

The 17th Annual Family Café

SEVENTEEN

**June
5th-7th
2015**

Exhibitors!

Featuring...

**The Governor's
Summit on
Disabilities**

✓ **Employment Expo
and 160+ Breakout
Sessions**

✓ **Wide Range of
Disability-Related
Topics**

✓ **Outdoor Adaptive
Sports Demonstration**

**Caribe Royale All-Suite Hotel and Convention Center
Orlando, Florida**



RICK SCOTT
GOVERNOR



June 5, 2015

Dear Family Café Attendees:

Welcome to the 17th Annual Family Café and Summit on Disabilities. We are committed to providing every family the opportunity to live the American dream. That's why we are committed to making life changing investments that will create more opportunities for all Floridians to get a great education and choose the course of learning that best meets their needs.

Every individual should have the opportunity to get a great job and education, regardless of the challenges they may face. That is why we announced a proposed investment of \$8 million to enroll all individuals with critical needs from the waiting list to the Developmental Disabilities Medicaid Waiver Program. These families can now receive services to improve their loved one's quality of life and gain skills to help them find a job. This is the second year in a row that funding is provided to remove all individuals with critical needs from the waiting list.

Every great job begins with a great education, and I am committed to supporting families' efforts to help their loved ones find jobs by increasing opportunities for job training skills for individuals with disabilities. Our proposed 2015-2016 "KEEP FLORIDA WORKING" budget also recommends an increase of \$5 million, for a total of \$23.4 million, for personal learning scholarship accounts for eligible K-12 students with disabilities. This funding will provide beneficial services such as tuition and fees for instructional services, private tutoring, curriculum, and other specialized learning services.

We are making Florida the global leader for businesses and job creation. We will build on the success of the past four years and keep working every day to provide Florida families with a business climate that generates more opportunities today and for the next generation. Thank you for helping Floridians with disabilities grow and prosper in their own communities. I wish you a successful and informative conference.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Rick Scott".

Rick Scott
Governor



The **seventeen**th Annual Family Café

One of the big challenges for the next twenty-five years of the ADA will be employment, and we're excited to place a focus on jobs and careers for people with disabilities at this year's event. The Saturday Keynote will feature Randy Lewis, former Senior Vice President at Walgreen's. He will share the story of how he led an effort to create two distribution centers that use an inclusive and integrated workforce composed of 40% persons with disabilities. Our emphasis on employment will also extend to the Exhibit Hall, where the Employment Expo will allow attendees to work on their job-seeking skills and get connected with employment resources.

Of course, The 17th Annual Family Café will include all of the information and resources that have made it such a success over the years. There will be a wide range of breakout sessions on a number of subjects, with a number of those sessions organized into "tracks." They include Military Families, Smart Money, Mental Health, Employment, Disaster Preparedness, Advocacy, Youth, Recreation, and Birth to Age Five. The tracked sessions are indicated by special graphics in the program. We also have a full Exhibit Hall with dozens of booths, including a host of self-advocate owned and operated Micro-Enterprises.

We're also continuing our tradition of hosting the Annual Governor's Summit on Disabilities on Friday evening. There will be a special recorded message for Family Café attendees from Governor Scott, and State Senator Bill Galvano will be on hand to discuss the eventful 2015 legislative session and how the State of Florida supports people with disabilities.

There's a lot going on this weekend, and we sincerely hope that your participation in The 17th 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

Dear Family Café Attendees, Welcome to Orlando and The 17th Annual Family Café!

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 here in Florida since 1998. The Family Café Planning Committee, which is comprised of self-advocates, family members, fellow non-profits 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 are excited to be here at the Caribe Royale this year! Those of you that are long-time attendees of The Family Café may recall being here in 2005 and 2006. The Caribe is a great location, and we're pleased to be back. We hope you have an opportunity to take advantage of everything it has to offer.

This year marks the 25th anniversary of the Americans with Disabilities Act, and we are planning on using this year's Annual Family Café as an occasion to celebrate all of the progress people with disabilities have made since the ADA was signed in 1990. In that spirit, Friday's Keynote will feature Rebecca Cokley of the National Council on Disability. She will talk about how the ADA came about, and what today's leaders can do to further the movement. Sunday's Keynote will include a screening of Lives Worth Living, a remarkable documentary that shares the story of the disability rights movement in the words of those who lived it.



The 17th Annual Family Café



June 7, 2013

Rick Scott
Governor
■ ■ ■
Barbara Palmer
Director
■ ■ ■
State Office
■ ■ ■

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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 15th Annual Family Café and Summit on Disabilities in Orlando. On behalf of Governor Rick Scott and the Florida Agency for Persons with Disabilities, I want to encourage you to make the most of this conference and the educational opportunities that are provided here.

Florida's Agency for Persons with Disabilities is committed to helping people with developmental disabilities live, learn, and work in their communities. The agency serves about 50,000 people with spina bifida, autism, intellectual disabilities, cerebral palsy, Down syndrome, and Prader-Willi syndrome.

The Family Café offers people with disabilities and their families a welcoming environment to educate themselves about resources that are available in Florida to meet their needs. Families and organizations must work together to come up with viable solutions to meet everyone's needs in these difficult economic times. APD has an online Resource Directory at APDcares.org which also may offer solutions when government resources are not available. Stop by the APD booth for more details.

Throughout this conference, you will have opportunities to discuss with other people your challenges, experiences, and solutions. There will be providers and exhibitors that may have valuable information to benefit you, so take advantage of the educational atmosphere at this conference. Again, I hope you enjoy your time at the conference!

Sincerely,


Barbara Palmer
Director

<http://apdcares.org>



RICK SCOTT
GOVERNOR
ELIZABETH DUDEK
SECRETARY

March 30, 2015

Dear Family Café Participants:

Welcome to the 17th Annual Family Café. The Agency for Health Care Administration is honored once again to participate in this event. The event provides a wonderful opportunity to enhance the lives of individuals with disabilities, and their families, through an array of informative educational sessions.

Our Agency staff looks forward to participating in this event every year, sharing new information and providing updates on the Medicaid program. Please take the opportunity to participate in our workshop on the new federal Home and Community Based Services Settings Rule, and stop by our event booth to obtain valuable information.

On behalf of the Agency for Health Care Administration, I welcome you and your family to the 17th Annual Family Café.

Sincerely,


Elizabeth Dudek
Secretary

2727 Mahan Drive • Mail Stop #1
Tallahassee, FL 32308
AHCA.MyFlorida.com



Facebook.com/AHCAFlorida
Youtube.com/AHCAFlorida
Twitter.com/AHCA_FL
SlideShare.net/AHCAFlorida





Britt Sikes
Chairman
Chris Hart IV
President & CEO

June 5, 2015

Dear Family Café Attendees,

Welcome to the 17th Annual Family Café and Summit on Disabilities. The CareerSource Florida network is proud of its partnership and continuing participation in this dynamic event, which helps to advance our mission to connect employers with qualified, skilled talent and Floridians with employment and career development opportunities to achieve economic prosperity.

Led by state and local business leaders, the CareerSource Florida network consists of a statewide workforce policy and investment board, the Florida Department of Economic Opportunity, 24 regional workforce boards and nearly 100 career centers where job seekers and employers can go for recruiting, employment and training assistance. Our workforce professionals include team members who specialize in assisting Floridians with unique abilities in their job search, and the employers seeking to hire them.

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, we hope you will 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.

Best wishes for a productive and enjoyable conference!

Sincerely,

Chris Hart IV
President and CEO



FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF
EDUCATION
fldoe.org

Pam Stewart
Commissioner of Education

State Board of Education
Gary Chartrand, Chair
John R. Padgett, Vice Chair
Members
John A. Colón
Marva Johnson
Rebecca Fishman Uipsey
Michael Olenick
Andy Tuck

1580 Waldo Palmer Lane, Suite 1 • Tallahassee, FL 32308
p: (850) 921-1119 f: (850) 921-1101
careersourceflorida.com



June 5, 2015

Dear Conference Attendees:

Welcome to the 17th Annual Family Café Conference and Summit on Disabilities! This year's conference has brought together a wide array of information and resources from exhibitors, micro-enterprises, presenters, fellow parents and individuals with disabilities. You will find personnel from the Florida Department of Education and its sponsored projects here to present on education, employment, school choice and transition topics. They will also be available at exhibit tables to answer additional questions you might have.

Family Café is one of the many ways we assist parents to be more involved in their children's education and help students with disabilities in determining their future. We hope over the next three days you will find opportunities to make new friendships, as well as find new information and resources you can take home with you.

Sincerely,

Pam Stewart
Commissioner

www.fldoe.org
325 W. Gaines Street | Tallahassee, FL 32399-0400 | 850-245-0505



The 17th Annual Family Café



FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

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Dr. Tony Bennett
 Commissioner of Education

COUNTDOWN
 COMMUNICATIONS

Dear Conference Attendees:

On behalf of the Florida Division of Vocational Rehabilitation (VR), I welcome you to the 17th Annual Family Café. I hope you find the keynote speakers and breakout sessions interesting and informative.

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

At the Family Cafe, you'll have an opportunity to learn about the different programs and services available statewide to people with disabilities and their families, including VR. We hope you find this information useful and helpful in your daily life.

Our staff will be making presentations during the conference about the different programs VR offers, including our transition program – School to Work, 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 we can assist you and your family.

This year's conference promises to be among the most exciting yet. Participate, question, listen, and enjoy it!

Sincerely,

Aleisa McKinlay

ALEISA C. MCKINLAY
 Director, Division of Vocational Rehabilitation

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 Toll Free: 1-800-451-4327 (Voice or TTY) • In Tallahassee: 850-245-3399 (Voice or TTY) • FAX: 850-245-3392
 Florida Relay Service: 1-800-955-8771 (TTY) • 1-800-955-8770 (Voice) • www.rehabworks.org



June 5, 2015

Dear Family Café Participant:

As Florida's Surgeon General and Secretary of Health, it is my pleasure to welcome you to the 17th Annual Family Café Conference. In an atmosphere of fun and fellowship, this event provides a unique experience for Floridians with special abilities and their families to learn about helpful resources, products and services. With an abundant choice of educational sessions and informative exhibits, Family Café participants will learn about opportunities to achieve their full abilities. Of course, there will be plenty of entertaining family activities!

The Florida Department of Health offers several programs that support the needs of Floridians with and special abilities, and we are fortunate to enjoy a healthy partnership with the Family Café. Together with our community partners, we work to protect, promote and improve the health of all people in Florida through integrated state, county and community efforts. Learn more about the Florida Department of Health by visiting us online at www.floridahealth.gov.

Have a wonderful time at the conference!

Sincerely,

John H. Armstrong, MD, FACS
 Surgeon General & Secretary

JHA/vp

Florida Department of Health
 Office of the State Surgeon General
 4052 Bald Cypress Way, Bin A10 • Tallahassee, FL 32399-1701
 PHONE: 850/245-4210 • FAX: 850/922-8453

www.FloridaHealth.gov
 TWITTER: HealthyFLA
 FACEBOOK: FLDepartmentofHealth
 YOUTUBE: Health
 FLICKR: HealthyFla
 PINTEREST: HealthyFla





State of Florida
Department of Children and Families

Rick Scott
Governor
Mike Carroll
Secretary

Dear Family Cafe Participants:

On behalf of the Department of Children and Families, it is my honor to welcome you to the 17th Annual Family Cafe. This annual conference has become a Florida institution since its beginning in 1998, and the department has been proud to partner with the Family Cafe and the implementation of its mission.

Over the course of the next few days, you will have the opportunity to learn about valuable resources and the latest programs and support available to Floridians with disabilities and their families. You are encouraged to use this opportunity to meet others who are learning new ways to overcome challenges and meet goals, as well as those with special needs and their caregivers.

Because of their commitment to having families and communities participate in the conversation and speak as one voice, the Family Cafe is making great strides to strengthen Florida's system of care and improve lives and services – and by being here you are a part of that success.

Best wishes for a lively and successful event.

Sincerely,

Mike Carroll
Secretary



STATE OF FLORIDA
DIVISION OF EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

RICK SCOTT
Governor

BRYAN W. KOON
Director

June 5, 2015

Dear Family Café Participants:

The Florida Division of Emergency Management recognizes the important relationship between the disability community and emergency management. The 17th Annual Family Café event is an opportunity for attendees to discuss how to reduce risk with our most vulnerable population during a disaster.

Working together, we can identify ways to build resilient communities, thus creating an environment to support those individuals or families living with a disability. Partnerships between emergency management, the private sector, and nongovernmental organizations allows for idea sharing for all phases of emergency management.

The first step to preparing for a disaster is taking the time to build a family emergency plan. I encourage you to explore all the valuable information available during this event and take steps at home to apply these tips to your everyday life. You can find additional resources on the Division's new preparedness website at www.FLGetaPlan.com. Information on the new Florida Special Needs Registry can be found on the website. Be sure to register yourself or your family member who may need additional assistance responding to an evacuation order or sheltering during a disaster.

Children are encouraged to play a role in disaster planning. The Division continues to expand our children's program Kids Get a Plan with new online games and educational books. Go to www.KidsGetaPlan.com to build a disaster supply kit, a family emergency plan, and to learn how to mitigate against disasters.

Working together we can help ALL Floridians *Get A Plan!*, and make Florida the best state in the nation to work, live and play.

Sincerely,

Bryan W. Koon
Director

DIVISION HEADQUARTERS • STATE LOGISTICS RESPONSE CENTER
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Tel: 850-413-9969 • Fax: 850-488-1016
www.Florida.gov/DEM 2702 Directors Row, Orlando, FL 32809-5631



Dear Friends of The Family Café:

The WellCare and Staywell family would like to welcome you to the 17th Annual Family Café. As in many years past, we are a key sponsor of this event because it provides us a meaningful opportunity to assist you in accessing the information and services you need.

WellCare, and our Staywell Health Plan, have been serving disabled Floridians for more than 28 years. During that time we have built an understanding of the needs and unique challenges faced by those with disabilities, in addition to the needs and challenges faced by family and friends who care for them.

We are working with The Family Café and other organizations that represent individuals with a spectrum of disabilities. Recently, we launched our national toll-free Community Assistance Line which is primarily staffed by individuals with disabilities. These individuals act as peer-support counselors for those in need. This line is open to the public and additionally supports those who are deaf or hard of hearing. It is a referral service that matches your needs with more than 1.2 million programs. We invite you to contact the Toll-Free Community Assistance Line at 866-775-2192 (main line) or 855-628-7552 (video relay) Monday – Friday, 9am to 6pm EST.

As in previous years, over 100 WellCare and Staywell employees will be on-site volunteering to make this year's conference a success. We invite you to stop by one of our booths to learn more about our Medicare and Medicaid Health Plans, have your face painted, and enjoy some popcorn.

Thank you for allowing us to be a part of this fun and memorable event.

Sincerely,

Gregg MacDonald
State President





Sponsors!

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Disability Rights Florida
Florida Agency for Persons with Disabilities
Florida Department of Children and Families
Florida Department of Education
Florida Department of Education/Division of Vocational Rehabilitation
Florida Division of Emergency Management
Florida Department of Health/Children's Medical Services Network
Florida Department of Health/Division of Emergency Preparedness and Community Support
Florida Department of Health/Division of Community Health Promotions
Family Care Council Suncoast Region East
Magellan Health
Publix Super Markets Charities
The Health Insurance Store

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

Central Florida Parent Center
Children's Forum, Inc.
Disability Rights Florida
The Family Café Board of Directors
The Family Café Delegates
Florida Department of Education
Florida Department of Education, Division of Vocational Rehabilitation
Florida Department of Health, CMS Early Steps Program
Florida Department of Health, CMS Network
Florida Disabled Outdoors Association
Florida Youth Council
MPower Consulting
Operation Military Kids
SEDNET-Multiagency Network for Students with
Emotional and Behavioral Disabilities
U.S. Military
7-Dippity



The Family Café 2015 Exhibitors

Agency for Health Care Administration

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Agency for Persons with Disabilities

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www.adpcares.org

AT&T

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Atlanta, GA 30339
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(770) 955-1300

Autism Speaks

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Washington, DC 20006
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www.autismspeaks.org

Broward Children's Center, Inc.

200 SE 19 Avenue
Pompano Beach, FL 33060
jacquim@bcckids.org
(954) 943-7336
www.bcckids.org

Buddy Bike LLC

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

Calmoseptine, Inc.

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Canine Companions for Independence

PO Box 680388
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msowers@cci.org
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www.cci.org

CareerSource Florida

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Central Florida Parent Center

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(727) 789-2400
www.centralfloridaparentcenter.org

College Internship Program

CIP Berkshire, 199 South Street
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psokolowski@cipworldwide.org
(877) 566-9247
www.cipworldwide.org

Conductive Education Center of Orlando

931 S Semoran Boulevard, Suite 220
Winter Park, FL 32792
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(407) 671-4687
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Delmarva Foundation for Medical Care, Inc.

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Delta Airlines

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Department of Education-Division of Vocational Rehabilitation

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Disability Rights Florida

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Easter Seals Florida, Inc.

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Family Care Council Florida

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fccflorida.org

FDLRS Administration Project

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Florida Alliance for Assistive Services and Technology (FAAST)

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(850) 487-3278
www.faast.org

Florida Commission for the Transportation Disadvantage

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Florida Department of Children and Families

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Florida Department of Education

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(850) 245-0899

Florida Department of Education - Bureau of Exceptional Education and Student Services

325 West Gaines Street
Tallahassee, FL 32399
rethia.hudson@fldoe.org
(850) 245-0475

Florida Department of Education - Division of Blind Services

325 West Gaines Street, Suite 1114
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Florida Developmental Disabilities Council

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Florida Department of Health

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Tara.flowers@flhealth.gov
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www.floridahealth.gov



Florida Department of Health Early Steps Program

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www.cms-kids.com

Florida Disabled Outdoors Association

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www.fdoa.org

Florida Division of Emergency Management

2555 Shumard Oak Boulevard
Tallahassee, FL 32399
christina.rojas@em.myflorida.com
(850) 544-8381
kidsgetaplan.com

Florida Fish & Wildlife Conservation Commission

7325 Northeast 170th Avenue
Silver Springs, FL 34488
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Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission - Fishing

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Tallahassee, FL 32399
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Florida Prepaid College Board and Florida ABLE

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Florida Voice on Developmental Disabilities (FVDD)

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Ft. Lauderdale, FL 33307
fvddorg@aol.com
(954) 683-8453
www.floridasvoice.org

Gabrielle Consulting/Handicapped SCUBA Association

P.O. Box 12861
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Global Extreme Mobility

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Moody, AL 35004
info@globalextrimobility.com
(205) 640-3000

Guardian Trust

901 Chestnut Street, Suite C
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(800) 669-2499
www.guardiantrust.org

Hawaiian Moon

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hmaloeassist@gmail.com
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Heavendropt

P.O. Box 148265
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corey.shadd@evergreens.org
(318) 707-3213
www.heavendropt.org

Just Read Florida!

1618 E. Jackson Street
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kelligebbia@gmail.com
(850) 459-6270
www.thamesandchestnutt.com

Life Enabling Technologies

3008 S Keats Street
Tampa, FL 33629
spinnock@lifeenablingtech.com
(305) 803-6921
www.lifeenablingtech.com

Multiagency Network for Students with Emotional and Behavioral Disabilities (SEDNET)

140 7th Avenue S, SVB 112
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nzenn@usfsp.edu
(727) 873-4661
www.sednetfl.info

My Angel with Paws

3098 Marsh Road
Deland, FL 32724
amwreading@aol.com
(704) 718-9479

Nemours Children's Health System

13535 Nemours Parkway
Orlando, FL 32827
peggy.parrish@nemours.org
(407) 650-7887
www.nemours.org

New Horizons Service Dogs

1590 Laurel Park Court
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admin@nhsdi.org
(386) 456-0408
www.newhorizonsservicedogs.org

New York Life

83 Baybridge Park
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mlpickering@fl.newyorklife.com
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Noah's Ark of Central Florida

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director@noahsarkflorida.org
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www.noahsarkflorida.org

Nova Southeastern University

College of Dental Medicine
3200 South University Drive, 3rd Floor
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ln430@nova.edu
(954) 262-1929

On the Edge Children's Foundation

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ontheedgechildrensfoundation@gmail.com
(717) 337-1921
www.ontheedgechildrensfoundation.com

Orange County Supervisor of Elections

119 West Kaley Street
Orlando, FL 32806
jeanette.cruz@ocfelections.com
(407) 254-6558
www.ocfelections.com

Project 10 Transition Education Network

140 7th Avenue South, SUB108
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(727) 873-4654
www.project10.info

Puzzle Box Academy

1129 US HWY 1, Suite 102
Rockledge, FL 32955
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www.puzzleboxacademy.com

Pyramid, Inc.

2700 S Blairstone Road
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(850) 671-1690
www.pyramidinc.com

Quadriciser

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www.quadriciser.com

Sky Medical

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Sunrise, FL 33351
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(954) 747-3188

Snug Seat, Inc.

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Matthews, NC 28105
matt@snugseat.com
(321) 961-8198
www.snugseat.com

Social Security Administration

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The Family Café Conference at a Glance

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 Grand Sierra Foyer Registration Desk 1, courtesy of the Deaf Talk LLC.

Complimentary wheelchairs available at the Registration desk, courtesy of K & M Rentals.

Friday, June 5, 2015

10:00 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.
10:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.
10:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.
11:00 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.
11:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

1:00 p.m. to 1:30 p.m.
1:00 p.m. to 2:00 p.m.
1:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.
1:30 p.m. to 4:30 p.m.
1:30 p.m. to 5:30 p.m.

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

Registration Open, Caribbean Registration Desk
Exhibit Hall Open, Grand Sierra Ballroom
Employment Expo, Grand Sierra Ballroom
Pyramid Players, Grand Sierra Foyer
Opening Session & Keynote Address, Caribbean Ballroom
Pyramid Players, Grand Sierra Foyer
Gatorland Animal Show, Grand Sierra Ballroom
Registration Open, Caribbean Registration Desk
Early Steps, Early Wishes Playgroup, Hibiscus
Dental Screening, Grand Sierra Ballroom

CONCURRENT SESSIONS

Special Needs ... Caring for Loved Ones Under Unique Circumstances

Antigua 1 & 2

Transition: The Big Picture

Antigua 3 & 4

Human Trafficking

Boca I

Intro and Brief History of Special Education

Boca II

The Exceptional Education State Advisory Committee - What is it and How Can it Provide Information to Your Representative?

Boca III

Updated Guidelines for the Care of Students with Diabetes in Florida Schools

Boca IV

Start Exploring Now for Tomorrow: A Family Guide for Vocational Planning

Boca V



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.

Advocacy



Youth



Recreation



Employment



Mental Health



Military



Smart Money



Birth Through Age Five



Disaster Preparedness



Self Determination – A Path to Success (A Panel Discussion)

Boca VI



Disability Rights Florida – Helping to Get What You Need

Boca VII



Self-Advocacy – ADA 25th Year Celebration

Boca VIII



Calling All Advocates: Partners in Policymaking Wants You!

Bonaire 1

IEP Rights – Instructional Manual for Dads

Bonaire 2



Delegate Roundtable: Mental Health

Bonaire 3

FAAST 101 – Presentation on FAAST

Bonaire 4



Making it Fun – Incorporating Play and Learning for Your Preschooler

Bonaire 5

Just for Dads

Bonaire 6



Empathy and Autism Spectrum Disorders: How Do We Express It?

