

**Family Resource
Center for
Disabilities &
Special Needs**

The Coalition

**Parent Training
&
Resource Center**

May 2013

Do You Know the ABCs of IEPs?

Not sure?? Then mark your calendar to join us for the 15th Conference on Disabilities

**Saturday, September 21, 2013
The Citadel
Mark Clark Hall - 9:00 - 3:30
“The ABCs of IEPs”**

Our day-long conference will feature a keynote speaker, general & break-out sessions along with a catered lunch. Local & state agencies & organizations will be on site to share their resources and to answer questions. You can even support the work of the Family Resource Center by shopping at the silent auction.

Opening remarks will be provided by Cathy Boshamer, the Director of the Office of Exceptional Children, SC State Department of Education. Dr. Mitch Yell will be among our featured speakers. Mitch is a professor in Special Education in the College of Education at the University of South Carolina. He spent 16 years as a special education teacher and has taught in elementary, middle, and secondary classrooms for students with mild intellectual disabilities, learning disabilities, emotional and behavioral disorders, and autism. His professional interests include special education law, evidence-based interventions for children and youth with disabilities, school wide positive behavior support, and progress monitoring. For the past 26 years he has conducted extensive research on legal issues in special education. He is the author of 3 textbooks (*The Law and Special*

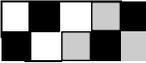
Education, Evidence-Based Interventions for Students with Emotional and Behavioral Disorders, and No Child Left Behind) and has recently started working on *The Pocket Guide to Special Education Law*. At this conference Dr. Yell will provide talks on “Recognizing & Writing Measurable Annual Goals” & “Important Examples in Case Law”.

Other Conference Topics will include:

- ◆ Understanding the Difference Between Accommodations & Modifications
- ◆ Using Functional Behavior Assessments and Behavior Intervention Plans to Improve Skills
- ◆ Connecting Present Levels of Academic & Functional Performance with IEP Goals
- ◆ Preparing for the IEP Meeting
- ◆ New Resources in Transition Planning

The full agenda is still being planned but we guarantee the information will be relevant, useful, and of high quality! As usual, the catered lunch provided will be delicious and well worth the \$10 conference fee. There will be an awards ceremony during lunch and plenty of opportunities to network, reconnect with old friends, visit the resource tables, and bid on silent auction items.

It's not too soon to register. Early registration will guarantee your lunch. If inclement weather cancels the conference, refunds will be provided. A conference registration form is provided on page & should be mailed to FRC, 1575 Savannah Highway, Ste. 6, Charleston, SC 29407. Please make checks payable to the FRC.



Do You Know an Outstanding Advocate?

The FRC likes to honor the hard working and committed advocates in our community. At each of our Disability Conferences we acknowledge these special people with the following awards: Teacher of the Year - Advocate of the Year - Parent Advocate of the Year - Self Advocate of the Year. The FRC is accepting nominations for these honors. To nominate someone from the tri-county for one of these awards, please send a paragraph or two explaining why your nominee deserves the award, along with contact information from you. If your nominee is chosen for an award, you will be asked to make the award presentation at the conference on Sept. 21st. The award winners will be invited as conference guests. Nominate your favorite advocate by email (bevmccarty@frcdsn.org) or usps: FRC, 1575 Savannah Hwy, Ste. 6, Charleston, SC 29407. FRC staff or contractors (such as Peer Parent Mentors) are not eligible for nomination.

Help Us Help Families

Please consider making a donation to our silent auction. We can use new/unused decorative items, events/attractions/restaurant certificates, gift baskets, artwork, jewelry, toys, wearable items, services & food. Don't have any of these? Ask your friends, family, or local merchants to make a donation to our cause. The funds generated through the silent auction support our work with families of children with disabilities in Berkeley, Dorchester, & Charleston Counties.

