interaction. This session will focus on highlighting current trends that have led to police interaction for those with autism and what we can do to better prepare individuals with autism and their families.

Donna Lorman  
Autism Society of Greater Orlando  
1650 Sand Lake Road  
Orlando, Florida 32809  
(407) 855-0235  
dlorman@asgo.org

Hector Gonzalez  
Autism Society of Greater Orlando  
1650 Sand Lake Road  
Orlando, Florida 32809  
(407) 855-0235  
dlorman@asgo.org



**Provide Financially for Your Child and Plan Your Retirement Too? Not Impossible!**

Saturday, June 8  
1:00-2:00  
Bayhill 21

Don't miss this knowledgeable, engaging, interactive and often humorous presentation. Craig Eppy will navigate how to create a special needs plan AND save for your retirement, touching on such topics as:

- ABLE accounts
- Protection of government benefits
- Wills
- Trusts
- HIPAA laws and how they can affect direction of care
- Health care surrogates
- Letter of Intent
- Living wills
- Durable power of attorney
- Funding a special needs trust
- Guardianship options
- Accepting a financial gift – what not to do

An hour of your time = a lifetime of information!

Craig Eppy  
The Eppy Group  
500 East Broward Boulevard, Suite 1800  
Fort Lauderdale, FL 33394  
(954) 271-7888  
c.eppy@eppygroup.com



## **How to Plan and Provide an Effective Dance Class for ALL Abilities**

June 8  
1:00-2:00  
Bayhill 22

Chance 2 Dance is Florida's Inclusive & Accommodating Dance Company. Specializing in providing unique dance classes for all needs, disabilities, and exceptionalities no matter how mild or severe. Chance 2 Dance serves over 600 children, youth, and adults on a weekly basis. This presentation will provide insight on to how C2D plans their curriculum, lesson plans, and studio classes and how instructional accommodations are provided to all levels of abilities. Our organizational goal is to provide an experience that is physically, emotionally, socially, and cognitively beneficial to all of our dancers and we want to share our love for the art of dance and how it can positively impact a community near you!

Nicole Warren  
Chance 2 Dance, Inc.  
264 State Road 436  
Casselberry, FL 32707  
(407) 588-9589  
nicole@chance2dancefl.org

## **Be the Leader in Your Life So Your Loved Ones Will Benefit Greatly!**

Saturday, June 8  
1:00-2:00  
Bayhill 23

What questions should you ask yourself? Who can you talk to? What are the next steps? Sounds simple, right? Yet, many of us do not follow up to finding the answers the simple questions . . . Why? Join this interactive, informal, presentation and let's find out what we can do to help our loved ones with special needs.

Pam Kissoondyal  
Florida & Virgin Islands Deaf Blind Collaborative (FAVIDBC)  
1600 SW Archer Road  
Gainesville, FL 32610  
(352) 672-4598  
pamsk@ufl.edu



## **Social Security Presents: What are Work Incentives?**

Saturday, June 8  
1:00-2:00  
Bayhill 24

This workshop provides information about Social Security employment support provisions that assist beneficiaries in moving from benefit dependency to independence. Work incentives are designed to help beneficiaries enter, re-enter, or stay in the workforce by protecting their eligibility for cash payments and/or health care.

Blanca Taylor  
Social Security Administration  
5520 Gatlin Avenue  
Orlando, FL 32812  
(866) 964-0019  
Blanca.Taylor@ssa.gov



## **Find the Passion That Lies Within — Become a Partner in Policymaking**

Saturday, June 8

1:00-2:00

Bayhill 25

Supports, services, and laws were and are created because passionate people advocate for what is right. The Florida Developmental Disability Council's advocacy training program, Partners in Policymaking (PIP), teaches parents and adults with developmental disabilities the skills they need to influence policymakers to make things happen. Whether you're enthusiastic about educational inclusion, furthering employment opportunities, improving overall quality of life for those with disabilities, or more, PIP can help you discover the advocate you are meant to be. Attend this session to gain knowledge of this national model, where participants learn from highly-recognized speakers, and apply for the class of 2019.

Stacey Hoaglund  
Florida DD Council  
5505 SW 119 Avenue  
Cooper City, FL 33330  
(954) 252-8764  
shoaglund@aol.com



## **Rights for Dads**

Saturday, June 8

1:00-2:00

Bayhill 26

Welcome to Rights for Dads. This workshop will explain procedural safeguards for fathers to easily understand, enabling them to become active participants. No need to fight when you know your rights.

Wilbur Hawke  
South Florida Parent Center  
4260 Jefferson Lane #204  
Naples, FL 34116  
(239) 417-3636  
wilburhawke@embarqmail.com



## **Letting Go: Time to Land the Helicopter**

Saturday, June 8

1:00-2:00

Bayhill 27

The "Letting Go: Time to Land the Helicopter" workshop examines the importance of encouraging independence in a child with special needs. The workshop also discusses how hard it can be for parents to step back and offer the increasing levels of freedom to the child to allow the child to develop that independence. Finally, the training offers some ideas for parents in learning how to let go in a constructive fashion.

Mark Keith

Resource Materials Technology Center for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing

207 San Marco Avenue

Saint Augustine, FL 32084

(904) 827-2731

mark.keith@rmtcdhh.org

## **How to Obtain and Keep Necessary Medical Services**

Saturday, June 8

1:00-2:00

Bayhill 28

This workshop will provide individuals with disabilities and their families with information, from the legal perspective, regarding the process for applying for various public benefits. This workshop will help those seeking benefits to understand what to do, and what not to do, when seeking benefits, as well as information on how to maintain benefits that are in place, and what to do if benefits have been terminated or denied. Participants will gain an understanding of their rights relating to assistance for disabilities as well as how to best exercise those rights.

Matthew Dietz

Disability Independence Group

2990 SW 35th Avenue

Miami, FL 33133

(305) 669-2822

mdietz@justdigit.org

Paolo Annino

Public Interest Law Center

FSU College of Law

Tallahassee, FL 32306

(850) 644-9930

PAnnino@law.fsu.edu

Caitlyn Kio

Public Interest Law Center

FSU College of Law, Advocacy Center, Room A010E

Tallahassee, FL 32306

(850) 644-9930

ckio@law.fsu.edu

## **Gardiner Scholarship Program Latest News, Plus Two Brand New Scholarship Programs: The Hope and the Reading Scholarship Accounts**

Saturday, June 8

1:00-2:00

Bayhill 29

In addition to the Gardiner scholarship program for children with certain special needs, Step Up For Students also administers two new scholarship programs: the Hope Scholarship Program for Florida school children who are bullied or victims of violence in school and the Reading Scholarship Accounts for public school students in grades three through five who struggle with reading. Come hear the latest news about the Gardiner Scholarship Program and learn about the two new scholarship programs.

Paula Nelson

Step Up For Students

1901 Ulmerton Road

Clearwater, FL 33762

(727) 451-9831

pnelson@sufs.org

## **Conflict Resolution During the IEP process**

Saturday, June 8

1:00-2:00

Bayhill 30

We all want the best for our children and students. Individualized Education Plan meetings can sometimes become overwhelming for staff and parents. This session will help attendees recognize strategies to maintain composure and reach common ground before seeking due process.

Kristen Parsons

The Vista School

1021 Springboard Drive

Hershey, Pennsylvania 17033

(662) 306-3737

kparsons@thevistaschool.com

## **Access Points in General Education Settings**

Saturday, June 8

1:00-2:00

Bayhill 31

This session will explore the implementation of access points courses, access points and essential understandings in the general education setting, as well as one district's approach to grading for students on access points.

Christi Yu

Florida Department of Education

1400 Commodore Blvd

Melbourne, FL 32935

(321) 242-6400

yu.christina@brevardschools.org



### **Traveling the Seas of Families, Feelings, and Emotions**

Saturday, June 8

1:00-2:00

Bayhill 32

“Traveling the Seas of Families, Feelings, and Emotions” is part of an interactive training series created by parents of children with disabilities and special health needs, to help other families understand and participate fully in Florida’s Early Intervention System. The training is designed for one-on-one participation with a trainer or participation in a small group workshop setting. “Traveling the Seas of Families, Feelings & Emotions” explores how families react, feel, and cope upon learning of and living with their child’s disability or developmental delay. Our hope is that this workshop will assist parents and families in coping with the emotional uncertainties to build stronger bonds with their child(ren) and each other.

Audrey Evans

Children’s Diagnostic & Treatment Center

1401 South Federal Highway

Fort Lauderdale, FL 33316

(954) 728-1029

a1evans@browardhealth.org



### **“The Force Is Strong With This One” — Jeremy’s Journey**

Saturday, June 8

1:00-2:00

Bayhill 33

Presented by an Early Steps Resource Specialist, this workshop will share a personal story about Jeremy, who had a brain bleed prior to birth and was not expected to live. He is now almost 18 years old and has defied the odds in regards to medical challenges and developmental milestones. His mom (and Jeremy) will share their triumphs and experiences learned with navigating early intervention, medical insurance, SSI, and IDEA. Jeremy is a young man with hydrocephalus, cerebral palsy, and epilepsy. Come and be inspired and learn the ropes of how to advocate and collaborate to help your child with special needs. Jeremy is now in high school on Honor Roll. He has learned (by watching his mom) how to advocate for himself and loves to dress up as HUGGLES the Mascot to overcome sensory integration disorder. He is also an avid Star Wars fan.

Paula Keyser

West Central Early Steps

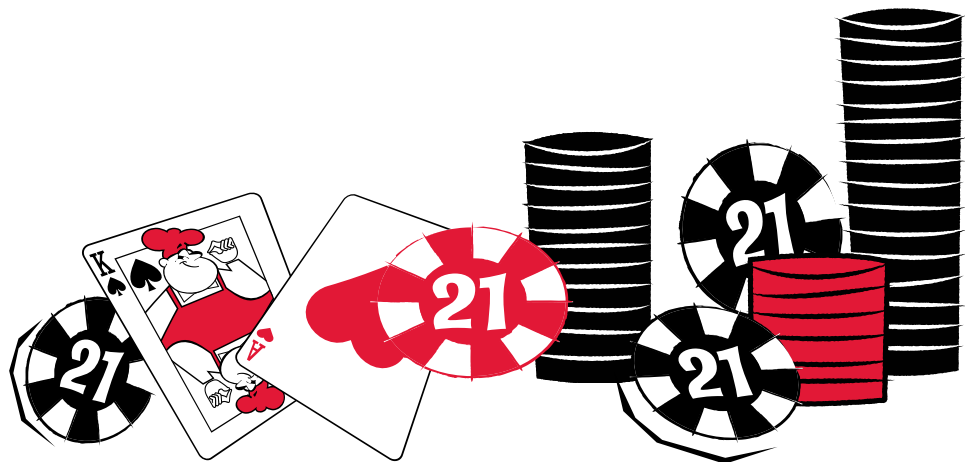
480 7th Avenue South

Saint Petersburg, FL 33701

(727) 767-6705

paula.keyser@jhmi.edu

Jeremy Keyser







## **“Let’s Talk” about Augmentative Alternative Communication (AAC)**

June 8  
1:00-2:00  
Rainbow Spring I

Join me for a discussion about the continuum of Augmentative Alternative Communication systems available in the market today and the role of the family in implementation. The role of the communication partner and strategies for Aided Language, Vocabulary Selection, Core Vocabulary Generalization of AAC intervention outside of the school/therapy environment is critical to provide the child with sufficient opportunities for the development of receptive and expressive communication skills. We will discuss the role of the communication partner/parent and tips to assist in implementation. Approximately 78% of the words we use daily are drawn from a core of fewer than 250 words that makes up more than ¾ of what adults and children actually say. Focusing on the words that are used most frequently in communication dramatically increases opportunities for learning and use when compared to approaches that focus on more concrete but less frequently used words.

Janet Good  
PS/Rtl Technology  
4558 South Clyde Morris Boulevard, Suite #2  
Port Orange, FL 32129  
(386) 761-9909  
jgood@usf.edu

### **Meet APD Director Barbara Palmer**

Saturday, June 8  
1:00-2:00  
Plaza International Ballroom

Barbara Palmer was appointed director of the Agency for Persons with Disabilities in August 2012. In the past several years, APD has offered 6,000 people on the waiting list home and community-based services through the iBudget Florida Medicaid waiver. Come and hear about Director Palmer’s priorities for the agency.

