

The 22nd Annual

FamilyCAFE

EXHIBITOR CATALOG

Featuring the
Governor's Summit on Disabilities
June 2020



2020 Visions for our Future

YOUR VOICE MATTERS

Mental Health Virtual Town Hall Meeting

Join us for a Virtual Town Hall Meeting addressing the provision of mental health services in your community

Share with us:

- How we might take action to **improve mental health services** in families, schools, and communities
- Inability to access **needed treatment and services or rights violations** in a facility or in the community
- **Engage in a dialogue** with the Disability Rights Florida Mental Health Advisory Council
- Help Disability Rights Florida set its priorities as it carries out its mission to **advocate for and protect the rights on individuals with mental illness**

Hosted by the Disability Rights Florida Mental Health Advisory Council

The PAIMI Advisory Council (PAC) advises at Disability Rights Florida on policies and priorities to be carried out in protecting and advocating the rights of individuals with mental illness.

Coming **June 2020**

For specific date and time, visit
www.DisabilityRightsFlorida.org/PAC



First-ever **VIRTUAL** 22nd Annual Family Café **2020 Exhibitors Catalog**



WELCOME TO THE FAMILY CAFÉ'S FIRST-EVER EXHIBITOR CATALOG!

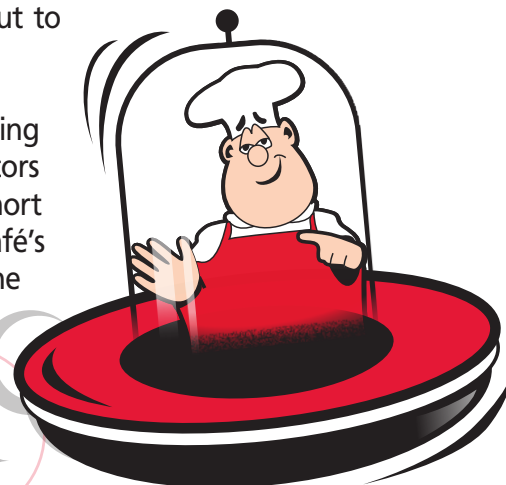
When it became clear that The 22nd Annual Family Café would have to transition to being a virtual event a few months ago, one of our first concerns was about our Exhibit Hall. The purpose of The Annual Family Café is to connect people with disabilities and their families with all manner of information and resources, so they can figure out what would be helpful for their unique circumstances. One essential part of that vision is exposing attendees to the products, resources, and programs that are represented in our Exhibit Hall at The Annual Family Café each June.

While we aren't able to bring all of our exhibitors together in a single location like we have in past years, The Family Café is still committed to connecting the people we serve with as much of the information and resources that they would find at a face-to-face Annual Family Café as we possibly can. Our Exhibit Hall is an essential part of that commitment. That's why we created The 22nd Annual Family Café Exhibitor Catalog.

This full-color, printed catalog includes the name and contact information of every exhibitor, along with a description of their product or service. We've also included a section about the programs run by The Family Café that were scheduled to be in the Exhibit Hall, including The CAFÉ TA Center, the Florida Youth Council, and the Family-Run Organization Movement (FROM). You'll also see listings for Micro-Enterprises, which are small businesses owned and operated by people with disabilities. Finally, we have a Book Fair section comprised of self-advocate authors scheduled to appear at The 22nd Annual Family Café.

We know that the Exhibitor Catalog is only a substitute for the in-person Exhibit Hall, but we hope it helps to give you a sense of the resources that The Family Café brings together. Hopefully you will find an exhibitor that can make a difference in your family's day-to-day life. If so, please reach out to them, and definitely let them know that The Family Café sent you!

Finally, The Family Café, its Board of Directors, and The Family Café Planning Committee would like to officially extend our gratitude to all of the exhibitors that stuck with us and helped us put this Exhibitor Catalog together on short notice. Thanks very much for your continued support of The Family Café's efforts to connect Floridians with disabilities and their families with the information and resources they need!



2020 VISIONS FOR OUR FUTURE



The Family Café supports several projects that are usually represented in the Exhibit Hall.



The Family Café
www.familycafe.net

Since 1998, The Family Café has been connecting Floridians with disabilities and their families with information, resources, and networking opportunities. The Family Café exists to provide individuals with disabilities and their families with an opportunity for collaboration, advocacy, friendship and empowerment by serving as a facilitator of communication, a space for dialogue and a source of information. The best-known way in which the organization fulfills its mission is by hosting The Annual Family Café, the nation's largest cross-disability event, in Orlando each June. The Family Café also connects Floridians with disabilities and their families with information and advocacy year-round, through publication of a resource guide called *The Family Café Questions & Answers Book*, the "Let's Talk!" Legislative Conference Call Series during the state legislative session, the Change Agent Network Newsletter, *The Family Café Disability Advocacy Hour Podcast*, and ongoing information and referral via email list serve and social media.



The CAFÉ TA Center
www.cafetacenter.net

The CAFÉ TA Center is supported by the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) to operate one of its five national technical assistance centers; providing technical assistance, training, and resources that facilitate the restructuring of the mental health system through effective consumer directed approaches for adults with serious mental illnesses across the country. CAFÉ TAC provides mental health consumers and their grass-roots organizations with information, training, networking opportunities and support as they seek to advocate for themselves and transform the mental health system of care to allow for and encourage genuine consumer involvement and peer leadership. We believe that better outcomes among Americans with serious mental illness will result from putting consumers with real world experience at the center of the mental health system of care, and we are here to provide the tools and expertise to make that happen.



The Family-Run Organization Movement (FROM)

The mission of the Family Run Organization Movement (FROM) is to engage, support, empower, and advocate for family, youth, and peer-run organizations. FROM provides a wide range of supports and services, including leadership training, governance enhancement, program support, monthly collaborative forums, a program newsletter, and other resources to help organizations attain new levels of participation in the system of care.

Local family-run organizations are a critical part of the service delivery system, bringing families and youth together, connecting them with information, resources, and each other. FROM is here to help them thrive!

2 The 22nd Annual Family Café



The Florida Youth Council www.floridayouthcouncil.org

The Florida Youth Council is a group of youth and emerging leaders (age 15-30) with disabilities or special health care needs that live in Florida.

The FYC is all about getting youth and emerging leaders involved in self-advocacy, peer mentoring and other activities that will improve the quality of life for youth and emerging leaders with disabilities in Florida. The program provides a means for youth and emerging leaders to decide what issues are important to their generation, to express those issues in their state and local communities, and to develop strategies to solve them.

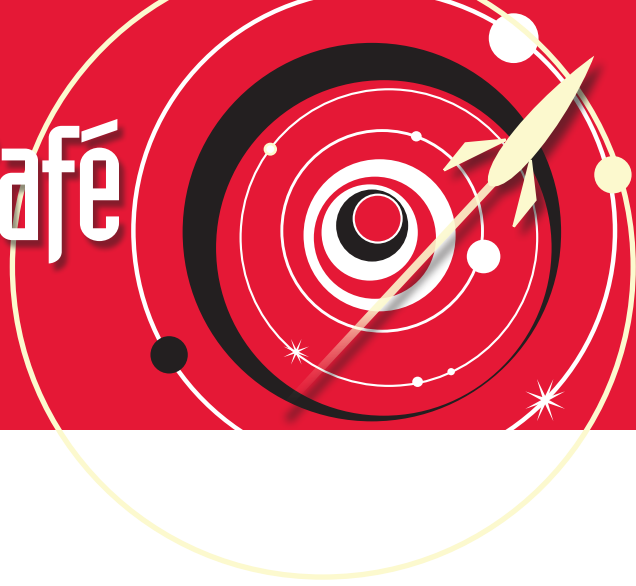
The Florida Youth Council offers many opportunities for interested youth and emerging leaders to participate, including an Annual Youth Summit, program content at The Annual Family Café, a program newsletter in both electronic and print formats, and a comprehensive online outreach program that takes advantage of the power of social networking.

The FYC is always seeking new members, and application materials are available online. If you are interested in becoming a leader in the disability community, we encourage you to get involved!



2020 VISIONS FOR OUR FUTURE

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180 Medical, Inc.

725 Promera Boulevard, Suite 200
Lake Mary, FL 32746
(877) 688-2729
www.180medical.com

180 Medical is a nationally-accredited provider of Intermittent Catheters, Ostomy, and Incontinence supplies in the US. They are in-network and contracted with Medicare, a vast and continually growing number of private insurance plans, and many state Medicaid plans (including Florida Medicaid and waiver programs).

180 Medical's highly-trained specialists offer compassionate care paired with unparalleled product knowledge, so they can help you find the right supplies that fit you or your child's unique needs best. In addition to operating with high standards of integrity, 180 Medical is honored to serve a wide range of customers with diverse and unique needs, including men, women, and children. Their specialists can help you find the right supplies while offering educational materials for learning how to use your supplies hygienically. 180 Medical offers free insurance billing, free samples, and free shipping right to your door.



ABLE United

2100 Delta Boulevard
Tallahassee, FL 32303
(850) 224-0174
www.ableunited.com

ABLE United, Florida's disability savings program, offers tax-free savings and investment accounts specifically designed for individuals with disabilities. Better known as ABLE accounts, they allow individuals diagnosed with Down syndrome, autism, cerebral palsy, cognitive and development disabilities, as well as mental health disorders, the opportunity to save for qualified disability expenses while maintaining eligibility for public benefits like Supplemental Security Income and Medicaid.

From budgeting for weekly groceries, housing, and doctor's appointments to saving for a computer, college, or perhaps even a new car – an ABLE United account allows individuals to save for all of these things, whether they be everyday living expenses or expenses later on down the road. After an account is opened, individuals can contribute what they can, when they can – they can even save with the help of friends, family or even an organization, such as a church, by creating their own ABLE United gifting page. Individuals can use their money at any time, and with the introduction of the new ABLE Visa® Prepaid Card, they can start swiping and instantly access funds to be used online, in stores – or anywhere nationwide that accepts Visa debit cards (think of it as your ABLE United account on the go).

To date, thousands of Floridians have chosen ABLE United as a smarter, safer way to save for today, tomorrow and the future. Visit us online at ableunited.com to learn more, enroll in an account – or simply try it out and see if it's right for you.



Agency for Persons with Disabilities

4030 Esplanade Way, Suite 380
Tallahassee, FL 32399
1-866-273-2273
www.apdcares.org

The Agency for Persons with Disabilities (APD) annually serves more than 55,000 Floridians with developmental disabilities as defined in Florida Statutes, Chapter 393. This includes individuals with severe forms of autism, cerebral palsy, spina bifida, intellectual disabilities, Down syndrome, Phelan-McDermid syndrome, Prader-Willi syndrome, and children aged 3-5 who are at a high risk of a developmental disability.

APD works in partnership with local communities and private providers to support individuals with developmental disabilities in living, learning, and working in their communities. The agency also educates the public on disability issues, supports efforts to increase the number of individuals with developmental disabilities in the workforce, and helps identify the needs of people with developmental disabilities for supports and services.

The agency is governed by Chapter 20, Chapter 393, and Chapter 916 of the Florida Statutes. APD is headquartered in Tallahassee, with six regional offices working directly with customers and service providers, plus two developmental disabilities centers and one forensic center.



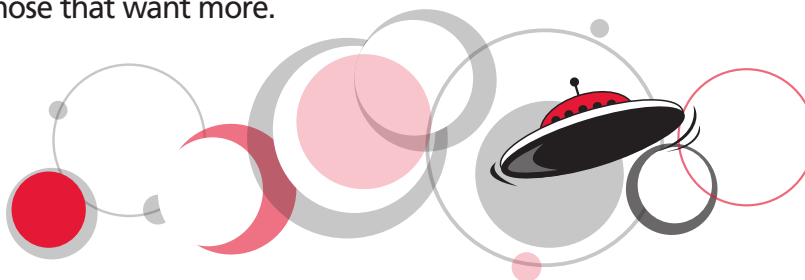
Ann's Angels

PO Box 1655
Winter Haven, FL 33882
(407) 342-6635
www.annsangelsawf.org

Our mission is to promote public awareness and provide recreational sports services for children and adults living with disabilities through the sports of water skiing and wakeboarding. Ann's Angels are based in Winter Haven, Florida and we provide adaptive waterski events and opportunities for children and adults living with disabilities, including our military veterans and current service personnel. We find that our programs provide a therapeutic recreation that reduces anxiety and depression while improving well-being and quality of life.

We provide all the waterski equipment, safety, and personnel to hold safe organized water ski events for organizations, municipalities, and individuals that want to provide this recreational sport to their community free of charge to the adaptive participants and their families. Ann's Angels AWF Inc is a public nonprofit and donations are always tax deductible.

Ann's Angels also trains other programs to do the same kind of programs in their area and has done so since our UCanSki2 days. We look forward to continuing this into the future as well as our Advanced Waterski programs and competition training for those that want more.