Bonaire 7



Come and Chat with The Florida Youth Council

Bonaire 8

Reducing Inflammation Through Foods

Caribbean Ballroom 1



Surviving Accidentally Clothed Submersions—Basic Swimming Lessons and Exercise Techniques

Curacao 1



Tactile/Hands-on Disaster Preparedness Evacuation Planning and Kit Building for Persons with Disabilities, on a Low Budget, Through Recycling and Free Items

Curacao 2



Inspiration and Encouragement for Military and Veteran Families with Special Needs

Curacao 3



Getting Hired: A Job-Seeker's Guide to Navigating the Hiring Process

Curacao 4



Calling 911—Be Prepared

Curacao 5



What Does a Peer Specialist Do?

Curacao 6



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

Curacao 7



A Journey Towards Listening and Spoken Language for a Baby Born with a Hearing Loss

Curacao 8

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

Pyramid Players, Grand Sierra Foyer

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

Royal DJs, Boca Foyer

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

CONCURRENT SESSIONS



Provide for Your Child and Plan for Retirement? Not Impossible!

Antigua 1 & 2

Grant Seeking To Advance Your Cause

Antigua 3 & 4



Resumé Writing – How to Get Your Resumé Noticed

Boca I

Varied Instruction for Multiple Learning Styles

Boca II



Support and Services for Parents Navigating Through the Exceptional Education Process – Who Can Assist in Your Area?

Boca III

Handwriting and Disability: Two Perspectives from The Inside

Boca IV



SEDNET – A Supporting Partner of Home, School, and Community in the Creation and Facilitation of a Quality System of Care for Students at Risk of Emotional and/or Behavioral Challenges

Boca V

What is the Consumer Directed Care Plus Program (CDC+)?

Boca VI

Faith Community Inclusion

Boca VII



Athlete Leadership Program: Young Athletes Program and Motor Activities Training Program

Boca VIII



Living with Epilepsy and Seizure Disorders

Bonaire 1

IEP Process – Dads at the Table

Bonaire 2



Developing a Trauma Informed System of Care using System of Care Values – The Whole Child Leon–PACT Partnership Experience

Bonaire 3

Delegate Roundtable: Cerebral Palsy

Bonaire 4



Traveling the Seas of Emotions

Bonaire 5



Know When to Hold ‘em, Know When to Fold ‘em

Bonaire 6



“What About My Other Child?” – Tips for Supporting and Including Typically-Developing Siblings

Bonaire 7



Disability Sensitivity

Bonaire 8

Chinese Medicine 101

Caribbean Ballroom I



Multi-Sensory Gym: Exercise that Engages

Curacao 1



Emergency Preparedness: What Others Don’t Talk About!

Curacao 2



Interstate Compact for Educational Opportunity for Military Children

Curacao 3



Building Meaningful Careers Begins in High School – Let Vocational Rehabilitation Help!

Curacao 4

Say Cheese! 4-H Photography

Curacao 5

Different is NOT a Disability

Curacao 6



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

Curacao 7

Surviving Accidentally Clothed Submersions – Live Demonstration Pool

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

Pyramid Players, *Grand Sierra Foyer*
Brazilian Voices, *Boca Foyer*

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

CONCURRENT SESSIONS



Unlocking the Mystery—Guardian Advocacy and Special Needs Trusts

Antigua 1 & 2

Choosing the Right Residential Program

Antigua 3 & 4



Steps to Achieving My American Dream

Boca I

APD Working For You!

Boca II

Standard Diploma for All!

Boca III

Project Lifesaver: The Program and Its Assistive Technology

Boca IV

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

Boca V

Fair Housing: Equal Access to Housing for Persons with Disabilities

Boca VI

Current Trends in Massage and Manual Therapies

Boca VII

Raising a Child Based on Their Abilities Versus Their Disability

Boca VIII



How to Start and Run a Successful Self-Advocacy Organization

Bonaire 1

Transition for Dads

Bonaire 2



Mental Illness: It Can Happen to Anyone

Bonaire 3

Delegate Roundtable: Down Syndrome

Bonaire 4



Sailing Through Transition

Bonaire 5

Part of My Brain Died—What is Your Excuse?

Bonaire 6



IEP Rights for Young Adults

Bonaire 7



Advocates Unite!

Bonaire 8

Sonic Acupuncture

Caribbean Ballroom 1



APD's Billy Joe Rish Park—A Park for People with Disabilities

Curacao 1



How To Prepare for Disasters

Curacao 2



Interstate Compact for Educational Opportunity for Military Children

Curacao 3



Toward Inclusive Work Opportunities: Implications of the CMS HCBS Settings Regulation for Employment Services

Curacao 4

A Comprehensive/Family-Centered Approach to Serving Persons with Disabilities

Curacao 5

Moms to Moms

Curacao 6

Pool Safety and Drowning Prevention Efforts in Florida

Curacao 7

Improving Your "Neural GPS" – A Guided Approach to Balance and Vision Training

Curacao 8



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

Brazilian Voices, Boca Foyer
The 17th Annual Summit on Disabilities, Caribbean Ballroom

Saturday, June 6, 2015

8:00 a.m. to 9:00 a.m. Registration Open, Caribbean Registration Desk
8:00 a.m. to 9:00 a.m. Morning Seated Movement, Caribbean Ballroom I
8:00 a.m. to 9:00 a.m. Silver Sneakers Zumba Class, Caribbean Ballroom II
8:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. Exhibit Hall Open, Grand Sierra Ballroom
9:00 a.m. to 10:30 a.m. Keynote Address, Caribbean Ballroom
9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Dental Screening, Grand Sierra Ballroom
10:30 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. Brazilian Voices, Boca Foyer
10:30 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. Royal DJs, Grand Sierra Foyer
10:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. Rock Climbing Wall, Pavilion Grassy Area
10:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. Registration Open, Caribbean Registration Desk
11:00 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Celebration of Life: Experiencing the Healing Power of Love, Caribbean Ballroom I
11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. Early Steps Playgroup, Caribbean Ballroom II

11:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.

CONCURRENT SESSIONS



Benefits and Tax Savings for Families with Special Needs

Antigua 1 & 2

How to Use iPad/iPhone Accessibility Features: A Beginner's Course

Antigua 3 & 4

Delegate Roundtable: Spina Bifida

Boca I

Sensory Learning for Students with Visual Impairments and Additional Disabilities

Boca II

Including Students Who Use AT/AAC Across the School Community: Ideas and Resources Across the Grades

Boca III



Self-Advocacy Movement: Past, Present, and Future

Boca IV

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

Boca V

Oral Health Care Training for Caregivers

Boca VI

Service Dogs in School—What Does the Law Say?

Boca VII



Inspiration and Encouragement for Military and Veteran Families with Special Needs

Boca VIII



Getting on the Path to Success

Bonaire 1

Meet the Blind Services and Vocational Rehabilitation Directors

Bonaire 2



Sensory Dysfunction: Making Connections in Real World Settings

Bonaire 3

New Horizon Loan Program

Bonaire 4



Recycled Toy Ideas and High Tech Tools for Infants and Toddlers

Bonaire 5

The John McKay Scholarship for Students with Disabilities

Bonaire 6



Siblings in Treatment: Last But Not Least

Bonaire 7



It's All About Social Interaction (Youth Only)

Bonaire 8



Recreation for People of All Abilities: Who? What? Where? Why? How??

Curacao 1



Let's Get Ready/Planning Together for Emergencies Sesame Street Disaster Preparedness for Children, Along with the New App

Curacao 2



Come Meet Your School Liaison Officers

Curacao 3



Employment First Florida

Curacao 4

Let's Book It!

Curacao 5



Cradle to Grave 2015: Legal & Financial Issues for Your Special Needs Child

Curacao 6



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

Curacao 7

Bio-energetics: Light, Sound and Magnetics in Integrative Therapy

Curacao 8

Surviving Accidentally Clothed Submersions – Live Demonstration Pool

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

Pyramid Players, *Grand Sierra Foyer*

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

FRIENDS Choir, *Boca Foyer*

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

Arts & Crafts, *Hibiscus*

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

CONCURRENT SESSIONS



The ABCs & 123s of SNTs

Antigua 1 & 2

Funding Options for Assistive Technology

Antigua 3 & 4

Delegate Roundtable: Autism

Boca I

Social Security—Part of Your Plan for “Someday”

Boca II

Parents, Practitioners, Self-Advocates: Partnerships for Positive Outcomes

Boca III

A Self-Advocate's Guide to Dating and Relationships

Boca IV



Logging Your Journey: Getting Organized and Communicating Effectively to Maximize Your Child's Potential

Boca V

It's Those Wonderful Rights (Spanish)

Boca VI

When the Team Can't Come to Consensus, What's Next?

Boca VII

Color Your World with Sound Health

Boca VIII



Summary of 2015 Legislative Session and Advocacy Techniques

Bonaire 1

Getting to Know the Division of Blind Services

Bonaire 2



NAMI Family-to-Family

Bonaire 3

Collaboration: Getting Through the Rapids

Bonaire 4





Jeremy's Journey

Bonaire 5



Employment Transition

Bonaire 6



What is Your Child Doing After High School? Mine is Going to College

Bonaire 7



Transitioning into The Real World

Bonaire 8

Sound Healing Meditation Journey

Caribbean Ballroom 1



Intro and Info on Adaptive/Inclusive Sports

Curacao 1

Let's Just Do It!!!

Curacao 2



Strategies for Communicating about IEPs

Curacao 3



Everything You Ever Wanted to Know About Vocational Rehabilitation Services But Didn't Know Who to Ask

Curacao 4

Getting Ready: Preparing for Independent Living in the Community

Curacao 5

Enhancing Reading Skills: Helping my Child with Reading Comprehension

Curacao 6



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

Curacao 7

Pregnancy and Parenting with a Disability

Curacao 8

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

Pyramid Players, *Grand Sierra Foyer*

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

FRIENDS Choir, *Boca Foyer*

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

"Just Moving" Dancers, *Caribbean Foyer*

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

Adaptive Biking, *Pavilion*

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

SCUBA Demo, *Pool*

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

CONCURRENT SESSIONS



The Changing Face of Benefits: Knowledge for Successful Employment and Asset Development

Antigua 1 & 2

High School and Beyond: Things to Know About Transitioning to Adulthood

Antigua 3 & 4

Shaping Behavior with Apps for iPad

Boca I

Is a Service Dog Right for Me—Should I Go Through an Organization or Train My Own?

Boca II

The Impact of Aging Issues on Individuals with Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities

Boca III

Train Florida—APD's Learning Management System

Boca IV

Teamwork: The Framework to the Puzzle of Greater Healthcare Outcomes

Boca V

IEP Jeopardy Part 1 (Spanish)

Boca VI

Live Demonstration of Bilateral Stimulation for Physical and Emotional Health

Boca VII

Fibromyalgia & Chronic Fatigue Syndrome: How Can I Best Manage My Symptoms?

Boca VIII



Self-Advocacy 101

Bonaire 1

Defining Positive Behavior Support

Bonaire 2



The Power of Thinking Inclusively

Bonaire 3

Dads to Dads

Bonaire 4



Accessing Resources and Understanding Systems

Bonaire 5

Join the Revolution: Start a 4-H Club at your School ESE or Group ESE

Bonaire 6



Hidden Heroes: Caregiving Youth

Bonaire 7



Assistive Technology Used by Youth

Bonaire 8



Project Unify—Special Olympics of Florida

Curacao 1



The Impact of Traumatic Events on Children and Their Families

Curacao 2



Resources for Military Families

Curacao 3



Unlock the Doors to Employment: Keys Available through YOUR CareerSource Network

Curacao 4

Living in the Community: Residential Options for Floridians with Disabilities

Curacao 5

De Padres a Padres

Curacao 6



A Life of an Underestimated Individual: Ways to Have Yourself Heard

Curacao 7

The Benefits of a “Snoezelen” based Multi-Sensory Environment for Children with Special Needs

Curacao 8

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

Pyramid Players, *Grand Sierra Foyer*

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

Royal DJs, *Boca Foyer*

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

CONCURRENT SESSIONS



Guardianships—Why They are Necessary and How to Avoid Them

Antigua 1 & 2

Secondary Transition in Florida—Project 10: Transition Education Network and Project 10 Sting Ray

Antigua 3 & 4

Working with Children on the Autism Spectrum

Boca I



Advocating for Students with Invisible Disabilities

Boca II

Small Steps Towards a Healthier Weight

Boca III

Airport Backstage Pass—Air Travel for Persons with Disabilities

Boca IV

Can My Dog be a Service Dog?

Boca V

IEP Jeopardy Part 2 (Spanish)

Boca VI



Apps to Assist with Independent Living Skills and Employment

Boca VII



Creating Stronger Possibilities for Listening and Talking for Children with Hearing Loss

Boca VIII

One Tool for Successful Interactions with Police: The Wallet Card

Bonaire 1

Improving Family Routines through Positive Behavior Support

Bonaire 2



Keeping the Behaviorally Challenged Student in School Learning

Bonaire 3

Letting Go: Time to Land the Helicopter

Bonaire 4

The New FSA's (Florida State Assessments) and How Your Student is Impacted

Bonaire 6



Sibling Perspective Panel—Growing Up with a Sibling with Special Needs: Tips on How to Have a Closer Family Bond

Bonaire 7



We're Here to Listen

Bonaire 8



The Benefits of Martial Arts for Individuals with Disabilities

Curacao 1



Pediatric Disaster Preparedness—Taking Care of Children with Special Needs in Times of Disaster

Curacao 2



Resources for Military Families

Curacao 3



The Art of the Interview

Curacao 4

Helping my Child with Writing: Yes, It Can Be Fun and Easy!

Curacao 5

The Parent-Teacher Connection—What's That?!

Curacao 6



Yes, You Can Plan and Direct Your Services

Curacao 7

Education Choice Options for Students with Disabilities

Curacao 8

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

Pyramid Players, Grand Sierra Foyer

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

"Just Moving" Dancers, Caribbean Foyer

7:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.

Family Entertainment, Caribbean Ballroom

Sunday, June 7, 2015

8:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

Exhibit Hall Open, Grand Sierra Ballroom

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

Rubber Duck Race, Large Pool

10:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

Keynote Address, Caribbean Ballroom

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

Closing and Door Prizes, Caribbean Ballroom



FRIDAY • June 5, 2015

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

CELEBRATION OF THE 25TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE ADA

The theme of the event this year is the Celebration of the 25th Anniversary of the Americans with Disabilities Act. Ms. Rebecca Cokley will speak to the role of the National Council on Disability from its establishment, to the crafting of the ADA, and lay out a vision for the next generation of leaders, the ADA generation. The focus of her presentation is to acknowledge the role that young leaders have played in the movement since its inception, and how spaces like The Family Café can help elevate those leaders to the next level and help support family members to be allies.



Advancing Equal Access!

- | | |
|--------------------------|---|
| 10:00 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. | Registration Open , <i>Caribbean Registration Desk</i> |
| 10:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. | Exhibit Hall Open , <i>Grand Sierra Ballroom</i> |
| 10:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. | Employment Expo , <i>Grand Sierra Ballroom</i> |
| 11:00 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. | Pyramid Players , <i>Grand Sierra Foyer</i> |
| 11:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. | Opening Session & Keynote Address , <i>Caribbean Ballroom</i> |
| 1:00 p.m. to 1:30 p.m. | Pyramid Players , <i>Grand Sierra Foyer</i> |
| 1:00 p.m. to 2:00 p.m. | Gatorland Animal Show , <i>Grand Sierra Ballroom</i> |
| 1:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. | Registration Open , <i>Caribbean Registration Desk</i> |
| 1:30 p.m. to 4:30 p.m. | Early Steps, Early Wishes Playgroup , <i>Hibiscus</i> |
| 1:30 p.m. to 5:30 p.m. | Dental Screening , <i>Grand Sierra Ballroom</i> |
| 1:30 p.m. to 2:30 p.m. | CONCURRENT SESSIONS |
| 2:30 p.m. to 3:00 p.m. | Pyramid Players , <i>Grand Sierra Foyer</i> |
| 2:30 p.m. to 3:00 p.m. | Royal DJs , <i>Boca Foyer</i> |
| 3:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. | CONCURRENT SESSIONS |
| 4:00 p.m. to 4:30 p.m. | Pyramid Players , <i>Grand Sierra Foyer</i> |
| 4:00 p.m. to 4:30 p.m. | Brazilian Voices , <i>Boca Foyer</i> |
| 4:30 p.m. to 5:30 p.m. | CONCURRENT SESSIONS |
| 5:30 p.m. to 5:45 p.m. | Brazilian Voices , <i>Boca Foyer</i> |
| 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. | The 17th Annual Summit on Disabilities , <i>Caribbean Ballroom</i> |

**“You have the power.
You have the responsibility
to make
the dream live for all”.**

— Justin Dart





Early Steps, Early Wishes Playgroup

Friday
1:30 - 4:30
Hibiscus

The fifth annual Early Steps Early Wishes event is a special workshop/playgroup specifically for families in the CMS Early Steps program. During this three hour workshop/playgroup, families wander from one activity to the next, learning and having fun with their children. Included in this workshop/playgroup will be an opportunity to have a family photo, as well as make a frame for the photo; free books and an opportunity to adapt them for your child; face painting; a table of toys easily made from household items; movement activities and parachute play; and an opportunity to learn how to advocate for your child and other children with special needs. Early Steps families will meet their local Family Resource Specialist, as well as Early Steps State Office staff and statewide resources that are available. Join us and start off The Family Cafe with information that will help you to get the most out of this conference.

Kelly Rogers
Florida Department of Health - Early Steps Program
(850) 245-4200
kelly.rogers@flhealth.gov

FRIDAY

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



Special Needs ... Caring for Loved Ones Under Unique Circumstances

Friday
1:30 - 2:30
Antigua 1 & 2

Gain insight into the many issues you may face as a caregiver for special needs persons. Discover how government programs may pay for basic living expenses if certain conditions are met; and, careful planning is in place. Examine some of the steps you can take to make sure your special needs loved ones have the lifestyle you prefer -- during your life and after your death.

Mark Jansen
New York Life Insurance Company
15305 Dallas Parkway, Suite 950
Addison, TX 75001
(612) 414 7044
mjansen@fl.newyorklife.com

Transition: The Big Picture

Friday
1:30 - 2:30
Antigua 3 & 4

The transition process through public school levels and the transition process from public school to postsecondary education and training are responsibilities shared among students, their family members, educators, and community resources. Transition discussions should begin early and be based upon data/evidence related to the student's big picture goals and should lead to postsecondary education/training. It is incumbent upon everyone to understand the student's disability, documenting the disability, identifying the student's strengths and challenges, and determining the best educational/training formats for the student. We hope this workshop will assist you as you plan your future goals to fulfill your dreams.

Dr. Paula Whetro
Building Blocks Ministries
548 S. US HWY 27, Suite B & C
Minneola, FL 34715
(352) 536-9264
pw@buildingblockministries.com

Glendia J. Cloutier
Lake County Public Schools
201 West Burleigh Boulevard
Tavare, FL 32778
(352) 253-6600
cloutierg@lake.k12.fl.us

Human Trafficking

Friday
1:30 - 2:30
Boca I

Human trafficking is modern-day slavery and it is happening right here in the United States. Florida is ranked third in the nation for potential human trafficking cases. The Agency for Persons with Disabilities presents a training on what human trafficking is, how to identify a victim, and how you can make a difference in your community.

Meghan Murray
Agency for Persons with Disabilities
4030 Esplanade Way, Suite 380Q
Tallahassee, FL 32399
(850) 488-4257
apd.info@apdcares.org

Intro and Brief History of Special Education

Friday
1:30 - 2:30
Boca II

Today, every child with a disability in the United States has a right to a free, appropriate, public education. But that has not always been the case. How did we get to where we are now? In this perennial favorite, Dr. Metty describes the process and hardships endured by parents and their children with disabilities to secure the educational rights many take for granted today.

Robert J. Metty, Ed.D, J.D.
Judson College - Department of Education
302 Bibb Street
Marion, AL 36756
(334) 683-5141
rmetty@judson.edu

The Exceptional Education State Advisory Committee - What is it and How Can it Provide Information to Your Representative?

Friday
1:30 - 2:30
Boca III

The Individuals with Disabilities Education Improvement Act (IDEA) of 2004 requires that states establish and maintain an advisory committee for the purpose of providing policy guidance with special education and related services for children with disabilities in the state. Please join us to learn more about the State Advisory Committee (SAC) and how you can provide input to your representatives.

April Katine
Department of Education
325 West Gaines Street
Tallahassee, FL 32399
(850) 245-0926
april.katine@fldoe.org

Aimee Mallini
Department of Education
325 West Gaines Street
Tallahassee, FL 32399
(850) 245-0916
aimee.mallini@yahoo.com



Updated Guidelines for the Care of Students with Diabetes in Florida Schools

Friday
1:30 - 2:30
Boca IV

Legislation passed in Florida in 2010 to prohibit school districts from restricting the assignment of a student who has diabetes to a particular school on the basis that the student has diabetes, that the school does not have a full-time nurse, or that the school does not have trained diabetes personnel. The 2010 legislation required the State Board of Education, in cooperation with the Florida Department of Health, to adopt rules for the management and care of students with diabetes and to develop technical assistance and resources for training school personnel.

Dr. Dianne Mennitt
Department of Education
325 West Gaines Street
Tallahassee, FL 32399
(850) 245-7841
dmennitt@usf.edu



Start Exploring Now for Tomorrow: A Family Guide for Vocational Planning

Friday
1:30 - 2:30
Boca V

Adequately preparing for life after high school requires active family involvement and planning. This presentation will introduce participants to a short guide that was developed to help families to plan with their child for a future career that is aligned with his/her strengths and interests, and provides an overview of community and online resources to help families to prepare their child for success. Attendees will receive a copy of *Start Exploring Now for Tomorrow: A Family Guide for Vocational Planning*, and will explore activities to help children learn more about careers, improve job-related skills, and better understand their own preferences.

Brenda Clark, WICC, BTAC, FBIRN, CBA
USF Florida Center for Inclusive Communities
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Tampa, FL 33612
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Jaime Sagona, MA
Non-Profit Organization Project Coordinator
9020 NW 8th Street
Miami, FL 33172
(407) 319-3049
jaime.sagona@gmail.com

Chris Vatland, PhD
USF Florida Center for Inclusive Communities
13301 Bruce B. Downs Boulevard, MHC 2113A
Tampa, FL 33612
(813) 974-0452
svatland@usf.edu

Self Determination—A Path to Success (A Panel Discussion)

Friday
1:30 - 2:30
Boca VI

The path to self-determination takes many paths. This panel will discuss the challenges and successes of three individuals who have encountered ups and downs along the way and will share what has worked best for them in their path to self-determination. The panel will also discuss the importance of trusting relationships with service providers and how to use the iBudget waiver funds to meet changing needs. The road to self-determination is always under construction!

FRIDAY

Robyn Stawski
New Tampa Family YMCA
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Tampa, FL 33647
(850) 488-4257
apd.info@apdcares.org

Sylvia James Miller
1109 SE 33rd Avenue
Ocala, FL 34471

Leonel Hidalgo
Exceptional Care of Tampa Bay, Inc.
14502 North Dale Mabry Highway
Tampa, FL 33618
(813) 963-0618
exceptionalcareoftampa@gmail.com

Rebecca Crosby
Tampa, FL

Denise Arnold
Agency for Persons with Disabilities
4030 Esplanade Way, Suite 380
Tallahassee, FL 32399
(850) 488-4257
Denise.arnold@apdcares.org



Disability Rights Florida—Helping to Get What You Need

Friday
1:30 - 2:30
Boca VII

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

Paula Roberts
Disability Rights Florida
2728 Centerview Drive, Suite 102
Tallahassee, FL 32301
(800) 342-0823
paular@disabilityrightsflorida.org



Self-Advocacy—ADA 25th Year Celebration

Friday
1:30 - 2:30
Boca VIII

Americans with Disabilities Act 25th year is a huge celebration. Learn how to set up your own local ADA 25th year celebration. Learn self-advocate things to do like Parking Patrol and get ADA funding to do other ADA activities.