Barbara Palmer  
Agency for Persons with Disabilities  
4030 Esplanade Way, Suite 380  
Tallahassee, FL 32399  
barbara.palmer@apdcares.org

2:00 p.m. to 2:30 p.m. Pyramid Players, Foyer  
2:00 p.m. to 2:30 p.m. FRIENDS Choir, Foyer  
2:00 p.m. to 2:30 p.m. Chance2Dance, Foyer



## 2:30 p.m. to 3:30 p.m. CONCURRENT SESSIONS

### **Meet VR Director Allison Flanagan and Learn About VR Programs and Services**

Saturday, June 8  
2:30-3:30  
Celebration 2

Meet the Director of the Division of Vocational Rehabilitation and learn about the many customized services VR has to offer eligible youth and adults who are interested in developing a meaningful career. Open discussion is encouraged.

Allison Flanagan  
Department of Education  
40070 Esplanade Way, Second Floor  
Tallahassee, FL 32399  
(850) 245-3311  
allison.flanagan@vr.fldoe.org



### **Disaster Preparedness, Response & Recovery**

Saturday, June 8  
2:30-3:30  
Celebration 3

This session will explore planning to survive during disasters, including lessons learned from recent disasters and information needed to prepare for, respond to, and recover from disaster emergencies. This session will provide useful information and tools to ensure you and your family are safe during the disasters that can occur in Florida. Preparedness is key to survival, and this workshop will include tips for personal disaster planning, the roles and responsibilities of government at all levels, and solutions for the challenges people and communities face. APD staff with many years of disaster training and experience in planning and response will be presenting this session.

Karen Hagan  
Agency for Persons with Disabilities  
4030 Esplanade Way  
Tallahassee, FL 32399  
karen.hagan@apdcares.org

Natalie Jean  
Agency for Persons with Disabilities  
4030 Esplanade Way, Suite 380  
Tallahassee, FL 32399  
natalie.jean@apdcares.org

### **Introduction to the Consumer Directed Care Plus (CDC+) Program**

Saturday, June 8  
2:30-3:30  
Celebration 4

Have you ever wondered what CDC+ is and if it is right for you? The Agency for Persons with Disabilities will provide an overview of the CDC+ program. This presentation will provide you with an introduction to CDC+ and give a brief overview of program requirements. Bring any questions you have about CDC+; we'll be happy to answer as many as time will allow.

Mindy Whitehead  
Agency for Persons with Disabilities  
4030 Esplanade Way, Suite 380  
Tallahassee, FL 32399  
mindy.whitehead@apdcares.org

## **Stop, Drop & S.L.O.W. (Saving Love Our Way)**

Saturday, June 8

2:30-3:30

Celebration 5

Do you and your spouse or significant other find yourselves moving fast with no time to slow down? Between doctor visits, therapy appointments, and hospital stays, having children with special needs often feels like being on a roller coaster! There are so many twists and turns—some foreseeable, and some not. Amidst the chaos and noise accompanied with being a caregiver, how many times do we forget to take care of one another? Occasionally, we need to be reminded to SLOW DOWN! However, slowing down does not mean that we are stopping, but rather it allows us room to get focused. So, instead of giving 10 percent of ourselves to 10 different things, we can slow down and focus in order to give just one thing 100 percent!

Willie Hines  
Support4Caregivers  
12335 University Mall Court  
Tampa, FL 33612  
(813) 850-2352  
support4caregivers@live.com

LaKeesha Hines  
Support4Caregivers  
12335 University Mall Court  
Tampa, FL 33612  
(813) 850-2352  
support4caregivers@live.com



## **The School Liaison Officer Program and the Interstate Compact on Educational Opportunity for Military Children**

Saturday, June 8

2:30-3:30

Celebration 6

Participants will learn about the School Liaison Officer (SLO) program and the Interstate Compact on Educational Opportunity for Military Children. SLOs serve as the primary liaison between schools, commands, and military parents pertaining to K-12 educational issues. The SLO is tasked with 7 core areas designed to assist families with all of their K-12 needs. The Compact was developed in an effort to reduce the educational and emotional issues encountered when children of military personnel transfer from schools in one state to schools in another.

Chris Hendrix  
(904) 541-4566  
christopher.p.hendri@navy.mil

Dawn Mills  
NAS Key West  
(305) 293-2177  
dawn.m.mills@navy.mil

## **I Want to Hear the Music: The Healing Power of Music and Dance**

Saturday, June 8

2:30-3:30

Celebration 7

Is it possible that music could make a difference in the way we perceive and react to all the chaos happening in the world around us? Music can raise our mood, renew our faith, make us happy, energize, and inspire us. The true beauty of music and dance is that it connects people. Come, connect, move, and share the power of music.

Sheilah Hill  
Lady Liberty Quality of Life Brigade  
1400 Old Bartow Eagle Lake Road #4110  
Bartow, FL 33830  
(863) 409-7071  
shiningskh@aol.com

Alfred Jefferson  
Project Return  
4733 West Water Avenue Apartment 1925  
Tampa, FL 33614  
(813) 312-3426  
butlerofbw56@gmail.com

## **Autism Roundtable**

Saturday, June 8

2:30-3:30

Celebration 8

One of the best ways for parents that are new to a disability to become educated about their options is to speak with other parents that have “been there and done that.” If you are new to parenting a child with a autism, or if you are facing a particular challenge, this session may provide the support and guidance you need.

Cindy Borroto  
300 West 74th Place #103  
Hialeah, FL 33014  
(786) 797-6234  
cindy1231@bellsouth.net

Maureen Morris  
3206 Antigua Drive  
Punta Gorda, FL 33950  
(941) 380-4676  
solarflair1@comcast.net

## **Living with Epilepsy and Seizure Disorder**

Saturday, June 8

2:30-3:30

Celebration 9

Living with epilepsy and seizure disorders can be challenging. Understanding your condition, including the latest research advances, and learning how to find and use the various resources available to you can empower individuals with epilepsy and their families. Seizure disorders can affect many facets of day-to-day life. We will discuss strategies for dealing with issues like physical and emotional well-being, reproduction and childrearing, work and education, and social relationships.

Jaime Sagona, M.A.  
9020 NW 8th Street, #507  
Miami, FL 33172  
(407) 319-3049  
jaime.sagona@gmail.com

Kimberley Spire-Oh, Esq.  
Law Office of Kimberley Spire-Oh, PA  
2749 Exchange Court  
West Palm Beach, FL 33409  
(561) 307-9620  
kimberley@ksolawfirm.com



## **Social Security Basics and the Impact of Work on Beneficiaries with Disabilities and Youth with Disabilities**

Saturday, June 8

2:30-3:30

Celebration 10

This presentation will examine:

- Overview of Social Security Disability Insurance (SSDI)
- The impact of work on SSDI
- Overview of Supplemental Security Income (SSI)
- The impact of work on SSI
- Youth with disabilities who receive SSI and SSDI
- Where to turn for assistance

Victor Panoff  
Disability Rights Florida  
Times Building, Suite 640, 1000 North Ashley Drive  
Tampa, FL 33602  
victorp@disabilityrightsflorida.org

## **So, You Wanna Learn Sign Language?**

Saturday, June 8

2:30-3:30

Celebration 11

So, you wanna learn sign language? Why? Is it because it's fun, pretty, or necessary? Either way, this is "deafinitely" the workshop for you! You are invited to join Earline Blumhagen, aka #SigningMom, for an exciting time of exploring the advantages of learning sign language for you and your family, your client base, or just for the JOY of learning. This conversational ASL (American Sign Language) overview is a fun, fact-based ASL experience that includes a little finger-spelling, vocab, music, deaf culture, and lots of resources.

Earline Blumhagen  
gha@mindspring.com



## **My Money — Understanding Credit and the Credit System**

Saturday, June 8

2:30-3:30

Celebration 12

The module "Understanding Credit" teaches students/adults about the different kinds of debt, types of loans, credit cards, how to manage purchases made on credit, how to access a credit report, and how to build good credit.

Tara Y. Davis  
Synovus Bank  
601 North Monroe Street  
Tallahassee, Florida 32301  
(850) 205-5153  
taradavis@synovus.com



## **Removing Obstacles to Understanding and Using Leadership Skills**

June 8

2:30-3:30

Celebration 13

What qualities define a leader? Are individuals natural-born leaders or is leadership a skill set that can be taught? Are leadership skills required for success? The answer to all the above is YES! And, it is important to know: awareness that you are destined/deemed to be a leader and actually being one are two very different experiences. In this session, we will explore the concepts of leadership and learn specific techniques to develop your ability to lead. Implementing these techniques will put you on the path to success and positively influencing those around you along the way.

Lori Stephens  
Lori Stephens LLC  
40 Sarasota Center Boulevard  
Sarasota, FL 34240  
(941) 345-7574  
Lori@LoriStephensLLC.com

## **Living Your Life Outside The Box**

Saturday, June 8

2:30-3:30

Celebration 14

Getting out of the house and exploring may seem challenging when you have a child with special needs. Join Staar Fields and her family as they share with you how having a child with special needs has changed their life. Their program "Autism on the Go" is giving hope, inspiring, and raising awareness to people all across the country. Join us as we share ideas on how you can create flexibility, save for the future, and Live Your Best Life! We are encouraging you to Live Your Life Outside The Box. For more information visit [www.autismonthego.com](http://www.autismonthego.com).

Staar Fields

Give Away Foundation

PO Box 430

Middleburg, FL 32068

(904) 609-7679

[info@giveawayfoundation.org](mailto:info@giveawayfoundation.org)

## **Managing the Oral Care System for Individuals with Special Health Care Needs**

Saturday, June 8

2:30-3:30

Celebration 15

The presentation will look at various dental insurance and financing options that may be available to individuals with special health care needs that will allow them to access and utilize oral health care. From managed care and Medicaid, to Obamacare and the Health Insurance Exchange (HIX), to commercial dental insurance, navigating the system is difficult for anyone, let alone a person who may have special needs. The presentation will discuss various options that may be available — both traditional and non-traditional options — and suggest helpful tips on how to navigate the system.

Douglas Manning

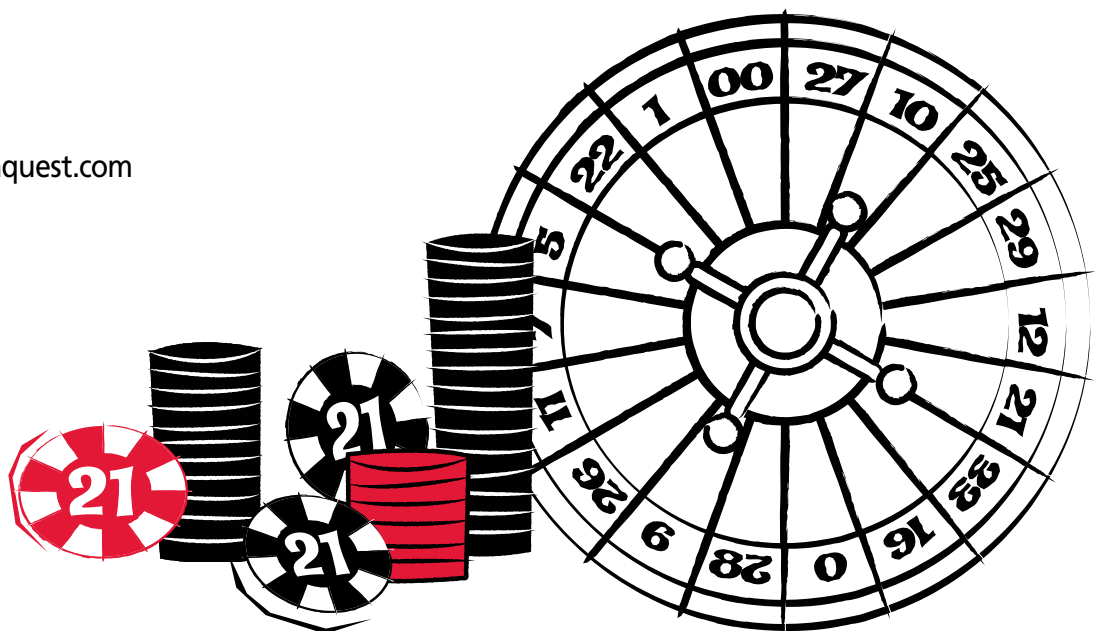
DentaQuest

4844 Baccus Ave

Sarasota, FL 34233

(941) 223-3334

[douglas.manning@dentaquest.com](mailto:douglas.manning@dentaquest.com)





## **Rest Quest**

Saturday, June 8

2:30-3:30

Celebration 16

Are you exhausted? Drained? Depleted? Our journey as a caregiver can certainly consume our physical, mental, and emotional strength. Facing a wide-range of duties and responsibilities caring for our loved one while managing our own personal lives can simply be overwhelming. We can become stressed and dangerously diminished in our capacity to be our best. Eventually, this can lead to caregiver burnout — and when you're burned out it's hard to look after someone else. That's why living life through a perspective of REST is not a luxury, but a necessity! Linda, a caregiver herself, will share REST QUEST: a daily intentional search to be renewed, restored, and revitalized. Using personal experiences and practical ways we will explore how we can experience REST in all realms of our daily lives. We will learn ways to REST our bodies, recharge and recover our strength, and feel replenished for the journey ahead of us. Come and REST a while. You owe it to yourself!