Arts4All Florida

4202 East Fowler Avenue, EDU 105
Tampa, FL 33620
(813) 974-0715
www.arts4allflorida.org

Arts4All Florida provides, supports, and champions arts education and cultural experiences for and by people with disabilities. A private not-for-profit organization, Arts4All Florida conducts art education programs in schools, Department of Juvenile Justice facilities, and community centers; promotes the accomplishments of artists with disabilities through our artist registry, exhibitions, and performances; and increases access to the arts through professional development workshops. Arts4All Florida is headquartered in the College of Education at the University of South Florida. In lieu of Covid-19, Arts4All Florida has initiated a robust online presence that includes:

- **Spotlight on Art:** Spotlight on Art videos highlight the many talented Arts4All Florida teaching artists from across the state and bring the arts directly into your home for you and your family to participate in.
- **Art classes:** Some of our programs are now VIRTUAL. Community art classes are open to people of all ages and abilities.
- **Camps:** Arts4All Florida offers spring break and summer camp programs that teach music, movement, theatre, and visual arts to students of all abilities. Some of our programs will be VIRTUAL this summer.
- **At Home Art Activity Ideas:** Join our Facebook group At Home Art Activities by Arts4All Florida
- **Webinars:** Arts4All Florida provides monthly webinars during the school year offering teaching artists, classroom teachers, cultural arts organizations, parents, and adult artists with disabilities up-to-date information on the arts and disability.



Beach and Trail Mobility

3660 North Washington Boulevard
Sarasota, FL 34234
(888) 976-2525x700
www.trackedmobility.us

TrackedMobility provides inclusion and mobility independence with our trackchair technology for people with physical disabilities or limitations. Trackchairs are battery powered and operate just like standard power wheelchairs with one exception. Instead of wheels, the chair utilizes rubber tracks, allowing the user off path mobility without the fear of getting stuck.

Now adults and children with physical disabilities or limitations can independently traverse over uneven ground, deep sand, mud, gravel, and rough terrain. The Trackchair creates opportunities to participate in outdoor recreation and leisure activities. Imagine roaming down the beach, listening to the waves crash while shark tooth hunting with your friends. Or maybe going sight-seeing through nature during a family outing at the park. Hiking trails? No problem. There are endless possibilities.

Let's go! We at TrackedMobility provide group outings, rentals, sales and services.



Bird Dog Boats

330 Northeast 1st Avenue
Williston, FL 32696
(813) 504-5499
www.birddogboats.com

Bird Dog Boats of Florida, Inc. is a 501(c)3 nonprofit organization providing adaptive boating for people using wheelchairs or having other accessibility requirements. Operating throughout Florida, BDB partners with many organizations to provide group events and private boat charters. In 2015, an adaptive boat was designed for this program with the engine well located in front of the helm so a person using a manual wheelchair, power wheelchair, or trackchair could easily roll onto the back of the boat for a nice day of boating or fishing.

Thanks to the efforts and support from Florida Disabled Outdoors Association, Bird Dog Boats has now safely completed over one hundred voyages with people using wheelchairs. In April of 2019, BDB was awarded the Leisure for Life Award from Florida Disabled Outdoors Association. In November of 2019, BDB was awarded a grant to serve veterans through Florida Disabled Outdoors Association, Disabled Sports USA, Bob Woodruff Foundation and the National Football League.

Now more than ever, boating is recognized as an important outdoor activity that serves small groups of families or friends in a semi-secluded setting. The directors of Bird Dog Boats, Thomas and Denise Griffin, would like to say thanks to all the participants for the great fun days we had out on the water as they look forward to many more outings in the years ahead.



Buddy Bike

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

Buddy Bike is the alternative tandem bicycle for riders with special needs providing adaptive and therapeutic cycling and educational opportunities for riders with autism, down syndrome, sight impairment, balance issues, low muscle tone and other disabilities that would prevent them from riding a bike safely on their own. The Buddy Bike places the stoker (smaller rider) in the front seat while the rear rider controls the steering. The Buddy Bike has a lower front seat so both riders can safely enjoy the view. It is shorter in length than a typical tandem, making it easier to store and transport.

The Buddy Bike is CPSC safety-rated for up to 380 pounds, making it the ultimate family bike that can be enjoyed by riders of most ages and abilities. Many families obtain funding to purchase the Buddy Bike as therapeutic equipment.

We are now offering adaptive and alternative bicycles for riders of all ages, sizes and abilities, including adult trikes, walking trikes, recumbent trikes and hand cycles. Some bikes are available for test rides in South Florida. Call us for a test ride appointment or to see if we can order that special bike for you!



CareerSource Florida

2011 Delta Boulevard
Tallahassee, FL 32303
(844) 245-3405
www.careersourceflorida.com

The CareerSource Florida Board of Directors serves as the Governor’s principal workforce policy and investment board. In this role, CareerSource Florida works in partnership with the Department of Economic Opportunity, responsible for the state workforce system’s fiscal and administrative affairs, and 24 local workforce development boards that serve Florida’s businesses and job seekers.

Our professionals who specialize in assisting Floridians with disabilities are eager to help job seekers find meaningful work and employers connect with these talented individuals. Together, the CareerSource Florida network connects employers with qualified, skilled talent, and Floridians with employment and career development opportunities to achieve economic prosperity. Find your local team at careersourceflorida.com.



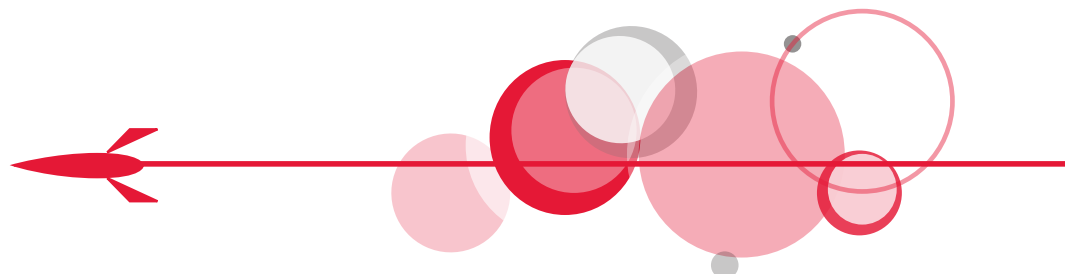
Center for Autism and other Disorders (CARD)

5665 Ponce de Leon Boulevard
Coral Gables, FL 33146
(305) 284-6557
www.umcard.org

CARD, which stands for the Center for Autism and Related Disabilities, is a statewide network of seven university-based outreach and support centers throughout Florida, located at Florida State University, the University of Central Florida, the University of Florida at Gainesville, the University of Florida Health Science Center at Jacksonville, the University of South Florida, Florida Atlantic University and the University of Miami & Nova Southeastern University (UM-NSU CARD).

CARD’s mission is to optimize the potential of people living with autism and related disabilities by providing support services to them, their families, and the professionals who work with them. The Centers are funded by the Florida Legislature through the Florida Department of Education, and all services are provided free of charge. CARD services are designed to build on the capacities of state and local resources, not to duplicate or replace them.

Some of the services that CARD provides include: Individualized Client and Family Support, Family and Professional Training, Public Education and Awareness and Community Outreach, and Programmatic Consultation and Technical Assistance. The Centers have been providing services and supports at no charge to individuals with autism spectrum disorders and their families for 27 years. CARD is the largest state-wide model program for autism supports in the United States, and is now being replicated in other states across the nation.





Conductive Education Center of Orlando

931 South Semoran Boulevard, Suite 220
 Winter Park, FL 32792
 (407) 671-4687
www.ceco.org

CECO's mission is to transform the lives of children and adults with neurological motor disabilities so that they may achieve their greatest level of independence through conductive education, integrating physical, cognitive, and social skills.

The Conductive Education Center of Orlando was founded by a local family in Winter Park, whose son was born three months premature with cerebral palsy and other complications. Just before his fourth birthday, his parents learned about a program in Budapest, Hungary called Conductive Education.

This program was making it possible for children with motor disabilities to move and progress beyond the expectations of doctors, producing outcomes that exceeded what was believed to be possible. That summer, they held a 6-week pilot program with five children in Winter Park, Florida. As the weeks progressed, parents saw dramatic changes in their children, and they made a lifelong commitment to helping children with motor disabilities reach their full potential by founding The Conductive Education Center of Orlando (CECO).

Since our inception in 2001, CECO has served many individuals with neurological motor disabilities. With the help of a dedicated board, our CECO families, and the staff and supporters we call our family, CECO has grown tremendously. Expanding from the first pilot program of five individuals, we now house eight diverse programs serving the needs of students of all ages.



Custom Mobility Inc.

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

At Custom Mobility, we provide you with more than just wheelchairs and accessible vehicles: we deliver peace of mind. Our team knows that it can be tricky to stay on top of your mobility needs. We offer accessible vehicles in a variety of makes and models, ranging from minivans, to trucks, to SUVs. And we have a large selection of power wheelchairs, manual wheelchairs, and so much more!

If you need financial assistance, there are a variety of funding resources that are available for our clients. By taking advantage of plans like BraunAbility Special Financing, Medicaid Waiver, or VA benefits, we can help you to secure a great accessible vehicle. So whether your wheelchair requires maintenance, or you want help finding the perfect vehicle or new wheelchair, we'll make sure that your equipment is reliable, safe, and properly fit for you.



DentaQuest

8300 Northwest 53rd Street, Suite 200
Doral, FL 33166
(305) 962-7370
www.dentaquest.com

DentaQuest administers dental benefits to members in Medicaid and CHIP programs across the country. It is our mission to improve the oral health of all. We are working to change the future of oral health care by:

- Making it easier for people to access the dental care they need
- Making dental care more affordable
- Focusing on preventing dental disease rather than just treating it

Everyone deserves a bright oral health future. We know that a healthy mouth is also linked to overall health. Gum disease and other dental health conditions may increase the risk of serious health problems such as heart attack, stroke, diabetes, and for pregnant women, premature birth. Poor oral health also makes it difficult for children to pay attention at school, speak properly and chew food.

In our efforts to improve the oral health of all, DentaQuest is committing to meeting the unique requirements of families and individuals who live with disabilities and special health care needs. We help them find dentists who have special training in the treating these individuals. The skills and services these dentists provide include:

- An efficient approach to examinations and treatment so that appointments are shorter
- The use of sedation only when necessary to help patients be more comfortable and relaxed if longer appointments are required
- Innovative treatment options such as silver diamine fluoride to control tooth decay without drilling, and teledentistry to provide care in non-office settings.



Disability Rights Florida

2473 Care Drive, Suite 200
Tallahassee, FL 32308
(800) 342-0823
www.disabilityrightsflorida.org

Disability Rights Florida (DRF) was founded in 1977 as Florida's designated protection and advocacy (P&A) system for individuals with disabilities. We are a 501(c)(3) not-for-profit corporation that has authority and responsibility under nine federal grants. We are obligated to defend the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), the nation's strongest law protecting the civil rights of people with disabilities. DRF assists people with disabilities to solve disability-related problems. We will provide you with the necessary tools and information to advocate for your rights. However, certain issues may require our legal assistance. We are here to help you with:

- Abuse, neglect, or rights violations for individuals who live in institutional and residential settings;
- Community placement;
- Access to publicly-funded benefits and services, particularly home and community-based services;
- Self-empowerment and rights of individuals to gain greater control over important life decisions;
- Control over use of public benefits and personal assets;
- Equal access to public and private programs and services, including businesses, transportation, post-secondary education, housing, and assistive technology;
- Access to vocational rehabilitation and blind services;
- Access to a free and appropriate public education in the most inclusive environment;
- Least restrictive alternatives to guardianship; and
- Voting rights and civic participation.



FAAST, Inc.

820 East Park Avenue, Suite D-200
Tallahassee, FL 32301
(850) 487-3278
www.faast.org

FAAST (The Florida Alliance for Assistive Services & Technology) is the state of Florida's assistive technology program. FAAST is administered through the Florida Department of Education, Division of Vocational Rehabilitation. AT FAAST, our goal is to serve people with a varying range of abilities by providing information and assistance related to Assistive Technology (AT).

What is Assistive Technology? Assistive Technology (AT) is any device, gadget, hardware or software used by a person to do things for themselves that might otherwise be difficult or impossible to do because of their disability. Assistive Technology helps people with a wide range of abilities to live, work, learn, and play as independently as possible.

Activities provided by FAAST include device loans through our Lending Library, device demonstrations to compare features of different devices within a category, device recycling, refurbishment, & reutilization, a low-interest financing program to purchase AT, varied trainings on AT products, services, and other disability-related topics, and most importantly, information and assistance through our statewide help desk.

Through one of our 11 locations around the state, FAAST happily serves all Floridians, including users of Assistive Technology, family members, service providers, educators, therapists, employers, health and rehabilitation professionals, AT vendors, procurement officials, and all other interested parties throughout the state of Florida. If you have any questions or needs regarding AT, give us a call. We are #Here2Help



Family Care Councils Florida

514 Hiawatha Avenue
Inverness, FL 34452
(352) 726-1445

In 1993, the Florida Legislature passed legislation (Florida Statutes 393.502) establishing an all-volunteer Family Care Council (FCC) to be located within each service area of the Agency for Persons with Disabilities (APD). Each of the 15 FCCs is made up of Governor-appointed individuals with developmental disabilities who qualify for services from APD and the parents, siblings, grandparents, and guardians of individuals who have developmental disabilities. In addition, many councils receive vital support from interested individuals in their local communities.