David Taylor Jr.
OCSS SABE
1917 Cunningham Drive
Statesville, NC 28625
(704) 883-2748
davidtaylorjr30@yahoo.com





Calling All Advocates: Partners in Policymaking Wants You!

Friday
1:30 - 2:30
Bonaire 1

Come learn about the Florida Developmental Disabilities Council's advocacy program, Partners in Policymaking. Partners is a leadership training program that helps individuals with developmental disabilities and family members learn how to work with policymakers to improve the lives of persons with disabilities. Based on a national model, the Partners' goal is to develop productive partnerships between the people who need services and those who make policy regarding those services. Partners participants learn from nationally-recognized speakers on topics such as navigating the state and federal legislative process. If you want to be a leader in your community or improve your advocacy skills, Partners may be for you!

Safee Broxton
Florida Developmental Disabilities Council, Inc.
124 Marriott Drive, Suite 203
Tallahassee, FL 32301
(850) 488-4180
safeeb@fddc.org

IEP Rights—Instructional Manual for Dads

Friday
1:30 - 2:30
Bonaire 2

Procedural Safeguards? Rights and Responsibilities? To sign or not to sign? And so many more questions! There should be an instruction manual that is simple and precise! Where can I find this instructional manual? Join us for the workshop and get the answers you need to be a well-informed member of your child's educational planning team, and the tools you need to do it.

Wilbur Hawke
Central Florida Parent Center
1021 Delaware Avenue
Palm Harbor, FL 34683
(727) 789-2400
wilbur@embargmail.com



Delegate Roundtable: Mental Health

Friday
1:30 - 2:30
Bonaire 3

One of the best ways for people that are new to a situation to become educated about their options is to speak with someone that has "been there" and "done that." This year at The 17th Annual Family Café, The Delegates will be hosting roundtable conversations where attendees can network with other attendees to share experiences and strategies that have worked for them. If you are a person with a mental health need or a family member, or if you have a particular challenge your family is facing, this session may provide the support and guidance you need. This roundtable session will be dedicated to Mental Health. Sessions on Down Syndrome, Cerebral Palsy and Autism will also be held.

Jeremy Countryman
The Family Café, Inc. and The Café TA Center
519 North Gadsden Street
Tallahassee, FL 32301
(850) 224-4670
jcountryman@familycafe.net

Heather Hawk - CRPS
Hawk Advocates
Fort Myers, FL
(239) 823-9573
Heather@HawkAdvocates.com

FRIDAY

FAAST 101—Presentation on FAAST

Friday
1:30 - 2:30
Bonaire 4

FAAST (the Florida Alliance for Assistive Services and Technology), a non-profit organization sponsored by the Florida Department of Education/Division of Vocational Rehabilitation and the State of Florida, has one mission. That mission is to improve the quality of life for all Floridians with disabilities through advocacy and awareness activities that increase access to and acquisition of assistive services and technology. FAAST values each individual's right to achieve their highest potential and the possibilities that can be realized through collaborative efforts focused on the goal of improving life for Floridians with and without disabilities.

Andre Howard
FAAST, Inc.
3333 West Pensacola Street, Bldg 100, Suite 140
Tallahassee, FL 32304
(850) 487-3278
ahoward@faast.org

**Making it Fun—Incorporating Play and Learning for Your Preschooler**

Friday
1:30 - 2:30
Bonaire 5

This workshop will show parents ways to incorporate fun into learning. Parents will learn how to make a magic wand and lead their children on imaginative journeys. From going on a scavenger hunt in the backyard to writing letters with shaving cream, the fun is happening.

Rebecca Cox
Florida Diagnostic and Learning Resource System (FDLRS)
1076 US Highway 27 N
Lake Placid, FL 33852
(863) 531-0444
rebecca.cox@heartlanded.org

Just for Dads

Friday
1:30 - 2:30
Bonaire 6

Many times dads play the support help while mom does the talking. This happens during IEP's and doctor visits. We don't always have the chance to share our thoughts. This is your chance to share and learn from other dads.

Tim Turner
Mpower Consulting
1406 Delano Trent Street
Ruskin, FL 33570
mpowerconsulting@aol.com





Empathy and Autism Spectrum Disorders: How Do We Express It?

Friday
1:30 - 2:30
Bonaire 7

People with autism spectrum disorders are often portrayed in the media as lacking empathy towards other people. Yet, many individuals with autism do exhibit strong feelings of empathy, even if they express those feelings differently than their non-autistic counterparts. In this presentation, listen to two individuals with autism as they share how they express empathy towards the world and discuss the many ways that people with autism express those emotions. In addition, they will explain how some people with autism may be just as empathetic as people without autism, even if they express those emotions differently.

James Williams
2300 Scott Road
Northbrook, IL 60062
(224) 628-6629
jmw820@comcast.net

Evie Hackett
1760 NW 8th Avenue
Gainesville, FL 32603
(352) 672-3234
purplekin@gmail.com



Come and Chat with The Florida Youth Council

Friday
1:30 - 2:30
Bonaire 8

The Florida Youth Council wants you to get to know them, and they want to get to know you. Come to this interactive session where the members will share a little about what The Council is doing, as well as what the members are doing themselves, and answer some of the questions you might have about The FYC.

Whitney Harris
The Florida Youth Council
519 North Gadsden Street
Tallahassee, FL 32301
(850) 224-4670
wharris@familycafe.net

Christina Waldron
The Florida Youth Council

Alex Brown
The Florida Youth Council

Josue Tapia Ortiz
The Florida Youth Council

Nick Grabowski
The Florida Youth Council

Derek Carraway
The Florida Youth Council

Christopher Regan
The Florida Youth Council

Serena Wetmore
The Florida Youth Council

Megan Atkinson
The Florida Youth Council

Shevie Barnes
The Florida Youth Council

Dakota Smoot
The Florida Youth Council

Reducing Inflammation Through Foods

Friday
1:30 - 2:30
Caribbean Ballroom I

Find out which foods can help reduce inflammation and boost your immune system. Learn my Z-tips on successful lifestyle changes to incorporate the new foods. When inflammation is out of control, it can affect the whole body and damage it with ailments such as arthritis or psoriasis. Additionally, it can lead to obesity, heart disease and even cancer. Luckily there are foods that can help reduce inflammation and bring the body back to balance. In this workshop we will focus on anti-inflammatory diet and how to make it easy and achievable.

Alina Zherkovskaya
1915 NE 7th Court
Fort Lauderdale, FL 33304
(202) 262-9143
alina@alinaz.com





Surviving Accidentally Clothed Submersions—Basic Swimming Lessons and Exercise Techniques

Friday
1:30 - 2:30
Curacao 1

We, sponsored by FP&L, will provide exercises and basic swimming techniques and share local resources to help Survive Accidentally Clothed Submersions (SACS).

David Hoyos
Tropical Miami Civitan Club and
Swim Academy Nada Mejor
1205 Mariposa Avenue, #327
Coral Gables, FL 33146
(786) 768-9557
dhswimschool@gmail.com

Adriana Neves
Tropical Miami Civitan Club and
Swim Academy David Hoyos
3100 Riverside Dr. #107
Coral Springs, FL 33065
(954) 865-0842
adriananevesa@gmail.com

Joaquin Fermoselle
Tropical Miami Civitan Club
1205 Mariposa Ave. #327
Coral Gables, FL 33146
(786) 768-9557
joaquinfermoselle@hotmail.com



Tactile/Hands-on Disaster Preparedness Evacuation Planning and Kit Building for Persons with Disabilities, on a Low Budget, Through Recycling and Free Items

Friday
1:30 - 2:30
Curacao 2

We will cover how to build, through the use of hands-on materials, an evacuation disaster kit 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 and learn how to plan for a disaster in the event you have to evacuate or if you have to shelter in place. This session will leave you thinking about all the free items you use and acquire daily.

Linda Carter
No Person Left Behind
704 Homer Avenue North
Lehigh Acres, FL 33971
(239) 368-6846
mslindacarter@gmail.com

Mary Carter
No Person Left Behind
704 Homer Avenue North
Lehigh Acres, FL 33971
(239) 368-6846
marycarter@comcast.net



Inspiration and Encouragement for Military and Veteran Families with Special Needs

Friday
1:30 - 2:30
Curacao 3

The Rev. Robert E. Streater, III, MA (U.S. Army Veteran) offers words of encouragement through personal stories and biblical truths, inspiration and encouragement for Active Military and Veteran Families with special needs. The audience will explore tools to help them deal with transition issues such as post traumatic stress, financial hardships, wounded relationships, and raising a child with special needs. Custom designed from the perspectives of both a military service person and a parent with a child with special needs, this insightful workshop not only offers encouragement to military families, but also includes suggestions on how others can provide support.

Robert E. Streater, III
The RMS Family Encouragement Foundation
4434 Gearhart Road, Suite 1901
Tallahassee, FL 32303
(850) 661-1201
nowsuccess4u@yahoo.com





Getting Hired: A Job-Seeker's Guide to Navigating the Hiring Process

Friday
1:30 - 2:30
Curacao 4

This presentation will focus on empowering individuals as they go through the employment process, as well as equip the attendees with the basic knowledge to be prepared to handle any barriers during the hiring process. There will be detailed discussions on requesting accommodations for an interview, website accessibility issues with pre-employment testing and applications, how to request accommodations for online applications and tests, what information a person has to disclose during the interview process, and how being employed will affect government subsidies, etc.

Harold V. Bennett III Esquire
Disability Rights Florida
1000 North Ashley Drive, Suite 670
Tampa, FL 33602
(850) 488-9071
haroldb@disabilityrightsflorida.org

Janniell Vazques-Oms
Disability Rights Florida
2728 Centerview Drive, Suite 102
Tallahassee, FL 32301
(850) 488-9071
janniellv@disabilityrightsflorida.org



Calling 911-Be Prepared

Friday
1:30 - 2:30
Curacao 5

Being a parent/caregiver of loved ones with complex medical needs is often overwhelming in the best of times. I have been a foster/adoptive parent of children with complex, global special needs for 35 years. As most parents in this position, we have established a reasonably predictable daily juggling routine. However, when medical crises arise, usually in the middle of the night, our relatively stable schedule can crash with potentially serious consequences. In this presentation, participants will learn how keeping comprehensive vital information can make these medical crises easier for everyone involved. I have developed chronological forms and checklists over the years to efficiently put all professionals on the same page. We will discuss how this preparation is critical to the maximum clinical outcome for our loved ones. Informational forms will be examined and a dialogue encouraged to determine how these forms can be adapted and/or added to for specific individual needs.

Pamela Rosenberg
815 Dogwood Drive
Casselberry, FL 32707
(321) 947-2823
pjlorosenberg@yahoo.com



What Does a Peer Specialist Do?

Friday
1:30 - 2:30
Curacao 6

Local and personal advocacy is a vital part of keeping and promoting services for people with mental illnesses. This presentation will explore ways to increase services and resources in the community. Ideas will be presented on how to make effective presentations to different audiences.

Joyce McInery
NAMI POLK, Peace River Center
1409 Meadowbrook Avenue
Lakeland, FL 33803
(863) 632-9854
joymc9@yahoo.com



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

Friday
1:30 - 2:30
Curacao 7

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 DCF/ACCESS 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.

Harold Thornton
Florida Division of Vocational Rehabilitation
4070 Esplanade Way, 2nd Floor
Tallahassee, FL 32399
(850) 245-3270
harold.thornton@vr.fldoe.org

Willette Johnson
Florida Division of Vocational Rehabilitation
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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 N.
Tampa, FL 33602
(803) 233-3624
barry.shalinsky@vr.fldoe.org

Kane Lamberty
Florida Department of Children and Families - Access Central Policy Unit
kane_lamberty@dcf.state.fl.us

Victor Panoff
Disability Rights Florida
(850) 488-9071



A Journey Towards Listening and Spoken Language for a Baby Born with a Hearing Loss

Friday
1:30 - 2:30
Curacao 8

Based on Early Steps' New Star Training: A Family's Guide to Navigating Early Steps, Module 2, Family Resource Specialist, Alex DeMolina will share her story of having a baby girl born with a hearing loss. Alex's daughter, Kiersta, was diagnosed with a severe-to-profound bilateral sensorineural hearing loss at just 4 weeks old. Join Alex as she discusses her decision to pursue listening and spoken language for her daughter utilizing early intervention services and cochlear implants. Find out exactly what a cochlear implant is and how it works from co-presenter, Virgi Mills.

Alex DeMolina
USF Bay Area Early Steps
13101 North Bruce B. Downs Boulevard
Tampa, FL 33612
(813) 974-0674
ademolin@health.usf.edu

Virgi Mills
MED-EL Corporation
2511 Old Cornwallis Road, Suite 100
Durham, NC 27713
(407) 617-7719
virgi.mills@medel.com

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

Pyramid Players, Grand Sierra Foyer
Royal DJs, Boca Foyer





Provide for Your Child and Plan for Retirement? Not Impossible!

Friday
3:00 - 4:00
Antigua 1 & 2

Nationally recognized, engaging, interactive, and often humorous, Joe will navigate how to strategize for your retirement while providing support for your loved one with special needs. Touching on such topics as: protection of government benefits, wills, trusts, how HIPAA laws can affect direction of care, health care surrogates, living wills, durable power of attorney, funding a special needs trust, guardianship, accepting a financial gift—what not to do. And finally, receive a letter of intent via email after attending this presentation. An hour of your time, a lifetime of information!

Joseph Eppy
The Eppy Group, LLC
500 East Broward Boulevard, Suite 1800
Ft. Lauderdale, FL 33394
(888) 563-3779
j.eppy@eppygroup.com

Grant Seeking To Advance Your Cause

Friday
3:00 - 4:00
Antigua 3 & 4

Grant Seeking—it's all about using focused research to advance your cause! As a Non-Profit Organization (NPO) with 501(c)(3) status, are you aware of the opportunities for seeking grants to advance your cause, where to start researching, and how to begin the project? Come learn how to advance your cause with focused research. Examples from the speaker's background experience will include the following subjects: Anti-Human Trafficking, Animal Welfare, Arts/Health Programming, Hunger, Equine Rescue, and Disabilities. Handout will be provided for attendees. Please bring your "cause" to focus on the research necessary to work through advancing your projects!

Sharon Weil, M.Ed.
Compass Consulting
118 SW Christmas Terrace
Port St. Lucie, FL 34984
(772) 341-9304
CompassNavigatesSolutions@gmail.com



Resumé Writing—How to Get Your Resumé Noticed

Friday
3:00 - 4:00
Boca I

Throughout your career, you must be able to summarize your work history, outline your skills, and emphasize the knowledge, skills and abilities (KSA's) you have that qualify you for future work. Without the ability to create a qualified, professional resume, your career might reach a dead-end. Resume writing is important for making the transition from school to the workforce. Your ability to transfer learning to actual demonstrations of your skills and knowledge in a work environment should be part of your description of your capabilities and qualifications in a resume. Your future in the working world depends on it. After the workshop you can go down to the Exhibit Hall and learn about the tools you can use to write that resume that gets noticed.

Anthony G. Polozzolo
Career Source Central Florida
4360 East Colonial Drive
Orlando, FL 32803

(407) 531-1227
apolozzolo@careersourcecf.com

Varied Instruction for Multiple Learning Styles

Friday
3:00 - 4:00
Boca II

What is “intelligence?” It's not so easy to define, because different people learn in different ways. Every child is different, but every child can learn. In this interactive presentation, Dr. Metty surveys the multiple ways that students experience the world, leading to a discussion of methods of differentiating instruction to best meet the needs of all students in the classroom.

Robert J. Metty, Ed.D, J.D.
Judson College - Department of Education
302 Bibb Street
Marion, AL 36756
(334) 683-5141
rmetty@judson.edu

Support and Services for Parents Navigating Through the Exceptional Education Process—Who Can Assist in Your Area?

Friday
3:00 - 4:00
Boca III

Navigating the ESE system can be overwhelming and exhausting. Did you know that there are free services to assist you? Please join us as we provide an overview of federally-funded parent centers and services across the state.

April Katine
Department of Education
325 West Gaines Street
Tallahassee, FL 32399
(850) 245-0926
april.katine@fldoe.org

Aimee Mallini
Department of Education
325 West Gaines Street
Tallahassee, FL 32399
(850) 245-0916
aimee.mallini@yahoo.com

Handwriting and Disability: Two Perspectives from The Inside

Friday
3:00 - 4:00
Boca IV

Prepare for surprises! In this presentation, listen to two adults with autism spectrum disorders discuss their “lives with handwriting” their struggles to master this skill, and self-remediation strategies that empowered them to pursue careers as handwriting tutors for people with disabilities who experience struggles with handwriting. The perspectives of two self-advocates, approaching handwriting issues from differing directions raises the question: how can handwriting instruction become more disability-friendly?

Kate Gladstone
Handwriting Repair/Handwriting That Works
165 N Allen Street, 1st Floor
Albany, NY 12206
(518) 482-6763
handwritingrepair@gmail.com

Andrew Haber
Handwriting Repair/Handwriting That Works
82 Chestnut Street
Albany, NY 12210
(518) 928-1430
ashelred@gmail.com



James Williams
2300 Scott Road
Northbrook, IL 60062
(224) 628-6629
jmw820@comcast.net



SEDNET—A Supporting Partner of Home, School, and Community in the Creation and Facilitation of a Quality System of Care for Students at Risk of Emotional and/or Behavioral Challenges

Friday
3:00 - 4:00
Boca V

SEDNET is a discretionary project funded through DOE/BEESS that works to create and facilitate a network of key stakeholders committed to assisting in the provision of a quality system of care for students with or at-risk of emotional and/or behavioral challenges. We will provide an overview of 19 local region projects and identify the many ways that the local project staff assist and collaborate with various agencies, school staff, and families to support students.

Nickie Zenn, Ed.S, NCSP
SEDNET (Students with Emotional Behavioral Disabilities Network)
140 7th Avenue South, SVB 112
St. Petersburg, FL 33701
(615) 335-3204
nzenn@usfsp.edu

Catherine Raulerson, Ed.S, NCSP
SEDNET (Students with Emotional Behavioral Disabilities Network)
140 7th Avenue South, SVB 112
St. Petersburg, FL 33701
(813) 335-0644
craulerson@usfsp.edu

What is the Consumer Directed Care Plus Program (CDC+)?

Friday
3:00 - 4:00
Boca VI

The Agency for Persons with Disabilities will provide an overview and updates on the CDC+ program. This presentation will include the application and enrollment process, as well as program requirements as described in the CDC+ rule. A panel of parent liaisons will be present to share their experiences and the services they have used while on the CDC+ program. The second half of this session will allow the audience to ask questions.

Ivonne Gonzalez
Agency for Persons with Disabilities
4030 Esplanade Way, Suite 380
Tallahassee, FL 32399
(850) 488-4257
APD.info@apdcares.org

Susan Nipper
Agency for Persons with Disabilities
4030 Esplanade Way, Suite 380
Tallahassee, FL 32399
(850) 488-4257

Faith Community Inclusion

Friday
3:00 - 4:00
Boca VII

This presentation is for individuals with disabilities and service providers. We will highlight current trends and best practices for Faith Community Inclusion. What are the benefits and barriers associated with participation in a congregation? What are other ways to encourage spiritual growth and opportunities for service for people with disabilities? How can the Faith community serve as a valued natural support for individuals and their families? Join this discussion-based forum to explore ways to expand and facilitate Faith Community Inclusion.

FRIDAY

Kimberly Bane
Ability Abounds
500 Palm Springs Boulevard #513
Indian Harbour Beach, FL 32937
(321) 298-6881
kimbane@live.com



Athlete Leadership Program: Young Athletes Program and Motor Activities Training Program

Friday
3:00 - 4:00
Boca VIII

Special Olympics Athlete Leadership allows athletes to explore opportunities for greater participation in our movement beyond sports training and competition: as coaches, officials, team captains, spokespeople and Board and committee members. Come learn about this program.

Nancy Sawyer
Special Olympics Florida, Inc.
1915 Don Wickham Drive
Clermont, FL 34711
(352) 243-9536
nancysawyer@sofl.org

Chasity Phillips
Special Olympics Florida, Inc.
1915 Don Wickman Drive
Clermont, FL 34711
(407) 230-0059
chasityphillips@sofl.org



Living with Epilepsy and Seizure Disorders

Friday
3:00 - 4:00
Bonaire 1

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. We will also share how to advocate for your (or your loved one's) rights in the areas of education, employment, housing, healthcare, and other aspects of dealing with seizure disorders.

Jaime Sagona, MA
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
6141 Lake Worth Road
Lake Worth, FL 33463
(561) 307-9620
kimberley@ksolawfirm.com

IEP Process—Dads at the Table

Friday
3:00 - 4:00
Bonaire 2

IDEA refers to parents in the plural when discussing the Individual Education Process, which means fathers as well. If you have felt less-than-adequate at the IEP table and want to enhance your skills, come join us, one father to another, to learn about the IEP process and the importance of becoming an active member of the planning process.

Wilbur Hawke
Central Florida Parent Center
1021 Delaware Avenue



Palm Harbor, FL 34683
(727) 789-2400
wilbur@embargmail.com



Developing a Trauma Informed System of Care using System of Care Values— The Whole Child Leon-PACT Partnership Experience

Friday
3:00 - 4:00
Bonaire 3

In this presentation we will discuss why the development of a trauma-informed system of care is important to a community, and how to develop it around the system of care values of being family driven, youth-guided, community-based and culturally and linguistically competent. A discussion of the development of the Whole Child Leon-PACT Partnership will provide a real life experience of developing a strengths-based system of service provision and family empowerment, that by its very nature is a trauma-informed system of care.

Frank M. Platt, LCSW
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Courtney Atkins, MA, LDC, CEAP
Whole Child Leon
725 S. Calhoun Street
Tallahassee, FL 32301
(850) 487-7316
caphelp@netzero.com

Delegate Roundtable: Cerebral Palsy

Friday
3:00 - 4:00
Bonaire 4

One of the best ways for people that are new to a situation to become educated about their options is to speak with someone that has "been there" and "done that." This year at The 17th Annual Family Café, the Delegates will be hosting roundtable conversations where parents can network with other parents to share experiences and strategies that have worked for them. If you are new to parenting a child with a disability, or if you have a particular challenge your family is facing, this session may provide the support and guidance you need.

This roundtable session will be dedicated to Cerebral Palsy. Sessions on Autism, Down Syndrome, and Mental Health will also be held.

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



Traveling the Seas of Emotions

Friday
3:00 - 4:00
Bonaire 5

Traveling the Seas of Families, Feelings, & Emotions is part of an interactive training series created by parents of children with disabilities and special health care needs, to help other families understand and participate fully in Florida's Early Intervention System. The trainings are 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.

FRIDAY

Audrey Evans
Early Steps
1401 South Federal Highway
Ft. Lauderdale, FL 33316
(954) 728-1029
a1evans@browardhealth.org

Melanie Provenza
Early Steps
900 North Jefferson Street
Jacksonville, FL 32209
(904) 360-7022
melanie.provenza@jax.ufl.edu



Know When to Hold 'em, Know When to Fold 'em

Friday
3:00 - 4:00
Bonaire 6

As a person with disabilities it is often difficult to know when we should do things on our own, and when we should ask for help. The older we get, the more we learn to advocate for ourselves, but sometimes we still need to seek support. Over this past year, I learned some hard lessons about holding and folding. During this session we will have an honest discussion about knowing when to hold 'em (self-advocacy) and knowing when to fold 'em (asking for help).