Linda Santana Arroyo  
Just Love Ministries, Inc.  
Largo, FL 33773  
(727) 688-9669  
justloveministries7@gmail.com



## **Disability History and Awareness**

Saturday, June 8

2:30-3:30

Bayhill 17

In this session we will talk about disability history and awareness. We'll discuss important moments when individuals with disabilities fought for their rights throughout history. We'll help you gain an understanding of the importance of advocating for yourself and others with disabilities. If you forget your history, you're bound to repeat it.

Natasha Germain  
Florida Youth Council  
820 East Park Avenue, Suite F-100  
Tallahassee, FL 32301  
(850) 224-4670  
ngermain@familycafe.net

John Baldino  
Florida Youth Council

Alexander Gonzalez  
Florida Youth Council

Dakota Smoot  
Florida Youth Council

Serena Wetmore  
Florida Youth Council

Shevie Barnes  
Florida Youth Council

Leah Gorman  
Florida Youth Council

Josue Tapia-Ortiz  
Florida Youth Council

Brandon White  
Florida Youth Council

Derek Carraway  
Florida Youth Council

Emma Massey  
Florida Youth Council

Christina Waldron  
Florida Youth Council

Allilee Wood  
Florida Youth Council

## **Tools and Supports for Building Your Family Run Organization**

Saturday, June 8

2:30-3:30

Bayhill 18

If you are looking to build or strengthen your family organization this session is for you! Join the Family Run Organizational Movement (FROM) for three mini trainings and to learn more about what we can offer your organization. The mini sessions will focus on Business Plan Development, Engaging New Members, and Telling Your Story, all vital components for building a strong family organization. Let us help your organization reach its full potential!

Beth Picora, B.S., CRPS-F  
Central Florida Behavioral Network  
(813) 740-4811  
cpicora@cfbh.org

John Ferrone  
Ferrone Associates  
1126 Country Club Dr.  
Hastings, NE 68901  
402-462-0244  
jferrone@ferroneassociates.com



## **The Criminal Justice System and People with Disabilities**

Saturday, June 8

2:30-3:30

Bayhill 19

Adults and children with disabilities, some as young as five years old, are discriminated against and mistreated every day in the criminal justice system. They experience higher arrest rates, higher conviction rates, stiffer penalties, and a lack of accommodations in jails, to name a few of their challenges. This problem is one of truly epidemic proportions, but it is rarely covered by the media. This seminar will give a brief overview on the current situation facing people with disabilities in the criminal justice system, as well as proposed solutions to the issue.

Andrew Sagona  
9020 NW 8th Street  
Miami, FL 33172  
(407) 319-0615  
andrew.sagona@gmail.com

## **Writing and Blogging About Your Disability**

Saturday, June 8

2:30-3:30

Bayhill 20

We all have a story to tell. Blogging and writing about our disabilities is one way to tell that story. This session will discuss the following: How to Start Writing a Blog; Blogging Software; Where to Host Your Blog For Free; How to Promote Your Blog; Writing Tips and Techniques; What to Write About. Each of our stories is very important. Each of us has a unique way at looking at both our disabilities and how to live with those disabilities. Come and learn how to blog and learn how to share your experiences with others.

Howard Moon  
17347 SE 111 Avenue  
Summerfield, FL 34491  
(352) 427-5935  
howardocala@gmail.com



### **ABC's of Special Needs Trusts and Guardian Advocacy**

Saturday, June 8  
2:30-3:30  
Bayhill 21

This informative workshop is designed for parents, guardians, and advocates of individuals with special needs. Attorneys Sarah AuMiller and Peggy Hoyt will discuss the importance of legal and estate planning for families with special needs. A family member with special needs creates an added layer of complexity to estate planning—the need for advanced trust—both first party and third party trusts, which are important for protecting government benefit eligibility and providing lifetime protection for vulnerable individuals. We will also explore both guardianship and guardian advocacy—when each is appropriate and why they are essential for the protection of your loved ones.

Sarah AuMiller, J.D.  
The Law Offices of Hoyt & Bryan  
254 Plaza Drive  
Oviedo, FL 32765  
(407) 977-8080  
info@hoytbryan.com



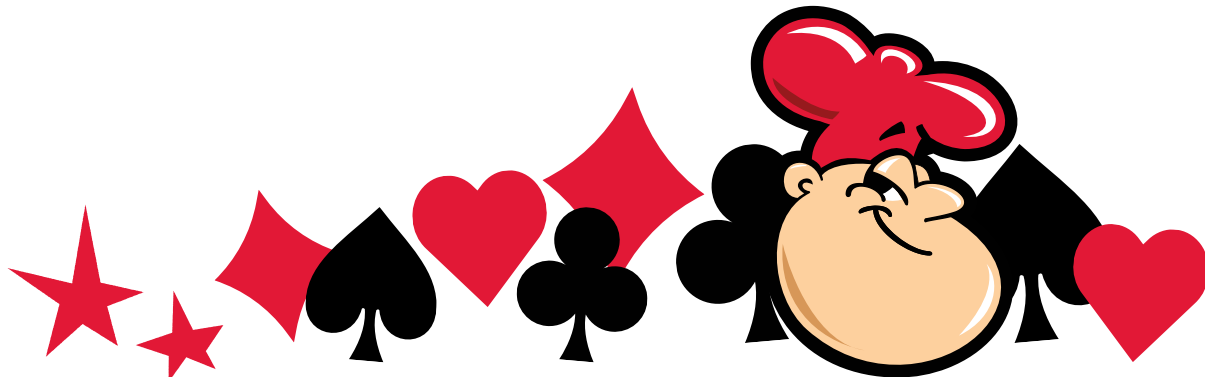
### **Get the Skills to Land your First Job or Advance in your Current Job**

Saturday, June 8  
2:30-3:30  
Bayhill 24

Many of us think of skills as special abilities that are needed to complete a job, such as a pilot's ability to fly a plane, or a mechanic's ability to repair a car. However, many of the most important skills needed in today's workplace are those that help us work well with others, manage time and resources, or adapt to change. These are "soft skills," and this workshop will review the importance of having those essential soft skills to get and keep a job.

Melanie Magill  
CareerSource Broward  
2890 West Cypress Creek Road  
Fort Lauderdale, FL 33309  
(954) 202-3830  
mmagill@careersourcebroward.com

Samora Cunningham  
Disability Program Financial Success Coach  
2610 West Oakland Park Boulevard  
Oakland Park, FL 33311  
(954) 224-6663  
scunningham@careersourcebroward.com





### **Mental Health in Youth**

Saturday, June 8  
2:30-3:30  
Bayhill 25

One in five youth will be diagnosed with a mental health disorder. Do you know the signs and symptoms of mental health in your youth? Suicide is the second leading cause of death in youth. Do you know the signs and symptoms of suicide? One-half of all life time cases of mental health disorders begin by the age of 14. Learn about the signs and symptoms, risk factors, and protective factors. Learn the important signs that a young person may be suicidal and how to talk to them. A mental disorder or mental illness is a diagnosable illness that affects a person's thinking, emotional state and behavior, and disrupts the person's ability to work or attend school, carry out daily activities, and engage in satisfying relationships.

Jill Hill  
7841 Troy Hills Lane  
Jacksonville, FL 32256  
(904) 376-5983  
JillJax@Yahoo.com

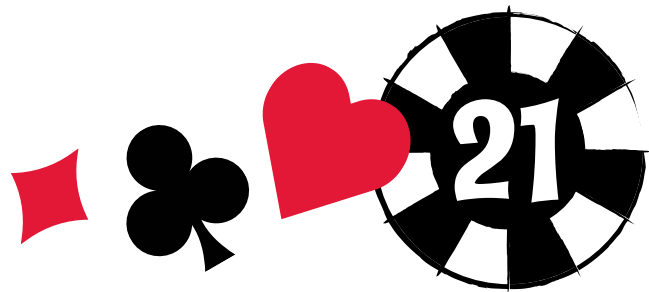


### **So, How Much Does It Pay? Putting Your Child with Special Needs to Work**

Saturday, June 8  
2:30-3:30  
Bayhill 26

It has been a long-standing rule of parenting that encouraging kids to work at part-time jobs helps with their development. From learning responsibility and a good work ethic, to the pride that comes from earning your own money, teenagers that work at part-time jobs not only learn valuable skills regarding dependability and performance, but also feel a greater sense of self-worth at an early age. But what about the child with special needs? Many parents do not even consider the possibility with their children with special needs. But with some creativity and accommodation many teenagers with special needs could be put to the test with jobs created for them that deliver the same values and sense of self-worth. In this session Steve Browne will share his story of developing a part-time job for his teenage child with special needs, and what it taught her about life in the real world. He will then lead a discussion on how you can possibly do the same for your child.

Steve Browne  
3 Colleen Circle  
Carson City, NV 89703  
(775) 741-3277  
carcigar@aol.com



## **Using Multi-Sensory Strategies to Impact Success for Students with Dyslexia**

Saturday, June 8

2:30-3:30

Bayhill 27

The use of multisensory strategies can have a positive and lasting impact on all students' success. Stimulating multiple sensory pathways (i.e., visual, auditory, tactile, and kinesthetic) simultaneously can assist students in learning and retaining new information. Attendees will gain knowledge on using multi-sensory strategies while accessing Florida Standards. Come and join in for an informative session to include an overview of the definition, characteristics, resources available and legislation pertaining to the use of multi-sensory strategies for individuals with dyslexia.

Heather Willis-Doxsee

FLDOE – Just Read, Florida!

325 West Gaines Street #1432

Tallahassee, FL 32399

(850) 245-9541

heather.willis-doxsee@fldoe.org

## **The Experience of Being Diagnosed with ASD in Adulthood**

Saturday, June 8

2:30-3:30

Bayhill 28

This presentation will combine research and anecdotal commentary on why autism is underdiagnosed in females — exploring mental health consequences. The speaker will be discussing the necessity of inclusion, the harm of masking, and the importance of living authentically as an Autistic person. It's important to recognize Autistic narratives as a vital source of information to all, regardless of "severity," including a how-to of being a proper ally. This includes education on criteria of the necessary assumption of full competence, and critique of society's assumption of disability functioning at first glance. The divide in the Autism community will be revealed and critiqued.