APD has the responsibility for the health and safety of individuals with developmental disabilities. APD supports individuals with developmental disabilities and their families by helping them identify needs and funding to purchase supports and services. The purpose of each FCC is to advise APD, develop a plan for the delivery of family support services, and monitor the implementation and effectiveness of the services and supports provided under the plan. The functions of the FCCs are to provide education and outreach to families, to review and make recommendations as to the effectiveness of the delivery of supports and services and to share information with other Family Care Councils. Each FCC represents a geographic area and works closely with the regional APD office to help families receiving services.

The FCC also works closely with other local disability organizations and programs to access services and opportunities for individuals with developmental disabilities and their families who may be on the APD Waiting List.



FDLRS Network

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

The Florida Diagnostic and Learning Resources System (FDLRS) is a discretionary project of the Florida Department of Education (FLDOE) Bureau of Exceptional Education and Student Services (BEESS). BEESS directly supports the FLDOE’s Guiding Principles and Strategic Initiatives.

The FDLRS Associate Centers provide an array of instructional and technical support services to school district Exceptional Student Education programs statewide. The four central functions of each FDLRS Associate Center are Child Find, Parent Services, Human Resource Development, and Technology. FDLRS includes 19 Associate Centers that serve Florida’s sixty-seven school districts. These centers collaborate with districts, agency and support personnel, communities, families, and other educational personnel providing support services for educators, parents, school administrators, and students with exceptionalities. Funding also supports implementation of the Professional Development Alternatives (PDA).

PDA online modules are designed to provide Florida teachers with widely available, easily accessible opportunities to increase their skills in the area of exceptional student education. In support of sustaining highly qualified educators, the Statewide Elementary K-6 and the Middle Grades 5-9 Online Content Review Modules are also coordinated through the FDLRS Network.

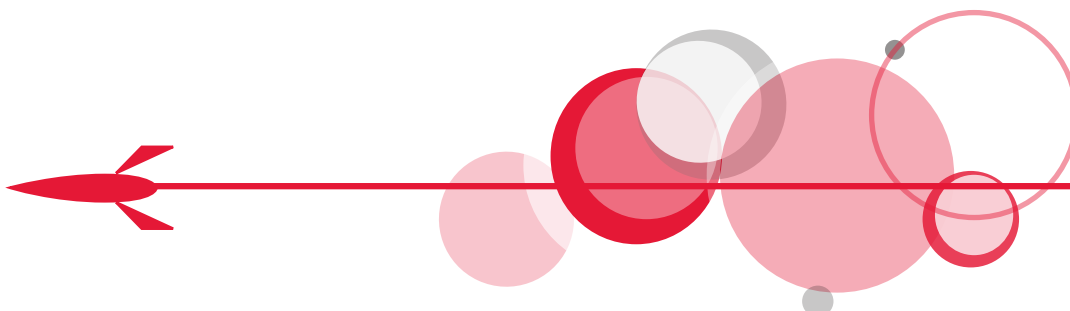
Florida Department of Education - Blind Services



400 West Robinson Street, Suite 1026
 Orlando, FL 32801
 (800) 342-1828
www.dbs.fldoe.org

The Florida Division of Blind Services (DBS) offers a variety of supports to Floridians whose visual impairments significantly affect their ability to participate in daily activities. Our mission is to ensure blind and visually impaired Floridians have the tools, support and opportunity to achieve success. There is training to assist individuals who are blind or visually impaired, as long as their vision is poor in both eyes even with glasses or contact lenses. DBS has 16 offices throughout the State of Florida.

Programs and services include Blind Babies; Children’s Program; Transition Program and Pre Employment Transition Services; Vocational Rehabilitation; Business Enterprise program; Independent Living Services; The Rehabilitation Center for the Blind and The Braille Talking Books Library. DBS also offers Employer Services. Qualified personnel work with potential employers to demonstrate how someone who is blind or visually impaired can perform the required job duties. This may include onsite visits to determine assistive tools and devices.





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

325 West Gaines Street
Tallahassee, FL 32399
(850) 245-0475

<http://fldoe.org/academics/exceptional-student-edu/>

The Florida Department of Education works hand in hand every day with parents, teachers, educators and community members to improve Florida's education system for students of all backgrounds and abilities. The department's Bureau of Exceptional Education and Student Services (BEES) administers programs for students with disabilities as well as 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.

The bureau resource and information center (BRIC) provides parents, educators, and other Floridians with access to information about exceptional student education, student services, juvenile justice education, early intervention, parent and professional partnerships, and many other topics.

BEES has over 100 discretionary projects that provide trainings, services, information and resources to parents, educators, school districts and other Floridians.

Each year BEES parent services surveys parents of children with an individual educational plan (IEP) to determine how well their child's school is partnering with them and promoting their involvement in their child's education. All states must collect this data as part of their State Performance Plan, as required under the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA). BEES uses this parent input for their annual work plan to provide schools and districts guidance on the areas of need.

You can find the survey results for the state, districts and schools on the parent survey website. BEES is also available to assist parents with questions by phone or email at 850-245-0475 or eseparentservices@fldoe.org.



Florida Department of Education - Division of Vocational Rehabilitation

3555 Maguire Boulevard, Suite 205
Orlando, FL 32803
(407) 897-2725

www.rehabworks.org

The Department of Education, Division of Vocational Rehabilitation (VR) is Florida's employment agency for people with physical and mental disabilities. The world is changing quickly, and the services that are available to persons with disabilities are changing just as fast. VR provides job seekers easier access to employment, education, training and support services needed to succeed in careers that meet the needs of today's job market.

If you're a person with a disability, depending on what you need, VR can help you make your personal plan to explore your skills and interests, choose a career goal for businesses and industries in your local area, and find other activities like hands-on training in a real workplace. You can find the office closest to you at www.RehabWorks.org. Contact VR to discuss the services we offer to help persons with disabilities prepare for, find, or get a better job.

If you are a business that wants to hire persons with disabilities, VR has a Business Relations Team that works hard every day to teach employers about hiring persons with disabilities, connect with potential job seekers, and help them support the employees with disabilities who already work for them.

VR also supports a network of locally operated, consumer-controlled Centers for Independent Living around the state. These Centers are an excellent source of local information and provide direct services to individuals with disabilities to become independent.

For 100 years, VR has assisted with training and placement services for individuals with disabilities beginning with the passage of the Smith-Fess Act. And 30 years ago, the ADA was signed to ensure equal access to career opportunities. Let's start the next 100 years helping you find not just a job, but a career that fits your interests, skills and abilities.



UF IFAS Extension
UNIVERSITY of FLORIDA



4-H Youth Development

Florida 4-H Youth Development

3014 McCarty Hall D, PO Box 110310
Gainesville, FL 32611
(352) 273-3527
www.florida4h.org

4-H is a fun, educational program for young people, with diverse abilities, ages 5-18. 4-H has something for everyone — anyone can join. No membership fees are required, although some project materials and activities may have a cost. Joining a 4-H club is a great way to have fun, learn new things and meet people. Clubs meet in schools, community centers or at a 4-H volunteer's home.

There are many ways to get involved and participate in 4-H. The best way to determine what's right for you is to contact the 4-H office. With the help of your local county 4-H agent, you'll discover exciting new programs and activities. 4-H involves families. Today's families are constantly changing and 4-H continues to change too. 4-H creates opportunities for parents and children to share experiences and learn together. 4-H strongly encourages family involvement and support to help youth with their projects and for transportation to county, state and national events.

Through a 4-H project, youth learn new skills and better ways of doing all kinds of projects. 4-H projects teach through exciting "hands on" activities. For projects, you might go on a field trip, compete in a contest, give a speech, or work with an animal. 4-H projects and programs help youth develop leadership and communication skills — while having fun at the same time! Florida 4-H offers projects in the following areas:

- Animal and Plant Sciences
- Environmental Education
- Individual & Family Resources
- Science & Technology
- Citizenship & Leadership
- Communication Arts & Career Exploration

Florida Center for Students with
UNIQUE ABILITIES

Florida Center for Students with Unique Abilities

PO Box 161250
Orlando, FL 32816
(407) 823-6115
<https://myfwc.com/license/accessibility/>

Signed into law by Florida's governor on January 23, 2016, the Florida Postsecondary Comprehensive Transition Program Act (the Act) (FS 1004.6495) established the Florida Center for Students with Unique Abilities at the University of Central Florida (the Center) and charged the Center with managing the Florida Postsecondary Comprehensive Transition Program (FPCTP) application and approval process.

The Act also established criteria for FPCTP approval, scholarship awards for eligible students to attend approved programs, grant awards to promote new program development and existing program enhancements, and accountability requirements associated with these opportunities.

The purpose of the Act is to "increase independent living, inclusive and experiential postsecondary education, and employment opportunities for students with intellectual disabilities through degree, certificate, or nondegree programs and to establish statewide coordination of the dissemination of information regarding programs and services for students with disabilities.

The intent of the Legislature that students with intellectual disabilities and students with disabilities have access to meaningful postsecondary education credentials and be afforded the opportunity to have a meaningful campus experience." (FS §1004.6495(2)) The Center is working with higher education institutions across Florida to support implementation of the Act in three primary ways:

- (a) facilitate application and approval of their program that serves students with intellectual disabilities as a FPCTP,
- (b) provide scholarship awards to students attending an institution's approved FPCTP, and
- (c) provide grant funding to foster starting up new and/or enhancing existing programs.

These three components of the Center's work aim directly at achieving the purpose of the Act.



Florida Disabled Outdoors Association

3035 Eliza Road
Tallahassee, FL 32308
(850) 201-2944
www.fdoa.org

The Florida Disabled Outdoors Association (FDOA) is a non-profit 501(c)(3) organization that is working to enrich lives through accessible inclusive recreation. Since its inception in 1990, the FDOA has promoted accessible recreation to persons with disabilities as well as the general public through its hands-on recreation programs, newsletters and community outreach and education. Programs include:

- SportsAbility – a multi-day program where participants may try everything from sit water-skiing to tennis, horseback riding and more at no charge
- Miracle Sports – team sports played on an accessible surface where the games are modified so everyone can play
- Allout Adventure – active recreation outings that include fishing, hunting and more
- Rec Connect – resources for people with a brain or spinal cord injury
- iFind – a resource referral network of accessible recreation programs, products
- Education, Outreach, Training and more throughout the year



Florida Fish and Wildlife
Conservation Commission
MyFWC.com

Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission

620 South Meridian Street
Tallahassee, FL 32301
(850) 488-4676
<https://myfwc.com/license/accessibility/>

The mission of the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission is managing fish and wildlife resources for their long-term well-being and the benefit of people. The FWC seeks to ensure access to hunting, fishing and other recreational outdoor opportunities for persons with disabilities. Information about these opportunities, as well as permit applications to request the established accommodation(s), can be found at myfwc.com/license/accessibility/.



Florida Inclusion Network (FIN)

Florida State University, Learning System Institute, 4600 University Center C
Tallahassee, FL 32306
(305) 582-4028
www.floridainclusionnetwork.com

The Florida Inclusion Network (FIN) collaborates with all districts and schools to provide customized services and supports ensuring all students with disabilities have the same educational, social, and future opportunities as their peers. In partnership with districts, FIN facilitates the implementation of inclusive best practices through:

- Data-driven, student-focused planning and problem-solving across districts and schools;
- Data-driven professional development and technical assistance to increase knowledge and skills of district and school personnel;
- Coaching and resources for district and school personnel to sustain inclusive best practices;
- Sharing information to build collaborative relationships between families, schools, and districts.



Florida KidCare
 1203 Governors Square Boulevard, Suite 400
 Tallahassee, FL 32301
 1-888-540-KIDS (5437)
www.floridakidcare.org

Florida KidCare is the state of Florida’s high quality, low-cost health and dental insurance program for children from birth through the end of age 18. Florida KidCare is made up of four programs: Medicaid for Children, MediKids, Florida Healthy Kids, and the Children’s Medical Services (CMS) Managed Care Plan. Every child is different and so are their medical needs.

Florida KidCare ensures that all children have the coverage they need through each stage of their growth and development. This includes a wide range of benefits and services, such as doctor visits, prescriptions, hospital stays, mental health services, immunizations, checkups, vision and hearing screenings and dental care.

Most Florida KidCare families pay only \$15 or \$20 a month for insurance coverage, but many pay nothing at all. Full-pay options are available for those families who do not qualify for subsidized coverage. Eligibility in the program is based on a child’s age, family size and household income. An Eligibility Calculator tool available on the Florida KidCare website can help families estimate their monthly premium in 15 seconds or less by answering two simple questions. The results can be emailed to the family for future reference.