Ryan Turner
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Ruskin, FL 33570
(813) 407-2880
ryanneodt@aol.com

Tammy Turner
(813) 298-8012
tammyturner@aol.com



"What About My Other Child?" Tips for Supporting and Including Typically-Developing Siblings

Friday
3:00 - 4:00
Bonaire 7

After dealing with late school buses, IEP meetings, therapies, transition planning, and special dietary food prep, families are often exhausted trying to support their child with special needs. But what happens to the typically-developing siblings when so much is going on? What is their role in all this? Join this interactive session to learn strategies for ensuring all children are receiving the support they need, plus gain insight (from a sib herself!) on how to include typically-developing siblings in the daily activities of their brothers and sisters with special needs.

Sylvia Collazo, M.Ed.
Sylvia Collazo, LLC
P.O. Box 8140
Coral Springs, FL 33075
(954) 543-1321
sylvia@sylviacollazo.com



Disability Sensitivity

Friday
3:00 - 4:00
Bonaire 8

Have you ever been curious what it's like to have someone else's disability? Though we can't all walk a mile in someone else's shoes, we can try to experience what they might be going through. In this session, The FYC will look at a few different disabilities and try to explain the difficulties a broad range of people may have. The audience is encouraged to participate so we can all learn from each other!



Whitney Harris
The Florida Youth Council
519 North Gadsden Street
Tallahassee, FL 32301
(850) 224-4670
wharris@familycafe.net

Alex Brown
The Florida Youth Council

Josue Tapia Ortiz
The Florida Youth Council

Serena Wetmore
The Florida Youth Council

Christina Waldron
The Florida Youth Council

FRIDAY

Chinese Medicine 101

Friday
3:00 - 4:00
Caribbean Ballroom I

This powerpoint presentation will give basic information on Traditional Chinese Medicine and how it helps with a variety of common problems that affect those with disabilities and those that live with and care for them.

Lissa Nirenberg
195 Giralda Avenue
Coral Gables, FL 33134
(305) 323-3123
tcmdragonfly@ureach.com



Multi-Sensory Gym: Exercise that Engages

Friday
3:00 - 4:00
Curacao 1

My presentation teaches participants that exercise is good for our health but also offers valuable learning and growth opportunities. By using the benefit of the senses, children and adults with sensory deficits build important skills, make significant gains in improved motor and brain function, and at the same time learn to appreciate movement. I will share important and interesting information on fitness, multisensory exercise and how to build a valuable multi-sensory exercise routine in less than 15 minutes a day. Demonstrations will be provided during the presentation, along with video clips showing examples of multi-sensory exercise activities being used with persons with challenges.

Tracey McKoy
Rise to Life Fitness
P.O. Box 416
Weirsdale, FL 32195
sweetcalm469@gmail.com



Emergency Preparedness: What Others Don't Talk About!

Friday
3:00 - 4:00
Curacao 2

It is easy to find emergency preparedness education that discusses shelters, food, water and so forth for persons with disabilities. What isn't easy to find is education that addresses back-up plans and resources for daily living needs. Yet the discussion must cover such topics as medical hardware/software supplies, back-up communication plans, alternative resources, and important vital comfort issues. Using "reverse engineering thought," be prepared to learn how to create a plan that is more inclusive of disability, specifically from a former caregiver's first hand point of view and experiences.

Laura George
3767 Nina Court
Loganville, GA 30052
(770) 573-9889
educateandadvocate@gmail.com



Interstate Compact for Educational Opportunity for Military Children

Friday
3:00 - 4:00
Curacao 3

Participants will learn about the Interstate Compact on Educational Opportunity for Military Children. 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. It addresses the difference in requirements among states involving immunizations, the entrance ages for kindergarten and first grade, exit exams, and graduation requirements. It also includes provisions dealing with participating in extracurricular activities, course placement, enrollment in highly capable challenging programs, and other issues unique to the transitioning military family.

Dr. Curtis Jenkins
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325 West Gaines Street
Tallahassee, FL 32399
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curtis.jenkins@fldoe.org



Building Meaningful Careers Begins in High School—Let Vocational Rehabilitation Help!

Friday
3:00 - 4:00
Curacao 4

The Florida Division of Vocational Rehabilitation can provide eligible secondary education students with a variety of services designed to lead to a meaningful career. Let VR help you create a picture of where you are today and set goals for your future. Services are individually designed but may include pre-employment training opportunities, work experiences, job placement, post-secondary education, and other services necessary for a successful employment outcome. With the advent of recent legislation, The Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act, VR will have an enhanced ability to serve high school students.

Jan Pearce
The Division of Vocational Rehabilitation
4070 Esplanade Way
Tallahassee, FL 32399
(850) 245-3302
jan.pearce@vr.fldoe.org

Say Cheese! 4-H Photography

Friday
3:00 - 4:00
Curacao 5

Do you enjoy taking pictures? Did you know the camera functions like your EYE? See for yourself with this special camera! This will be an interactive session as much as possible. Bring your camera, or cell phone camera. You will learn about your camera and how to take great photos. You will also judge some photos and learn about lighting, shadows, clutter and Hat Tricks with your camera. Should be fun; don't forget your camera!!!!

Georgene Bender
University of Florida/IFAS 4-H
GCREC-PCC 1200 North Park Road
Plant City, FL 33563
(813) 787-7290
gmbender@ufl.edu

Dennis Bender
211 Kings Row
Seffner, FL 33584
(813) 684-3228
denben50@aol.com



Different is NOT a Disability

Friday
3:00 - 4:00
Curacao 6

My name is Shavaughn Barnes. I am a teacher of students with many different abilities. My passion is reminding my people that everyone can learn. Even though we may have to do things a different way, we can all succeed at anything we put our minds too. Join me to participate in activities, to get to know some new friends, and to be reminded being different is not a disability.

Shavaughn Barnes
Father's Harbor Academy
222 SW 38 Terrace
Cape Coral, FL 33914
(239) 823-8790
shevieb@gmail.com

FRIDAY



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

Friday
3:00 - 4:00
Curacao 7

In this session we will discuss the options for gaining employment for persons with disabilities and how earned income impacts SSDI, SSI, Medicare, Medicaid, and Medicaid Waivers. Experts from Vocational Rehabilitation and DCF/ACCESS will discuss how benefits are impacted and how the use of trusts can maintain Medicaid eligibility. The session will also discuss the importance of partnerships and collaboration in navigating the complex state and federal systems with the ultimate goal of making you a more effective advocate and advisor. This session will increase your ability to advise and plan for the future of your consumers by helping you to understand how the same employment earnings impact each type of public benefit differently.

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Florida Division of Vocational Rehabilitation
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Willette Johnson
Florida Division of Vocational Rehabilitation
4070 Esplanade Way, 2nd Floor
Tallahassee, FL 32399
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Debbie Baker
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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
(803) 233-3624
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Kane Lamberty
Florida Department of Children and Families - Access Central Policy Unit
kane_lamberty@dcf.state.fl.us

Victor Panoff
Disability Rights Florida
(850) 488-9071

Surviving Accidentally Clothed Submersions - Live Demonstration

Friday
3:00 - 4:00
Pool

Tropical Miami Civitan Club through The David Hoyos Swim Academy (Broward County) provides how to Survive Accidentally Clothed Submersions (SACS) teaching with guardians and parents everyone from six month olds on up to adults. Please bring your video recording devices for future review of our informative sessions.

David Hoyos
Tropical Miami Civitan Club and
Swim Academy Nada Mejor
1205 Mariposa Avenue, #327
Coral Gables, FL 33146
(786) 768-9557
dhwswimschool@gmail.com

Adriana Neves
Tropical Miami Civitan Club and
Swim Academy David Hoyos
3100 Riverside Dr. #107
Coral Springs, FL 33065
(954) 865-0842
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Joaquin Fermoselle
Tropical Miami Civitan Club
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(786) 768-9557
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4:00 p.m. to 4:30 p.m.
4:00 p.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Pyramid Players, *Grand Sierra Foyer*
Brazilian Voices, *Boca Foyer*

4:30 p.m. to 5:30 p.m. CONCURRENT SESSIONS**Unlocking the Mystery—Guardian Advocacy and Special Needs Trusts**

Friday
4:30 - 5:30
Antigua 1 & 2

This informative workshop is designed for parents, guardians, and advocates of individuals with special needs. Attorneys Peggy Hoyt and Sarah AuMiller 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 planning and guardianship. In this workshop, you will learn the basics of special needs trusts—both first party and third party trusts, including why they 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.

Margaret Hoyt, J.D., M.B.A., B.C.S
The Law Offices of Hoyt & Bryan, LLC
254 Plaza Drive
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(407) 977-8080
peggy@hoytbryan.com

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

Choosing the Right Residential Program

Friday
4:30 - 5:30
Antigua 3 & 4

Choosing the right residential program can be a challenge for individuals with intellectual/developmental disabilities and their families. This presentation will provide suggestions for ways to prepare for some level of independent living, and information regarding a unique independent living skills assessment program: LIFE Experience. In addition, information on a variety of residential options will be presented along with a discussion regarding how to determine which setting will be most appropriate. Options to be discussed include supported living, group homes, independent living, and



student housing.

Nick Solomon
The Arc Jacksonville on Campus Transition at UNF
1 UNF Drive, Building 57/2800
Jacksonville, FL 32224
(904) 620-5903
nsolomon@arcjacksonville.org



Steps to Achieving My American Dream

Friday
4:30 - 5:30
Boca I

Have you ever wondered, "What steps do I need to take to achieve my American Dream?" Perhaps you want to buy a TV, go on vacation, own a home, go to college, have a job you love, start and own your own business, or save income from work to retire with a positive quality of life. Although there is no single strategy or solution to achieve your American Dream, there are steps you can take and tools you can use to help you achieve your goals. This session will help you with tools you can use to help you achieve your American Dream.

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

APD Working for You!

Friday
4:30 - 5:30
Boca II

This session will provide participants an opportunity to hear the latest on the services from APD as well as provide input to APD on what is needed the most to help people in Florida receive quality services. Updates will be provided by agency staff on the current status of serving more people who are on the waitlist. Participate in discussions with agency staff on how APD can work better for you!

Denise Arnold
Agency for Persons with Disabilities
4030 Esplanade Way, Suite 380
Tallahassee, FL 32399
(850) 488-4257
Denise.arnold@apdcares.org

Standard Diploma for All!

Friday
4:30 - 5:30
Boca III

Legislation passed in Florida in 2014 repealed the special diploma statute as of July 1, 2015, and required that options be provided for all students to earn a standard diploma. New legislation also required parental approval of their child's graduation option and postsecondary goals. In this session we will discuss the legislation and related rules passed by the State Board of Education and provide information on the new standard diploma options for students, including those with significant cognitive disabilities, as well as the new parental approval requirements.

FRIDAY

Judy White
 Department of Education
 325 West Gaines Street
 Tallahassee, FL 32399
 (850) 245-0983
 judith.white@fldoe.org

Project Lifesaver: The Program and Its Assistive Technology

Friday
 4:30 - 5:30
 Boca IV

Wandering and elopement is one of the leading causes of death for individuals with cognitive disorders such as Alzheimer's and autism. Too often I hear about missing children with autism and elderly adults, most often ending tragically. We at Project Lifesaver International felt there was a need to bring in technology that would not only help locate a lost individual but prevent the wandering incident as it occurs.

Crystal Gonzalez
 PAL Program Coordinator
 2710 SW Port St. Lucie Boulevard
 Port St. Lucie, FL 34953
 (772) 446-1275
 cgonzalez@projectlifesaver.org

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

Friday
 4:30 - 5:30
 Boca V

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

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

Fair Housing: Equal Access to Housing for Persons with Disabilities

Friday
 4:30 - 5:30
 Boca VI

This session will provide information on Fair Housing laws including state, federal, and local regulations. Come learn about your rights in housing as a person with a disability, or as the caregiver. This session will provide information on what housing providers must allow and what they may deny when asking for reasonable accommodations and/or reasonable modifications in housing. This is great for any family.



Whether you are currently seeking new housing, renting, or own your own home, you are guaranteed to learn something new about Fair Housing laws!

Rosemary Ramirez
Community Legal Services of Mid-Florida
122 E. Colonial Drive, Suite 200
Orlando, FL 32801
(407) 841-7777
rosemaryr@clsmf.org

FRIDAY

Current Trends in Massage and Manual Therapies

Friday
4:30 - 5:30
Boca VII

This presentation is for individuals with disabilities and caregivers. We will highlight current trends and best practices for Massage and Manual Therapies. Physical, emotional, and behavioral supports can benefit from touch therapies. Pain management regimens may benefit from non-pharmaceutical interventions. We will look at a variety of topics including research, practice, and a variety of techniques, including some for self-care. Additional modalities for consideration include: aromatherapy, micro e-stim, and CranioSacral Therapy. We will also address finding a qualified therapist, what to expect during a massage and learn some basics of hands-on practices.

Kimberly Bane
Ability Abounds
500 Palm Springs Boulevard #513
Indian Harbour Beach, FL 32937
(321) 298-6881
kimbane@live.com

Raising a Child Based on Their Abilities Versus Their Disability

Friday
4:30 - 5:30
Boca VIII

Lou Fioritto has been blind since birth. His parents taught him to focus on his strengths versus his weaknesses and how to turn a perceived weakness into strength. He and his wife, Joyce, own Braille Works International, headquartered in Seffner, FL, with close to 100 employees. Lou will assist you in understanding how imperative it is to prepare a child to focus on their abilities for success in adulthood.

Lou Fioritto
Braille Works International
941 Darby Lakes
Seffner, FL 33584
(813) 654-4050
lfioritto@brailleworks.com



How to Start and Run a Successful Self-Advocacy Organization

Friday
4:30 - 5:30
Bonaire 1

This presentation will discuss how to successfully start and run a self-advocacy group. Members from each of the 14 grassroots self-advocacy groups that make-up the statewide self-advocacy organization, FL Self-Advocates Network'd (FL SAND), will show you the ins and outs of running their local groups and a statewide self-advocacy organization. If you have ever wanted to start a self-advocacy organization, or

want to get more involved, this presentation will give you pointers on how to get started, how to build membership, how to fundraise, and most importantly, how to unite your voices to accomplish common goals!

Amanda Baker
Florida Self-Advocates Network'd (FL SAND)
808 W Waters Avenue
Tampa, FL 33604
(850) 691-7872
amandajoebaker@gmail.com

Transition for Dads

Friday
4:30 - 5:30
Bonaire 2

Successful transition from school to community life is an ongoing process of planning for the future. This easy-to-understand workshop will de-mystify the transition process for fathers, enabling them to become active participants in their child's educational planning.

Wilbur Hawke
Central Florida Parent Center
1021 Delaware Avenue
Palm Harbor, FL 34683
(727) 789-2400
wilbur@embargmail.com



Mental Illness: It Can Happen to Anyone

Friday
4:30 - 5:30
Bonaire 3

The speaker will present her personal journey through childhood trauma, psychiatric hospitalizations, and incarceration, to their current stable and productive life. While many mental illnesses show symptoms early in one's life, this story demonstrates what can happen when symptoms and crises happen to someone in their 40's. Most importantly, it highlights the power of hope, recovery, and resiliency.

Pam Ford
South Florida Behavioral Health Network, Inc.
7205 Corporate Center Drive, Suite 200
Miami, FL 33126
(786) 507-7472
pford@sfbhn.org

Delegate Roundtable: Down Syndrome

Friday
4:30 - 5:30
Bonaire 4

One of the best ways for people that are new to a situation to become educated about their options is to speak with someone that has "been there" and "done that." This year at the 17th Annual Family Café, the Delegates will be hosting roundtable conversations where parents can network with other parents to share experiences and strategies that have worked for them. If you are new to parenting a child with a disability, or if you have a particular challenge your family is facing, this session may provide the support and guidance you need.



This roundtable session will be dedicated to Down Syndrome. Sessions on Autism, Cerebral Palsy, and Mental Health will also be held.

Tim Turner
Mpower Consulting
1406 Delano Trent Street
Ruskin, FL 33570
mpowerconsulting@aol.com



Sailing Through Transition

Friday
4:30 - 5:30
Bonaire 5

My child is turning three and leaving the Early Steps program. Now what's going to happen? What are my options? Where and how does my child receive services? What steps do I need to take to ensure the best for my child? If you find yourself asking these questions, then this workshop is for you. Family Resource Specialists Sue Loftis, Laura Mainor, and Sandy Reid will do their very best to answer these questions for you. This workshop, part of the New Star training series, was written by and for families. Through parent-to-parent support, we can help one another.

Sue Loftis
Early Steps
1801 Miccosukee Commons Drive
Tallahassee, FL 32309
(850) 219-4275
susan.loftis@chsfl.org

Sandy Reid
Early Steps
1678 West Hibiscus Boulevard, Unit 102
Melbourne, FL 32901
(321) 409-2136
sandra.reid@flhealth.gov

Part of My Brain Died—What is Your Excuse?

Friday
4:30 - 5:30
Bonaire 6

Brain injury is the leading cause of death and disability in children and adults from ages 1 to 44. The statistics are overwhelming.

- There are 2 million Traumatic Brain Injuries each year (one every 15 seconds)
- 500,000 of these injuries require hospital admission
- Every 5 minutes someone dies from a head injury

This will be a hard look at traumatic and acquired brain injuries by a brain injury survivor. It will be factual and fun (humor is one of the best ways that Howard knows of to cope). Howard Moon is a survivor who will talk about life after a brain injury. With the proper knowledge and the proper attitude you can get a new life after your injury.

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

FRIDAY



IEP Rights for Young Adults

Friday
4:30 - 5:30
Bonaire 7

Your IEP: Be a part of it! Self-determination is important for all human beings. It is especially important for students with special needs as you consider the future you want and how your educational choices will shape that future. Understanding your rights and responsibilities will help you to become informed and active participants in your own educational planning. We recommend parents and students attend together.

Shelby Nurse
Central Florida Parent Center
1021 Delaware Avenue
Palm Harbor, FL 34683
(727) 789-2400
shelby@planetaware.org



Advocates Unite!

Friday
4:30 - 5:30
Bonaire 8

Being an advocate can be difficult at times. Sometimes all advocates need some encouragement to help them continue to support and enhance the lives of those whom they are advocating for. In this session, the members of The Florida Youth Council will bring together advocates and provide the encouragement needed for you to continue to be the very best advocate possible.

Whitney Harris
The Florida Youth Council
519 North Gadsden Street
Tallahassee, FL 32301
(850) 224-4670
wharris@familycafe.net

Nick Grabowski
The Florida Youth Council

Alex Brown
The Florida Youth Council

Sonic Acupuncture

Friday
4:30 - 5:30
Caribbean Ballroom I

Get a double dose of healing as two healing modalities come together to balance and harmonize your energy.

Acupuncture and Sound Healing combined, allows your body to balance in a way that it could not do with just either one. The use of a few acupuncture points will open your body's energy field and will allow you to balance in whatever way you need. The sound healing through drumming and other instruments will help you journey inward to your heart center. These ancient techniques in a group energy environment enhance everyone's meditative state and healing. LIMITED TO 15 PEOPLE

Lissa Nirenberg
195 Giralda Avenue
Coral Gables, FL 33134
(305) 323-3123
tcmdragonfly@ureach.com

Jeffrey Deen
Drumming for Wellness, Inc.
15875 SW 79 Court
Palmetto Bay, FL 33157
(305) 776-8641
jdeen@drummingforwellness.com





APD's Billy Joe Rish Park—A Park for People with Disabilities

Friday
4:30 - 5:30
Curacao 1

Participants will enjoy learning about the Agency for Persons with Disabilities' 98 acre beach park located on the Gulf of Mexico at Cape San Blas, which was built specifically for persons with disabilities and their families. The park recently received \$1.4 million in 2013 and hopes to have another \$3.5 million by the end of session 2014. Participants will learn how this money will be used to enhance the park's access and features. More importantly, participants will learn about how they and their groups can have fun in the sun and on the beach without barriers.

JR Harding, Ed.D
Agency for Persons with Disabilities
4030 Esplanade Way, Suite 380
Tallahassee, FL 32399
(850) 488-4257
APD.info@apdcares.org



How To Prepare for Disasters

Friday
4:30 - 5:30
Curacao 2

Do you have a plan? Disasters can strike at any time. This presentation will help you make a plan, get the right supplies, and identify steps you and your family can take to help minimize risks to known hazards. Being prepared increases your personal sense of security and peace of mind knowing you will be ready in case of an emergency.

Eddie Kay Harris
Agency for Persons with Disabilities
4030 Esplanade Way, Suite 215 Q
Tallahassee, FL 32399
(850) 922-7533
eddie.harris@apdcares.org



Interstate Compact for Educational Opportunity for Military Children

Friday
4:30 - 5:30
Curacao 3

Participants will learn about the Interstate Compact on Educational Opportunity for Military Children. 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. It addresses the difference in requirements among states involving immunizations, the entrance ages for kindergarten and first grade, exit exams, and graduation requirements. It also includes provisions dealing with participating in extracurricular activities, course placement, enrollment in highly capable challenging programs, and other issues unique to the transitioning military family.

Dr. Curtis Jenkins
Department of Education
325 West Gaines Street
Tallahassee, FL 32399
(850) 245-7844
curtis.jenkins@fldoe.org

FRIDAY



Toward Inclusive Work Opportunities: Implications of the CMS HCBS Settings Regulation for Employment Services

Friday

4:30 - 5:30

Curacao 4

Even in its second year of implementation, there are more questions than answers in response to the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services' 2014 regulation defining acceptable and unacceptable settings for home and community-based services. Given the regulation's inclusion of nonresidential settings, states and stakeholders also are considering how to transition their employment and day service-provision systems into compliance—a move that may promise greater focus and investment in integration and inclusion. This new regulation may have a profound impact on employment services. This session will explore the potential impact, state policymaking to date, and how to influence implementation.

Merrill Friedman
Anthem
1001 Pennsylvania Avenue NW, Suite 710
Washington, DC 20004
(616) 540-5482
merrill.friedman@anthem.com

Lisa A. Mills, PhD
Moving to a Different Drum LLC
2707 Mason Street
Madison, WI 53705
(608) 225-4326
lmills67@charter.net

A Comprehensive/Family-Centered Approach to Serving Persons with Disabilities

Friday

4:30 - 5:30

Curacao 5

The presentation will provide an overview of the Ecological Approach to providing services which looks at the individual, family, and community resources and needs. There will be a discussion about how these levels relate to thinking about the array of supports and services an individual and family may need to flourish. Issues will be presented and discussed concerning why and how this conceptual approach to services is beneficial for individuals, families, and service providers. There will be a brief discussion about positive parenting considerations, especially with regard to how these factors tie in with this comprehensive, family-centered approach. There will also be a discussion of the recognition and incorporation of this broader model and positive parenting techniques that result in a win/win for families and service providers.

Janet H. Evans
Children's Medical Services, Dept. of Health
3432 Monitor Lane
Tallahassee, FL 32312
(850) 445-5294
janet.evans@flhealth.gov

Moms to Moms

Friday

4:30 - 5:30

Curacao 6

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. We invite you to join us for an interactive, informal, relaxing conversation. Let's talk about experiences and concerns of interest to you!



GET A PLAN!

FLGetAPlan.com
Florida Division of Emergency Management

Be Prepared Have a Family Emergency Plan

An emergency or disaster may present unique challenges for people with disabilities or access and functional needs. Assess your capabilities, as well as your needs, and create a plan that will ensure your safety in case of a disaster or emergency.