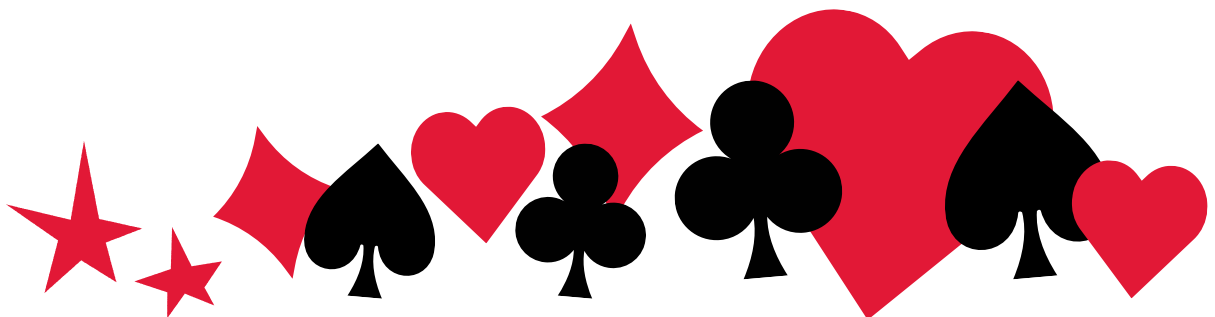
Sarah Sullivan

3314 27th Street West

Lehigh Acres, FL 33971

(239) 464-9677

heandshesullivan@gmail.com



## **Gardiner Scholarship Program and McKay Scholarship Program**

Saturday, June 8

2:30-3:30

Bayhill 29

The Department of Education's Office of Independent Education and Parental Choice will present information about the Gardiner Scholarship Program and the John M. McKay Scholarship Program for Students with Disabilities. These programs were established to provide Florida parents and students with additional education options, and they operate under the premise that parents should make decisions regarding their children's education. The programs offer student-directed funding and parent-directed choices. The presentation will include a discussion of eligibility requirements, application options, approved uses for scholarship funds, and parent responsibilities under the programs.

Shawn Williams

Florida Department of Education

325 West Gaines Street

Tallahassee, FL 32399

(850) 245-0502

rashawn.williams@fldoe.org

## **Tools to Help Students with Reading Barriers Succeed in School**

Saturday, June 8

2:30-3:30

Bayhill 30

When equipped with the right tools, students who struggle with reading can become successful and engaged learners. Come and hear about two valuable resources, Bookshare and Learning Ally, which are free for Florida schools and which help students with learning disabilities, visual impairments, and other reading barriers to keep up with their schoolwork and even read for fun!

Christine Jones

Benetech/Bookshare

480 California Avenue

Palo Alto, CA 94306

(650) 352-0210

christinej@benetech.org





## **Sexual Health for All Abilities**

Saturday, June 8

2:30-3:30

Bayhill 31

For adults only (18 and older): People with disabilities have sexual needs and desires. Yet, it can sometimes be difficult for them to find the information they need to have a satisfying, fun, active, and safe sex life. Take this opportunity to discuss these issues in an open environment. This session will provide up-to-date, evidence-based information in a friendly, inclusive atmosphere. Topics will include: caring for your body, communicating about sex, and gender fluidity. Question and answer session will follow presentation.

Sherril Cook  
6135 NW 38th Terrace  
Gainesville, FL 32653  
(352) 229-1754  
Scook55755@gmail.com

Kai Christmas  
205 SE 16th Avenue, Apartment 10C  
Gainesville, FL 32601  
(352) 222-9889  
Kai.christmas1@gmail.com

## **She's Leaving Home — Planning for Adult Living without Fear!**

Saturday, June 8

2:30-3:30

Bayhill 32

Parents of children with disabilities share a common fear: How will my child fare in the world after I'm gone? Lose the fear! Meet a parent who spent over ten years researching agencies, homes, services, and centers that cater to the disabled. She will share her findings and evaluations that culminated in her final choice of a living environment for her daughter. You will be given a suggested framework for gathering the necessary data to make an informed decision. It's never too late to start planning!

Nancy Basile  
10063 Willmington Boulevard  
Englewood, FL 34224  
(941) 421-9245  
NYCNan95@gmail.com



## **"To Infinity and Beyond": Organizing Your Journey**

Saturday, June 8

2:30-3:30

Bayhill 33

This workshop will inspire you to get organized and take control of the mountains of paperwork that come along with your child's unique needs. I will share my strategies and record keeping systems to help you stay organized and better communicate your wants and needs from Early Steps to adulthood.

Paula Keyser  
West Central Early Steps  
480 7th Avenue South  
St. Petersburg, FL 33701  
(727) 767-7605  
paula.keyser@jhmi.edu



### **3D Printing in Education**

Saturday, June 8

2:30-3:30

Rainbow Spring I

Engaging learning environments often provide students multiple opportunities for the perception and comprehension of academic content. One such method is to pair models or manipulatives with text, audio, or video. For example, tactile representations from a literature selection, math manipulatives, hands-on science labs, or even historical artifacts from a social studies class. This is not always possible as at some point physical representations of objects may be too big, too small, too fragile, or even too dangerous. Join us as we explore 3D printing and how it provides a pathway to make physical representations of almost any conceivable object, concept, or idea accessible to any student.

Janet Good  
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4558 South Clyde Morris Boulevard  
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jgood@usf.edu

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Lauren Servidio  
PS/Rtl - Technology  
4558 South Clyde Morris Boulevard  
Suite #2  
Port Orange, FL 32129  
(386) 761-9909



### **Surviving Accidental Submersions (SACS) Aquatic Therapy Can Help Improve Paralysis**

Saturday, June 8

2:30-3:30

Quiet Pool

Surviving Accidental Submersions (SACS) Aquatic Therapy can help improve paralysis. Rehabilitation in an aquatic environment provides patients with a unique medium for neuromuscular reeducation and strengthening for children with medical and orthopedic conditions as well as neurological disorders that may reduce the ability to bear weight on the legs, tolerate impact exercise on land, or move against the forces of gravity. We create a special swim program that is designed to provide an educational and therapeutic environment for children with special needs. Surviving Accidentally Clothes Submersions (SACS) is incorporated in all of these important goals.

Adriana Neves  
Swim Academy Nada Mejor, Inc.  
19591 Havensway Court  
Boca Raton, FL 33498  
(954) 865-0842  
adriananeves@gmail.com

David Hoyos  
David Hoyos Swim School  
19591 Havensway Court  
Boca Raton, Florida 33498  
(954) 865-2118  
adriananeves@gmail.com

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

Pyramid Players, Foyer

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

Royal DJs, Foyer

## 4:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. CONCURRENT SESSIONS



### **Tell Us About It! Hurricane Irma and Hurricane Michael Experiences Roundtable**

Saturday, June 8  
4:00-5:00  
Celebration 1

Tell us about your experience! This workshop is a roundtable format for attendees to discuss concerns, questions, and personal experiences regarding preparation, evacuation, sheltering, and recovery due to Hurricanes Irma and Michael. What worked well and what did not?

Carol Stachurski  
Volunteer Florida  
2473 Care Drive  
Tallahassee, FL 32308  
(850) 488-9071  
carols@disabilityrightsflorida.org

Karen Hagan  
Agency for Persons with Disabilities

### **OMG: Open Mic Gumbo!**

Saturday, June 8  
4:00-5:00  
Celebration 2

Microphone? Check. Spotlight? Check. Audience? Check! Calling all poets, singers, musicians, comedians, fanatics and visual art connoisseurs alike to join the celebration of art therapy! Come share and hear inspiring stories of hope, unconditional love and perseverance. Learn free poetry techniques designed to provide creative outlets for stress. Are you ready? The stage is waiting!

Walter O.C. Jennings  
Heard Em Say Youth Arts Collective  
(813) 833-4186

Charmaine Jennings  
Chosen Life Specialist, LLC  
(813) 927-0562  
mrs.charmaine.jennings@gmail.com

### **You Have the POWER! Self-Directing 101 with CDC+**

Saturday, June 8  
4:00-5:00  
Celebration 3

This session is for current CDC+ participants. We will discuss CDC+ updates and talk about techniques on how to better manage your program. Low self-directedness could jeopardize your performance in the program. Learn how to fix any issues you may have. Claim the driver seat back! Bring any questions you have about CDC+; we'll be happy to answer as many as time will allow.

Mindy Whitehead  
Agency for Persons with Disabilities  
4030 Esplanade Way, Suite 380  
Tallahassee, FL 32399  
mindy.whitehead@apdcares.org



### **Self-Determination and Service Providers — Advocating Through Life’s Journeys**

Saturday, June 8  
4:00-5:00  
Celebration 4

This panel will discuss the challenges and successes of individuals who have had ups and downs along the path of life and who have found some innovative ways to live their lives. The panel will also discuss the importance of speaking up for yourself and working in partnership with service providers. The challenges of school, work, and the realities of day to day life and navigating through the decisions that make each person’s life unique will be discussed. Focus on self-determination, how to you keep yourself on that path and in control of your life. Audience participation is encouraged. Natalie Jean is the APD Ombudsman and will serve as the moderator.

Robyn Stawski  
New Tampa Family YMCA  
15210 Amberly Drive  
Aptartment 1612  
Tampa, FL 33647  
robyn.stawski@gmail.com

Rebecca Crosby  
7301 Bridge View Circle  
Aptartment 101  
Tampa, FL 33634  
rebeccarcrosby@gmail.com

Sara Canali  
219 Whatley Boulevard  
Sebring, FL 33870  
canali60@embarqmail.com



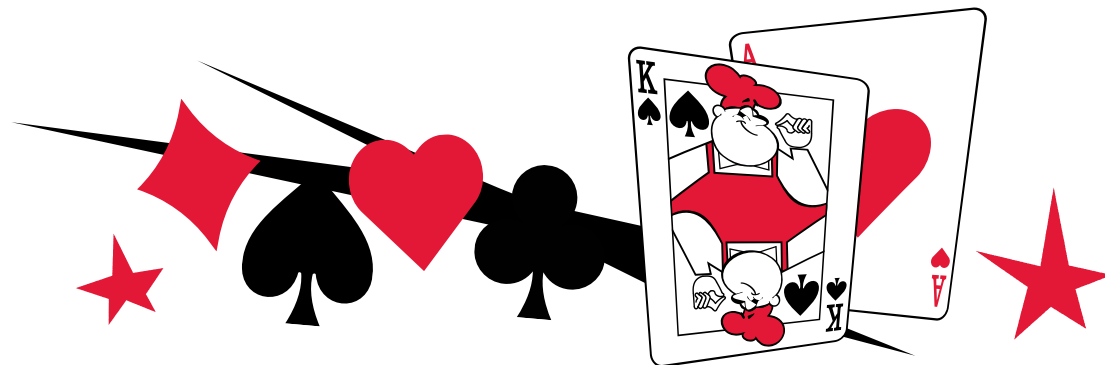
### **Military Family Town Hall**

Saturday, June 8  
4:00-5:00  
Celebration 6

Come to this town hall to meet military-connected family members, providers, civilians, retirees, active duty, National Guard, and Coast Guard personnel. We would like to hear from you about your concerns and views on issues related to the military lifestyle. There will be opportunities to identify gaps in the support systems for military-connected families. We will discuss what policies are effective, voice concerns, and ask questions for follow up action. Please join us for this interactive discussion.

Scott Sevin  
Florida Military Family Special Needs Network  
1313 Ponce de Leon Boulevard, Suite 301  
Coral Gables, FL 33134  
(305) 535-0914  
scott@7-dippity.com

Maria Barkmeier  
Special Education Consultant  
Florida Military Family Special Needs Network  
172 NE Twylite Terrace  
Port Saint Lucie, FL 34983  
(772) 342-7665  
mvbark@hotmail.com



## **Mentoring: THE HUNTe for \$UCCESS “When Mentoring Meets Success”**

Saturday, June 8

4:00-5:00

Celebration 9

Research-based youth development studies have long confirmed that youth benefit from close, caring relationships with adults who serve as positive, goal oriented, and influential role models. Mentoring can improve academics, behavior, personal/social success, and determination for at-risk students with disabilities. A mentor provides youth with someone who can nurture emotional connections, provide support, guidance, and opportunities to help youth succeed in life and meet their goals. Learn how the Keiser University Multidisciplinary Center’s Mentorship program was designed and the impact it is continuing to have on youth with disabilities who are at-risk.

Damien T. Hunte, MEd  
Keiser University Multidisciplinary Center – KUMDC  
1900 West Commercial Boulevard  
Fort Lauderdale, FL 33309  
(954) 892-1650  
dhunte@keiseruniversity.edu



## **How Work Impacts Your Benefits**

Saturday, June 8

4:00-5:00

Celebration 10

Many people who receive SSI and/or SSDI want to go to work but are uncertain about how work will impact their benefits. There are several common myths about how work will impact disability benefits and health coverage. During this session, we will debunk the top 3 myths, help you connect with a benefits specialist, and help you explore work incentives on the road to employment. Join us in this interactive session and take steps now towards financial independence.