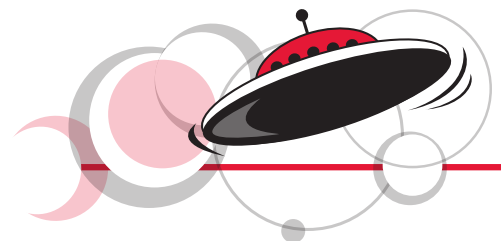
With open enrollment all year long, the best time to apply is always now.



Florida Military Family Special Needs Network
 172 Northeast Twylite Terrace
 Port Saint Lucie, FL 34983
 (772) 342-7665

The Military Special Needs Network is a peer-to-peer, global organization founded to respond to the family support needs of all branches of the military and of our Exceptional Family Members. We strive to support each one of our Members and their families by providing family and emotional support and lasting friendships. MSNN will:

- EMPOWER our members by helping each one to recognize their own strengths and qualities, and by offering opportunities in order to become the best advocate for their EFM and family.
- INSPIRE our members by sharing personal stories, talking about failures, achievements, and continuously motivating each other and our communities.
- CONNECT our members with their local Community support systems in order to provide helpful solutions and assistance.
- EDUCATE our members and community by providing helpful information to learn how to better navigate the world of special needs within the military.
- Provide PEER 2 PEER interactions by creating a safe, positive environment composed of fellow EFM families from around the globe that are facing similar circumstances.





Florida Self-Advocates Network'D (FL SAND)

1532 Kingsley Avenue, #112
 Orange Park, FL 32073
 (352) 224-0223
www.flsand.org

Florida Self-Advocates Network'D (FL SAND) is Florida's self-advocacy group network, currently comprised of 19 local grassroots self-advocacy groups. We are a statewide association led by self-advocates who are united and active in speaking up for ourselves, promoting rights, advocating for systems change, and creating community inclusion and awareness for our members.

FL SAND's primary purpose is to support local grassroots advocacy, expand the Florida self-advocacy movement, provide a united voice for statewide issues and topics that are important to Florida self-advocates, create community awareness, and promote inclusion for all. FL SAND is an independent 501(c)(3) organization and is governed at the state level by a board of directors that includes representation from each grassroots group.

General information about self-advocacy and the self-advocacy movement in Florida can be found at FL SAND's news and information hub, Florida Self-Advocacy Central / www.FSACentral.org. Contact us to learn how you can get involved with FL SAND and self-advocacy in Florida.



Florida Telecommunications Relay, Inc. (FTRI)

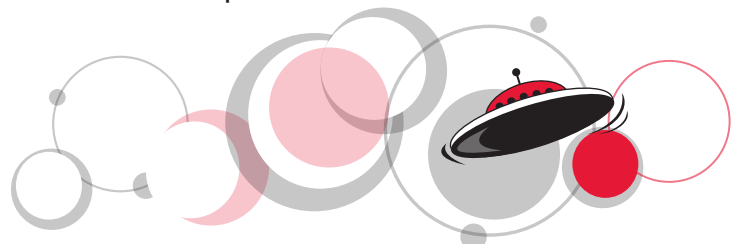
1820 East Park Avenue, Suite 101
 Tallahassee, FL 32301
 (800) 222-3448
www.ftri.org

Do you have trouble hearing on the phone? FTRI can help. We are a statewide nonprofit 501(c)3 organization that administers the Specialized Telecommunications Equipment Distribution Program for citizens of Florida who are Deaf, Hard of Hearing, Deaf/Blind, and Speech Impaired. Established in 1991 through legislation known as TASA, FTRI is also responsible for conducting educational community outreach focused on promotion of the Florida Telecommunications Relay Service.

The FTRI Equipment Program provides a variety of high-quality amplified phones, cell phone amplifiers, caption phones, TTYs and call signaling devices to residents at no charge, regardless of their income or insurance status. Based in Tallahassee, FTRI partners with a network of more than 20 nonprofit agencies across Florida to serve clients, and to conduct on-site phone equipment distributions at community events such as health fairs and senior expos.

There is no cost to clients for FTRI equipment; it is loaned to them for as long as they need or want it. Qualifications are simple: be a Florida resident over the age of 3, and have a hearing loss or speech disability that can be certified by a hearing instrument specialist or doctor. Over 3 million Floridians have hearing loss. You may be one of them, or know someone who is. FTRI is here to provide assistance.

2020 VISIONS FOR OUR FUTURE





Gatorland

14501 South Orange Blossom Trail
Orlando, FL 32837
(407) 855-5496
www.gatorland.com

Gatorland is so much more than just alligators at a price that won't put a "bite" on your vacation experience! At 110 acres, this theme park and wildlife preserve features "Old Florida" charm with exciting exhibits and entertainment. The park opened as a roadside attraction in 1949, and today it provides affordably-priced family entertainment with thousands of alligators and crocodiles, aviary, an incredible breeding marsh and bird rookery, petting zoo, and one-of-a-kind reptilian shows including the Alligators: Legends of the Swamp Show, Gator Jumparoo, and the Up-close Encounters Show.

The all NEW White Gator Swamp features the largest collection of extremely rare leucistic and albino "white" alligators in the world. At the Gator Gully Splash Park kids of all ages can enjoy a good ol' fashion soaking and then head over to the station to take a ride on the Gatorland Express! The thrilling Screamin' Gator Zip Line was voted the number one zip line in Orlando by readers of *Orlando Weekly*. Don't miss a ride on the Stompin' Gator Off Road adventure, there ain't another mud splashing, gator jumpin' ride like this in the whole entire world!

Gatorland's new School of Croc™ Facebook Live Program airs daily at 10 a.m., Monday through Saturday, hosted by Savannah Boan, Crocodilian Enrichment Coordinator and Social Media Director. Due to Gatorland Super Fan interest from all over the world, School of Croc has now surpassed one million views, with its own official T-shirt. Savannah and other animal experts in the park bring viewers up close and personal every day with amazing Gatorland animals including alligators, crocodiles, caimans, Burmese pythons, macaws, monitor lizards, giant tortoises, rare leucistic and albino alligators, and much more.



Guardian Trust

901 Chestnut Street, Suite C
Clearwater, FL 33756
(727) 210-1185
www.guardiantrusts.org

Having identified the need for professional, responsive and client-centered trust administration, the Guardian Trust opened for business in 2002 to provide trust administration for families with special needs. The purpose of a Special Needs Trust (SNT) is typically to help an individual with a disability maintain eligibility or qualify for public assistance programs such as Medicaid and Supplemental Security Income (SSI), while maintaining assets for the person's primary benefit.

Our mission is to protect and maintain an individual's eligibility for these benefits through providing professional trustee services. With no required minimum deposits and no hidden fees, coupled with experienced, professional service, Guardian Trust stands apart from other trustees. Co-Trustee Attorneys Travis Finchum and Kole Long enjoy speaking with families annually at The Family Café about public benefits, the different types of SNTs, and how to plan for your family's future from an estate planning perspective.

We will miss seeing you this year in Orlando but look forward to seeing you in 2021! Give us a call today to see how we can work together for your family.



Innovation in Motion

201 Growth Parkway
Angola, IN 46703
(260) 665-2769
www.mobility-usa.com

Get moving today with Innovation In Motion and experience absolute freedom with our cutting-edge all-terrain wheelchairs, standers, pediatric seating systems & gait trainers. At Innovation In Motion, we strive to supply products that will allow our customers to go where they want to go. BECAUSE THE WORLD IS NOT FLAT. We are the exclusive North American distributor of the Magic Mobility and Ormesa lines. INNOVATION IN MOTION customizes and assembles wheelchairs within our 500,000 sq. ft. manufacturing and warehouse facilities located in Angola, Indiana.



Life Worth Leading / Handicapped SCUBA Association

PO Box 12861
Tallahassee, FL 32317
(850) 321-8222
www.gabrielleconsulting.com

Life Worth Leading is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization based in Tallahassee, Florida, U.S.A. Life Worth Leading uses SCUBA as a way to help improve leadership skills, get people out of their comfort zones, build self-confidence, increase communication skills, improve emotional intelligence, build problem solving skills, and more.

We serve many in need, including veterans and people with disabilities. Our goal is to lead people to resources to improve their lives, to lead people to become better versions of themselves, and to lead their animals to healthy, happy lives.

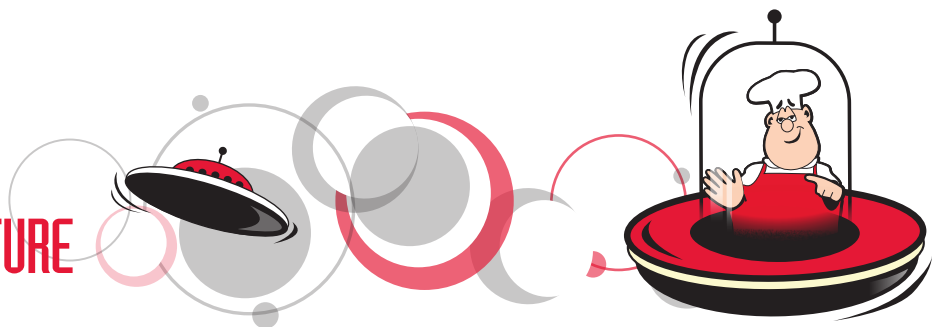


Little Leaves

Two Aquarium Drive, Suite 100
Camden, NJ 08103
(202) 420-8359
www.littleleaves.org

Little Leaves is an ABA program for young children with an Autism Spectrum Disorder and Down Syndrome, offering center-based and in-home services. It is designed for children up to age 6 who have been recommended for intensive ABA services. Each client works one-on-one with a trained behavior technician on individualized goals with a focus on social communication, social interactions, and school readiness skills. The company operates centers in Maryland, Virginia, Florida, and D.C. Little Leaves is accredited by the Behavioral Health Center of Excellence.

2020 VISIONS FOR OUR FUTURE





MM Fitness, LLC
 4053 Kilmartin Drive
 Tallahassee, FL 32309
 (850) 545-9284
www.myfirstworkout.com

My First Workout® is mom-founded kid's fitness program on a mission to build stronger family connections and instill a habit of fitness from the earliest age possible in every child in just 25 minutes, 2 days per week. The key to a healthier tomorrow is getting kids involved today. Named the 2019 National Parenting product award winner, My First Workout® welcomes each and every child to the wonderful world of exercise that does not discriminate in any way, shape or form.

The progressive skill-based program was created by Certified Personal Trainer, Michelle Miller, whose 20-year career includes working with individuals of all ages and fitness levels. My First Workout® comes neatly packaged in a kit containing Program 1 (of the 12-workout series) and 8 kid-friendly pieces of home gym equipment. Michelle hand selected each piece for its practicality, durability and functionality. The exercise programming is available online in both video and poster format so parents can confidently teach the exercises to their children.

This super smart kids-fitness program designed especially for kids age 5 to 10 years old focuses on fun, ease of use and the commitment to helping kids grow stronger physically and emotionally. A child who goes through the My First Workout® program will learn proper lifting technique, safe and effective ways to evenly strengthen and tone the major muscle groups, enhance coordination, balance and stamina, learn proper protocol for warming-up, cooling-down and stretching, and most importantly, develop a habit of exercise from the earliest age possible. All skill levels welcome.



New Horizons Service Dogs
 1590 Laurel Park Court
 Orange City, FL 32763
 (386) 456-0408
www.newhorizonsservicedogs.org

New Horizons Service Dogs, Inc. is a Florida-based, not-for-profit, 501(c)(3) organization that breeds, raises, professionally trains, certifies, and places service dogs with individuals who have mobility and balance problems. We have specialized programs for wounded war veterans, veterans with PTSD, and children with autism. We also have facility dogs assisting in other working situations such as rehabilitative facilities, nursing homes, and private homes, depending on the dog's temperament and abilities.

Since 1995, we have successfully trained and placed over 800 service dogs with recipients throughout Florida. Our dogs assist individuals by performing daily tasks such as pulling wheelchairs, opening and closing doors, helping with laundry, turning light switches on and off, retrieving dropped items, bracing, getting a phone in an emergency, and preventing a child with autism from wandering off.

New Horizons Service Dogs provide a lifetime of unconditional love and service. They increase our recipient's self-sufficiency, independence, mobility, self-esteem, and social interactions. Our dogs enable their partners to attend school and gain employment. Service dog ownership is linked to improved health, fewer doctor's visits, better self-care, and improved overall quality of life.



No Person Left Behind, Inc



No Person Left Behind

704 Homer Avenue North
Lehigh Acres, FL 33971
(239) 826-8696
www.nopersonleftbehind.org

No Person Left Behind is a 501(c)3 nonprofit that provides Disaster Preparedness education for individuals with access and functional needs. We also provided Respiratory/Oxygen Disaster Preparedness Education for individuals with respiratory issues. Our goals are: **Identify** basic needs, **Educate** and **Empower** individuals Access and Functional Needs to take control of their disaster planning. At the same time we provide classes on wheelchair mobility and disaster kit building.



Noah's Ark of Central Florida, Inc.

500 Inspiration Drive
Lakeland, FL 33805
(863) 687-0804x2104
www.noahsarkflorida.org

Noah's Ark of Central Florida, Inc. is a 501(c)3 non profit organization committed to empowering individuals who have developmental disabilities by advocating on their behalf and by providing or facilitating choices of meaningful employment, recreational and social opportunities and affordable housing in an inclusive community of their choice.