Check List

- Build a Disaster Supply Kit
- Identify a Support Network
- Complete an Emergency Health Card (EHC)
- Communicate needs and capabilities with my support network
- Arrange an out-of-town contact
- Stay informed on local disaster procedures
- Develop plan for service animals and / or family 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
- At least two week's supply of medication, medical supplies used regularly and a list of allergies
- Information about where you receive medication, the name of the drug and dosage.
- Medical records and primary care physician contact information
- List of the style, serial number and manufacturer information of needed medical devices
- Service animal I.D., veterinary records and proof of ownership
- Supplies for your service animal

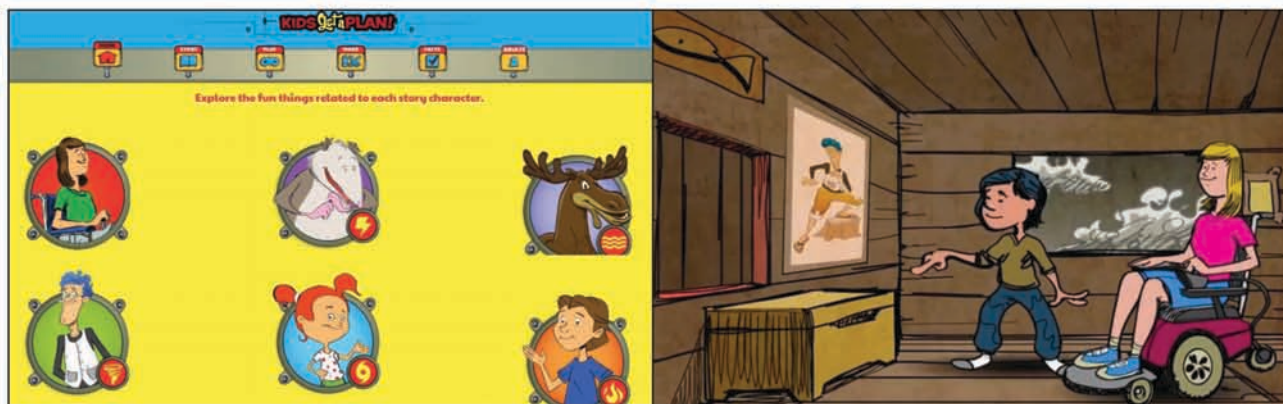
Go to www.FLGetAPlan.com to build your customized Family Emergency Plan and for information on the Florida Special Needs Registry.

KIDS Get a PLAN!

Join Professor Tinkermeister Online

www.KidsGetaPlan.com

Go online with your parents for interactive games, activities and downloadable books to learn how to prepare for emergencies and disasters.



Visit www.FLGetAPlan.com for more information and for help building your emergency plan

“Like” the Kids Get a Plan on Facebook and follow @FLGetaPlan on Twitter.



Pam Kissoondyal
Florida and Virgin Islands Deaf-Blind Collaborative (FAVI-DBC)
1600 SW Archer Rd. PO Box 100234
Gainesville, FL 32610
(352) 273-7529
pamsk@ufl.edu

FRIDAY

Pool Safety and Drowning Prevention Efforts in Florida

Friday
4:30 - 5:30
Curacao 7

This presentation will provide attendees with a summary of the Florida Department of Health and its community partners' efforts in pool safety and drowning prevention in Florida. Topics include current national and Florida drowning data, Florida Residential Swimming Pool Safety Act, pool safety, and drowning prevention initiatives.

Lisa VanderWerf-Hourigan, M.S.
Florida Department of Health
4052 Bald Cypress Way, Bin A-22
Tallahassee, FL 32311
(850) 245-4440
lisa.vanderwerf-hourigan@flhealth.gov

Suzanne Kelly
Florida Department of Health
4052 Bald Cypress Way, Bin A-22
Tallahassee, FL 32311
(850) 245-4110
suzanne.kelly@flhealth.gov

Improving Your "Neural GPS"—A Guided Approach to Balance and Vision Training

Friday
4:30 - 5:30
Curacao 8

A Vision Therapy program developed and applied at the USAF Academy (and with numerous collegiate and professional ball sport teams) will be taught to train the body's main balance center (the eyes) for improved peripheral vision, acuity and integration. A series of natural eye movement and focus techniques (Far and Near Gaze and Balance Reset) will be offered with dynamic stability applications to enhance visual concentration, fixation, and eye movement. These techniques lead to better balance center integration of the inner ear and improved coordination of vision to create fluid, balanced movement. This approach is exceptionally helpful to facilitate safe and secure integration and pattern recognition/repetition of specific motor and cognitive skill movements. Typically, the earlier someone receives this type of therapeutic intervention the better; youth with Down Syndrome and others with difficulties in movement and motor planning have been shown to significantly benefit from the drills demonstrated in this sensory movement process.

Randy Eady M.Ed
Delray Healing Center
200 S. Swinton Avenue
Delray Beach, FL 33444
(954) 254-9431
footwhispering@gmail.com

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

Brazilian Voices, Boca Foyer
The 17th Annual Summit on Disabilities, Caribbean Ballroom

**The
17th
Annual**

Governor's Summit on Disabilities

FRIDAY • June 5, 2015

6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m., Caribbean Ballroom



Please plan on joining us for The 17th Annual Governor's Summit on Disabilities on Friday evening! This year's Summit will be led by State Senator Bill Galvano, who represents District 26, and sits on a number of important Senate Committees that impact the lives of Floridians with disabilities, including Appropriations, the Education Appropriations Subcommittee, Pre-K-12 Education, and Health Policy, as well as the Joint Legislative Budget Commission. He is a long-time advocate for people with disabilities and supporter of The Family Café, and he will be able to offer insight into the eventful 2015 Legislative Session, and share a legislative perspective on Florida's disability policy. Sen. Galvano will be joined by representatives from a range of State Agencies that will be able to answer specific questions on their various programs.

Although he is not able to attend in person, Governor Rick Scott has recorded a special message for Family Café attendees, and the Summit will open with his comments.

The 17th Annual Governor's Summit on Disabilities promises to be both informative and memorable. The Family Café is committed to creating opportunities for individuals with disabilities to connect with policy makers and elected leaders. We believe that engagement between people with disabilities and those that set the policies that profoundly impact their lives is essential, and we hope you take advantage of this great opportunity to have your voice heard at The 17th Annual Governor's Summit on Disabilities!



The 17th Annual Governor's Summit on Disabilities will feature a musical performance by Staar Fields, singer/songwriter and parent of a child with autism. For more information, visit staarfields.com.





SATURDAY • June 6, 2015

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

NO GREATNESS WITHOUT GOODNESS

As Senior Vice President, Randy Lewis presided over Walgreens' logistics network for 16 years as the chain grew from 1,500 stores to over 8,000. He was also instrumental in introducing a new concept to Walgreens that would transform its distribution centers and employment opportunities. Walgreens' two most recent distribution centers employ an inclusive and integrated workforce composed 40% of persons with disabilities (PWDs) who are held to the same work standards and earn the same pay as "typically-abled" fellow workers. It has moved to all centers across the country, which now employ over 1,000 PWD's, and is being introduced into its stores in communities throughout America.

Mr. Lewis will tell the story of how this all came together and the lessons learned—how the most optimistic expectations can be exceeded when people act together for a common good. This is a story of how compassion can move mountains, that greatness is within us all and more importantly, to remind us that we all underestimate our power to impact our world. The first 200 attendees will receive a complimentary copy of Mr. Lewis' award-winning novel, *No Greatness without Goodness*.

- 8:00 a.m. to 9:00 a.m. **Registration Open, Caribbean Registration Desk**
- 8:00 a.m. to 9:00 a.m. **Morning Seated Movement, Caribbean Ballroom I**
- 8:00 a.m. to 9:00 a.m. **Silver Sneakers Zumba Class, Caribbean Ballroom II**
- 8:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. **Exhibit Hall Open, Grand Sierra Ballroom**
- 9:00 a.m. to 10:30 a.m. **Keynote Address, Caribbean Ballroom**
- 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. **Dental Screening, Grand Sierra Ballroom**
- 10:30 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. **Brazilian Voices, Boca Foyer**
- 10:30 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. **Royal DJs, Grand Sierra Foyer**
- 10:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. **Rock Climbing Wall, Pavilion Grassy Area**
- 10:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. **Registration Open, Caribbean Registration Desk**
- 11:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. **CONCURRENT SESSIONS**
- 11:00 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. **Celebration of Life: Experiencing the Healing Power of Love, Caribbean Ballroom I**
- 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. **Early Steps Playgroup, Caribbean Ballroom II**
- 12:30 p.m. to 1:00 p.m. **Pyramid Players, Grand Sierra Foyer**
- 12:30 p.m. to 1:00 p.m. **FRIENDS Choir, Boca Foyer**
- 1:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. **Arts & Crafts, Hibiscus**
- 1:00 p.m. to 2:00 p.m. **CONCURRENT SESSIONS**
- 2:00 p.m. to 2:30 p.m. **Pyramid Players, Grand Sierra Foyer**
- 2:00 p.m. to 2:30 p.m. **FRIENDS Choir, Boca Foyer**
- 2:00 p.m. to 2:30 p.m. **"Just Moving" Dancers, Caribbean Foyer**
- 2:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m. **Adaptive Biking, Pavilion**
- 2:30 p.m. to 3:30 p.m. **SCUBA Demo, Pool**
- 2:30 p.m. to 3:30 p.m. **CONCURRENT SESSIONS**
- 3:30 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. **Pyramid Players, Grand Sierra Foyer**
- 3:30 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. **Royal DJs, Boca Foyer**
- 4:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. **CONCURRENT SESSIONS**
- 5:00 p.m. to 5:30 p.m. **Pyramid Players, Grand Sierra Foyer**
- 5:00 p.m. to 5:30 p.m. **"Just Moving" Dancers, Caribbean Foyer**
- 7:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. **Family Entertainment, Caribbean Ballroom**

Celebration of Life: Experiencing the Healing Power of Love

Saturday

11:00 - 12:30

Caribbean Ballroom I

Give yourself the gift of community and ceremony to heal, transform and celebrate the lives of our loved ones who have passed away. This year, as we step into this sacred place of celebration, we will be joined by the renowned Brazilian Voices, a female vocalist group from South Florida, and Jeff Deen, renowned drummer for wellness and father of a child with a disability. Their healing words and drumming vibrations will permeate the room as you go on a guided imagery journey to your own Sacred Garden. In your Sacred Garden you will let go of any misunderstandings about yourself and your loved one's death; you will experience the healing effects of the power of universal love. The "Tree Of Life" ceremonial bowl will be brought forth as we recognize each person who has gifted our lives with their love. An expressive arts experience will connect us to our own hearts, the hearts of our loved ones and globally.

Dr. Paula Petry will co-facilitate the session with expressive arts Dana Pezoldt. Paula will share her personal journey back to wholeness after the death of her daughter, Alexandra. Her in-depth studies of mind, body, spirit healing modalities will give great insights into death and afterlife. Hand-made mementos will be available for everyone attending.

The Celebration of Life Ceremony began in 2012 with the loss of a member of our Florida Youth Council, Ms. Lizzy Barrows. Each year the ceremony varies as we continue to honor all families who have experienced a loss over time. Military families of children with special needs will be specially recognized for their service and courage as they are a continual witness of loss.

Paula Petry (Lalinde)

N.T. Hope

1121 Crandon Boulevard, F-205

Key Biscayne, FL 33149

paula@nothingtrumpshope.com



Early Steps Playgroup

Saturday, June 7

11:00-1:00

Caribbean Ballroom II

Our playgroups are open to all children from 0-5 years old and are designed for families to take part in activities that help to stimulate development, to participate in group play, to interact with peers, to socialize with families that can relate to what you are experiencing, and to find ideas and solutions to the many challenges that arise. Please join us!

Imperia Torres

Early Steps of SWFL

8961 Daniels Center Drive, Suite 401

Fort Myers, FL 33912

(239) 433-6700 ext. 242

ImperiaTorres@hpcswf.com



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



Benefits and Tax Savings for Families with Special Needs

Saturday
11:00 - 12:00
Antigua 1 & 2

Parents of children with special needs incur a variety of expenses for their child or adult, including therapies, educational training, tutoring, personal care aides, transportation, home modifications, and medical supplies. Many of these expenses may be tax deductible, but are often overlooked by tax professionals who are unfamiliar with the types and categorization of 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 tax. Includes an overview of Life Planning tools for the most protected future for your child, including information on public benefits, trusts, guardianship, Medicaid, and SSI.

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

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

How to Use iPad/iPhone Accessibility Features: A Beginner's Course

Saturday
11:00 - 12:00
Antigua 3 & 4

Sponsored by AT&T



iPads and iPhones come equipped with a large assortment of built-in accessibility features. Just knowing what these features are and how to turn them on can sometimes be a challenge in itself. In the session, participants will explore the many built-in features available on iDevices that improve access for visual, auditory, accessibility shortcuts, voice over, voice control, dictation, switch control, keyboard access and shortcuts, and more. Participants are encouraged to bring their own device and explore features during the session.

Gary Pearcy
Florida's MTSS - P/S RTI
111 West Main Street, Suite 200
Inverness, FL 34450
(352) 419-6556
gmpearcy@usf.edu

Delegate Roundtable: Spina Bifida

Saturday
11:00 - 12:00
Boca I

This roundtable will serve as a time where families can share and chat with other families about experiences related to Spina Bifida. Those in attendance will be encouraged to discuss information that they feel is important for others in the Spina Bifida community to know. Resources, events, and organizations which are helpful to those with Spina Bifida will be present. Everyone impacted by Spina Bifida is encouraged to attend. Come and make some new friends! This roundtable session will be dedicated to families impacted by Spina Bifida.

Rose Mary Lumm, M.Ed
The Spina Bifida Association of Central Florida
100 W Lucerne Circle, Suite 100-M
Orlando, FL 32801

SATURDAY

(407) 276-5640
rose.lumm@orlandohealth.com

Sensory Learning for Students with Visual Impairments and Additional Disabilities

Saturday
11:00 - 12:00
Boca II

This session will discuss assessment and instructional strategies specific to children with vision loss and additional disabilities such as intellectual, physical impairments, autism, etc. The Sensory Learning Kit is a research-based assessment and curriculum designed for students functioning under the cognitive age of two. Published by the American Printing House for the Blind, the Sensory Learning Kit is an assessment tool used to determine the student's preferred sensory "appetites" that the teacher and/or parents can use to facilitate learning. Individual learning routines are designed to facilitate the student's ability to communicate their wants and needs, move with purpose, anticipate events, and participate meaningfully in their daily activities.

Kay Ratzlaff
Florida Instructional Materials Center for the Visually Impaired
4210 W Bay Villa Avenue
Tampa, FL 33611
(813) 837-7829
kratzlaff@fimcvi.org

Including Students Who Use AT/AAC Across the School Community: Ideas and Resources Across the Grades

Saturday
11:00 - 12:00
Boca III

Inclusion of students who require AT/AAC presents unique opportunities for students and educators, although it does take thoughtful and proactive planning. Linda Starnes, former special educator, will present strategies to be utilized in classroom settings and across the school community. Information and encouragement will be provided through research and resources spanning all grade levels. From first steps incorporating students into a new class, to full engagement in class and school activities, benefits will be realized in welcoming those with communication differences.

Linda Starnes
1710 Greystone Court
Longwood, FL 32779
(407) 538-7180
l_h_starnes@aol.com



Self-Advocacy Movement: Past, Present, and Future

Saturday
11:00 - 12:00
Boca IV

This presentation shows how we have progressed since the days of institutions and where we're going in the future. We will also highlight how to get there and why we need to continue to advocate for our rights. Tricia Riccardi and Amanda Baker have been strong self-advocates for many years and will educate you on how you can join the advocacy movement.

Tricia Riccardi
1912 Pontoon Plantation

Amanda Baker
(850) 763-5624



Kissimmee, FL 34746
(352) 220-7771
triccardi77@gmail.com

abaker1532@comcast.net

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

Saturday
11:00 - 12:00
Boca V

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
Department of Education
325 West Gaines Street
Tallahassee, FL 32399
(850) 245-0475
monica.verra-tirado@fldoe.org

Oral Health Care Training for Caregivers

Saturday
11:00 - 12:00
Boca VI

This training session is for caregivers of individuals of all ages with developmental disabilities. A Dental Hygienist will show you how to perform oral hygiene techniques like brushing, flossing, and positioning in order to help you improve the oral health of the individual you care for.

Safee Broxton
Florida Developmental Disabilities Council, Inc.
124 Marriott Drive, Suite 203
Tallahassee, FL 32301
(850) 488-4180
safeeb@fddc.org

Service Dogs in School—What Does the Law Say?

Saturday
11:00 - 12:00
Boca VII

Service animals assist students in their daily lives and in accessing their school environment. Service animals can foster independence and allow students with disabilities to access the least restrictive environment. Parents need to know the requirements under the law in allowing service animals on the school campus and on school provided transportation. This presentation will cover the law and advocacy strategies to assist families in advocating for access for the student and service dog to the school campus. This presentation will allow for open dialogue between the presenter and participants.

Ann Siegel
Disability Rights Florida
1000 North Ashley Drive, Suite 670
Tampa, FL 33602
(800) 342-0823
anns@disabilityrightsflorida.org





Inspiration and Encouragement for Military and Veteran Families with Special Needs

Saturday
11:00 - 12:00
Boca VIII

The Rev. Robert E. Streater, III, MA (U.S. Army Veteran) offers words of encouragement through personal stories and biblical truths, inspiration and encouragement for Active Military and Veteran Families with special needs. The audience will explore tools to help them deal with transition issues such as post traumatic stress, financial hardships, wounded relationships, and raising a child with special needs. Custom-designed from the perspectives of both a military service person and a parent with a child with special needs, this insightful workshop not only offers encouragement to military families, but also includes suggestions on how others can provide support.

Robert E. Streater, III
The RMS Family Encouragement Foundation
4434 Gearhart Road, Suite 1901
Tallahassee, FL 32303
(850) 661-1201
nowsucceed4u@yahoo.com



Getting on the Path to Success

Saturday
11:00 - 12:00
Bonaire 1

We all have had personal fights or fights for children with disabilities, but what if there are ways you can lessen the fight. There are things that you can start doing and stop doing as parents/guardians. Thomas Moon will be sharing his story of overcoming obstacles. He will share how his parents empowered him to be independent and successful. They fought the hard fight and never gave up. All of our children are important. Parents are the first and best advocates. Make sure you come hear Thomas Moon as he shares how you can help get them on that better path toward success.

Thomas Moon
17347 SE 111 Avenue
Summerfield, FL 34491
(352) 502-5994
tj@moonscapes.org

Meet the Blind Services and Vocational Rehabilitation Directors

Saturday
11:00 - 12:00
Bonaire 2

During this session, attendees will learn about the services that are available to customers with disabilities to help them become gainfully employed and live independently. Robert Lee Doyle III is the Director of the Division of Blind Services (DBS) as of July 15, 2013. As director, he oversees services to individuals who are blind or visually impaired through 10 district offices, the Rehabilitation Center for the Blind, the Braille and Talking Books Library, and local community rehabilitation programs. The division serves Floridians of all ages, from babies to senior citizens.

Robert Lee Doyle III
Department of Education
325 West Gaines Street, Turlington Building, Suite 1114
Tallahassee, FL 32399
(850) 245-0300
Robert.Doyle@dbs.fldoe.org

Aleisa C. McKinlay, JD, MA
Department of Education
4070 Esplanade Way, 2nd Floor
Tallahassee, FL 32399
Aleisa.McKinlay@vr.fldoe.org



SATURDAY



Sensory Dysfunction: Making Connections in Real World Settings

Saturday
11:00 - 12:00
Bonaire 3

Does your loved one have difficulties with loud sounds, new environments, processing information that is presented to them, or trying new foods? This presentation will discuss Sensory Processing Disorder (SPD) and explain what it is, what it looks like, who it affects, and how it can be treated. The presenters will discuss the applications of applied behavior analysis which have been used to help increase quality of life goals for individuals that have difficulties with trying new foods, sleeping in their own beds, entering environments that are loud or unknown, and exploring their environment through touch.

Tahra Cessna
Positive Behavior Supports Corporation
4575 SE Dixie Highway
Stuart, FL 34997
(772) 284-1391
tcessna@teampbs.com

Jennifer Lenderman
Positive Behavior Supports Corporation
4575 SE Dixie Highway
Stuart, FL 34997
(855) 832-6727
jlenderman@teampbs.com

New Horizon Loan Program

Saturday
11:00 - 12:00
Bonaire 4

The New Horizon Loan Program is an alternative assistive technology finance program under the Assistive Technology Act of 2004, Section 4(e)(2)(A) designed to assist individuals with disabilities to borrow money at reasonable interest rates for the purchase of assistive technologies. Our New Horizon Business Loan Program is a similar program that can assist qualified persons with disabilities who are seeking employment through self-employment opportunities. These are low interest rate loan programs that may offer below market interest rates that can help keep your loan payment low along with no prepayment penalty features. The NHL Program offers a user-friendly loan application, which requires a qualifying credit and debt to income criteria review before we can proceed to a loan closing for the assistive technology that you need. In addition, the NHL Program staff offers unique consumer responsive services not often found through more traditional lenders.

Michael Daniels
FAAST, Inc.
3333 West Pensacola Street, Bldg 100, Suite 140
Tallahassee, FL 32304
(850) 487-3278
mdaniels@faast.org

Andre Howard
FAAST, Inc.
3333 West Pensacola Street, Bldg 100, Suite 140
Tallahassee, FL 32304
(850) 487-3278
ahoward@faast.org



Recycled Toy Ideas and High Tech Tools for Infants and Toddlers

Saturday
11:00 - 12:00
Bonaire 5

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 share some of the ideas and fascination of using high-tech tools (such as the iPad) with your child, in addition to the cautions and concerns of using these items too much with children under the age of three.

Paula Keyser
Early Steps - West Central
Dept. 7470-480 7th Avenue South
St. Petersburg, FL 33701
(727) 767-6705
paula.keyser@jhmi.edu



The John McKay Scholarship for Students with Disabilities

Saturday
11:00 - 12:00
Bonaire 6

The Department of Education's Office of Independent Education and Parental Choice will present information about the John M. McKay Scholarship Program for Students with Disabilities. This program was established to provide Florida parents and students with educational options and operates under the premise that parents should make decisions regarding their child's education. The program offers student-directed funding and parent-directed choices. This presentation will include eligibility requirements, participation statistics, and requirements for private schools, public school districts, and parent/student responsibility.

Scott Earley
Florida Department of Education
325 West Gaines Street, Suite 1044
Tallahassee, FL 32399
(850) 245-0899
scott.earley@fldoe.org



Siblings in Treatment: Last But Not Least

Saturday
11:00 - 12:00
Bonaire 7

Behavior analytic treatment is intensive and involved, requiring ongoing commitment by caregivers. We, as behavior analysts, work with families to establish treatment goals for the child in need. Unfortunately, the needs of siblings take a secondary role, and are often not included in treatment goals moving forward. This presentation discusses how to include siblings as primary stakeholders in the treatment process while ensuring that the quality of life for all members of the family is nurtured and improved.

Shane Spiker, MS, BCBA
Positive Behavior Supports, Corp
309 Park Place West
Ormond Beach, FL 32174
(386) 852-0217
SSpiker@teampbs.com



It's All About Social Interaction (Youth Only)

Saturday
11:00 - 12:00
Bonaire 8

Life is all about interacting with peers. This can be very challenging, especially when you have a disability. The members of The Florida Youth Council know just how difficult the prospect of interacting with peers can be. They also know that it is a vital part of life. In this session, they will share their experiences and insight on how to successfully interact with you peers.