Bliss Hayes  
CareerSource Northeast Florida  
Town Center Boulevard, Suite 150  
Fleming Island, FL 32003

## **Getting to Know Project 10’s “Family Guide to Secondary Transition Planning for Students with Disabilities”**

Saturday, June 8

4:00-5:00

Celebration 11

This down-to-earth presentation focuses on the essential components of transition as Project 10’s new guide for families is explored. This guide supports families as they assist their youth to transition from high school to postsecondary education, training, and employment. Together the presenters and participants will examine how the three spheres of home, school, and community interact to prepare students for a successful transition. Key transition steps and helpful resources for transition planning will be shared and discussed.

Donna Phillips  
Project 10: Transition Education Network  
140 7th Avenue South, SVB 112  
Saint Petersburg, FL 33701  
(423) 653-3581  
dphillips5@usfsp.edu

Amanda Schoenberger  
Project 10: Transition Education Network  
140 7th Avenue South, SVB 112  
Saint Petersburg, FL 33701  
(727) 873-4370  
aschoenb@mail.usf.edu



### **Adulting 101: WIOA, Transition, and Finances for Students with Disabilities**

Saturday, June 8  
4:00-5:00  
Celebration 12

This session is about empowering individuals in making an informed choice regarding a young adult’s transitional life choices. Topics will include: transition, Florida’s Vocational Rehabilitation agencies, Ticket to Work Program, Work Incentive Planning and Assistance (V/IPA), Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA), Protected Medicaid, and Postsecondary Education Services and Support. The main goal of our presentation is to equip the attendees with the basic knowledge of services and programs for the transition-aged student/adult.

Z. Felicia Jordan  
Disability Rights Florida  
1930 Harrison Street, Suite 104  
Hollywood, FL 33020  
(850) 488-9071  
feliciaj@disabilityrightsflorida.org



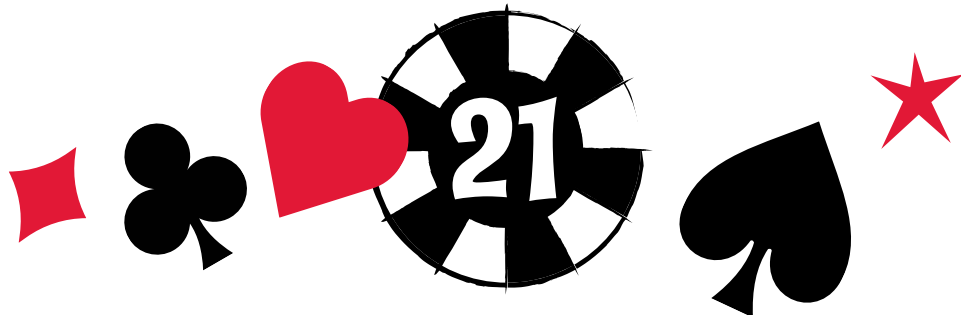
### **Advocacy 101: Preparing for Your Medicaid Fair Hearing Before the Office of Fair Hearings or Office of Appeal Hearings**

Saturday, June 8  
4:00-5:00  
Celebration 13

Have you received a denial, reduction or termination of services by a Medicaid Managed Care Company, eQHealth, the Agency for Health Care Administration, or the Agency for Persons with Disabilities? Advocacy 101 provides advocacy tips for individuals who are preparing for a Medicaid Fair Hearing before the Florida Office of Fair Hearings or Florida Office of Appeal Hearings. The presentation will focus on topics which include: key differences between the Office of Fair Hearings and the Office of Appeal Hearings, how to initiate an appeal for a service denial, reduction, or termination, what to do before the hearing, and presenting your case.

Rachel Siegel-McLaughlin, Esq.  
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2473 Care Drive, Suite 200  
Tallahassee, FL 32308  
(850) 488-9071  
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Jatinique Randal, Esq.  
Disability Rights Florida  
1000 North Ashley Drive  
Tampa, FL 33602  
(850) 488-9071  
jatiniquer@disabilityrightsflorida.org



## **What a Behavior Analyst Is and How One Can Help You**

Saturday, June 8

4:00-5:00

Celebration 15

Applied behavior analysis is the science of behavior change. Parents will be introduced to how this science can make their lives easier and its many applications to dealing with everyday problems with proactive, positive approaches.

Andrew Houvouras

Florida Association for Behavior Analysis

3116 Capital Circle NE Suite 2

Tallahassee, FL 32308

andrewhouvouras@gmail.com

## **En Busca del Descanso**

Saturday, June 8

4:00-5:00

Celebration 16

Te sientes agotado? Cansado? Rendido? Este camino "especial" ciertamente nos puede consumir nuestras fuerzas física, mental, y emocionalmente. Algunos días pueden ser muy aplastantes. Usando experiencias personales y maneras prácticas, vamos a explorar como podemos encontrar descanso en todas las áreas de nuestro diario vivir. No solo hemos de aprender formas de como descansar nuestro cuerpo pero aun mas recargar y recobrar nuestras fuerzas y sentirnos fortalecidos para la jornada que tenemos por delante. Ven y descansa un rato. Lo necesitamos!

Linda Santana Arroyo

Just Love Ministries, Inc.

Largo, Florida 33773

(727) 688-9669

justloveministries7@gmail.com



## **Writing with Disabilities**

Saturday, June 8

4:00-5:00

Bayhill 17

Join this workshop where I will share one of my poems. We will explore the different forms of poetry, how creative writing has benefited me with my disabilities, and how it could possibly benefit you. You will have a chance to compose your own poem or lyric in whatever form you wish, and it doesn't have to rhyme if you so choose. Attendees will also have a chance to recite or "slam" their work in front of the audience.

James Loggins

15856 Waterline Road

Bradenton, FL 34212

(941) 447-6665

countryjabo89@gmail.com



## **Sensory Diets and Navigating Gluten Free**

Saturday, June 8

4:00-5:00

Bayhill 18

Join me as I help discuss living a gluten-free lifestyle and the benefits it has. We will discuss other allergen diets and even talk about sensory diets and the role they play for our special needs family members. Participants will learn tips, tricks, and some new lingo they may not have known before this session as we learn to navigate the Color Me Sensible diets together. Take home some tried and true recipes and even enjoy some samples to entice your tastebuds. This is definitely a session you will not want to miss

Sandra Wilcox  
Color Me Sensible  
12270 NE 108 Terrace  
Archer, FL 32618  
(352) 870-8479  
sandra.tapia19@yahoo.com



## **Trauma and Challenges to Learning**

Saturday, June 8

4:00-5:00

Bayhill 19

Trauma can be a deeply distressing or disturbing experience. Children can experience traumatic stress prior to birth, throughout their development, and well into adulthood. This may include neglect, abandonment, substance abuse, verbal abuse, homelessness, domestic violence, and community violence. Children and adolescents can have extreme reactions to trauma, but their symptoms may not be the same as adults. We will discuss these reactions, their behavioral effects, and how these can challenge the learning process.

Pamela Ford  
Disability Rights Florida  
1930 Harrison Street, Suite 104  
Hollywood, FL 33020  
(850) 488-9071  
pamelaf@disabilityrightsflorida.org

## **Drawn to Water—Understanding the Seriousness of Wandering, Elopement, and Water Safety**

Saturday, June 8

4:00-5:00

Bayhill 20

Wandering of children with disabilities is common, dangerous, and puts a tremendous amount of stress on families. In fact, research indicates that nearly 50% of children with autism spectrum disorder (ASD) attempt to wander or elope from a safe, supervised area. Considering that Florida leads the country in childhood deaths related to drowning and that most of these tragedies result from a child disappearing from the watchful eye of a caregiver, it's vitally important that parents understand the seriousness of the impacts of wandering, elopement, and water hazards and learn the skills necessary to keep their children safe.

Stacey Hoaglund  
Autism Society of Florida  
5505 SW 119 Avenue  
Cooper, FL 33330  
(954) 252-8764  
stacey@autismfl.com

Cathy Allore  
FAU Center for Autism and Related Disabilities  
500 NW California Boulevard, D-115  
Port Saint Lucie, FL 34986  
(772) 873-3367  
callore@fau.edu



### **The ABCs and 123s of SNTs**

Saturday, June 8  
4:00-5:00  
Bayhill 21

What is a Special Needs Trust (SNT) and why should families consider creating one? A Special Needs Trust is created to protect resources for an individual with a disability. Contrary to popular belief, Special Needs Trusts can be easy and affordable. We will discuss the various types of SNTs and how they can preserve the valuable public benefits for our loved one with a disability. Attendees will learn cost-effective ways to establish these trusts and provide for a sound, reliable plan to look after their financial legacy for their special family member.

Kole Long  
Guardian Trust  
901 Chestnut Street, Suite C  
Clearwater, FL 33756  
(727) 210-1185  
kole@guardiantrusts.org



### **The Role of Adults with Special Needs in Marine Conservation**

Saturday, June 8  
4:00-5:00  
Bayhill 22

Sea Turtle Adventures, Inc. is a 501c3 non-profit based out of North Palm Beach, FL. The organization offers a first-of-its-kind nature based program, iCARE "Restoring Nature and Transforming Abilities" to adults with special needs who enjoy the outdoors. Participants meet 2-3 times a month to assist with sea turtle conservation, conduct beach cleanups, enhance life skills, and meet new friends. Several members also participate in the program's microbusiness and make and sell a variety of marine-themed crafts through the organization.

Jacquelyn Kingston  
Sea Turtle Adventures, Inc.  
721 US Highway 1  
North Palm Beach, FL 33408  
(561) 704-5911  
seaturtleadventures@gmail.com

### **When "Appropriate Behavior" is Inappropriate**

Saturday, June 8  
4:00-5:00  
Bayhill 23

Unexpectedly, individuals whose disabilities affect socialization often report that they have been taught (and required to use) social strategies which impede (rather than further) developmentally appropriate socialization and interaction in a wide variety of contexts. The presenters (disability professionals who themselves have disabilities which affect socialization) use examples and exercises to share their experiences (professional as well as personal) with situations in which the recommended "appropriate behavior" failed to take account of social context and realities which may make standard social skills strategies unusable — or even dangerous — for numerous individuals with disabilities.

Kate Gladstone  
Handwriting Repair/Handwriting That Works  
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Albany, NY 12206  
(518) 928-8101  
handwritingrepair@gmail.com

James Williams  
2300 Scott Road  
Northbrook, IL 60062  
(224) 628-6629  
jmw820@comcast.net



### **How to Advocate for Your Child (Education, Services, etc.)**

Saturday, June 8

4:00-5:00

Bayhill 25

As a mom of a 22-year-old son living with ASD, there have been many times I have had to advocate for my child. You get a diagnosis and no one tells you what to do next. As a Parent Coach, Peer Support Specialist, and Advocate I have worked with many families on how to advocate for their child using the system in their favor. You will learn strategies for advocacy.

Jill Hill, CRPS

JH Training and Consulting, LLC

7841 Troy Hills Lane

Jacksonville, FL 32256

9043765983

jilljax@yahoo.com



### **Special Needs Dad 365**

Saturday, June 8

4:00-5:00

Bayhill 26

Jon and his wife Allison are the proud parents of twin sisters Olivia and Hailey. Olivia, aka Livy, was born with a brain malformation that resulted in epilepsy, cerebral palsy, and other disabilities. Livy's first seizure occurred only hours after birth. She spent the first nine months of her life at All Children's Hospital in St. Petersburg, Boston Children's Hospital, and the Suncoast Hospice House in Largo.

As a result of their family's experiences, Jon and Allison founded "Livy's Hope," which was an avenue for them to share their story and connect with other families. It was also a way for them to take control and give back. They created an awareness and fundraising effort called "Lemonade for Livy" and the epilepsy education and empowerment program "Kids Crew" as a means to impact communities across the country. Both are now national campaigns managed by the Epilepsy Foundation. In addition, Livy's Hope raises money to help fill funding gaps at special needs schools, so students have the chance to live to their fullest potential.

Jon is also an avid writer and routinely shares what it's like to be a dad to Livy, what she endures, how their family deals with her disabilities, how Hailey has been impacted, and much more on the Livy's Hope Facebook page and livyshope.com. The Scheinman's live and breathe their family's motto "Don't Give Up. Give Back." every day. Their philosophy is to persevere in the hardest of times . . . and to never give up hope.