Noah's Ark of Central Florida currently offers two low-cost residential rental communities that promote independence and quality of life for residents with developmental or intellectual disabilities.

The Villages at Noah's Landing Community: Similar to active-adult living communities, residents have a variety of home choices and access to a wide range of social, recreational, fitness, educational, and vocational activities and amenities.

Noah's Nest Community: This intimate community offers a more private supported living location that is ideally located, near the charming urban core of Lakeland, Florida. Its location offers the residents easy access to all the activities available in the greater Lakeland area.



Oceans of Hope

PO Box 2051
New Smyrna Beach, FL 32170
(732) 718-1273
www.oceansofhopefoundation.org

Ocean sports without boundaries! Oceans of Hope offers adaptive ocean access for individuals with limited mobility. This includes specialized wheelchairs or assistance to enter the sand, and customized surfboards and kayaks to empower paraplegics and quadriplegics to safely ride the waves or experience kayaking. It is an experience that truly demonstrates "anything" is possible and will be a day forever remembered. Family and friends are encouraged to come and enjoy the day and be a part of the memory-making!



Orange County Supervisor of Elections

PO Box 562001
Orlando, FL 32856
407-836-VOTE (8683)
www.ocfelections.com

The Orange County Supervisor of Elections works to make sure all voters can participate in the election process! There are two more elections this year: August 18 and November 3. The deadline to update your party affiliation and/or register to vote in the August election is July 20.

The deadline to request a vote-by-mail ballot for the August election is 5 p.m. on Saturday, August 8 – be sure we have your updated signature on file! Accessible options are also available when voting in person, either during early voting or on Election Day.



Our City Beautiful

PO Box 740743
Lake Monroe, FL 32747
(386) 872-8839
www.our-city-beautiful.com

Our City Beautiful is a local vision, one that we are excited to share with you, our neighbors & friends. Overall, we aim to create an independent living community in the Central Florida area for individuals with varying abilities. This community property will house several tiny homes, as well as a main house for community gatherings, a garden, and a stable. Transportation will be coordinated so that our residents can travel safely to their jobs.

Our hope is that all of our differently-abled neighbors will have a place of their own they can call home. Maya Angelou wrote, "the ache for home is in all of us . . . the safe place we can go as we are and not be questioned." HOME is our goal. We have just celebrated our year anniversary and the support we have received from the community has been wonderful, including participation in our recent "You've Been Egged!" fundraiser & our "Supper Club" where we provide meals for families who are in need of a helping hand with dinnertime!

This upcoming year we have hopes for a Fall-themed fundraiser and the acquisition of land for our housing community. Our passion is strong, but our need for continued support is mighty. Please reach out to us through ourcitybeautiful@yahoo.com, or Facebook @ourcitybeautiful. We would love to hear your ideas and connect with you to keep you up to date with what's going on in Our City Beautiful.

2020 VISIONS FOR OUR FUTURE





Parenting Special Needs Magazine

516 North Valencia Circle Southwest
Vero Beach, FL 32968
(772) 332-4423
www.parentingspecialneeds.org

Parenting Special Needs Magazine believes in the Power of Parenting: encouraging, informing, empowering, and inspiring you throughout your parenting journey. Your journey is unique: No two children are the same, and no two families face the same challenges. We are here to help support and enlighten you with information you can understand. That guidance comes from many sources, including trusted experts and professionals in many fields, as well as parents who share their practical tips, life lessons, challenges, and joys they have experienced along the way.

Be Encouraged that you are not alone in this journey; we are here to provide support and answers wherever possible! Be Informed through expert advice, focused content, and wisdom shared by parents who have navigated these waters before! Be Empowered as you make choices that will benefit your family! Be Inspired by our unique and informative content and stories! Yes, navigating the special needs world can be challenging, frustrating, scary – Parenting Special Needs Magazine has your back. Whatever you need, whenever you need it, we are here with:

- “Practical Tips”
- “Real Life Stories”
- “Caregiver Care”
- “Developmental Articles”
- “Knowing Your Rights”

Best of all, everything you need is right at your fingertips – no matter where you are. We are the FIRST, FREE, INTERACTIVE, MULTI-MEDIA online, mobile-friendly publication. With Parenting Special Needs Magazine, you can:

- LISTEN to the articles
- READ the text and tips
- WATCH the online videos
- CONNECT with the direct links

In other words – we are here – how, where, and when you need us.



Project 10: Transition Education Network

140 7th Avenue South - SVB 112
Saint Petersburg, FL 33701
(727) 873-4654
www.project10.info

Project 10 provides training, technical assistance and resources. Project 10 supports school district personnel as they assist students with disabilities to prepare for life after high school. Project 10 promotes academic achievement and positive post-school outcomes for secondary students with disabilities through the provision of training and technical assistance to school district personnel and other transition stakeholders.

Project 10 is currently focusing on four major initiatives: Capacity Building, Interagency Collaboration, Transition Legislation and Policy, and Student Development and Outcomes. IDEA (2004) transition-related indicators: Graduation Rate, Dropout Rate, Postsecondary Goals, and Post-school Outcomes.

Project 10 supports graduation success for students with disabilities. Project 10 provides training and technical assistance to Florida schools and districts regarding the effectiveness of using student data and early warning indicators to identify students who may be at risk of not graduating. The Project 10 Early Warning System (EWS) uses a process that increases high school graduation success by assisting school personnel to identify individual student needs and implement strategic interventions.



PS/Rtl - Technology

4558 South Clyde Morris Boulevard, Suite 2
Port Orange, FL 32129
(386) 761-9099
www.tlc-mtss.com

The Technology & Learning Connections (TLC) Team is a part of Florida's Multi-Tiered System of Supports (MTSS) through the Problem Solving/Response to Intervention Project at the University of South Florida. Our services support the local development of highly effective classrooms for all students based on the Florida Standards through a multi-tiered system of supports in a universal education system. The TLC Team provides guidelines and resources to support the implementation of:

- The Florida Standards
- Assistive & Instructional Technology
- Accessible Educational Materials
- Universal Design for Learning

Our staff includes 4 Technology Coordinators and 6 Training Supports Specialist housed at Assistive Technology & Universal Design for Learning Centers. The Team also supports the Regional/Local Assistive Technology Specialist (RLATS & LATS) and their local activities. Our project works collaboratively with other Florida discretionary projects to meet the needs of our Florida districts and students. Sign up for our AT & UDL quarterly newsletter at <https://conta.cc/2RWIhLU>.



Quest, Inc.
1509 East Colonial Drive
Orlando, FL 32803
(407) 218-4326
www.questinc.org

The Quest Team, through quality and innovation, builds communities where people with disabilities achieve their goals. Quest inspires and empowers Central Floridians with disabilities by offering choices and opportunities to learn, live, work and play.

Through Quest's comprehensive family of services, children and adults imagine and achieve their full capabilities. Quest helps people with disabilities as young as 15 months to well over the age of 80 achieve their dream of going to school, having a job, living on their own, and experiencing summer camp. The roots of Quest can be traced to the Central Florida Sheltered Workshop (founded in 1962) and Life Concepts. In 1994, these organizations merged to combine resources and serve a greater number of individuals with disabilities.

Our 55 years of experience has shown us that training and quality care provides self-reliance for these children and adults, helping them find independence and hope. Since its inception, Quest has touched the lives of thousands of people with unique needs. Our focus has always been on the person, not the disability. With nearly 166,000 individuals impacted by a disability in Central Florida alone, our vision and our mission have never been more important or relevant.

Now at more than 26 locations in Orlando and Tampa, Quest continues to build communities where people with disabilities can achieve their goals. Our 50-plus year history is just the beginning.



Removing the Barriers Foundation

2803 Club Circle
 Lake Wales, FL 33898
 (863) 632-1924
www.removingthebarriers.org

Removing the Barriers Initiative, RTBI, is a nonprofit organization dedicated to helping organizations who are working to provide great experiences that are inclusive of people with disabilities. We are an IRS listed 501(c)(3) Public Charity and incorporated in Florida.

It brightens our day when we brighten the day of someone by removing their barriers to great experiences. With support from the church and business community we are able to move from site to site, event to event, with our specialized equipment in order to make programs inclusive of all abilities.

- Camps
- Festivals
- Expos
- Beach Excursions
- Community Events
- Retreats
- Gatherings
- Picnics
- And much, much more!



Resource Materials and Technology Center for the Deaf/Hard of Hearing, FIMC-VI, FAVI

207 San Marco Avenue
 Saint Augustine, FL 32084
 (904) 827-2731
www.rmtcdhh.org

Established in 1978 by the Florida Legislature, the Resource Materials and Technology Center: Deaf/Hard of Hearing (RMTCD/HH) is a statewide discretionary project of the Florida Department of Education, Bureau of Exceptional Education and Student Services (BEESS) and functions as a statewide specialized center within the Florida Diagnostic & Learning Resources System (FDLRS) network. The Center is located on the campus of the Florida School for the Deaf and the Blind (FSDB). RMTCD/HH serves as the coordinating unit for accessible materials, including captioned and signed videos, professional development books, and other reference materials. In addition, RMTCD/HH staff provide on-site training and technical assistance to all school districts, families, and other state and federal discretionary projects working with students who are deaf/hard of hearing.

RMTCD/HH plans and works collaboratively with school districts statewide, agencies, associations, and other state and federal discretionary projects, to ensure accessibility and pedagogical needs of all students with hearing loss are met as required by IDEA 2004 and by Florida Statutes. RMTCD/HH works to positively influence student outcomes and graduation rates with an emphasis on college, career and life-readiness by supporting parents and school personnel in Florida serving students who are deaf/hard of hearing from birth to the age of 22. RMTCD/HH is currently focusing on three major initiatives: Capacity Building, Inter-agency Collaboration, and Staff Development.



SEDNET

1407th Avenue South, SVB 110
 Saint Petersburg, FL 33701
 (727) 873-4369
www.sednetfl.info

SEDNET is a network of 19 regional projects that are comprised of the major child serving agencies, community-based service providers, students, and their families. Local school districts serve as fiscal agents for each local regional project.

Within this framework, SEDNET focuses on developing interagency collaboration and sustaining partnerships among professionals and families in the education, mental health, substance abuse, child welfare, and juvenile justice systems serving children and youth with and at-risk of Emotional/Behavioral Disability (E/BD).

Florida's statewide network of SEDNET projects serve as a collaborative resource for school districts, agencies, and families working to promote positive educational and community-based outcomes for children with E/BD. SEDNET currently focuses on the following five initiatives:

- Capacity building to support implementation of effective system of care practices
- Technical assistance and training
- Interagency collaboration
- Systems of care and educational legislation and policy
- Parent and youth development and involvement

Contact your local SEDNET region for more information on services in your area.



SleepSafe Beds/Assured Comfort Beds

3629 Reed Creek Drive
 Bassett, VA 24055
 (866) 852-2337
www.sleepsafebed.com

SleepSafe Beds, LLC offers over thousands of combinations of adaptive safety beds for those with special needs addressing physical and cognitive disabilities. Foundations include fixed, articulating, and HiLo, offered in manual or electric combinations. We believe that the safety of a special needs child, in their sleeping environment, is one of the most important aspects in their daily life.

Four models vary in safety rail height from 8 ¾" to 53". Beds can be padded for children who have seizure activity and safety rails can have screened or clear solid windows to provide light and visibility for the child and caretaker. Padding can be over or around these windows. IV poles and slotted headboards or footboards are available for children needing medical tubing. With articulation, the ability to move its head and knee sections may create a more comfortable environment.

Manufactured in the USA to last a lifetime, the beds are available in Twin, Full, Queen and custom widths and lengths. As Durable Medical Equipment, SleepSafe® Beds are available through DME providers who work with customers to obtain insurance coverage. Also manufactured at our facility are Assured Comfort® Hi-Low Adjustable Beds. The Hi-Low feature is perfect for those requiring therapy, allowing the bed surface to be raised for therapist convenience or allowing for easier transfers in and out of bed. Choose from 3 models in Twin, Full, Queen, and Split-King sizes. Visit AssuredComfortBed.com for information.



Social Security Administration

7185 Bonneval Road, Suite 1
 Jacksonville, FL 32256
 (877) 445-0843
www.socialsecurity.gov

Social Security has provided financial protection for our nation's people for over 80 years. Chances are, you either receive Social Security benefits or know someone who does. With retirement, disability, and survivors benefits, Social Security is one of the most successful anti-poverty programs in our nation's history.

We are passionate about supporting our customers by delivering financial support, providing superior customer service, and ensuring the safety and security of your information — helping you secure today and tomorrow. Support — with you through life's journey . . . Social Security is committed to helping maintain the basic well-being and protection of the people we serve.

We pay benefits to about 64 million people, including retirees, children, widows, and widowers. Service — putting you in control . . . Through your personal my Social Security account, at www.ssa.gov/myaccount/ we are committed to providing superior customer service to put you in control. For additional information visit us at www.ssa.gov, or for information about Social Security & Coronavirus Disease (COVID-19) visit www.ssa.gov/coronavirus/.