Whitney Harris
The Florida Youth Council
519 North Gadsden Street
Tallahassee, FL 32301
(850) 224-4670
wharris@familycafe.net

Shevie Barnes
The Florida Youth Council

Christopher Regan
The Florida Youth Council

Serena Wetmore
The Florida Youth Council

Megan Atkinson
The Florida Youth Council





Recreation for People of All Abilities: Who? What? Where? Why? How??

Saturday
11:00 - 12:00
Curacao 1

People with disabilities can participate and enjoy recreation with their family and friends. Each person has different interests and activities that inspire and motivate them. Regular physical activity has been shown to diminish the risks and effects of many health problems associated with a sedentary lifestyle including obesity, as well as the loss of lean muscle tissue and bone mass. The important mental, social, and emotional benefits will also be discussed. Learn about the value of active leisure! This session will provide information on why, how, and where to participate in a variety of active leisure options. You won't want to miss the excitement of the many options available to you.

David Jones
Florida Disabled Outdoors Association
2475 Apalachee Parkway, Suite 205
Tallahassee, FL 32301

Laurie LoRe-Gussak
Florida Disabled Outdoors Association



Let's Get Ready/Planning Together for Emergencies Sesame Street Disaster Preparedness for Children, Along with the New App

Saturday
11:00 - 12:00
Curacao 2

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 learn 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) 368-6846
mslindacarter@gmail.com

Mary Carter
No Person Left Behind
704 Homer Avenue North
Lehigh Acres, FL 33971
(239) 368-6846
marycarter@comcast.net



Come Meet Your School Liaison Officers

Saturday
11:00 - 12:00
Curacao 3

Come and meet your SLOs! School Liaison Officers (SLOs) from multiple service branches and military bases in Florida talk about the various roles of the SLO and answer your questions related to education and challenges with your local school system. Come find out how they can assist you and your family!

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



Employment First Florida

Saturday
11:00 - 12:00
Curacao 4

Employment First is a declaration of both philosophy and policy stating that integrated employment, including supported employment, customized employment, and self-employment, where an individual is paid by an employer at minimum wage or greater or receives earnings through one's self-employment business that is fully integrated in the community workforce is the first and preferred priority outcome for individuals with disabilities. Florida's collaborative efforts have led to broader work on Employment First among the State's agencies and organizations charged with improving employment outcomes for all individuals with disabilities. This presentation will discuss the accomplishments and next steps of the Employment First Initiative in Florida and how local agencies and individuals can become involved.

Beth Romans-Corsi
Florida Developmental Disabilities Council, Inc.
124 Marriott Drive #203
Tallahassee, FL 32301
(850) 902-6704
bethrc@fddc.org

Judy White
Florida Department of Education Bureau of
Exceptional Education
325 West Gaines Street
Tallahassee, FL 32301
(850) 245-0475
Judith.white@fldoe.org

Let's Book It!

Saturday
11:00 - 12:00
Curacao 5

Do you want to increase reading skills in young children? Do you want to strengthen the relationship between the school and parent? Look no further! By attending this session, participants will help build connections from school to home with monthly reading activities involving teachers, students, families, and the community. Learn different ways to engage young children in reading at home and school. The focus is to make reading interactive and fun.

Jennifer Barnhill
FDLRS/Miccosukee
3955 West Pensacola Street
Tallahassee, FL 32304
(850) 487-7313
barnhillj@leonschools.net

Kathy Powell
Parents of the Panhandle Information Network (POPIN)
2196 Main Street, Suite K
Dunedin, FL 34698
(727) 523-1130
kathyp@fndfl.org



Cradle to Grave 2015: Legal & Financial Issues for Your Child with Special Needs

Saturday
11:00 - 12:00
Curacao 6

This session will cover the 100-year plan; pre-need guardianship, guardianship, guardian advocate, and special needs trusts; qualifying for both Medicaid and Medicare; the easy way to meet the annual reporting requirements for SSI and Guardianship; and maximizing your child's lifetime income. SSI money for minor children is based on the income of the parents, but at 18, the qualifications are based upon the income of the child. Also, the child can qualify to collect 50% of the parent's social security once the parent starts drawing social security and the amount increases to 75% upon the death of the parent.

Dr. Jess W. Levins, Esq, CMA, CFM, P.E.
Levins & Associates LLC
8637 Pegasus Drive
Lehigh Acres, FL 33971



SATURDAY

(239) 839-8349
jlevins06@comcast.net



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

Saturday
11:00 - 12:00
Curacao 7

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 DCF/ACCESS 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.

Gregory Bell
Maximus Federal Services/Ticket to Work
7950 Jones Branch Drive
McLean, VA 22107
(703) 336-8069
gregorydbell@maximus.com

Roger Naoroji
Maximus Federal Services/Ticket to Work-Operation
Support Manager
7950 Jones Branch Drive
McLean, VA 22107
(703) 336-8054
rogernaoroji@maximus.com

SATURDAY

Bio-energetics: Light, Sound, and Magnetics in Integrative Therapy

Saturday
11:00 - 12:00
Curacao 8

Energy medicine, or bioenergetic medicine is a healing model gaining more appreciation based on advances in scientific measurement of the acupuncture meridian system (where life energy, or chi, flows through the body along energy channels called meridians). Most of these therapies use photonemission (light) electrical, magnetic, sonic/harmonic/percussive, acoustic, microwave, or infrared to screen for/treat health conditions through the detection and correction of imbalances in the body's energy fields. Many are quite simple as they involve self-regulation of posture after brief episodes of exposure that can inspire healthcare providers to become therapeutic co-facilitators with the recipient of the treatment. In nonscientific jargon, this talk will convey and demonstrate hands-on participants can take away a solid knowledge base practicalities about these therapies so of how these approaches can interact with tissues and organ systems to promote healing and pain relief.

Randy Eady M.Ed
Delray Healing Center
200 S. Swinton Avenue
Delray Beach, FL 33444
(954) 254-9431
footwhispering@gmail.com

Surviving Accidentally Clothed Submersions - Live Demonstration

Saturday
11:00 - 12:00
Pool

Tropical Miami Civitan Club through The David Hoyos Swim Academy (Broward County) provides how to Survive Accidentally Clothed Submersions (SACS) teaching with guardians and parents everyone from six month olds on up to adults. Please bring your video recording devices for future review of our informative sessions.

David Hoyos
Tropical Miami Civitan Club and
Swim Academy Nada Mejor
1205 Mariposa Avenue, #327
Coral Gables, FL 33146
(786) 768-9557
dhschool@gmail.com

Adriana Neves
Tropical Miami Civitan Club and
Swim Academy David Hoyos
3100 Riverside Dr. #107
Coral Springs, FL 33065
(954) 865-0842
adriananevesa@gmail.com

Joaquin Fermoselle
Tropical Miami Civitan Club
1205 Mariposa Ave. #327
Coral Gables, FL 33146
(786) 768-9557
joaquinfermoselle@hotmail.com

12:30 p.m. to 1:00 p.m.
12:30 p.m. to 1:00 p.m.
1:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.

Pyramid Players, Grand Sierra Foyer
FRIENDS Choir, Boca Foyer
Arts & Crafts, Hibiscus

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



The ABCs & 123s of SNTs

Saturday
1:00 - 2:00
Antigua 1 & 2

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. Attendees will learn about the various types of SNTs and how they can preserve the valuable benefits for our loved one with a disability. Attendees will learn of 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.

Travis Finchum
Special Needs Lawyers, P.A.
(727) 443-7898
travis@specialneedslawyers.com

Funding Options for Assistive Technology

Saturday
1:00 - 2:00
Antigua 3 & 4

The FFAST New Horizon Loan Program is a flexible alternative assistive technology finance program under the Assistive Technology Act of 2004, Section 4 (e)(2)(A) designed to assist individuals with disabilities to borrow money at reasonable interest rates for the purchase of Assistive Technology. Our New Horizon Business Loan Program is a similar program that can assist qualified persons with disabilities to finance business equipment to help establish or maintain their business or current employment opportunity. Along with providing financial education, we hope to be your source to overcoming financial barriers to acquiring AT.

Melanie Quinton
FFAST, Inc.
333 West Pensacola Street, Building 100, Suite 140
Tallahassee, FL 32304
(850) 487-3278
mqinton@faast.org



Delegate Roundtable: Autism

Saturday
1:00 - 2:00
Boca I

One of the best ways for people that are new to a situation to become educated about their options is to speak with someone that has “been there” and “done that.” This year at The 17th Annual Family Café, the Delegates will be hosting roundtable conversations where attendees can network with other attendees to share experiences and strategies that have worked for them. If you are new to parenting a child with a disability, or if you have a particular challenge your family is facing, this session may provide the support and guidance you need.

This roundtable session will be dedicated to Autism. Sessions on Down Syndrome, Cerebral Palsy and Mental Health will also be held.

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

Social Security—Part of Your Plan for “Someday”

Saturday
1:00 - 2:00
Boca II

Do you receive Social Security disability (SSDI), Supplemental Security Income (SSI) benefits, or want to plan ahead for retirement? The Social Security Administration’s presentation, including discussions on incentives to return to work and online services, is for you! Learn how returning to work could affect your benefits and how work incentives, such as the Ticket to Work and the Plan to Achieve Self-Support, can help you return to work while still receiving benefits (if you meet program requirements). We will also discuss how a personalized “my Social Security” account and our other online services can help you plan for your “someday.”

Jessica Reidling
Social Security Administration
2002 Old St. Augustine Road
Tallahassee, FL 32301
(850) 942-9516
jessica.reidling@ssa.gov

Becky Goldstein
Social Security Administration
101 Commerce Street
Lake Mary, FL 32746
(866) 366-9560
becky.goldstein@ssa.gov

Parents, Practitioners, Self-Advocates: Partnerships for Positive Outcomes

Saturday
1:00 - 2:00
Boca III

Partnerships between parents, educators, therapists, and other practitioners, along with students with disabilities, is key to positive educational outcomes for students. It is incumbent on the IEP team to determine and acquire the most appropriate educational supports and services for students, and to refine these decisions as students’ needs change. Too many times as they approach the IEP table, parents feel the need to “arm themselves for battle,” and educators prepare for “defensive measures.” This workshop will focus on how-to’s of building strong partnerships for positive outcomes, with strategies from the perspective of both a seasoned practitioner and veteran parent.

Linda Starnes
1710 Greystone Court
Longwood, FL 32779
(407) 538-7180
l_h_starnes@aol.com



A Self-Advocate's Guide to Dating and Relationships

Saturday
1:00 - 2:00
Boca IV

In this presentation we hope to help you navigate that very difficult thing called dating, marriage, and the possibility of kids. Tricia and Marshall have been married for 10 years and have a baby girl. Rebecca has been dating her boyfriend for a year-and-a-half. As strong self-advocates they balance a fulfilling family life and hope to guide you in your journey.

Tricia Riccardi
1912 Pontoon Plantation
Kissimmee, FL 34746
(352) 220-7771
triccardi77@gmail.com

Marshall Riccardi
1912 Pontoon Plantation
Kissimmee, FL 34746
(407) 230-2785
superbear74@gmail.com

Becky Crosby
MSW
15210 Amberly Drive, Apartment 1612
Tampa, FL 33647
(407) 927-1787
lion9vene@live.com



Logging Your Journey: Getting Organized and Communicating Effectively to Maximize Your Child's Potential

Saturday
1:00 - 2:00
Boca V

This workshop will inspire you to get organized and take control of the mountains of paperwork that come along with having a child with special needs. We will share strategies and explain record-keeping systems to help with these challenges. We will discuss information to help you better communicate your wants and needs to those providing services for your child. Participants will receive materials to help with getting organized. A Family Resource Specialist will be available to translate this session into Spanish.

Rose Mary Lumm, M.Ed
Early Steps (Central Florida)
601 West Michigan Street
Orlando, FL 32805
(407) 276-5640
rose.lumm@orlandohealth.com

Glomaris Gonzalez
Early Steps (Central Florida)
601 West Michigan Street
Orlando, FL 32805
(407) 317-7430
glomaris.gonzalex@orlandohealth.com

It's Those Wonderful Rights (Spanish)

Saturday
1:00 - 2:00
Boca VI

Los caracteres de la película clásica navideño "It's a Wonderful Life", "Es una Vida Maravillosa" nos ayudan a presentar este taller divertido e interactivo sobre las Garantías de Procedimientos, escrito por la ley IDEA, la cual protegé los derechos de los padres y los estudiantes con respeto a las provisiones de una Educación Pública Gratuita y Apropiada (FAPE)

Con los derechos vienen las responsabilidades y tender el entendimiento de sus derechos y responsabilidades les ayudara a usted estar mas informado, y ser un participante active en el proceso de educación especial de su niño.



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

Rose Rodriguez
Central Florida Parent Center
1021 Delaware Avenue
Palm Harbor, FL 34683
(727) 789-2400
rose@centralfloridaparentcenter.org

When the Team Can't Come to Consensus, What's Next?

Saturday
1:00 - 2:00
Boca VII

Miscommunications can often lead to IEP breakdown. It can be very difficult dealing with the intricacies of negotiating such a sensitive area. Parents need to understand how to resolve disagreements and the benefit of mediation as a tool for conflict resolution. Due Process is not always a viable solution. This presentation will cover how to work toward resolving disagreements between the parent and the school. We will also address informal conflict resolution and mediation, State Complaints, Office of Civil Rights Complaints, and Due Process Hearings. This presentation will allow for open dialogue between presenter and participants.

Ann Siegel
Disability Rights Florida
1000 North Ashley Drive, Suite 670
Tampa, FL 33602
(800) 342-0823
anns@disabilityrightsflorida.org

Color Your World with Sound Health

Saturday
1:00 - 2:00
Boca VIII

This presentation represents a culmination of over 25 years of restoring and recovering from Traumatic Brain injuries and other traumas to reveal a work of a combination of healing arts for brain balance and wellness. In the process of working with patients, students, and community members, it became obvious my struggles were not in vain. My unique purpose began to unfold in service to those around me. I was given the opportunity to work with people of all ages, very young to over 105! In each instance I saw something very positive taking place. Even scientific research shows how each of these elements of the healing arts feeds, supports and enhances the brain/body connection for better functioning. Even responsible, hard working executives found a positive response to turn their classic stress response around.

Cheryl Cohen-Kerr
Cheryl's Magic Flute
817 Kenilworth Terrace
Orlando, FL 32803
(407) 895-1252
cheryl@cherylsmagicflute.com



Summary of 2015 Legislative Session and Advocacy Techniques

Saturday
1:00 - 2:00
Bonaire 1

This presentation begins with a report on the Florida Developmental Disabilities Council's 2015 Legislative Platform and all the legislative outcomes for individuals with developmental disabilities and their families from the 2015 Legislative Session. Advocacy techniques that were used will be illustrated for

SATURDAY

self-advocates and their families so that they can understand how to advocate and how they can truly have an impact on the process. Preparation for the 2016 Legislative session and other advocacy techniques for participants will be included to encourage those who want to learn about the legislative process and educate their legislators about the needs of individuals with developmental disabilities.

Margaret Hooper
Florida Developmental Disabilities Council, Inc.
124 Marriott Drive #203
Tallahassee, FL 32311
(850) 488-4180
margaretd@fddc.org

Getting to Know the Division of Blind Services

Saturday
1:00 - 2:00
Bonaire 2

The mission of the Division of Blind Services is to ensure blind and visually-impaired Floridians have the tools, support, and opportunity to achieve success. Attendees will learn about the Division of Blind Services (DBS) and the programs and services that are available to Floridians who are blind or visually impaired. This session is presented by the division's director, Robert Lee Doyle, III, who joined the Department of Education and the Division of Blind Services July 15, 2013. As director, he oversees services to individuals who are blind or visually impaired through 10 district offices, the Rehabilitation Center for the Blind, the Braille and Talking Books Library, and local community rehabilitation programs. The division serves Floridians of all ages, from babies to senior citizens.

Robert Lee Doyle III
Department of Education
325 West Gaines Street, Turlington Building, Suite 1114
Tallahassee, FL 32399
(850) 245-0300
Robert.Doyle@dbs.fldoe.org



NAMI Family-to-Family

Saturday
1:00 - 2:00
Bonaire 3

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

Paula Kegelman
NAMI Greater Orlando
237 Fernwood Boulevard, Suite 101
Fern Park, FL 32730
(407) 253-1900
paulakeg@gmail.com



Collaboration: Getting Through the Rapids

Saturday
1:00 - 2:00
Bonaire 4

This workshop will discuss the importance of collaboration between parents, school staff, and other professionals in the educational setting. The session will also discuss what the participants need to understand about making collaboration work, and things that they can do to create successful collaborations in the educational setting.

Mark Keith
Outreach Services for the Blind/Visually Impaired & Deaf/Hard of Hearing
FSDB, 207 San Marco Avenue
St. Augustine, FL 32084
(904) 827-2731
keithm@fsdb.k12.fl.us



Jeremy's Journey

Saturday
1:00 - 2:00
Bonaire 5

Presented by an Early Steps Family 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 14 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 who has 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.

Paula Keyser
Early Steps - West Central
Dept. 7470-480 7th Avenue South
St. Petersburg, FL 33701
(727) 767-6705
paula.keyser@jhmi.edu

Jeremy Keyser
3048 Huntington Drive N.
Largo, FL 33771
(727) 415-7339



Employment Transition

Saturday
1:00 - 2:00
Bonaire 6

Come learn about employment transition from high school to work. We will cover what you need for the job of your choice. Prepare yourself for the training you need in your Transition Plan.

David Taylor Jr.
OCSS SABE
1917 Cunningham Drive
Statesville, NC 28625
(704) 883-2748
davidtaylorjr30@yahoo.com

SATURDAY



What is Your Child Doing After High School? Mine is Going to College

Saturday
1:00 - 2:00
Bonaire 7

In past years college was rarely an option for young adults with intellectual and developmental disabilities (IDD). Now college is a very real possibility for many of our children with IDD. This presentation will provide information on available post-secondary education opportunities for young adults with IDD and ways in which families can begin to prepare their children for college. The Arc Jacksonville On-Campus Transition Program at the University of North Florida (OCT) provides experiential learning, peer supports, and community inclusion, and is one of over 220 post-secondary education options for young adults with IDD available nation-wide.

Cheryl Morgan
The Arc Jacksonville on Campus Transition at UNF
1 UNF Drive, Building 57/2800
Jacksonville, FL 32224
(904) 620-3892
cmorgan@arcjacksonville.org



Transitioning into The Real World

Saturday
1:00 - 2:00
Bonaire 8

Figuring out what path is right after high school can be difficult. Do you go to college, go to a trade school, or go directly into work? Come join some of The Florida Youth Council Members as they share what went well, what went poorly, and how they became more independent. They will share advice and ideas on how to take care of yourself. At the end, you will have a chance to ask them questions so that you can better prepare yourself for the real world.

Whitney Harris
The Florida Youth Council
519 North Gadsden Street
Tallahassee, FL 32301
(850) 224-4670
wharris@familycafe.net

Josue Tapia Ortiz
The Florida Youth Council

Derek Carraway
The Florida Youth Council

Christopher Regan
The Florida Youth Council

Dakota Smoot
The Florida Youth Council

Sound Healing Meditation Journey

Saturday
1:00 - 2:00
Caribbean Ballroom I

Join drummer and sound healer Jeff Deen of Drumming for Wellness on this experiential journey into the power of sound and rhythm as tools for transformation of consciousness and as tools for healing the body. Experience which frequencies resonate with your current energy state and your desired energy state. We will be focusing on specific intentions, amplified by sound, in order to reprogram the cellular memories of our bodies. We will be using rhythm, mantra chanting, toning, and movement to activate your energy system. You will be given tools and techniques that you can apply at home to continue upgrading your energy system through sound and intention. Get ready to resonate, reverberate, and reprogram.

Jeffrey Deen
Drumming for Wellness, Inc.
15875 SW 79 Court
Palmetto Bay, FL 33157



SATURDAY

(305) 776-8641
jdeen@drummingforwellness.com



Intro and Info on Adaptive/Inclusive Sports

Saturday
1:00 - 2:00
Curacao 1

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

Gabrielle Gabrielle
Gabrielle Consulting/Handicapped SCUBA Association
2475 Apalachee Parkway, Suite 205
Tallahassee, FL 32301

Shelley Patterson
Buddy Bike, LLC

Let's Just Do It!!!

Saturday
1:00 - 2:00
Curacao 2

This session will help motivate everyone into a "let's just get it done" attitude. We will discuss reasons we don't just do it, actions for not doing it, motivation, advocacy, getting results, and being heard. Everyone is welcome to attend this session.

Linda Carter
No Person Left Behind
704 Homer Avenue North
Lehigh Acres, FL 33971
(239) 368-6846
mslindacarter@gmail.com

Mary Carter
No Person Left Behind
704 Homer Avenue North
Lehigh Acres, FL 33971
(239) 368-6846
marycarter@comcast.net



Strategies for Communicating about IEPs

Saturday
1:00 - 2:00
Curacao 3

Communicating with school staff members about your child's Individualized Education Program (IEP) can be challenging for military families who relocate on a regular basis. Legal terms such as "Eligibility," "Comparable Services," "Portability," and "Dispute Resolution" may make the IEP meeting confusing. Find out about the basics of IEPs and available resources to help parents know what information to provide, what questions to ask, and how to enhance communication with school staff to effectively plan for your child's needs before and after moving to a new location.

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





Everything You Ever Wanted to Know About Vocational Rehabilitation Services But Didn't Know Who to Ask

Saturday
1:00 - 2:00
Curacao 4

Come and learn about the many services VR has to offer eligible youth and/or adults who are interested in developing a meaningful career. This session will provide participants with the opportunity to learn about the many services and supports available through VR. Services are individually designed and may include vocational evaluation and planning, job placement, assistive technology, training and education, as well as other necessary services all designed to promote successful employment outcomes.

Wayne Olson
The Division of Vocational Rehabilitation
4070 Esplanade Way
Tallahassee, FL 32399
(850) 245-3302
jan.pearce@vr.fldoe.org

Getting Ready: Preparing for Independent Living in the Community

Saturday
1:00 - 2:00
Curacao 5

In this presentation, panelists will share information about how to prepare for independent living in the community. Attendees will learn about the various stages in the journey to independence, spanning from school age to adulthood. Panelists will share information and valuable tips on: skills needed for independent living in inclusive settings, programs for developing those skills, the connection between employment and independent living, how to save for a home while maintaining benefits, how to connect with other self-advocates who are preparing for independent living, and where to learn more.

Sheryl Soukup
Residential Options of Florida
P.O. Box 111752
Naples, FL 34108
(239) 745-7818
sheryl@soukupstrategicsolutions.com

Dr. Jordan Knab
Florida Consortium on Postsecondary Education and
Intellectual Disabilities, University of South Florida
140 Seventh Ave. South, SVB 108
St. Petersburg, FL 33701
(813) 361-1076
jknab@usfsp.edu

Judith White
Bureau of Exceptional Education and Student Services,
Florida Department of Education
325 West Gaines Street
Tallahassee, FL 32301
(850) 245-0475
judith.white@fldoe.org

Enhancing Reading Skills: Helping my Child with Reading Comprehension

Saturday
1:00 - 2:00
Curacao 6

Children who struggle with reading have difficulty understanding what they read. When children do not understand what they read, it becomes challenging for them to embrace reading. In this session, parents will gain practical knowledge about the meaningful strategies that proficient readers use, based on the *7 Keys to Comprehension: How to Help Your Kids Read it and Get It*, by Susan Zimmerman.



Parents will engage in hands-on activities to support the school-to-home connection in reading.