Join Jon in this session as he shares his story, provides some helpful tips and tricks, and describes his perspective and experience as a husband and a father.

Jonathan Scheinman

Livy's Hope

PO Box 15326

Clearwater, FL 33766

jscheinman@livyshope.com

## **19+ Life Hacks for Thriving with a Disability**

Saturday, June 8

4:00-5:00

Bayhill 27

What if life came with cheat codes or hacks? Jerry Borton will share his favorite life hacks that have empowered him to thrive with his disability. These same hacks will help you too.

Jerry Borton

Unleashed Potential

2752 Canyon Crest Drive

Lakeland, FL 33811

(863) 940-3816

jerryborton@gmail.com

## **The Story of RayAnn Moseley: How One Little Girl Changed the World**

Saturday, June 8

4:00-5:00

Bayhill 28

On a typical day at her job as a nurse, Holley Moseley met a small, captivating toddler named RayAnn who would change her life forever. What began as their fairytale of a family knit together by love and adoption quickly became the harrowing tale of Holley and her husband fighting to save their daughter's life. RayAnn, who had been diagnosed with cerebral palsy and epilepsy at birth, had begun to experience a drastic increase in her seizure activity. As traditional pharmaceuticals stopped working and her condition worsened, Holley and her husband felt like they were out of options for saving their daughter. When they found the miracle they were desperate for in the form of CBD-rich oil, a type of medical cannabis, they soon realized that their story was really just beginning. Told through her experiences as both a nurse and a mother of a medically fragile child, Holley offers insight on the controversial use of medical cannabis as a treatment for sick children. In addition, Holley worked with legislators and was instrumental in the creation and passing of the Compassionate Medical Cannabis Act of 2014 in Florida. She shares her journey on how to advocate for a cause you believe in, even when the odds are stacked against you. Holley's story will make you laugh and bring you to tears, but most of all it will leave you inspired to believe in the power of hope.

Holley Moseley

84 Shoreline Drive

Gulf Breeze, FL 32561

(850) 232-0004

holleybythesea41@yahoo.com



## **Access Beyond the Classroom**

Saturday, June 8

4:00-5:00

Bayhill 29

Learn how federal and state laws prohibit public and private educational and community programs (extracurricular activities, after school programs, summer camps, etc.) from excluding your child based on their disability. You will gain an understanding of the legal obligations that these various programs must follow to ensure equal access for children with disabilities. You will also acquire basic skills that will help you advocate for your child's right to participate in and enjoy the social benefits of activities beyond the classroom.

Lauren Eversole

Disability Rights Florida

2473 Care Drive, Suite 200

Tallahassee, FL 32308

(850) 488-9071

laurene@disabilityrightsflorida.org

## **Dispute Resolution, Navigating the Process**

Saturday, June 8

4:00-5:00

Bayhill 30

It can be very difficult dealing with the intricacies of navigating the dispute resolution process. Parents need to understand how to resolve disagreements and what is the best tool to use when faced with conflict resolution. Due process is not always a viable solution. Learn strategies to resolve disagreements within the IEP team. We will address informal conflict resolution and mediation, and how and when to draft State Complaints, Office of Civil Rights Complaints and request for Due Process Hearings. The presentation will allow for open dialogue between presenter and participants.

Ann Siegel

Disability Rights Florida

1930 Harrison Street, Suite 104

Hollywood, FL 33020

(850) 488-9071

anns@disabilityrightsflorida.org

Leanne Grillot

Florida Department of Education

325 West Gaines Street

Tallahassee, FL 32399

(850) 345-0932

Leanne.grillot@fldoe.org

## **20/20 Hindsight — Clearing the Air on Vision**

Saturday, June 8

4:00-5:00

Bayhill 31

Blind . . . legally blind . . . visually impaired . . . all are scary and devastating words for a parent. Did you know that blindness and vision impairments are low incidence disabilities, which are confusing and often concealed to parents? Join Doreen Franklin, well-seasoned mom, advocate, and former member of NFB & FOPBC, as she explores the various characteristics of blindness and visual impairments — from school, home, and community. Do you know what the federal law stipulates for Braille, orientation and mobility, and more? Numerous online resources will be provided so parents can explore and implement in the comfort of your own home.

Doreen Franklin

National Federation of the Blind-FL, Treasure Coast Chapter

566 NW Sagamore Terrace

Port Saint Lucie, FL 34983

(772) 284-4458

doreenproverbs3@gmail.com



## **Purpose and Benefits of Playgroups for Toddlers and their Caregivers**

Saturday, June 8

4:00-5:00

Bayhill 33

This presentation will give information on the purpose of playgroups specifically for toddlers and their caregivers. Playgroups can be provided as part of comprehensive early intervention services. Playgroups have the potential to improve child playfulness and support development as well as build parent confidence through education in developmental topics using group play activities. Parents report that playgroups help their children to communicate and be social with other friends, give them ideas for play activities at home that will support their learning, and provide an opportunity to interact and share ideas with other caregivers as well. Parents who attend six playgroup sessions benefit from an increase in the ability to meet the goals they have for their children.

Sarah Fabrizi  
Early Steps  
8961 Daniels Center Drive  
Fort Myers, FL 33912  
(239) 822-2292  
sfabrizi@fgcu.edu

Jeremi Grosser  
Early Steps  
8961 Daniels Center Drive  
Fort Myers, FL 33912  
(239)834-9631  
jeremigrosser@hpcswf.com

Caitlin Pontbriand  
Early Steps  
8961 Daniels Center Drive  
Fort Myers, FL 33912  
(239) 784-3667  
caitlinpontbriand@hpcswf.com



## **Transition: Taking the Next Steps**

Saturday, June 8

4:00-5:00

Rainbow Spring I

Growing up can be tough and navigating the system as a person with a disability can be even more difficult. However, with the right information and persistence you can make transitioning a breeze! Attendees will learn about early steps transitioning from ages zero to three as well as school age transitioning and going from school into the workforce. Resources like Assistive Technology follows a Child (FS 1003.575) and Project 10: Florida's Transition Education Network will be discussed giving you the knowledge to begin taking the steps to get what you need as a person with a disability in whatever stage of transition you are in.

Megan Germain  
Florida Alliance for Assistive Services and Technology  
820 East Park Avenue, Suite D-200  
Tallahassee, FL 32301  
(850) 487-3278  
mgermain@faastinc.org

5:00 p.m. to 5:30 p.m.  
5:00 p.m. to 5:30 p.m.  
7:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.

Pyramid Players, Foyer  
Solar Flair, Foyer  
Family Entertainment featuring DJ Scully,  
Plaza International Ballroom

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FOR ONE BIG LAST HURRAH AT THE 12TH ANNUAL YOUTH SUMMIT  
ON AUGUST 2 - 3 IN ORLANDO!**

The Annual Youth Summit is a place for **young people with disabilities between the ages of 15 and 30** from communities across the state of Florida to come together to learn, share, and network. This two-day event is hosted by The Florida Youth Council, a group of youth and emerging leaders with disabilities who have a passion for encouraging leadership and advocacy among their peers. The FYC is all about youth empowerment and youth involvement, and the entire Annual Youth Summit is planned **by youth, for youth!**

**The 12th Annual Youth Summit** will bring together over 200 youth and emerging leaders to attend engaging youth-only sessions on a wide variety of topics, including transition, workplace preparedness, and post-secondary schooling. We also have a great, youth-friendly keynote and fun social activities planned for The Summit, including a dance party to cap off the festivities. There will be plenty of opportunities for attendees to network, and share their thoughts, experiences, and aspirations.

**The 12th Annual Youth Summit** will be held at The Florida Hotel and Conference Center in Orlando **August 2 - 3, 2019**. If you are not requesting financial assistance please contact The Florida Hotel and Conference Center directly at **407-859-1500** to make reservations. The room rate is \$109 per night. Limited financial assistance is available. For more information about the event, or to register, contact The Florida Youth Council and The Family Café at **888-309-2233**, or visit [www.FloridaYouthCouncil.com](http://www.FloridaYouthCouncil.com)



**COME TO THE  
FLORIDA YOUTH COUNCIL BOOTH IN  
THE EXHIBIT HALL AND REGISTER FOR  
THE 12TH ANNUAL YOUTH SUMMIT!**







# Be The King!

## at the 21st Annual Family Café!



Abhhhhh...  
Thankyou-  
verymuch!

By now you've probably figured out that The 21st Annual Family Café has a little bit of a Vegas theme.

Now, when you think about Vegas, one of the first people you have to think about is The King, **Elvis Presley!** At least that's who we thought of. So we figured, why not give everyone a chance to let their inner Elvis out at The 21st Annual Family Café this year?

We invite you to dress like The King on **Saturday** at **The 21st Annual Family Café**. We encourage everyone to channel Elvis, and come decked out in your best Elvis look.

Then join us for music, fun, and dancing with **DJ Scully at 7:00 p.m.** in the **Plaza International Ballroom** at The Hyatt Regency.

This year, as a special treat, Saturday night's activities will also include our first-ever...

## **ELVIS LOOK-ALIKE CONTEST!**

**Look out for a REAL Elvis impersonator on Saturday, sponsored by WellCare!**

Whether you want to represent

**Old School Elvis . . .**

**Hawaiian Elvis . . .**

**Golden Elvis. . .**

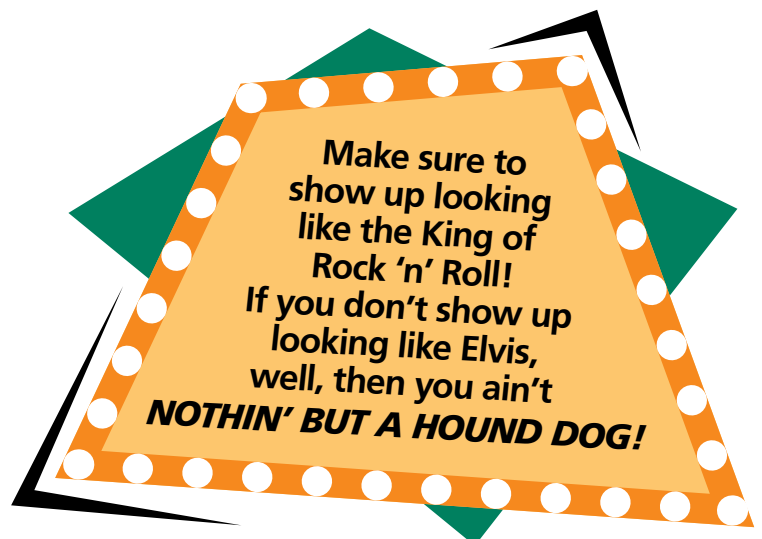
**Comeback Special Elvis . . .**

or go all out with

**American Eagle Jumpsuit Elvis . . .**

At the end of the evening,  
we'll pick a winner to be named

**The Family Café King  
of Orlando!**



Make sure to  
show up looking  
like the King of  
Rock 'n' Roll!