The Family Resource Center is a non-profit organizations and donations are tax deductible under IRS guidelines. If you can help, call us at 266-1318

SAVE THE DATE - 10/19/13

Transition Conference

Midlands Tech - Columbia, SC

More details in our next Newsletter

2nd Annual Autism Forum



When: September 7, 2013
Registration begins at 9:30,
Conference at 10

Where: Sottile Theater &
College of Charleston

Presented by the Lowcountry Autism Forum

The full Forum agenda is currently being planned . Topics will include:

- Top Ten Advances in ASD Research
Presented by Dr. Jane Charles
- A Report on the new DSM-V
Presented by Dr. Laura Carpenter
- An Update on the Prevalence of ASD
- An Update on MUSC's SUCCESS project
- A session on Navigating Insurance & Medicaid
- Autism & First Responders
- Building Effective Parent Advocacy Skills
- Journey to Adulthood: What Parent Need to Know about Puberty & Sexuality
- Crash Course in Special Education

James Emmett, with Social Coaching Institute, will be one of the featured speakers. Mr. Emmett will present workshops on more than one topic. It is expected that CEUs will be available for some disciplines.

Registration & conference updates will be available on a website which is currently under development and should be up by late June. Once the website is open, the FRC will post it on our Facebook page. So like us on Facebook & check periodically in June for the latest updates. On-line registration is the preferred method, but if you are unable to register on-line you may call the FRC at 843-266-1318 where someone will complete on-line registration for you. This event is free & includes lunch.



The contents of this newsletter were developed under a grant from the US Department of Education, # H328C110017. However, contents do not necessarily represent the policy of the US Department of Education, and you should not assume endorsement by the Federal Government.



The Advocacy Institute

The Advocacy Institute is an independent, not-for-profit organization, dedicated to services and projects that work to improve the lives of children, youth and adults with disabilities. They have recently authored a new report for the National Center for Learning Disabilities, *Diplomas at Risk: A Critical Look at the Graduation Rate of Students with Learning Disabilities*. The report provides state-by-state information on how students with learning disabilities are leaving high school - via a regular diploma, an alternate certificate, or dropping out. The report provides state-by-state findings on graduation data, as well as looking at the dizzying array of diploma options, certificates, and allowances for students with disabilities. They found that 34 states offer multiple exit options for students with disabilities. The number and types of options appears to, at least in some instances, result in fewer students with disabilities earning a regular diploma. Find out how South Carolina is doing. Visit The Advocacy Institute's website (www.advocacyinstitute.org/) to read *Diplomas at Risk* as well as all of the other wonderful resources they make available. With their Advocacy Academy Rewind you can access one of their free archived webinars per month. While visiting the website, sign up for their free electronic newsletter. The Advocacy Institute definitely should be on your Internet Favorites list.

Keeping All Children Safe Act: Congressional Update

On May 9, U.S. Rep. George Miller (D-CA), the senior Democrat on the Education and the Workforce Committee, reintroduced legislation to protect schoolchildren from abusive use of physical restraints and solitary confinement while in school. The *Keeping All Students Safe Act* would, for the first time, set minimum safety standards in the nation's schools, similar to those protections already required at medical and community-based facilities. It would provide school personnel with the necessary tools, training, and support they need to ensure the safety of all students and school personnel.

"Without Congressional action, children will continue to suffer from these abusive practices," said Rep.

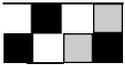
Miller. "This legislation would make practices such as duct-taping children to chairs or restricting a child's breathing illegal. It makes it very clear that there is no room for torture and abuse in America's schools."

A 2009 investigation by the U.S. Government Accountability Office found hundreds of allegations of child abuse, including deaths, as a result of misuses of restraint and seclusion in public and private schools largely by untrained staff. Unlike in hospitals and other facilities that receive federal funding, there are no federal laws that address how and when restraint or seclusion can be used in schools.