Keondra Pierre-Eafford
FDLRS REACH (Broward)
1701 NW 23rd Avenue
Fort Lauderdale, FL 33311
(754) 321-3400
keondra-pierre@browardschools.com



Part II: Your Winning Ticket: Making Work Pay - Understanding Vocational Rehabilitation, Social Security, Medicare, and Medicaid

Saturday
1:00 - 2:00
Curacao 7

In this session we will discuss the options for gaining employment for persons with disabilities and how earned income impacts SSDI, SSI, Medicare, Medicaid, and Medicaid Waivers. Experts from Vocational Rehabilitation and DCF/ACCESS will discuss how benefits are impacted and how the use of trusts can maintain Medicaid eligibility. The session will also discuss the importance of partnerships and collaboration in navigating the complex state and federal systems with the ultimate goal of making you a more effective advocate and advisor. This session will increase your ability to advise and plan for the future of your consumers by helping you to understand how the same employment earnings impact each type of public benefit differently.

Gregory Bell
Maximus Federal Services/Ticket to Work
7950 Jones Branch Drive
McLean, VA 22107
(703) 336-8069
gregorydbell@maximus.com

Roger Naoroji
Maximus Federal Services/Ticket to Work-Operation
Support Manager
7950 Jones Branch Drive
McLean, VA 22107
(703) 336-8054
rogernaoroji@maximus.com

Pregnancy and Parenting with a Disability

Saturday
1:00 - 2:00
Curacao 8

Spend time with Christine Rudd for an inspiring story of overcoming obstacles in her path because of Cerebral Palsy, from doctors saying she'd never make anything of herself, to graduating from UCF, first with a Bachelor's in Legal Studies, then a Master's in Criminal Justice. She'll discuss being pregnant and the reaction she received from the public and healthcare providers. She'll share how each stage of her pregnancy affected her mobility, and the joys of parenting. You'll learn how she's able to meet her son's needs despite her limitations. After this session you'll approach things like you never did before.

Christine Rudd
FAAST, Inc.
3333 West Pensacola Street, Bldg 100, Suite 140
Tallahassee, FL 32304
(407) 697-1297
c_rudd_rep@yahoo.com

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

Pyramid Players, *Grand Sierra Foyer*
FRIENDS Choir, *Boca Foyer*
"Just Moving" Dancers, *Caribbean Foyer*
Adaptive Biking, *Pavilion*
SCUBA Demo, *Pool*

SATURDAY

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



The Changing Face of Benefits: Knowledge for Successful Employment and Asset Development

Saturday
2:30 - 3:30
Antigua 1 & 2

Choosing work is an important decision that requires good information about Social Security disability benefits (SSDI and SSI) and the impact of work on both Social Security and Medicaid/Medicare benefits. Work is an important step towards participating in the economic mainstream and achieving one's financial goals. Join us to learn about the Florida Developmental Disabilities Council's (FDDC) FREE online course *The Changing Face of Benefits*, www.floridabenefits.org, available in both English and Spanish. The Changing Face of Benefits, www.floridabenefits.org, will build your understanding of Social Security disability benefits, SSDI/SSI work incentives, and strategies to improve your financial capability.

Elizabeth Jennings
National Disability Institute
1667 K Street NW, Suite 640
Washington, DC 20006
(202) 296-2040
ejennings@ndi-inc.org

High School and Beyond: Things to Know About Transitioning to Adulthood

Saturday
2:30 - 3:30
Antigua 3 & 4

This presentation highlights the major challenges involved with post high school life. We will be addressing key issues surrounding transition: law changes, self-advocacy, executive functioning, independent living, and social skills. The purpose of this presentation is to provide key information about the changes after a student ages out at 18 or 22, and provides a forum for parents and service providers to discuss their various needs and ways they addressed those needs. Attendees will be able to identify key differences between IDEA entitlement and ADA eligibility, develop a strategy for disclosure, identify executive functions and how to improve them, list independent living skills, and explore differences in social environments as compared to high school.

Jessica Rothschild
College Living Experience
6555 Nova Drive, Suite 300
Davie, FL 33317
(954) 370-5142
jrothschild@experiencecle.com

Shaping Behavior with Apps for iPad

Saturday
2:30 - 3:30
Boca I

Sponsored by AT&T



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 will 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 the apps!



Helen Burton
SEDNET (Students with Emotional Behavioral Disabilities Network)
25 E Hickpochee Avenue
LaBelle, FL 33935
(863) 674-4164
burtonh@hendry.k12.fl.us

Is a Service Dog Right for Me—Should I Go Through an Organization or Train My Own?

Saturday
2:30 - 3:30
Boca II

We will discuss the pros and cons of having a service dog, and help you determine if this is the right solution for you. We will discuss some different options you want to investigate when deciding how and where you get your service dog, such as from a service dog organization or training your own service dog.

Chris Tejcek
My Angel with Paws
3098 Marsh Road
Delana, FL 32724
(386) 490-4949
chris@myangelwithpaws.org

SATURDAY

The Impact of Aging Issues on Individuals with Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities

Saturday
2:30 - 3:30
Boca III

Parents who care for their older child with I/DD are experiencing triple stress: caring for their child with I/DD when they were younger, now caring for them as they are experiencing aging, and their own aging along with their spouse, with the potential for dementia. It is important the older caregiver is aware of these changes. This presentation will provide an overview of aging, how the aging interacts with the older child with I/DD, and how medications may negatively influence aging of the older adult with I/DD

Dr. Ron Lucchino
The Arc of Florida
2898 Mahan Drive, Suite 1
Tallahassee, FL 32308
(941) 383-6617
rviuc@comcast.net

Train Florida—APD's Learning Management System

Saturday
2:30 - 3:30
Boca IV

The Agency for Persons with Disabilities (APD), the Department of Health (DOH), and community partners are working together to provide training and resources to parents, caregivers, and service providers. Join us as we discuss the TRAIN Florida --APD's Learning Management System. Learn how to access thousands of courses and trainings, network with other state and federal agencies, local and national organizations, and educational institutions.

Pamela London
Agency for Persons with Disabilities
4030 Esplanade Way, Suite 360
Tallahassee, FL 32399

Gordon Brown
Department of Health
2585 Merchants Row Boulevard,
Room 240K Prather Bldg

Paul Yu
Department of Health
2585 Merchants Row Boulevard,
Room 240K Prather Bldg

(850) 922-2774
pamela.london@apdcare.org

Tallahassee, FL 32399
(850) 245-4444
gordon.brown@flhealth.gov

Tallahassee, FL 32399
(850) 245-4444
paul.yu@flhealth.gov

Teamwork: The Framework to the Puzzle of Greater Healthcare Outcomes

Saturday
2:30 - 3:30
Boca V

Communication and teamwork are two key components among many in helping a person reach their greatest potential, both as an individual and in their overall healthcare, especially for individuals with disabilities and complex medical needs. In this session, you will hear from not only individuals with disabilities, but a variety of healthcare professionals in a panel discussion on how each person has a unique piece in working together in helping and providing resources needed to help all people reach their goals and dreams as well as level independence despite their individual challenges.

Robyn Stawski
New Tampa Family YMCA
15210 Amberly Drive
Tampa, FL 33647
(813) 325-2863
robyn.stawski@gmail.com

Garrett Putnam
(863) 258-9055
Steve Wesenhagen, PT
Tampa General Hospital
(813) 844-7000
swesenhagen@tgh.org

Dr. Eric Coris, MD
University of South Florida College of
Medicine
13330 USF Laurel Drive
Tampa, FL 33612
(813) 974-2201
ecoris@health.usf.edu

IEP Jeopardy Part 1 (Spanish)

Saturday
2:30 - 3:30
Boca VI

Si usted tiene un hijo con necesidades especiales, un IEP (Plan Educativo Individualizado) claramente escrito y seguido con exactitud es fundamental para la educación de su hijo. Sin embargo, el proceso del IEP puede ser confuso y abrumador para ambos los padres y maestros. Este taller explica el proceso en terminus simples y fáciles de entender utilizando un formato del programa de televisión divertido llamado "Jeopardy." Temas cubiertos incluyen Evaluación y Elegibilidad, La Reunión del IEP, Metas, y Buscando Soluciones. Unase con nosotros y aprenda a reducir la frustración y ayude a ampliar las oportunidades!

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

Rose Rodriguez
Central Florida Parent Center
1021 Delaware Avenue
Palm Harbor, FL 34683
(727) 789-2400
rose@centralfloridaparentcenter.org

Live Demonstration of Bilateral Stimulation for Physical and Emotional Health

Saturday
2:30 - 3:30
Boca VII

This presentation is designed to demonstrate the full range of healing available through bilateral stimulation including relaxation, pain reduction, stress management, increased focus, and trauma resolution. Participants will learn how to apply the strategy to reduce stress, increase coping skills, relaxation, and goal achievement. Participants will be able to practice these these skills and apply them to daily challenges.



Eileen O'Brien, LMHC
Tools 4 Life Counseling
2203 North Lois Avenue Suite 900
Tampa, FL 33607
(813) 455-6662
eileen@tools4lifecounseling.com

Fibromyalgia & Chronic Fatigue Syndrome: How Can I Best Manage My Symptoms?

Saturday
2:30 - 3:30
Boca VIII

This presentation will review many different treatment methods and their relative effectiveness. This will be a discussion about the FDA-approved medicines for the treatment of fibromyalgia, and the known possible side effects noted in TV commercials and magazine advertisements. Direct involvement by the audience is encouraged so that we learn from others who are in the pursuit of a quality life with FMS/CFS, especially from those with FMS/CFS who are still working. Handouts will be provided to the attendees, and there will be a voluntary, short survey at the end of the presentation.

Michael E. Miller, Sr.
Tampa Bay Fibro Friends
1908 Winn Arthur Drive
Valrico, FL 33594
(813) 508-2986
michaelemillersr1908@verizon.net

Laura K. Roza
Tampa Bay Fibro Friends
24135 Painter Drive
Land O' Lakes, FL 34639
(813) 948-6420
savie4@aol.com

Nedra Rich
Tampa Bay Fibro Friends
12931 Carlington Lane
Riverview, FL 33579
(813) 677-3371
canfrog@yahoo.com

SATURDAY



Self-Advocacy 101

Saturday
2:30 - 3:30
Bonaire 1

This session aims to provide a "how to" guide for budding self-advocates and those in their circle of support who want to learn the nuts and bolts of how to advocate for themselves. The session will help participants to understand how to identify issues and decision-makers who will help them become an active part of the problem-solving process. The interactive session will also give tips on how to effectively communicate with allies to get the desired results.

Damian P. Gregory
11342 SW 163rd Street
Miami, FL 33157
(305) 323-0113
dpgreg@aol.com

Defining Positive Behavior Support

Saturday
2:30 - 3:30
Bonaire 2

Positive behavior support (PBS) is a term that is increasingly discussed in educational and community settings, but is unfortunately associated with particular misconceptions. These include for whom PBS is appropriate, when and where it should be utilized, who should be involved, what exactly it entails, and how it is best implemented. In this presentation, we will share some common misunderstandings and provide clarification in practical, useful terms based on the extensive literature that exists about PBS. Participants will be encouraged to engage in the discussion and pose questions and concerns.

Meme Hieneman
Positive Behavior Support Applications
3558 Shoveler Circle
Palm Harbor, FL 34684
(727) 773-2874
meme@pbsapplications.us

Kathy Powell
Parent of the Panhandle Information Network (POPIN)
2196 Main Street, Suite K
Dunedin, FL 34698
(727) 523-1130
kathyp@fndfl.org



The Power of Thinking Inclusively

Saturday
2:30 - 3:30
Bonaire 3

Richard Chapman is an active self-advocate in the state of Florida and believes that all individuals have the right to live, work, and play in the community of their choice and have the supports necessary to succeed in life. He believes that you can do anything that you can put your mind to. This engaging and motivational presentation is filled with images from his personal story, his story as a Mental Health Counselor and as a Disability Rights Advocate working for a fully inclusive society. Richard will give his audience the opportunity to listen to a fresh perspective from someone who not only "talks the talk," but "walks the walk."

Richard Chapman, MA LMHC 12880
Florida Self-Advocates Network'd (FL SAND)
1925 E 2nd Avenue
Tampa, FL 33605
(813) 240-5061
richardchapman829@gmail.com

Dads to Dads

Saturday
2:30 - 3:30
Bonaire 4

This session is an open discussion session for dads. The session gives fathers the opportunity to bring issues and topics related to raising a child with special needs to the session and talk them through with each other. The session provides an opportunity for fathers to discuss their concerns with other dads who are experiencing many of the same issues and to see how other dads are dealing with them.

Mark Keith
Outreach Services for the Blind/Visually Impaired & Deaf/Hard of Hearing
FSDB, 207 San Marco Avenue
St. Augustine, FL 32084
(904) 827-2731
keithm@fsdb.k12.fl.us



Accessing Resources and Understanding Systems

Saturday
2:30 - 3:30
Bonaire 5

Presented by an Early Steps Family Resource Specialist, this workshop will help parents who have children birth to five years old get a jumpstart on finding and accessing resources in their local community and beyond. We will also share personal experiences and thinking 'outside of the box' with how systems work (Early Intervention, IDEA, Insurance, SSI, etc.) and making the system work to benefit you and your family. Our experience comes from walking the path a few steps ahead of you and sharing our stories.



Paula Keyser
Early Steps - West Central
Dept. 7470-480 7th Avenue South
St. Petersburg, FL 33701
(727) 767-6705
paula.keyser@jhmi.edu

Join the Revolution: Start a 4-H Club at your School ESE or Group ESE

Saturday
2:30 - 3:30
Bonaire 6

Youth involved in 4-H have been making a difference for over 100 years. Over 230,000 boys and girls from age 5-18 participate in community and school clubs throughout Florida. Youth with special needs in a school or group ESE program can participate until age 21. Youth learn citizenship, explore life skills through over 100 projects, and have FUN doing it! Project areas include animals, gardening, sewing, photography, robotics, visual arts, and much, much more. Join us today to experience a 4-H Club meeting, with a sample lesson from a project. Gather your friends and join us for a fun time!

Georgene Bender
University of Florida/IFAS 4-H
GCREC-PCC 1200 North Park Road
Plant City, FL 33563
(813) 787-7290
gmbender@ufl.edu



Hidden Heroes: Caregiving Youth

Saturday
2:30 - 3:30
Bonaire 7

More than 1.3 million youth assist family members who are ill, injured, frail, or disabled. As a result of their role at home, these hidden children sacrifice their education, health, well-being, and childhood. This presentation will describe caregiving by youth and the role that he/she plays in family and society. Highlights of the successful Caregiving Youth Project which supports students in school, out-of-school, and at home will be shared. Participants will learn how the greater community can assist this population.

Connie Siskowksi, RN, PhD
American Association of Caregiving Youth
1515 N. Federal Highway #218
Boca Raton, FL 33432
(561) 391-7401
connie@aacym.org



Assistive Technology Used by Youth

Saturday
2:30 - 3:30
Bonaire 8

Assistive technology is used by many youth with disabilities. In this session, the members of The Florida Youth Council would like to share with you some assistive technology they use in their lives and give you more information on what technology may be right for you and where to find it.

Whitney Harris
The Florida Youth Council
519 North Gadsden Street
Tallahassee, FL 32301
(850) 224-4670
wharris@familycafe.net

Derek Carraway
The Florida Youth Council

Nick Grabowski
The Florida Youth Council

Christina Waldron
The Florida Youth Council

Dakota Smoot
The Florida Youth Council



Project Unify - Special Olympics of Florida

Saturday
2:30 - 3:30
Curacao 1

This presentation will highlight Special Olympics Florida, Project UNIFY activities that foster inclusion in schools. The project is an education-based project that uses sports and education programs to activate young people (non-disabled and disabled students) to develop school communities where all youth are agents of change. In the last year, Project UNIFY has hosted events on school campuses across Florida promoting respect, dignity, friendship, and advocacy for people with intellectual disabilities. Using photos, video, and testimony from school administration, this presentation will provide a variety of activities that can be held on any school campus, including respect rallies, R-Word pledge drives, unified sports field days, and unified student clubs that mainstream student groups.

Darrell Taylor
Special Olympics Florida
1915 Don Wickham Drive
Clermont, FL 34711
(352) 243-9536
darrelltaylor@sofl.org

Heidi Metcalf
325 Gaines Street, Ste 654
Tallahassee, FL 32399
(850) 245-0475
heidi.metcalf@fldoe.org



The Impact of Traumatic Events on Children and Their Families

Saturday
2:30 - 3:30
Curacao 2

Traumatic events can be naturally occurring or produced by humans. Some are sudden and unpredictable, while some weather events, such as hurricanes, give us time to ponder the impact. Whenever these events occur they can have significant negative impacts on children and their families. This workshop explores types of traumatic events and the after effects of trauma. Additionally, ideas and steps that can be taken to mitigate the impact of these events will be explored.

Michael E. Haney, PhD, NCC, CISM, LMHC
Florida Crisis Consortium - Florida Department of Health
4052 Bold Cypress Way
Tallahassee, FL 32399
(850) 933-6915
mike.haney@flhealth.gov



Resources for Military Families

Saturday
2:30 - 3:30
Curacao 3

Come and learn about military-based resources available for Florida military families who have children with special health care needs. Resources are available statewide from a host of service providers. We are here to support you!



Scott Sevin
7-Dippity, Inc.
1313 Ponce de Leon Boulevard, Suite 301
Coral Gables, FL 33134
(305) 535-0914
scott@7-dippity.com



Unlock the Doors to Employment: Keys Available through YOUR CareerSource Network

Saturday
2:30 - 3:30
Curacao 4

Employment opportunities are critical to the success of Florida's citizens. Florida's CareerSource Network and its partners provide a dynamic statewide workforce system that aims to meet the needs of jobseekers and employers. This workshop will provide an overview of Florida's workforce system, the role of Disability Specialists, and discuss strategies to build effective partnerships with the local workforce boards and improve access to workforce services available in your community. At the conclusion of this session, participants will be familiar with the structure of Florida's workforce system and the services available to assist all Floridians to get back to work.

Lisa Parlapiano
Career Source Northeast Florida
525 State Road 16, Suite 109
St. Augustine, FL 32084
(904) 819-0231
lparlapiano@careersourcenefl.com

SATURDAY

Living in the Community: Residential Options for Floridians with Disabilities

Saturday
2:30 - 3:30
Curacao 5

In this panel presentation, panelists will share success stories about independent living in the community. Attendees will learn how the panelists overcame obstacles and learned from their experiences. Panelists will share information and valuable tips on: evaluating what is right for you along a continuum of residential options, support services for living in inclusive settings, finding a home that is affordable, how to make a home accessible, how to connect with other self-advocates who are living in inclusive settings, and where to learn more.

Sheryl Soukup
Residential Options of Florida
P.O. Box 111752
Naples, FL 34108
(239) 745-7818
sheryl@soukupstrategicsolutions.com

Miranda Johnson
Government Operations Consultant II
(850) 414-9132
miranda.johnson@apdcare.org

Gladys Schneider
Florida Housing Coalition
(239) 218-5008
schneider@flhousing.org

De Padres a Padres

Saturday
2:30 - 3:30
Curacao 6

¡Qué bien nos sentimos cuando podemos compartir nuestra experiencia con otros padres de niños con necesidades especiales. Podemos aprender, reír y hacer nuevas amistades. Aquí está tu oportunidad de experimentar todo esto y mucho más. Le invitamos a unirse a nosotros para una corta presentación seguido de una charla informal, interactiva y relajante; donde hablaremos de nuestras experiencias y los asuntos que nos preocupan o nos interesan. ¡Te esperamos en nuestro grupo "De Padres a Padres" en español!

Doris Tellado
University of Florida North Central Early Steps
1329 SW 16th Street
Gainesville, FL 32608
(352) 273-8562
dtellado@ped.s.ufl.edu



A Life of an Underestimated Individual: Ways to Have Yourself Heard

Saturday
2:30 - 3:30
Curacao 7

This session will be based on one person's experience as an individual with a severe disability. You will hear what has worked and what didn't work, which will help you develop a plan for yourself. Some of the topics covered will include how to benefit fully from services that are available and knowing what those services are (i.e. Supported Living, Life Skills Development 1, 2, & 3, Respite, and the iBudget). You will also hear about how to self-advocate and what rights you are entitled to.

Shawn Mims
Space World PC
923 NE 6th Street
Ocala, FL 34470
(352) 615-6003
rbshawn8@hotmail.com

The Benefits of a "Snoezelen" based Multi-Sensory Environment for Children with Special Needs

Saturday
2:30 - 3:30
Curacao 8

Based on Snoezelen principals, the Sensorium at Morgan's Place is a unique, one-of-a-kind 100% wireless, wheelchair-accessible, interactive multi-sensory environment created JUST for children with physical disabilities and sensory processing issues. We are the only MSE open to the public in Florida. Come learn about how the multi-sensory environment can benefit a child with physical disabilities, autism or other sensory processing disorders from these parents who have "been there, done that." Q&A to follow presentation, along with hands-on sensory activities.

Kristen Malfara
The M.O.R.G.A.N. Project
4241 N Highway 1
Melbourne, FL 32935
(321) 501-7189
kristen@themorganproject.org

Robert Malfara
The M.O.R.G.A.N. Project
4241 N Highway 1
Melbourne, FL 32935
(321) 501-7190
robert@themorganproject.org

Tonya Bloodgood
The M.O.R.G.A.N. Project
4241 N Highway 1
Melbourne, FL 32935
(321) 506-2707
tonya@themorganproject.org

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

Pyramid Players, Grand Sierra Foyer
Royal DJs, Boca Foyer



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



Guardianships—Why They are Necessary and How to Avoid Them

Saturday
4:00 - 5:00
Antigua 1 & 2

What are guardianships and why are they necessary? Most people do not have a proper estate plan in place and will ultimately be required to seek court intervention to assist a loved one who becomes incapacitated or a minor who inherits more than \$15,000. The court will require a guardianship. Obtaining a guardianship for a loved one can be a daunting and expensive task without sufficient information and proper representation. Attendees will learn when guardianships are necessary and how they may be avoided.

Jennifer Lizotte
Lizotte Law Group
201 Park Place Boulevard
Kissimmee, FL 34741
jennifer.lizotte@lizottelaw.com

Secondary Transition in Florida—Project 10: Transition Education Network and Project 10 Sting Ray

Saturday
4:00 - 5:00
Antigua 3 & 4

This presentation will review the resources available through Project 10, including strategies and initiatives such as capacity building, interagency collaboration, transition legislation and policy development, and student development and outcomes. In addition, an overview of Project STING RAY will be provided, including the curriculum framework as well as information about how students are supported on campus through mentorships, internships, community engagement, and technology. A student in the STING RAY program will co-present and share their experiences in the program.

Danielle Roberts-Dahm
Project 10 & Project 10 Sting Ray
USFSP, 140 7th Avenue S, SVB108
St. Petersburg, FL 33701
(727) 873-4654
lroberts@usfsp.edu

Dr. Lori Garcia
Project 10 & Project 10 Sting Ray
USFSP, 140 7th Ave. S, SVB108
St. Petersburg, FL 33701
(727) 873-4662
lorigarcia@usfsp.edu

Working with Children on the Autism Spectrum

Saturday
4:00 - 5:00
Boca I

This workshop will help parents that have students with ASD (Autism Spectrum Disorder). We will focus on what the students CAN do and build on their strengths using the works of Temple Grandin. We will discuss things such as behavior issues, sensory issues, problems making friends, and being bullied. In addition, we will talk about strategies we can use to help our kids with ASD be successful in school!