If you don't show up  
looking like Elvis,  
well, then you ain't

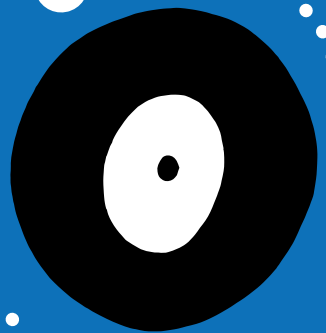
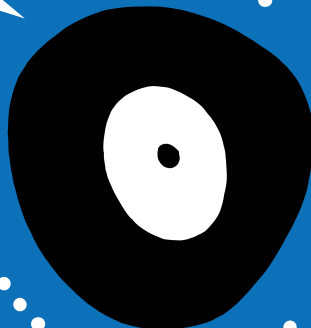
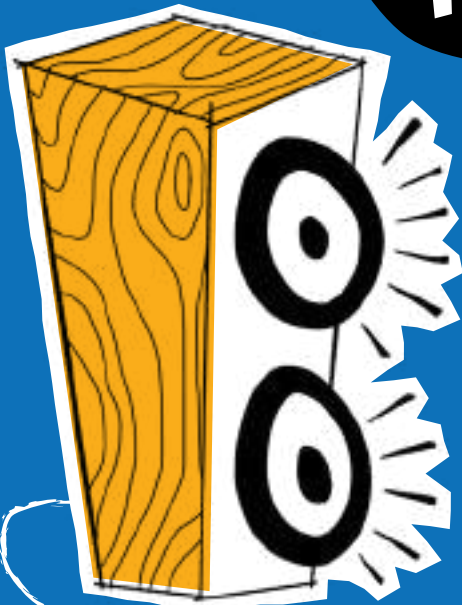
**NOTHIN' BUT A HOUND DOG!**

**ONE NIGHT ONLY!**

# **DJ SCULLY**

**SATURDAY NIGHT  
7:00 - 9:00 PM  
PLAZA INTERNATIONAL BALLROOM**

**MUSIC  
& DANCE  
PARTY!**







## Florida's Assistive Technology Program

Come see us at the AT Pavilion, located in Regency Q for more information on our services like:

- Statewide AT Help Desk
- Device Demonstrations
- Short Term Device Loans
- Training on Assistive Technology and Services
- Financial Loans
- Public Policy
- Public Awareness & Exhibits

[www.faast.org](http://www.faast.org)

820 E Park Ave, D-200  
Tallahassee, Florida 32301  
Toll-Free: 1-844-FL-FAAST (353-2278)

TTY: (877) 506-2723

FAX: (850) 575-4216



# Entertainment Highlights



## Arts & Crafts by Arts4All Florida

Teaching Artist Deborah Knispel guides kids of all ages through a kinetic art activity which uses the whole body to produce circle designs like a Spirograph. The art is inspired by dancer and artist #Tony Orrico, who uses his powerful body as a tool for creating his own unique brand of creative expression. Participants with limited mobility and/or in wheelchairs will be provided specially made drawing wands to add to the circular art. Take-homes can be created as well by painting on smaller cardstock with circular tools.

Saturday, 1:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. *Orlando Ballroom N*



## ProjectFREE Solar Flair

Classic / Alternative Rock Band featuring musicians with diverse abilities.

Saturday, 5:00 p.m. to 5:30 p.m. *Foyer*

## Everyone Can Zumba®

### Bring the Whole Family!

ANYONE AND EVERYONE CAN ZUMBA®! Our motto is "there are no wrong moves, just unexpected solos." Join us for a morning of fun and exercise! Bring a towel and water bottle with you.

Saturday and Sunday, 8:00 a.m. to 9:00 a.m. *Regency Foyer*



## Yoga for All Abilities

Join Cheryl Albright of Soul To Soul Yoga, LLC for a yoga class suited for people of all abilities.

Saturday and Sunday, 8:00 a.m. to 9:00 a.m. *Peacock Spring*





# Entertainment Highlights



## Brazilian Voices



Brazilian Voices is honored to participate for the 6th consecutive time at The Annual Family Café in Orlando. This vocal ensemble will bring the repertoire of Bossa Nova & American tunes with harmonic voices to stimulate engagement and participation with their mobile audio system. Recently, some researchers have revealed that just the act of listening to music stimulates “wide networks in the brain, including areas responsible for motor actions, emotions, and creativity.” Looking forward to create unforgettable musical moments with all of you!

Friday, 4:00 p.m. to 4:30 p.m.      Brazilian Voices, Foyer  
Friday, 5:30 p.m. to 5:45 p.m.      Brazilian Voices, Foyer  
Saturday, 10:30 a.m. to 11:00 a.m.      Brazilian Voices, Foyer

## Pyramid Players

Hailing from Tallahassee, Pensacola, Fort Walton Beach and Tampa, the Pyramid Players have been a crowd favorite for more than a decade with their rousing choral performances. In the exhibition hall, the works of artists from five Pyramids across the state are on display. Pyramid’s artists and performers demonstrate the power of the arts to transform lives. These artists and performers are no longer people with disabilities; they are painters and sculptors, singers, dancers and actors!



Friday, 11:00 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.      Pyramid Players, Foyer  
Friday, 1:00 p.m. to 1:30 p.m.      Pyramid Players, Foyer  
Friday, 2:30 p.m. to 3:00 p.m.      Pyramid Players, Foyer      Saturday, 2:00 p.m. to 2:30 p.m.      Pyramid Players, Foyer  
Friday, 4:00 p.m. to 4:30 p.m.      Pyramid Players, Foyer      Saturday, 3:30 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.      Pyramid Players, Foyer  
Saturday, 12:30 p.m. to 1:00 p.m.      Pyramid Players, Foyer      Saturday, 5:00 p.m. to 5:30 P.M.      Pyramid Players, Foyer

## Royal DJs



The Royal DJs are a group of differently-abled DJs who love to play tunes for others and spread a message of happiness, inclusion, acceptance, and positivity. Music is a universal language and connects us all!

Friday, 2:30 p.m. to 3:00 p.m.      Royal DJs, Foyer  
Saturday, 10:30 a.m. to 11:00 a.m.      Royal DJs, Foyer  
Saturday, 3:30 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.      Royal DJs, Foyer



## Ms. Wheelchair Florida

Come see Ms. Wheelchair Florida 2019 throughout the weekend in the Exhibit Hall!

Friday & Saturday, Ms. Wheelchair Florida, Regency Ballroom

# Entertainment Highlights



## FRIENDS Choir



FRIENDS Choir is a music program for students with significant intellectual disabilities in Martin County. The singers come from 6 schools to Jensen Beach High School every week to practice. There are 10-15 typical students that assist at practice times. The goals for FRIENDS are:

- A place to exhibit the talents and abilities of students with disabilities
- A social atmosphere to get to know and learn about other students
- An awareness for others to see and appreciate what people with disabilities CAN do

FRIENDS began in 1989 and has grown consistently through the last 30 years.

Saturday, 12:30 p.m. to 1:00 p.m. FRIENDS Choir, Foyer

Saturday, 2:00 p.m. to 2:30 p.m. FRIENDS Choir, Foyer

**Come hear us sing!**

## Chance 2 Dance Inc.

Chance 2 Dance is a 501©3 non-profit organization that provides inclusive and accommodating dance classes to children, youth, and adults with varying special needs and disabilities. We are an organization that focuses on the physical, social, cognitive, emotional, behavioral, and artistic benefits of dance. In an effort to enhance their quality of life, we strive to provide artistic-enrichment activities of dance and theatre that otherwise may not be available to the special needs populations. Our goal is to give these dancers a sense of normalcy, to make them feel included and accepted — no matter the differences between us; we still all have a beating heart. Dance is an emotional, creative, and artistic outlet that taps into the minds and bodies and in a way is a therapeutic experience to help maintain or progress their physical abilities and contribute to their mind to body connection.



Saturday, 2:00 p.m. to 2:30 p.m. Foyer

Experience this adapted version of the classic musical Mary Poppins by Synchrony Arts Production Company!



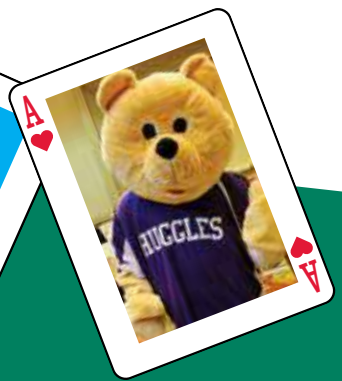
Saturday, 11:00 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.,  
Barrel Spring



Anna and Elsa  
Friday and Saturday



Spiderman  
Saturday



Huggles the Bear  
Friday and Saturday

# Sunday, June 9, 2019

10:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.  
Plaza International Ballroom

## A Pound of Kindness and Crutches 2 Champions

*Kindness can take many forms but the special moments they bring can lighten a day and even a lifetime.*

A limited number of complimentary copies of *A Pound of Kindness* will be distributed at this keynote.

The keynote presented by Dave Clark and Doug Cornfield will be a journey with incredible life stories that will provide positive insights to challenge, encourage, and enlighten. Dave Clark has traveled the world as a professional baseball player, coach, scout, owner, and broadcaster. He lost the use of his legs to Polio as a child and never walked without the aid of crutches and braces. You will be challenged to hear how determination, persistence, and the support of others made a difference in his life and how he converted the gifts he was given to inspire many by organizing sports camps for children and adults with various challenges.

Doug Cornfield is a father of seven children and an athlete that has competed in the USA and Europe. His fifth child Gideon was born with neither arm developed, so this brings Doug perspective as a parent raising a child with limitations and relatable stories of his own. Doug reached out to Dave when Gideon was just a baby with the intent of gaining insight into how Dave's parents raised him so that he could learn principles in raising his own son. This journey will show how two men from different sides of a coin have learned from each other and how they have come together to inspire thousands each year through Disability Dream & Do (D3Day) sports camps organized with professional teams.

Doug Cornfield has recently written a children's book called *A Pound of Kindness*. This story portrays a real life event when Dave Clark was in first grade. The story teaches how one act of kindness can be remembered for a lifetime. During the keynote you will be entertained and inspired by other true stories that are being converted into children's books that include relatable characters for those in the disability community. The main character of these stories will have some type of limitation.





# Sunday Morning Inspiration: Courage Beyond Pain

8:00 a.m. to 9:00 a.m., Blue Spring II

People with disabilities want to be active participants and meaningful contributors to their community. They want the same choices to grow spiritually, to enjoy community life, and experience relationships. Take a moment to fellowship with one another and leave with greater hope for tomorrow.

Reverend Robert E. Streater III, M.A.

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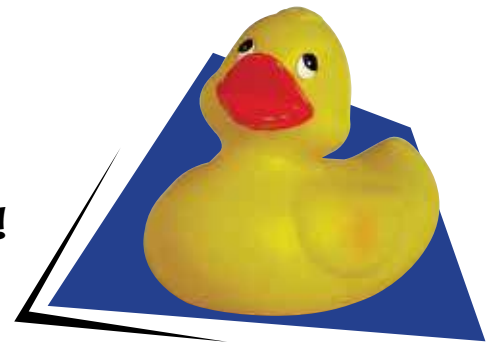
## Duck Race

Sponsored by: Florida Disabled  
Outdoors Association (FDOA)

9:30 a.m. to 10:15 a.m., Main Pool

**Quack... Quack... May the best rubber ducky win!**


Even ducks can participate in active leisure!! These ducks are fierce competitors. One could win you a big prize, and all help out the Florida Disabled Outdoors Association and The Family Café.



Imagine not one, not a dozen, but hundreds of them racing down the water slide towards a finish line where you (and hundreds of other humans like you) cheer on your adopted duck, hoping it will finish first and you win the Big Prize. Prizes include Gatorland passes, a giant floating duck, and more!

Here's how you can participate: During The Family Café, purchase your little rubber ducks (just like the one in your bathtub) at the Florida Disabled Outdoors Association booth. FDOA will keep the ducks all together and you will be provided with your duck number. At 9:30 a.m. on Sunday, the ducks will be placed at the starting line, and race down to the finish line. If your duck is one of the winners, you will be one of the lucky recipients of an amazing prize. There are only 500 ducks, so don't miss your chance!!

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8:00 a.m. to 9:00 a.m.	Friends of Bill: AA Meeting  , Rock Spring II
8:00 a.m. to 9:00 a.m.	Sunday Morning Inspiration, Blue Spring II
8:00 a.m. to 9:00 a.m.	Zumba, Regency Foyer
8:00 a.m. to 9:00 a.m.	Yoga, Peacock Spring
8:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.	Exhibit Hall, Regency Ballroom
9:30 a.m. to 10:15 a.m.	Rubber Duck Race, Main Pool
10:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.	Keynote Address, Plaza International Ballroom
12:30 p.m. to 1:00 p.m.	Closing and Door Prizes, Plaza International Ballroom

# JOB HUNTING? WE SHOULD TALK.

The CareerSource Florida network of nearly 100 career centers have professional Disability Specialists and Disabled Veterans Outreach Program Specialists available to help you find the right training or land a great job.



The CareerSource Florida network helps connect job seekers with disabilities to rewarding careers.

Connect with employment specialists statewide

[abilitieswork.employflorida.com](http://abilitieswork.employflorida.com)  
(844) 245-3405



A proud partner of the AmericanJobCenter network

CareerSource Florida is an equal opportunity employer/program. Auxiliary aids and services are available upon request to individuals with disabilities. Disponible en Español.