Special Needs Lawyers, P.A.

901 Chestnut Street, Suite C
 Clearwater, FL 33756
 (727) 443-7898
www.specialneedslawyers.com

Special Needs Lawyers, P.A. is a unique Florida law firm because of its three Florida Bar Board Certified Elder Law Attorneys. Our attorneys are experts in the fields of Medicaid, Special Needs Trusts, Guardianships, Guardian Advocacy, Long Term Care Planning, and Elder Law.

We understand the unique challenges of planning for a "special needs" beneficiary. Special Needs Trusts can enhance the quality of life of a beneficiary without jeopardizing much-needed government benefits. Through our affiliation with the Guardian Trusts (www.guardiantrusts.org) we are the most experienced and knowledgeable administrators of Special Needs Trusts in the state of Florida.

There are many circumstances where a loved one may not be able to manage their own affairs. It may become necessary to create a Guardianship or Guardian Advocacy for that individual. We can explain the alternatives to guardianship, and if there are no better alternatives, help you through the guardianship process.

If you have a family member with a developmental disability, it can be a struggle navigating numerous governmental systems. It can be difficult to get honest and straight answers. We can help you understand the benefits through Social Security and the various Florida Medicaid programs. Together, we will determine how these valuable programs can help you or a loved one with catastrophic medical and long term care expenses. Let us use our expertise to help you and your family navigate through these various challenges. Call today for an appointment.



Step Up For Students

1901 Ulmerton Road, #180
Clearwater, FL 33762
(904) 742-4606
www.stepupforstudents.org

Step Up For Students is a nonprofit scholarship funding organization that helps administer five programs for Florida schoolchildren.

The Gardiner Scholarship helps Florida families customize education for their children with certain special needs who are ages 3 through 22. The scholarship covers 17 diagnoses, including autism spectrum disorder, Down syndrome, intellectual disability, spina bifida and traumatic brain injury. Parents can use scholarship money toward a combination of approved programs and providers that best meet their children's unique learning needs. These include schools, therapists, curriculum, technology – even a college savings account.

Two scholarships are available for lower-income students, the Florida Tax Credit Scholarship and Family Empowerment Scholarship. Both scholarships give students an option to find the best schools to meet their K-12 learning needs.

The Hope Scholarship Program provides relief to students bullied in public schools. It gives them an opportunity to transfer to a K-12 public school with capacity in another district or to request a scholarship for the student to attend an eligible private school.

The Reading Scholarship Accounts program is an education savings account for third- through fifth-grade students enrolled in public schools who struggle with reading. Worth \$500 each, these educational savings accounts help parents access approved programs and providers to help their children improve their reading skills. Program funds are limited and are available on a first-come, first-served basis.



Tiff's Place

801 International Parkway, Suite 101
Lake Mary, FL 32746
(630) 235-2632
www.tiffsplace.org

Tiff's Place is a resort 100% fully ADA compliant for anyone with severe mobility challenges due to a neurological condition. Our goal is to put entertainment, joy and excitement into the lives of those with disabilities, while providing necessary equipment to safely support them.

My daughter, Tiffany, suffered from Duchenne's disease, a rare form of muscular dystrophy. She read an article in a publication about a place in Dublin, Ireland, equipped with everything anyone would need if they had mobility challenges, called Home-From-Home. We spent an enjoyable 12 days in Ireland visiting The Zoo, John Kennedy Arboretum, Trinity College, Dublin Castle, and the Titanic Museum. This amazing trip was only possible because Home-From Home was 100% accessible for Tiffany and her mobilized wheelchair.

Very quickly we saw the benefit for families unable to enjoy vacations because of the lack of appropriate accommodations existing in the United States. While sitting at the breakfast table in Dublin, Tiffany and I decided we would look for similar locations in the US. To our surprise there simply were not any. We decided we would change that. Although Tiffany is no longer with us, the dream we shared together is becoming a reality in the form of Tiff's Place, soon to be an American home-away-from-home for those with neuromuscular disease and other similar conditions, as well as wounded veterans and their families.

All these underserved members of our society are welcome to vacation with us free from worry about adequate accommodations or other logistical concerns.



United States Tennis Association

10000 USTA Boulevard
Orlando, FL 32827
(407) 718-6343
www.ustaflorida.com

Everyone can play the sport of tennis, with the appropriate equipment. People of any age, environment, condition or ability are invited to enjoy the game. We have everything you need to develop or grow your program, including grants, program curricula, scholarships, coaching opportunities and much more.

Connecting players with programs to meet their needs is top priority, and registering is easy to do and free of charge. If you are thinking of starting an Adaptive Tennis program and need local assistance, contact a tennis representative, also known as a section contact. They can effectively answer questions on a wide range of topics, including financing and education materials.

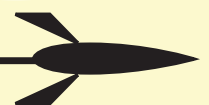
The 2020 Adaptive National Adaptive Championships are scheduled to take place at the USTA National Campus. This is a Unified Doubles tournament which pairs an athlete who has special needs with a partner who does not. USTA sections will host qualifier tournaments this year and send their top teams to Florida for the championship on Oct. 9-11, 2020.

Watch for Entertainment Videos During the *Virtual* Annual Family Cafe!

Featuring Book Readings by Authors:
JR Harding • Tony Hernandez-Pumarejo
Kat Magnoli • Paloma Rambana



2020 VISIONS FOR OUR FUTURE



2020 MICRO-ENTERPRISE ORGANIZATIONS

Each year at The Annual Family Café, our Exhibit Hall includes a number of Micro-Enterprises.

A Micro-Enterprise is a small business that is owned and operated by a person with a disability. Entrepreneurship and small business provides a path to sustainable income and independence for people with disabilities. That's why The Family Café makes an effort to highlight these unique businesses. Maybe these Micro-Enterprises will spark an idea for you to start one of your own!

Accelerated Virtual Services, LLC

13706 Sand Bluff Lane
Grand Island, FL 32735
(800) 882-9570
www.acceleratedvirtualseervices.com

Accelerated Virtual Services offers virtual call center services.

Acrylic Spectrum

8949 East Cashiers Court
Inverness, FL 34450
(904) 814-9054
www.acrylicspectrum.com

Acrylic Spectrum creates acrylic pouring artwork.

Alecs

PO Box 11206
Orlando, FL 32803
(407) 310-7818

Alecs offers framed puzzles, jewelry, and blankets.

Ally Craft Pursuits

19 Zorach Place
Palm Coast, FL 32164
(386) 627-6856
www.facebook.com/groups/486560435145641/

Ally Craft Pursuits offers diamond paintings, puzzles, and Dippin' Dots.



Autism Art by Drew & Tiffany

1650 Sand Lake Road, Suite 240
Orlando, FL 32809
(407) 416-2134
www.facebook.com/pg/Autism-Art-1622106718005056

Autism Art by Drew & Tiffany has art by kids with autism.

Brower Gals Boutique/Sparkles, Smiles & Sass

490 Saul Road Southwest
Palm Bay, FL 32908
(321) 205-4115
www.pararazziaccessories.com

Brower Gals Boutique/Sparkles, Smiles & Sass sells clothing, accessories, and jewelry.

Buddy Cruise, Inc.

PO Box 162
Lithia, FL 33547
(877) 239-2789
www.buddycruise.org

Buddy Cruise is an educational conference/cruise for people with disabilities.

Cute Kitties

1739 Atrium Drive
Sun City Center, FL 33573
(813) 789-1208
www.facebook.com/favkitties

Cute Kitties sells plushes, patches, and pillows.

Dressing Buddies

6026 Sanctuary Garden Boulevard
Port Orange, FL 32128
(386) 852-9527

Dressing Buddies provides aides to help people with disabilities with getting dressed.



Florida Service Dogs, Inc.

PO Box 14810
Jacksonville, FL 32238
(904) 704-9591
www.floridaservicedogs.org

Florida Service Dogs provides education about service animals.

Florida Sibling Alliance

9020 NW 8th St #201
Miami, FL 33172
(407) 319-3049
flsiballiance.weebly.com

Florida Sibling Alliance offers information for siblings of Floridians with disabilities.

Gardens of Life

PO Box 11206
Orlando, FL 32803
(407) 310-7818

Gardens of Life creates arts and crafts.

Hidden Star Graphics

www.hiddenstargraphics.com

Hidden Star Graphics sells plush toys, jewelry, and comic books.

Hugs of Florida, Inc

PO Box 1537
Largo, FL 33779
(727) 851-6705
www.hugsflorida.org

Hugs of Florida is a support group for people with neurological conditions.



Ian's Arts

539 West Maxwell Street
Lakeland, FL 33803
(863) 660-0528
www.facebook.com/lansArTs/

Ian's Arts offers custom digital art, prints, and visual art products.

Incredible Memories

2009 Viper Drive
Tampa, FL 33621
(813) 817-1204
www.incrediblememoriestravel.com

Incredible Memories offers travel services for families with disabilities.

Jacob's Creations

PO Box 732
Cross City, FL 32628
(352) 440-9700

Jacob's Creations sells framed handmade puzzles and dog bandanas.

James Williams & Handwriting Repair/Handwriting That Works

165 North Allen Street, First Floor
Albany, NY 12206
(518) 482-6763
www.handwritingthatworks.com

Handwriting Repair/Handwriting That Works offers assistive/instructional devices for handwriting.

Jennifer's Heart

204 Ventura Drive
Sanford, FL 32773
(407) 474-4101

Jennifer's Heart creates heart-shaped perler bead coasters.



Jewelry by Jeanné

5339 Hansel Avenue C-16
Orlando, FL 32809
(407) 369-0166

Jewelry by Jeanné creates jewelry and artwork using recycled materials.

Karla's Kookies

17338 Northwest 61st Place
Miami, FL 33015
(305) 773-5406

Karla's Kookies sells cookies and baked goods.

Lanno Sweet Shop

1089 South Kirman Road, 190
Orlando, FL 32811
(407) 866-2578
www.lannosweetshop.com

Lanno Sweet Shop offers a variety of baked goods.

Lumber Studios

71 Northeast 48th Court
Oakland Park, FL 33334
(954) 695-7292

Lumber Studios offers wood puzzles and magnets.

Melissa's Honeybee Meadow

62 Sanctuary Avenue
DeBary, FL 32713
(386) 561-1417
www.melissahoneybeemeadow.com

Melissa's Honeybee Meadow provides greeting cards & home décor.



Natural Dog Treats Bakery, LLC

9958 Via Bernini
Lake Worth, FL 33467
www.naturaldogbakery.com

Natural Dog Treats Bakery offers healthy dog treats.

Noah's Ark of Central Florida, Inc.

500 Inspiration Drive
Lakeland, FL 33805
(863) 687-0804
www.noahsarkflorida.org

Noah's Ark of Central Florida sells pet treats and jewelry.

Noni's Style Fashion Boutique

991 Woodlark Drive
Davenport, FL 33844
(407) 233-0743

Noni's Style Fashion Boutique has jewelry and braids.

Our Blessed Earth, LLC

PO Box 8221
Seminole, FL 33775
(727) 688-2511
www.ourblessedearth.com

Our Blessed Earth offers crystal stones and jewelry.

Perler Crazy Creations

207 Amber Boulevard
Auburndale, FL 33823
(863) 662-1250
www.facebook.com/PerlerCrazyCreations/

Perler Crazy Creations creates unique bead art.



Raquel Beautiful

706 Fox Valley Drive
Longwood, FL 32779
(727) 432-0061
www.raquelbeautiful.com

Raquel Beautiful makes handmade jewelry.

Reenie's Breads

8467 Bayou Boardwalk, Apartment 103
Seminole, FL 33777
(727) 641-7947

Reenie's Breads offers gourmet sweet breads, autism awareness magnets, and charms.

Relaxed Vacations

13269 Daniels Landing Circle
Winter Garden, FL 34787
(407) 728-9023
www.relaxed.vacations

Relaxed Vacations provides travel services for the special needs community.

Sarasota Honey Company

725 45th Street
Sarasota, FL 34234
(941) 726-8755
www.sarasotahoney.com

Sarasota Honey Company offers honey, beauty products, and candles.

Scotty's Cause

5285 CR 171
Wildwood, FL 34785
(352) 901-8537

Scotty's Cause sells toys and games.



Selah Coffee Shop 21

13071 Island Bay Drive, Apartment 203
Orlando, FL 32828
(407) 443-7282
www.selahcoffeeshop21.com

Selah Coffee Shop 21 offers coffee mugs, coasters, and t-shirts.

Southern Creations Face Painting

221 Fiji Palm Lane
Plant City, FL 33566
(727) 599-1009
www.facebook.com/SouthernCreationsFacePainting

Southern Creations Face Painting does free face painting.

Special Java Café

6977 Hancock Drive
Port Saint Lucie, FL 34952
(772) 708-2137
www.specialjavacafe.com

The Special Java Cafe is an employment training center that instructs adults with intellectual and developmental disabilities in an actual work environment.