Helen Burton
SEDNET (Students with Emotional Behavioral Disabilities Network)
25 E Hickpochee Avenue
LaBelle, FL 33935
(863) 674-4164
burtonh@hendry.k12.fl.us

SATURDAY



Advocating for Students with Invisible Disabilities

Saturday
4:00 - 5:00
Boca II

The law is clear that students with invisible disabilities—including Asperger's, ADHD, and chronic medical conditions—can be entitled to accommodations, supports and services, and are protected from discrimination in school. This workshop will discuss specific strategies that can be utilized for obtaining 504 or ESE eligibility, securing appropriate supports that meet these students' unique needs, and helping the students transition to future education and work. We will review the decisions and regulatory guidance that require schools to meet all the educational needs of students with disabilities, even when they have satisfactory grades and test scores.

Kimberley Spire-Oh, Esq.
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6141 Lake Worth Road
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(561) 307 9620
kimberley@ksolawfirm.com

Mark S. Kamleiter, Esq.
Special Education Law & Advocacy, Inc.
2509 First Avenue South
St. Petersburg, FL 33712
(727) 323-2555
mkamleiter@flspedlaw.com

Small Steps Towards a Healthier Weight

Saturday
4:00 - 5:00
Boca III

Persons with disabilities may find it more difficult to control their weight because they may not have independent choice in selecting the foods they eat. In addition, physical limitations may reduce their ability to exercise regularly. Due to disability-related limitations some people may lack the time, energy or ability to prepare healthy meals. They also may need to take medications that can contribute to weight gain. Good nutrition may be a major challenge for persons who have difficulty chewing and swallowing.

Despite these barriers, persons with disabilities can achieve a healthy lifestyle that includes proper nutrition and moderate exercise. Recent research has shown that even small lifestyle changes can make dramatic differences. This presentation will provide general tips and tools for incorporating healthy lifestyle choices for persons with disabilities and their caretakers.

Catherine Howard, PhD
Florida Department of Health
4052 Bald Cypress Way, Bin A-13
Tallahassee, FL 32399
(850) 245-4444
catherine.howard@flhealth.gov

Airport Backstage Pass—Air Travel for Persons with Disabilities

Saturday
4:00 - 5:00
Boca IV

Did you know that when a person with a disability travels by air about 15 airline employees come in contact with their travel experience? With the right tools and the understanding how airlines and airports function, a person with a disability can manage their own travel experience without a lot of stress or frustration. Over 15 million people with disabilities traveled on US air carriers in 2013. This may be the year you venture out and see the world on your own terms. Because people with disabilities have other things to consider, this presentation will focus on what to expect at every step along the travel ribbon and what to do if you experience issues or problems. Participants will learn what to expect when

SATURDAY



they travel on Delta, who to contact and how to plan, prepare and anticipate some of the challenges we all face when traveling by air.

David Martin
Delta Air Lines
1020 Delta Boulevard, A2 Building 5th Floor
Atlanta, GA 30354
(404) 715-1478
david.s.martin@delta.com

JR Harding
The Agency for Persons with Disabilities
4030 Esplande Way
Tallahassee, FL 32399
(850) 510-4628
jr.harding@apdcares.org

Can My Dog be a Service Dog?

Saturday
4:00 - 5:00
Boca V

The Federal government protects those individuals who have severe impairments of one or more of life's major functions and the laws that cover various aspects of our lives. The federal government does not regulate trainers, training, clothing, nor the quantity nor quality of training that service animals receive. The typical service dog has been through 2 years from birth to certification, however not all service dogs require this amount of training. We will explore various professional versus non-professional situations. Why does the public not respect my self-trained service dog?

Carol Christopherson
Florida Service Dogs, Inc.
P.O. Box 14810
Jacksonville, FL 32238
buddynme@bellsouth.net

Linda McCook
Florida Service Dogs, Inc.
P.O. Box 14810
Jacksonville, FL 32238

SATURDAY

IEP Jeopardy Part 2 (Spanish)

Saturday
4:00 - 5:00
Boca VI

Si usted tiene un hijo con necesidades especiales, un IEP (Plan Educativo Individualizado) claramente escrito y seguido con exactitud es fundamental para la educacion de su hijo. Sin embargo, el proceso del IEP puede ser confuso y abrumador para ambos los padres y maestros. Este taller explica el proceso en terminus simples y faciles de entender utilizando un format del programa de television divertido llamado "Jeopardy." Temas cubiertas incluyen Evaluacion y Elegibilidad, La Reunion del IEP, Metas, y Buscando Soluciones. Unase con nosotros y aprenda a reducir la frustracion y ayude a ampliar las oportunidades!

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

Rose Rodriguez
Central Florida Parent Center
1021 Delaware Avenue
Palm Harbor, FL 34683
(727) 789-2400
rose@centralfloridaparentcenter.org

Apps to Assist with Independent Living Skills and Employment

Saturday
4:00 - 5:00
Boca VII

This practical presentation focuses on the top and most useful apps in the land of assistive technology: apps that are designed to help users perform specific tasks, skills and duties, throughout their everyday, independent lives. Used every day by society on any and all mobile devices like smartphones, tablets, computers, and other hand-held devices, apps are made to be customized to your specific wants and needs whether for fun, communication, development, and more.

Nancy Mashberg
Central Florida Regional Coordinator
6 Tampa General Circle, Room 214
Tampa, FL 33606
(813) 844-7591
nmashberg@tgh.org



Creating Stronger Possibilities for Listening and Talking for Children with Hearing Loss

Saturday
4:00 - 5:00
Boca VIII

This will be a candid discussion with parents and professionals regarding creating a source of resources, technology, and trainings for deaf/hard of hearing children in the local area when there seem to be little to none available.

Tanya Williams
Central FL Early Steps
601 West Michigan Street
Orlando, FL 32805
(407) 317-7430
tanya.williams@orlandohealth.com



One Tool for Successful Interactions with Police: The Wallet Card

Saturday
4:00 - 5:00
Bonaire 1

This is a training for high-functioning teenagers and young adults with Autism Spectrum Disorders (ASD) or Intellectual/Developmental Disabilities (ID/DD) and their families about how to interact successfully with law enforcement. The presentation will introduce the Wallet Card, one of Disability Independence Group's signature projects, created in partnership with the Coral Gables Police Department and UM-NSU CARD. The purpose of the Wallet Card is to assist an individual who may have difficulties communicating or expressing themselves in an emergency situation and to assist first responders in identifying an individual's disability-related needs to help them better understand the circumstances.

Matthew Dietz
Disability Independence Group
2990 SW 35th Avenue
Miami, FL 33133
(305) 669-2822
mdietz@justdigit.org

Rachel Goldstein
Disability Independence Group
2990 SW 35th Avenue
Miami, FL 33133
(305) 669-2822
rgoldstein@justdigit.org

Improving Family Routines through Positive Behavior Support

Saturday
4:00 - 5:00
Bonaire 2

Positive behavior support (PBS) may best be conceptualized as a creative, collaborative problem-solving process for improving behavior. The basic principles of PBS can be applied to improve family routines that are commonly challenging such as meal times, community outings, homework, chores, transitions, bedtimes, and leisure activities. In this workshop, we will guide participants through a process of goal setting, analysis of variables affecting children's behavior, and developing proactive, educational, and effective strategies for maximizing the quality of valued family routines.



Meme Hieneman
Positive Behavior Support Applications
3558 Shoveler Circle
Palm Harbor, FL 34684
(727) 773-2874
meme@pbsapplications.us

Christine Goulbourne
Family Network on Disabilities
2196 Main Street Dunedin, FL 34698
(727) 523-1130
cgoulbourne@fndusa.org



Keeping the Behaviorally Challenged Student in School Learning

Saturday
4:00 - 5:00
Bonaire 3

Students with challenging behavior spend more time out of the classroom missing out on important instructional time. Many students are suspended for manifestations of their disability and the function of their behavior is often misunderstood. This presentation will focus on the student's behavior, and when to request a Functional Behavior Assessment and Positive Behavior Intervention Plan. Also covered will be restraint and seclusion and how to keep your child safe. The presentation will allow for open dialogue between presenter and participants.

Ann Siegel
Disability Rights Florida
1930 Harrison Street
Hollywood, FL 33020
(800) 342-0823
anns@disabilityrightsflorida.org

Letting Go: Time to Land the Helicopter

Saturday
4:00 - 5:00
Bonaire 4

The Letting Go 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
Outreach Services for the Blind/Visually Impaired & Deaf/Hard of Hearing
FSDB, 207 San Marco Avenue
St. Augustine, FL 32084
(904) 827-2731
keithm@fsdb.k12.fl.us

The New FSA's (Florida State Assessments) and How Your Student is Impacted

Saturday
4:00 - 5:00
Bonaire 6

You may be asking yourself, "What do the new assessments look like and what will my child be expected to know?" This workshop will focus on the format of the new testing and the expectations required of your child. You will receive insight on how to help prepare your child for taking the assessment next year.

¿Cómo son necesidades de mi hijo está cumpliendo en el aula? Esta es una pregunta que muchos padres se preguntan. Las respuestas pueden ser descubiertos a través del aprendizaje sobre los sitios web y la información específica para ayudarlo a saber qué conocimiento exactamente los maestros están compartiendo con su hijo. Una breve mirada a los diferentes estándares en términos reales de la gente y la forma en que se incorporan en el aula es un lugar útil para empezar.

Sheri Villone
3212 Lockman Boulevard
Sebring, FL 33870
(863) 446-0731
sheri_villone@hotmail.com



Sibling Perspective Panel—Growing Up with a Sibling with Special Needs: Tips on How to Have a Closer Family Bond

Saturday
4:00 - 5:00
Bonaire 7

Lourdes Quintana, Central FL Early Steps Director, along with Wilmaris Colon, a teen with two older brothers with Cerebral Palsy, and a panel of siblings will discuss what it is like growing up with a sibling who has special needs. They will share tips to assist families in helping all of their children. A member of the Florida Alliance for Sibling Advocates and Sib Shop information will also be present. Examples of children's literature will also be shared that will help with family discussions. Questions will be welcome.

Lourdes Quintana, MS, ITDS
The Developmental Center for Infants & Children/
Early Steps of Central Florida
601 W Michigan Street
Orlando, FL 32805
(407) 317-7340
lourdes.quintana@orlandohealth.com

Rose Mary Lumm, M.Ed
Early Steps of Central Florida
601 West Michigan Street
Orlando, FL 32805
(407) 276-5640
rose.lumm@orlandohealth.com



We're Here to Listen

Saturday
4:00 - 5:00
Bonaire 8

Life can be hard at times and some obstacles may seem too hard to pass. The Florida Youth Council understands how tough life can be. During this session, the audience is in control! The FYC is here to lend you their ears. They would like to listen to things good or bad, that are happening in your lives and try to point you in the right direction.

Whitney Harris
The Florida Youth Council
519 North Gadsden Street
Tallahassee, FL 32301
(850) 224-4670
wharris@familycafe.net

Megan Atkinson
The Florida Youth Council

Shevie Barnes
The Florida Youth Council



The Benefits of Martial Arts for Individuals with Disabilities

Saturday
4:00 - 5:00
Curacao 1

Martial arts has the unique ability to benefit everyone not only physically but in a number of different aspects that carry over into everyday life, from children to adults. For individuals with disabilities, the benefits are no different. However, as a whole, individuals with disabilities can benefit from martial arts as a means to increase balance, coordination, gaining greater self-esteem and independence, as well as life skills that are often not taught in the classroom or in today's special education programs. Hear firsthand the experience of one martial arts program that has implemented a martial arts class for individuals with special abilities. Also, come take part in a brief demonstration of some of the adaptations



that can be used to promote inclusion of all abilities as well as advocacy and basic self-defense (stranger danger), along with how to start an inclusive martial arts program in your local community.

Hugo Torres
Life Skills Martial Arts ATA
17409 Bridge Hill Court
Tampa, FL 33647
(813) 972-5425
lifekillsata@gmail.com

Robyn Stawski
New Tampa Family YMCA
15210 Amberly Drive
Tampa, FL 33647
(813) 325-2863
robyn.stawski@gmail.com



Pediatric Disaster Preparedness—Taking Care of Children with Special Needs in Times of Disaster

Saturday
4:00 - 5:00
Curacao 2

Disasters can occur any time and may be natural or caused by humans. This workshop explores Florida's efforts to create an integrated network of care providers to ensure that the needs of children with special healthcare needs are met during disasters. Areas of the state impacted by disaster often lose resources, including primary child care centers. Ensuring collaboration, cooperation, and networking among Florida's primary children hospitals during these critical events is essential to meeting the emotional and primary health needs of these children.

Michael E. Haney, PhD, NCC, CISM, LMHC
Florida Crisis Consortium - Florida Department of Health
4052 Bold Cypress Way
Tallahassee, FL 32399
(850) 933-6915
mike.haney@flhealth.gov



Resources for Military Families

Saturday
4:00 - 5:00
Curacao 3

Come and learn about military-based resources available for Florida military families who have children with special health care needs. Resources are available statewide from a host of service providers. We are here to support you!

Scott Sevin
7-Dippity, Inc.
1313 Ponce de Leon Boulevard, Suite 301
Coral Gables, FL 33134
(305) 535-0914
scott@7-dippity.com



The Art of the Interview

Saturday
4:00 - 5:00
Curacao 4

This will be an interactive session that will give you the confidence to answer those difficult questions employers ask during the interview process. Additionally, learn how to look, act, and interact with potential employers during the interview. After the workshop you can go down to the Exhibit Hall and practice your interview skills.

Melanie Magill
Career Source Broward
6301 NW 5th Way, Suite 3000

Marissa Aquino
Career Source Broward
6301 NW 5th Way, Suite 3000

Fort Lauderdale, FL 33309
(954) 202-3830
mmagill@careersourcebroward.com

Fort Lauderdale, FL 33309
(954) 401-9951
maquino@careersourcebroward.com

Helping My Child with Writing: Yes, It Can Be Fun and Easy!

Saturday
4:00 - 5:00
Curacao 5

Many students with disabilities experience challenges with writing. Writing is one of the most complex tasks that is included in school standards. In this session we will explore strategies, accommodations, and modifications to address these challenges that struggling or emergent writers face. Suggestions for at-home reinforcement and fun activities for writing will be provided. We will also take a look at and discuss some low-tech tools as a part of the assistive technology continuum.

Carol Beitler
FDLRS - Reach (Broward)
1701 NW 23rd Avenue
Fort Lauderdale, FL 33311
(754) 321-3400
carol.beitler@browardschools.com

The Parent-Teacher Connection—What's That?!

Saturday
4:00 - 5:00
Curacao 6

Parents of children with special needs have experienced a multitude of issues with their child long before their child has his or her first educational experience. Teachers generally have little or no concept of the emotional highs and lows, the fears, decisions, hurdles and other experiences that the special needs family must navigate from the very beginning of their child's life (or from the onset of an injury, accident or illness). However, if the parent and teacher can reach a mutual understanding that puts the child's needs first, the parent-teacher connection will have been established. We will attempt to discuss the need for such a connection and how to achieve it from both the parent/guardian's perspective and from the perspective of the teacher/therapist/professional working with your child.

Meredith Anne Syed
12001 Romero Court
Orlando, FL 32837
(407) 240-2494
meredithsyed@hotmail.com



Yes, You Can Plan and Direct Your Services

Saturday
4:00 - 5:00
Curacao 7

The purpose for this interactive presentation is to provide education on the importance of self-advocacy and share tips and ways to evaluate services received. The session will include a discussion of how services can be evaluated, questions individuals/families may want to ask your providers, and a role-playing session with individuals currently receiving services. It will also include information on Centers for Medicare and Medicaid's (CMS) new expectations for service delivery.

Charmaine Pillay
Delmarva Foundation
12906 Tampa Oaks Boulevard, Suite 130

Robyn Turlakis
Delmarva Foundation
12906 Tampa Oaks Boulevard, Suite 130



The 17th Annual Family Café

Tampa, FL 33637
(866) 254-2075
pillayc@delmarvafoundation.org

Tampa, FL 33637
(866) 254-2075
tourlakisr@delmarvafoundation.org

Education Choice Options for Students with Disabilities

Saturday
4:00 - 5:00
Curacao 8

The choices for students with disabilities have grown exponentially over the past decade. Charter Schools, McKay Scholarships and the new Personal Learning Scholarship program have allowed parents to select options that best meet the needs of their child. This workshop will present an overview of the different educational choice options available, how to determine the best placement for your child, eligibility and steps for enrollment, how the different options are funded, and what is different about a "choice" option vs. a traditional public school.

Dr. Ilene Wilkins
UCP of Central Florida
1221 West Colonial Drive, Suite 300
Orlando, FL 32804
(407) 852-3303
iwilkins@ucpcf.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, *Grand Sierra Foyer*
"Just Moving" Dancers, *Caribbean Foyer*
Family Entertainment, *Caribbean Ballroom*

SATURDAY

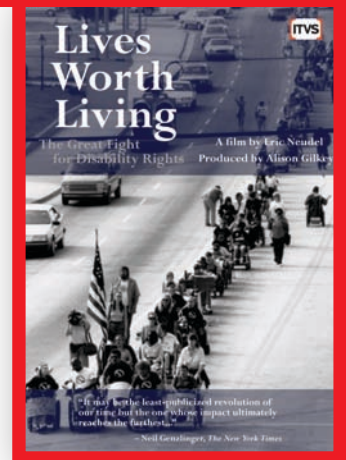
SUNDAY • June 7, 2015

10:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. *Caribbean Ballroom*

LIVES WORTH LIVING

Living with a disability in 2015 is, happily, much different than it was prior to the signing of the Americans with Disabilities Act in 1990. Much of the progress that has been made in ensuring equal civil rights for persons with disabilities is a direct result of the strength and support of families like ours. In the '40s and '50s it was the formation of The Parents Movement that propelled the call to end institutionalization for children and young adults, a call that was taken up by many organizations that ultimately coalesced into the "Disability Rights Movement."

In July we celebrate the 25th anniversary of the signing of the ADA. In *Lives Worth Living*, the participants in this fight for equal rights tell their own history—how the largest minority rose out of the shadows and institutions and became full participants in everyday life. Younger generations do not know about this fight, so it is our job to educate them and pass on the torch of advocacy and inclusion for all.



DUCK RACE

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 AM, the ducks will be placed in the river at the starting line and float down the river to the finish line. If your duck is one of the winners, you will be one of the lucky recipients of an amazing prize. Prizes include Gatorland passes, a giant floating duck, and more! There are only 500 ducks, so don't miss your chance!!

8:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.
9:30 a.m. to 10:30 a.m.
10:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.
12:30 p.m. to 1:00 p.m.

Exhibit Hall Open, *Grand Sierra Ballroom*
Rubber Duck Race, *Large Pool*
Keynote Address, *Caribbean Ballroom*
Closing and Door Prizes, *Caribbean Ballroom*



ENTERTAINMENT HIGHLIGHTS



Brazilian Voices

Brazilian Voices, a non-profit organization, is a women's vocal ensemble that performs at cultural community and philanthropic events. Brazilian Voices aspires to incorporate the best of Brazilian culture throughout the world. It has won the coveted International Brazilian Press Award for the past 10 years. Four years ago, they expanded their mission, creating an arts and healing group. They sing in hospitals and nursing homes, bringing hope and healing to patients at bed-side. See the Brazilian Voices **Friday at 4:00 and 5:30** and **Saturday at 10:30** in the Boca Foyer.



Pyramid Players

Long-time Café favorites, The Pyramid Players, are back for the 8th consecutive year. Four song and dance ensembles, from Tampa, Tallahassee, Fort Walton Beach and Pensacola, will captivate Café participants between sessions on Friday and Saturday. You don't want to miss these tributes to the abilities of people with Intellectual and

Developmental Disabilities. See the Pyramid Players **Friday and Saturday between sessions** in the *Grand Sierra Foyer*.



Royal DJs

The Royal DJs are a group of differently-abled DJs who love to play tunes for others. They live in South Florida and their mission is to spread a message of happiness, inclusion, acceptance, and positivity. Music is a universal language and connects us all! Please 'like' the ROYAL DJs on FACEBOOK to find out more. For gigs call (561) 665-1066 or message us on Facebook. See the Royal DJs **Friday at 2:30** in the Boca Foyer, **Saturday at 10:30** in the *Grand Sierra Foyer* and **3:30** in the Boca Foyer.



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 25 years. See the FRIENDS Choir **Saturday at 12:30 and 2:00** in the Boca Foyer.

"Just Moving" Dancers

"Just Moving" was created to offer people with intellectual disabilities more choices and an opportunity to learn ballroom dancing. It gives them a place to gather, laugh and meet new friends.

The instructors and volunteers have witnessed overall improvement in social skills, increased confidence, and happiness.

We are here to make a difference one dance at a time. See the "Just Moving" Dancers **Saturday at 2:00 and 5:00** in the *Caribbean Foyer*.



Arts & Crafts

VSA Florida presents some arts and crafts for all ages and abilities. Come have fun and learn about some new art things. Come make a clay plaque with a saying on it. Learn how to make a bead necklace or color a little wooden car. Presented by Lori Emly, VSA Brevard and VSA Florida. Visit *Hibiscus* **between 1:00 and 5:00 on Saturday.**



Elsa

Give your little one a day to always cherish with a real life princess or fairy! Look for Elsa **between 3:00 and 4:00 on Saturday.**

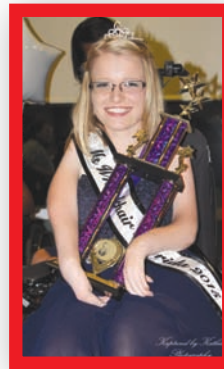
Santa Claus

Be on the lookout for Santa **on Saturday from 2:00 to 4:00.**



Spider-Man

For any Family Friendly Events, The Tampa Spider-Man is there! Look for him on **Saturday!**



Ms. Wheelchair Florida - Sarah Gaver

Come see Ms. Wheelchair Florida 2015 throughout the weekend in the Exhibit Hall! Look for Ms. Wheelchair Florida in the *Grand Sierra Ballroom* **all day Friday and Saturday.**



SCULLY



Get ready to dance all night with DJ Scully. Looking to continue the tradition of non-stop dancing and fun, DJ Scully will bring his hi-energy music selections to the **2015 Family Cafe!**

7:00-9:00 in Caribbean Ballroom

**Line Dances
 Hi-Energy
 Non-Stop Fun
 Video Screens**



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25th ANNIVERSARY

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Gatorland® Orlando present the

SPORTSABILITY SAMPLER

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Visit the FDOA booth in the exhibit hall and experience indoor activities and attend the recreation education track to learn about your leisure options!

- **Gatorland® Animal Show** – in Exhibit Hall Friday, June 5 at 1:00 pm
- **Archery and Fishing Simulator** provided by Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission
- **Climbing Wall** provided by On the Edge Children's Foundation on Saturday, June 6 from 10:30 am to 2:30 pm
- **SCUBA Demo** provided by Gabrielle Gabrielli at pool on Saturday, June 6 at 2:30 pm
- **Adaptive Biking** provided by Buddy Bike, LLC at Pavilion on Saturday, June 6 at 2:00 pm
- **The Recreation Education Track** (Room Curacao) will provide info on resources available to you!

Rubber Duck Race

Sunday, 9:30 AM at the Pool Slide

Purchase your duck at the FDOA Booth!

**EVERYONE IS INVITED
TO PARTICIPATE!**



For more information contact:
Florida Disabled Outdoors Association
(850) 201-2944

www.fdoa.org
info@fdoa.org



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JOB HUNTING? WE SHOULD TALK.

The CareerSource Florida network's 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 the
specialists in your region

careersourceflorida.com



CareerSource Florida is an equal opportunity employer/program. Auxiliary aids and services are available upon request to individuals with disabilities. Disponible en Español.



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YOU!**

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YOU NEXT
YEAR**

**June
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2016**

at

**The
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**The
Family
Café**

519 North Gadsden Street | Tallahassee, FL 32301 | info@familycafe.net