# *Celebration of Life Ceremony*

## HONORING OUR LOVED ONES

When we lose someone dear to us, we experience deep sadness and even despair, wondering how we will survive. We have longings to know they are fine and to know we were good enough, in their eyes. The healing process we embark upon continues throughout our lives.

For this reason, our Celebration of Life Ceremony is for anyone who has lost a loved one, at anytime. We believe that by coming together in the Family Cafe community, where the common bond of disability unites us in a special way, a profound healing occurs.

In this year's Celebration of Life Ceremony, you will remember the gifts and contributions of your loved one – and will include those on Family Cafe's Web Of Life, which represents the eternal interconnectedness of all that is.

Through a guided meditation, you will be invited to let go of regrets and receive the gift of Light and Love. Dr. Paula Petry will share about the loss of her daughter, Alexandra, and what helped her through her deep grief.

Accompanying Paula is sound healer, Jeff Deen and the international renown female vocalists, Brazilian Voices. Your remembrance will be represented in a sand dollar which you will take with you.

### **PROGRAM FACILITATOR** .....

Paula Petry, Ph.D. spent many years in academia and engaged in parent support and disability public policy. With her daughter's death and subsequent divorce in 1996, she pursued an intuitive healing arts path that has given her unique insights and wisdom that she shares with loving kindness. She is the author of the upcoming book, *News From Oz: A Mother's Journey Through Grief Toward Wholeness*.

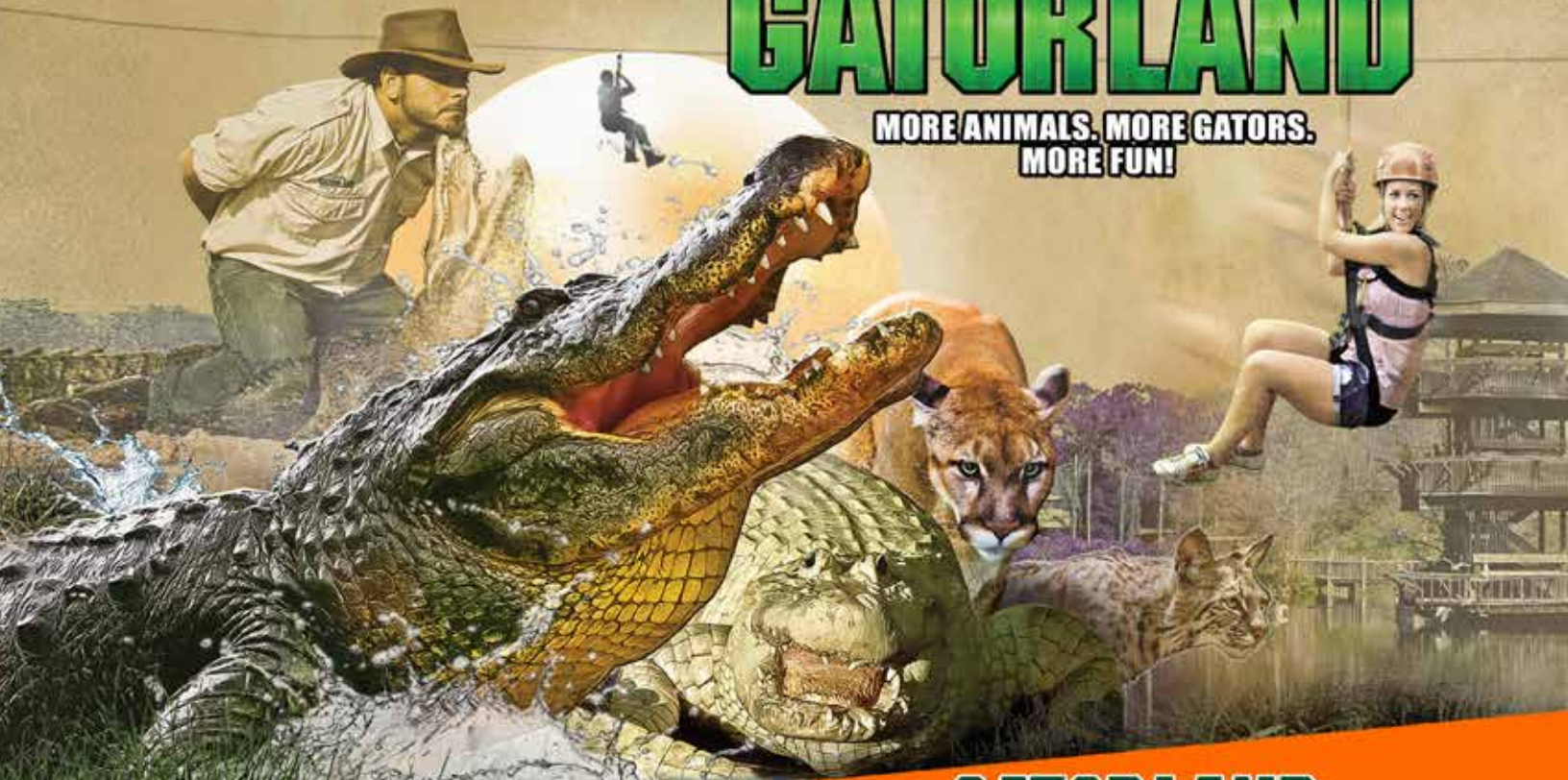




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MORE FUN!



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Ride the GATOR GAUNTLET!  
The only wheelchair accessible zip line  
in North America...  
That's our story and we're stickin' to it!



Visit our booth at The Family Cafe for details on our zip lines and other special offers

**SHOW YOUR ATTENDEE BADGE AND SAVE - 1/2 HALF OFF single day admission\***

\*Show your Family Cafe Attendee Badge at Gatorland admissions to receive half off single day admissions. Special rate for Family Cafe attendees. Not valid with other any discount or offers. Not valid for prior purchases or groups. Valid for up to 6 people. Not valid for Zip lines. Offer expires June 30, 2019

Cashiers use code - FAMILYC



FOR MORE INFORMATION AND RESERVATIONS CALL: (407) 855-5496  
14501 South Orange Blossom Trail, Orlando, Florida 32837 [www.GATORLAND.com](http://www.GATORLAND.com)



# SUNSHINE STATE SPORTSABILITY<sup>®</sup>



present the

## SportsAbility Sampler *Active Leisure for Life!*

Visit the FDOA booth in the EXPO Hall and experience activities for people of ALL abilities!

Friday, June 7 at 3:00 pm and Saturday, June 8 at 10:30 am in Regency Ballrooms P & O

- **Gatorland<sup>®</sup> Animal Show**

Throughout the Conference in Regency P & O

- Archery (Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission)
- Hover Ball Target Shooting (Removing the Barriers Initiative)
- Adaptive Tennis (United States Tennis Association)
- Accessible Obstacle Course

Saturday, June 8 at 10:30 am

Quiet Pool at the Upper Pool Deck / Recreation Level

- SCUBA Demo provided by Gabrielle Gabrielli
- Paddleboarding

Sunday, June 9 at 9:30 AM Pool Slide

- Rubber Duck Race

Purchase your ducks at the FDOA Booth! Prizes include Gatorland passes, a giant floating duck and more!

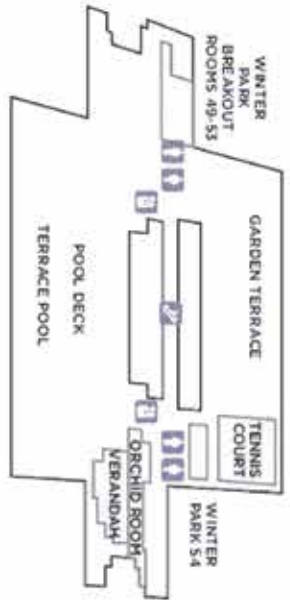


**Everyone is invited to participate!**



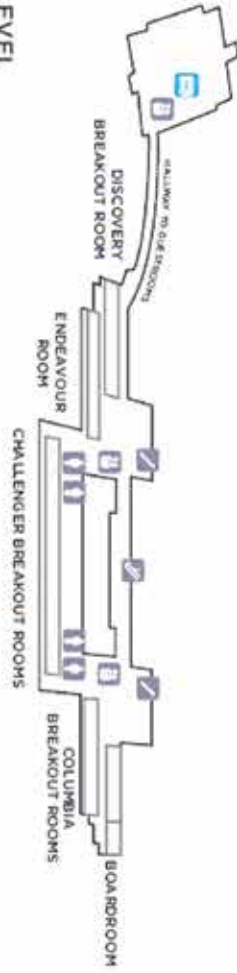
# HYATT REGENCY ORLANDO WELCOMES THE 20TH ANNIVERSARY FAMILY CAFÉ

## FOURTH LEVEL

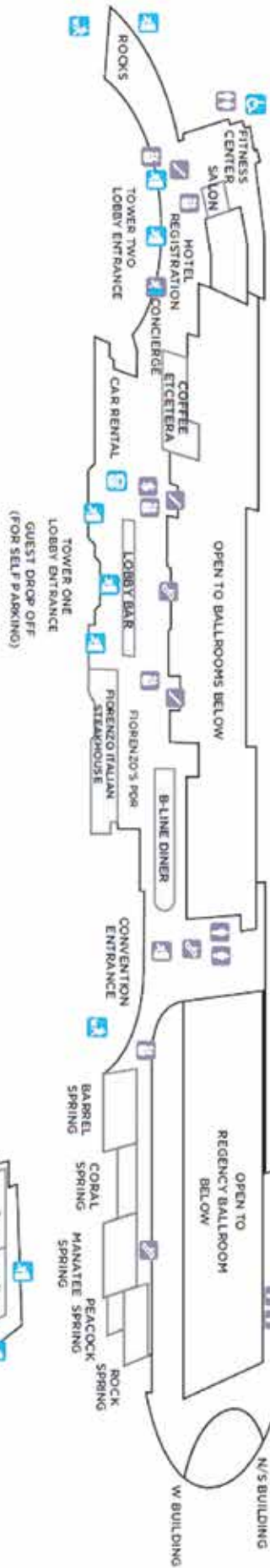


## THIRD LEVEL

### THIRD FLOOR, TOWER 2



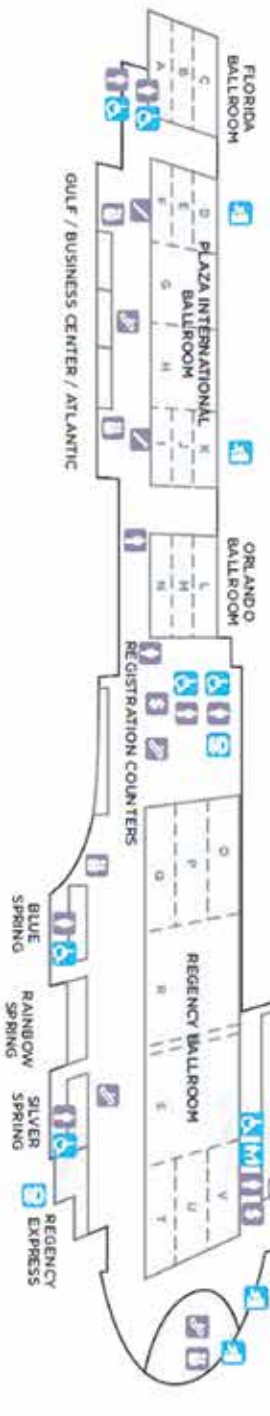
## LOBBY LEVEL



## LEVEL ONE



## CONVENTION LEVEL



KEY	
	Restrooms
	Escalator
	Stairway
	Elevator
	ATM
	Microwave
	Family Bathroom
	TTY Phone
	Dog Walk Area
	Exit
	Wheelchair Accessible

26TH FLOOR, TOWER ONE

In case of medical emergency, please dial 77 from a hotel phone.





**THEY  
NEED  
YOU!**

**JOIN**

*The Family Café*  
**CHANGE AGENT NETWORK**

**WWW.FAMILYCAFE.NET**



# See You Next Year!

AT THE

# 22<sup>nd</sup> ANNUAL Family Café

JUNE 5 - 7, 2020 • ORLANDO

**HYATT REGENCY  
ORLANDO**

9801 INTERNATIONAL DRIVE  
ORLANDO, FLORIDA



The Family Café is  
on Facebook!



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