Sunshine State Superkids

363 Sky Valley Street
Clermont, FL 34711
(352) 988-5449
www.sunshinestatesuperkids.com

Sunshine State Superkids runs a soap box derby.

The Chocolate Spectrum

7261 160th Street North
Palm Beach Gardens, FL 33418
(561) 277-9886
www.thechocolatespectrum.com

The Chocolate Spectrum offers a variety of chocolate treats.



The Woody Foundation

12500 Virtudes Street
Coral Gables, FL 33156
(305) 586-3107
www.woodyfoundation.org

The Woody Foundation provides a collection of assistive devices for people with limited hand functioning in the Woody Pack and SMART Kit.

Xceptional Xcessories

16120 Southwest 21st Court
Ocala, FL 34473
(863) 258-6624

Xceptional Xcessories offers jewelry, keychains, and disability awareness merchandise.

Z-ART21

(407) 233-8018
www.zart21.com

Z-ART21 promotes awareness of Down syndrome through art.

Zealous Women, Inc.

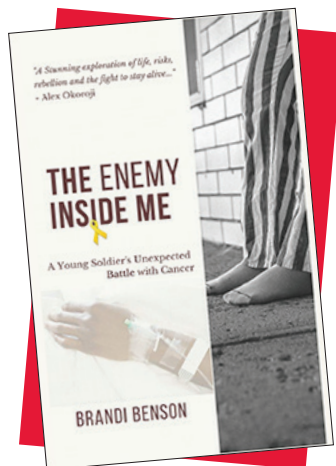
PO Box 20829
Tallahassee, FL 32316
(850) 590-2134

Zealous Women is a motivational and encouragement event.





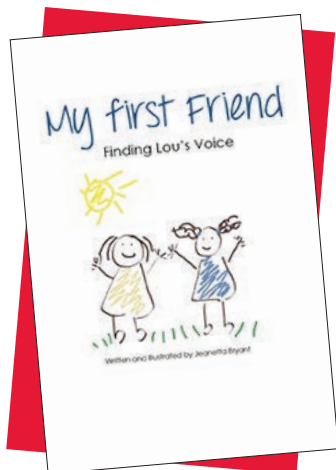
Over the years, we've found that a good number of our Micro-Enterprise exhibitors are authors. For The 22nd Annual Family Café, we had planned on hosting a small book fair where authors could share their work. Here's the list of books and authors that were scheduled to be part of The Family Café Book Fair.



The Enemy Inside Me

Brandi Benson
brandi@brandilbenson.com

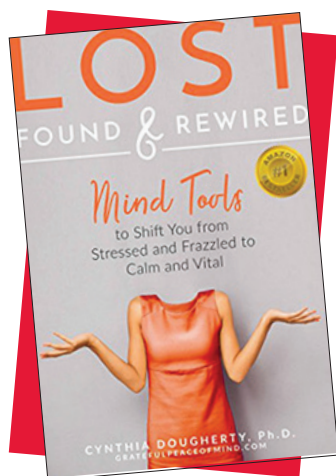
Brandi Benson had only recently come into her new life as a soldier in the U.S. Army when she was sent to wartime Iraq, just months after basic training. She forms a mental picture of the threats she might face, composed of M16s, hand grenades, and land mines. Her first encounter with a dangerous threat comes during an airplane ride to a hospital in Germany and ironically propels her toward an internal battle that leaves her reeling in shock. To Brandi's surprise, this threat does not appear in the form of men with machine guns, but on a medical scan that reads, "Ewing's Sarcoma." Once a vibrant 24-year old looking the picture of fitness and perfect health, Brandi faces a different type of war that requires new weapons: hope, faith, and strength. *The Enemy Inside Me* is a poignant, yet true account of a young soldier's fight with cancer, that begins miles away from enemy lines. Her journey is a gripping reminder that every moment is a gift and every breath is a blessing.



My First Friend: Finding Lou's Voice

Jeanetta Bryant
Jeanetta@AbilitiesWorkshop.com

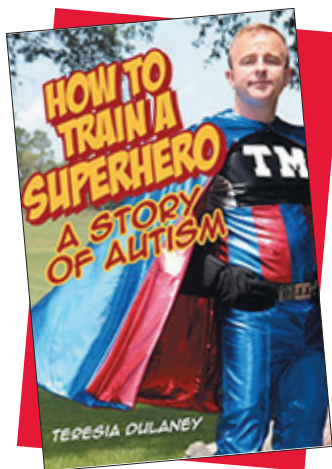
This is a cheerful story of hope, inspiration, and friendship about children with disabilities, and how friendship changes lives.



Lost, Found and Rewired

Cynthia Dougherty
Cynthia@Doccynthia.com

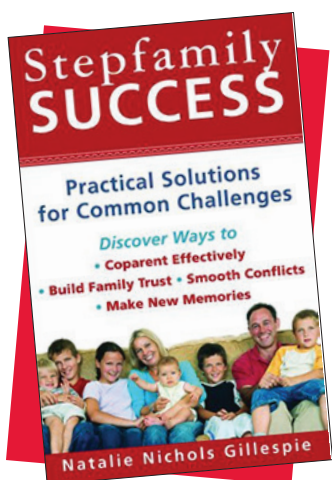
The world has changed at lightning speed over the last two decades. As a result, most of us are living our lives in a frantic blur of incessant emails, social media engagement, text messages, as well as an overabundance of multi-tasking – which leaves our minds in a state of low concentration, high stress and fragmented attention. Our minds are wasting away in this damaging environment which has become a normal way of life for the majority of people. *Lost, Found & Rewired* will give you the tools you need to shut off that distracting mind chatter, and rewire your brain so you can get back to feeling calm, happy, purposeful, connected and joyful. When you understand how your brain has evolved, then you will be able to learn how to rewire it and reap the endless benefits.



How to Train a Superhero: A Story of Autism

Teresia Dulaney
oursuperherolife@gmail.com

How to Train a Superhero: A Story of Autism is a must read for all parents. This book was written to encourage and inspire any parent or person, not just parents of children with disabilities. Teresia shares her journey of raising two sons on the autism spectrum. Within these pages there is laughter, tears, passion and encouragement, as Teresia shares their search for diagnosis, the challenges they faced training them up, and her personal testimony of God's revelation concerning their disabilities. She reveals the ten lessons her sons taught her and stories of the amazing way that God is using them for his purpose. Even though this is a story of autism, there are many biblical truths about raising children. You will be encouraged and uplifted by this amazing story about an ordinary family who by God's grace raises two superheroes for his glory.



Stepfamily Success

Natalie Gillespie
natalie@hihiadopt.org

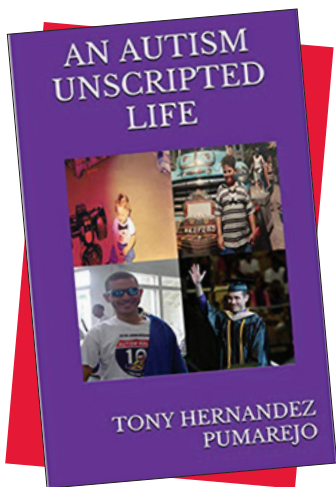
Statistics tell us that one in three Americans is a member of a stepfamily. Though rarely acknowledged in churches even today, millions of Christians struggle with the obstacles common in divorce and remarriage. A stepmother herself, Natalie Gillespie offers hope and healing to stepfamilies who are striving to achieve harmony in their households. This handbook addresses the many issues stepfamilies work through, including part-time parenting, discipline, issues with former spouses, and intimidating legal battles. With clear, readable prose and helpful suggestions, it will put any stepfamily on the road to wholeness.



Now What?

JR Harding
jr@jrharding.com

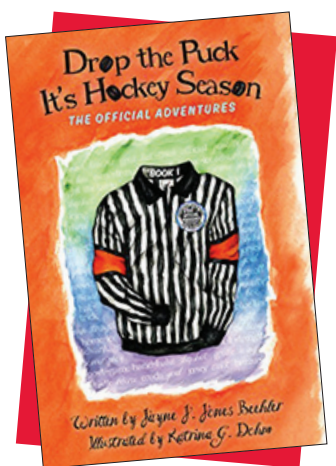
At sixteen his life changed tragically forever. Fifteen years later, the unimaginable strikes again. JR tells of his inspirational journey from adolescence to adulthood by asking himself "Now What?" He was able to break down both personal and social barriers so that he could get back into the game of life and succeed.



An Autism Unscripted Life

Tony Hernandez-Pumarejo
 tonyhpuma@gmail.com

Autism and disabilities advocate Tony Hernandez-Pumarejo knew that there was something different about him early on in his life. He was diagnosed with Asperger’s Syndrome, an Autism spectrum disorder, at the age of 3. However, he didn’t find out that he had Asperger’s until later in life. As he was growing up, he dealt with the different challenges that came with being on the Autism spectrum, such as verbal impairment, communication, anxiety, depression and social relationship issues. In addition, he dealt with cases of bullying, rejection and other struggles in his life. Despite these setbacks, Tony didn’t let his “disability” control and determine what he could accomplish in life. *An Autism Unscripted Life* talks about the story of Tony and the challenges and life situations that he went through that are common and uncommon for a person with Autism. From child to adult, Tony will talk about how he dealt with those situations, the struggles that he went through, and how he was able to overcome those challenges. He will also talk about his key accomplishments in life so far, hobbies, the challenges in the Autism community and much more.



Drop the Puck, It's Hockey Season (The Official Adventures)

Jayne Jones
 jayne@officialadventures.org

Drop the Puck, It's Hockey Season, an early reader chapter book released Memorial Day 2015, tells the tale of two brothers, Blaine and Cullen. On and off the ice, they have deep love for the game and each other! Cullen is the all-star team captain and his brother Blaine is the team manager. Not just another children’s book about hockey, it is a new children’s book that is modernizing children’s literature. In our book Blaine, who has Down syndrome, is clearly the “unsung hero” of the team. Blaine’s leadership and unselfish actions speak louder than any textual words. Young readers are able to learn respect and a better understanding for the challenges individuals with special needs face on a daily basis. The brothers join Rylee and Rosee, America’s favorite referees, in game day adventures that will have elementary school aged readers laughing out loud, fist bumping the pages and cheering for more stories.



Everything You Need to Know About Wheelchair Accessible Cruising

Sylvia Longmire
 sylvia@spintheglobe.net

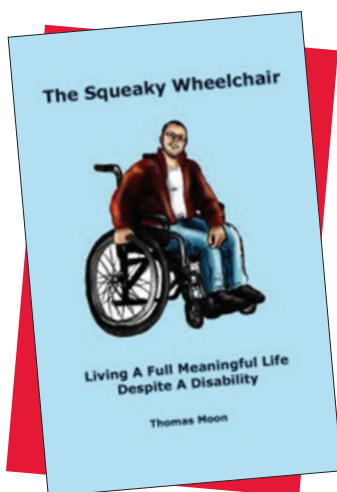
Are you a wheelchair user or someone with limited mobility? Have you always dreamed of going on a cruise, but weren’t sure if such a trip was even possible? Have you already cruised, but want to know more about what accessible ships and itineraries are out there to explore? Then this guide is absolutely for you!



The Adventures of KatGirl

Katherine Magnoli
katmagnoli@gmail.com

The Adventures of KatGirl is about a superhero in a wheelchair who helps children who are being bullied. Each story touches on a different topic of differences that children may face. There are four stories. They are as follows; "The Adventures of KatGirl," about disability bullying. "The Adventures of KatGirl and the Birthday Party," that discusses childhood obesity. Then there is "The Adventures of KatGirl and the Spelling Bee" about living with deafness and having to use sign language. Lastly, there is "The Adventures of KatGirl and the School Project" that talks about racial bullying during Culture Week at school. These books will not only take you on an adventure but teach your child that first impressions are not always what they seem!

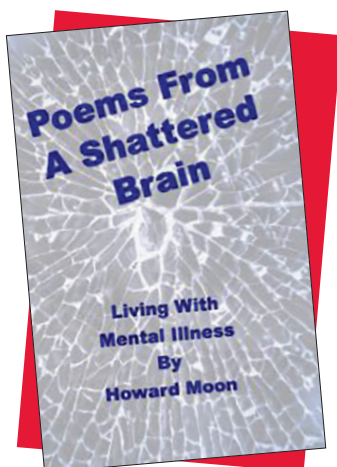


The Squeaky Wheelchair – Living a Full and Meaningful Life Despite a Disability

Thomas Moon
tj@howmoon.com

The Squeaky Wheelchair is about the disabled. About living with a disability. About parenting a child with a disability. About civil rights and advocacy for those with disabilities. About issues and events that affect the disabled.

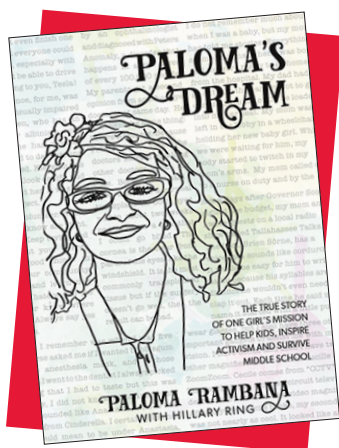
Thomas Moon is a business person and advocate living in Ocala, Florida. He is also a young man in a wheelchair. Thomas was the recipient of the Idelio Valdes Leadership and Advocacy Award in 2011. He was appointed to the Florida Developmental Disability Council in early 2013 by Governor Scott. Howard Moon is Thomas's dad. He is an advocate. Former Florida Governors Bush and Crist appointed him to the Florida Human Rights Council where he served for a number of years as Chairperson for the Central Florida area. Both Thomas and Howard are active as advocates both at the local level in Ocala and Central Florida, and at the state level in Tallahassee.



Poems From A Shattered Brain – Living with Mental Illness

Howard Moon
howardocala@gmail.com

Howard Moon has survived two major strokes that left his brain shattered. These poems reflect his experiences and thoughts about living with mental illness and healing his damaged and battered brain. The poems are based on real life experiences and reflect the daily struggles he faces and how he overcomes those struggles. Living with a mental illness and living with a shattered brain is a challenge – but it is a challenge that can be overcome. It is possible to live a happy and full life despite mental illness. Howard lives with a brain injury (TBI) as well. He speaks at brain injury conferences on surviving a brain injury and living with a brain injury. Howard also speaks at disability conferences about living with a disability.

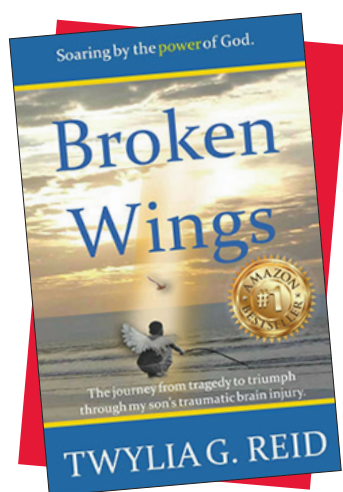


Paloma's Dream: The True Story of One Girl's Mission to Help Kids, Inspire Activism, and Survive Middle School

Paloma Rambana
 elizabeth@rambana.com

In a world where lobbyists are big and carry briefcases, one little girl with an iPad walked into the Florida state capitol and made a big difference. Meet Paloma Rambana, who was just an above average fourth grader until she successfully lobbied the State of Florida legislature.

Paloma's Dream details how a spunky fourth grader helped secure \$1 million in funds for blind and visually impaired kids. Born with a rare eye condition called Peter's Anomaly, Paloma became "the Little Lobbyist who made a Big Difference." She tells her story with spirit, humor, and heart in a memoir that is sure to inspire kindness and activism in people of all ages.



Broken Wings

Twylia Reid
 info@twyliareid.com

Broken Wings is a true story of a mother's unwavering love and courage for her son in the aftermath of a car accident. The main character, Mylon, was in all respects a bright young man on track towards the future he imagined when his life changed forever.

Reid artfully describes the medical, emotional and spiritual difficulties of a Traumatic Brain Injury (TBI) survivor and his caregiver as she shares the pain of her son's TBI diagnosis, and her commitment to support him through recovery and learning to live anew. She walks readers through accounts of emotional struggle and moments of despair following the accident, and reveals the strain of being thrust into bleak circumstances and uncertain outcomes. She then leads readers on a path to victory through faith, prayer and her commitment to optimism.

2020 VISIONS FOR OUR FUTURE





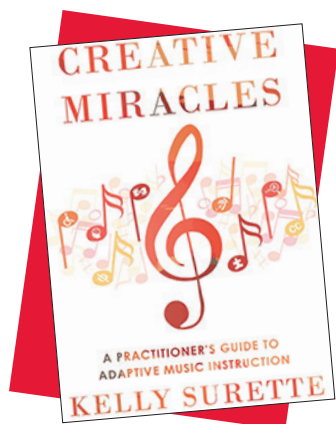
Fixing BooBoo: A story of traumatic brain injury

Pat Stanford
fixingbooboo@gmail.com

Do you know a person with a brain injury? Pat did. Her sister, Barb, needed help and Pat wanted to help.

All Barb really wanted was to be treated like everyone else, but it was difficult since she was born with cerebral palsy. All the family wanted was for her to be safe and well cared for, especially after a life-changing accident that left her brain-injured. Stubborn and determined, Barb carved out a life for herself, overcoming many obstacles. After her husband died, she needed assistance to cope with daily meals and chores.

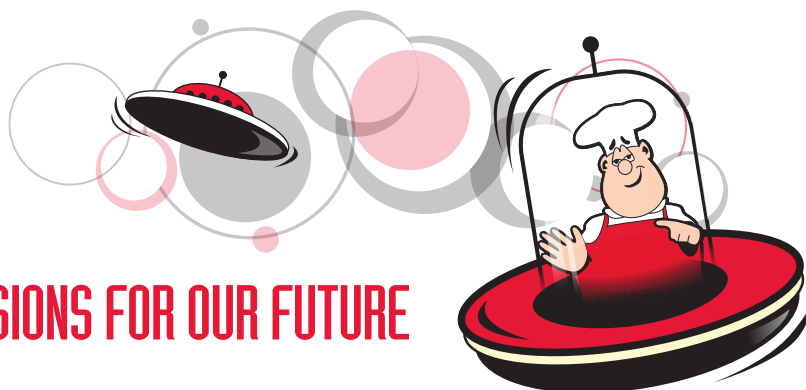
Her sister and brother-in-law encouraged her to sell her house and come live with them. The family thought they were providing a home for a family member, but they had no idea what dealing with brain injury meant. They found out! This is a story of one family and the struggles they faced to live with the diagnosis of Brain Injury.



Creative Miracles: A Practitioner's Guide to Adaptive Music Instruction

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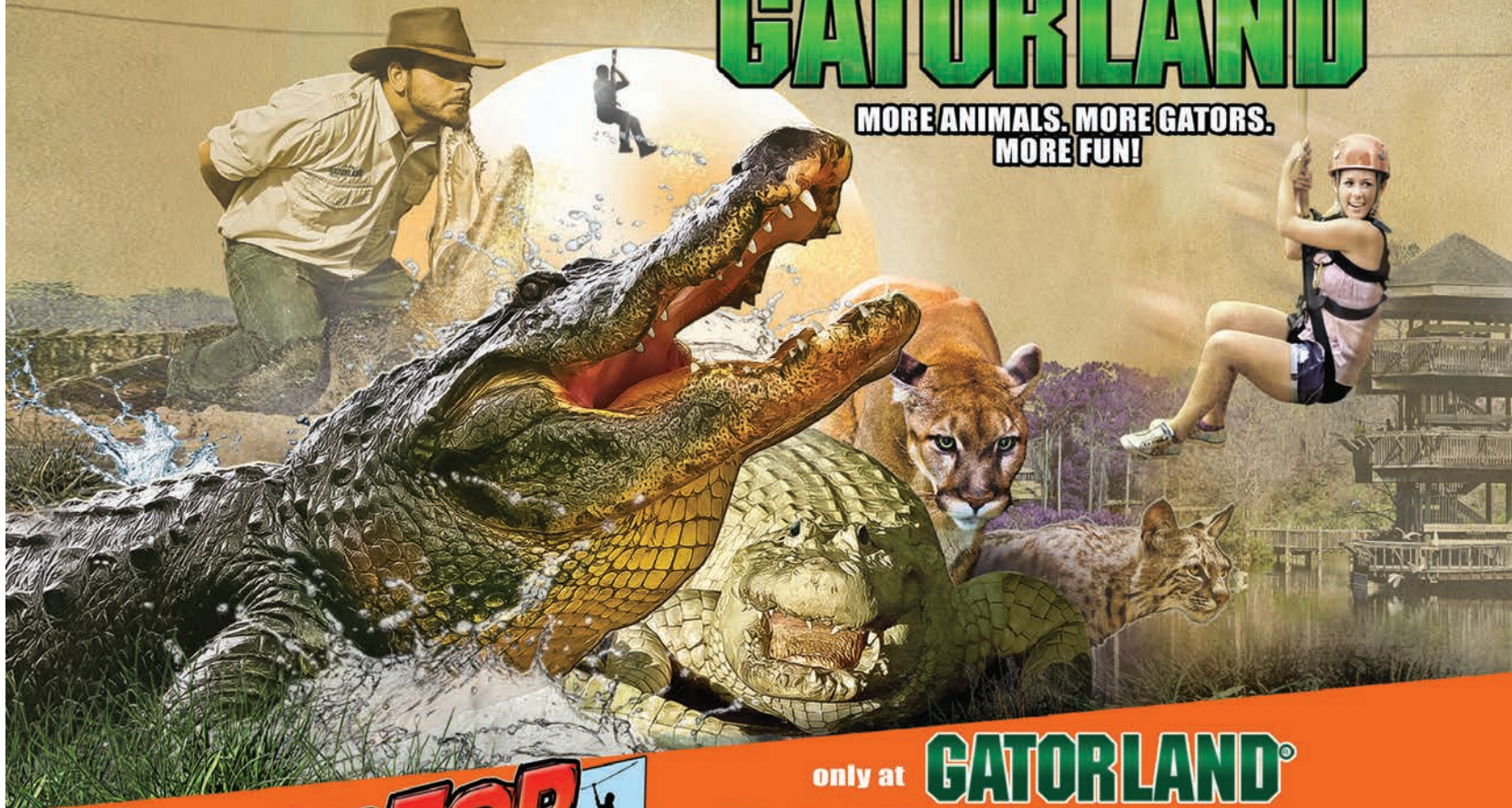
Creative Miracles: A Practitioner's Guide to Adaptive Music Instruction provides an in-depth look at the adaptive music classroom and offers practical strategies and suggestions as to how music can be adapted to those with hearing loss and to those who have cognitive, intellectual, and other related disabilities. Written from the perspective of an experienced, passionate adaptive music educator who has worked with students with disabilities for over a decade, this book initiates a long overdue conversation about the landscape of adaptive music instruction and the ways it can transform the lives of students and teachers alike.



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agency for persons with disabilities
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ADVOCACY EQUALITY DIGNITY

Disability Rights Florida assists people with disabilities to solve disability-related problems. We will provide you with the necessary tools and information to advocate for your rights. However, certain issues may require our legal assistance. We are here to help you with:

- Disputes involving Medicaid, SSDI, and SSI eligibility;
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- Abuse, neglect, and rights violations in an institution, prison or jail;
- Access to mental health and support services that provide individualized treatment;

- Rights to a least restrictive environment, community integration, privacy, choice, dignity, and other rights;
- Barriers to a free and appropriate education, K-12 special education, transition services, and post-secondary education;
- Investigation of stolen or misused funds, exploitation, or neglect by representative payees;
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- Access to assistive technology;
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If we cannot be of direct assistance, we refer people to other sources of help.

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THE 13TH ANNUAL **YOUTH** SUMMIT

A CONFERENCE FOR
YOUTH & EMERGING
LEADERS WITH
DISABILITIES



AS SUMMER COMES TO AN END, JOIN
THE FLORIDA YOUTH COUNCIL FOR ONE BIG
LAST HURRAH AT **THE 13TH ANNUAL YOUTH SUMMIT
(AYS) ON JULY 31 - AUGUST 1, 2020 IN ORLANDO!**

The Annual Youth Summit is a place for **young people with disabilities between the ages of 15 and 30** from communities across the state of Florida to come together to learn, share, and network. This two-day event is hosted by The Florida Youth Council, a group of youth and emerging leaders with disabilities who have a passion for encouraging leadership and advocacy among their peers. The FYC is all about youth empowerment and youth involvement, and the entire Annual Youth Summit is planned **by youth, for youth!**

The 13th Annual Youth Summit will bring together over **200 youth** and emerging leaders to attend engaging youth-only sessions on a wide variety of topics, including transition, workplace preparedness, and post-secondary schooling. We also have a great, youth-friendly keynote and fun social activities planned for The Summit, including a dance party to cap off the festivities. There will be plenty of opportunities for attendees to network, and share their thoughts, experiences, and aspirations.

The 13th Annual Youth Summit will be held at The Florida Hotel and Conference Center in Orlando **July 31 - August 1, 2020**. If you are not requesting financial assistance please contact The Florida Hotel and Conference Center directly at **407-859-1500** to make reservations. The room rate is **\$109 per night**. Limited financial assistance is available.

WE'LL SEE YOU THERE!



For more information
about the event, or to register,
contact **The Florida Youth Council** and **The Family Café**
at **888-309-2233**, or visit **www.FloridaYouthCouncil.com**

Join the momentum!

Take part in The Family Café's newest program,
the Family-Run Organization Movement (FROM)!

The Mission of FROM is to engage, support, empower and advocate for family, youth and peer-run organizations.

FROM will provide a wide range of supports and services, including leadership training, governance enhancement, program support, monthly collaborative forums, a program newsletter, and other resources to help organizations attain new levels of participation in the system of care.

Local family-run organizations are a critical part of the service delivery system, bringing families and youth together, connecting them with information, resources, and each other. FROM is here to help them thrive!

To join and get more information please see the FROM link at www.familycafe.net or call 850-224-4670



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