State laws on restraint and seclusion vary widely, leaving the safety of child largely dependent on the state they live. The Keeping All Students Safe Act would direct the Secretary of Education to establish minimum standards that would:

- * prohibit elementary and secondary school personnel from managing any student behavior by using any mechanical or chemical restraint, physical restraint or escort that restricts breathing, or aversive behavioral intervention that compromises student health and safety;
- * prohibit school personnel from using physical restraint or seclusion, unless such measures are required to eliminate an imminent danger of physical injury to the student or others and certain precautions are taken;
- * require states and local educational agencies to ensure that a sufficient number of school personnel receive state-approved crisis intervention training and certification in first aid and certain safe and effective student management techniques; and
- * require schools to establish procedures to notify parents in a timely manner if physical restraint or seclusion is imposed on their child.

Similar legislation, supported by leading child advocacy and national organizations, had passed in the House of Representatives during the 111th Congress on 3/3/10 on a bipartisan vote but never reached the Senate before the end of the 111th session.



Support Groups Can Help Lift You Up When You Feel Low Check These Out:

Trident Head Injury Support Group: meets the 1st Tuesday of each month at 7:00, at HASCI Center, Westwood Plaza (intersection of Hwys 7 & 61), Suite 6, next to Hancock Fabrics. For more info: Debbie Schneider at 852-5550 ext 226 or Marsh Mikell at 881-1214. Please call the contact person before attending the first meeting to confirm time & location in case of unexpected changes.

Down Syndrome Association of the Low Country: sponsors four Information Programs and four Social Events each year - in addition to Mothers Night Out. For a complete calendar of events, check their website at: www.dsalowcountry.org or email Glenda Crain at crainclan@comcast.net

Parent & Guardian Association of the Coastal Center: This group supports those with a family member residing at the Coastal Center. General meetings are held four times a year. For details call Linda Bodiford at 821-5809 or Suzanne at 276-1001 or check their Facebook page for updates.

Rett's Syndrome Support: Families in need of a contact person to access support services for girls with Rett's Syndrome may call Nancy Banov at 556-4632 after 3 PM.

The Palmetto Autism Spectrum Support Group: There is no specified meeting day/time for this group although they do meet once per month at 6:15 somewhere in the West Ashley area such as local libraries or restaurants. Generally, a speaker is scheduled for each meeting. For more information regarding dates and locations contact Claire at: smith2104@knology.net.

Trident Spinal Cord Injury Peer Support Group: This group is open to any person with a spinal cord injury or other mobility difficulties. The meetings provide a forum for the members to discuss issues & concerns. Some members use the meetings to brainstorm possible solutions to ongoing problems. In addition, the group provides members with opportunities to develop a social network. Meetings are held on the second Tuesday evening of every other month (6:00-6:30 PM) usually at the Golden Corral. For more information & to confirm location, contact Barb Delia at 843-572-8600. In addition to monthly meetings, fun activities are being planned that include a kayaking trip in early fall & the 2nd annual chili cook-off in Sept.

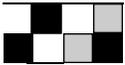
Turner Syndrome Support Group: Marisa Gallagher, pediatric endocrinology social worker, coordinates a group for children of all ages with Turner Syndrome & their families. Contact Marisa at galagmw@musc.edu or 843-876-1527 for more information regarding times & location.

Grief Support Group for Children - Bereavement group for children ages 8-12 (1 group) and 13-15 (2nd group) sponsored by Heartland Hospice, 1064 Gardner Rd, Suite 204, West Ashley, Charleston. For more information contact Kimberly at Heartland Hospice, 766-7646.

Sickle Cell Sisters (for teenage girls with sickle cell disease) is a therapeutic support group for teenage girls between the ages of 13 and 18. The group meets every other month at MUSC Children's Hospital and focuses on psychosocial aspects of living with sickle cell disease. For more information about this group call Melissa Hale or Lauren Stump at 843-792-1968.

Can-Teen (for teenagers with cancer) is a support group for adolescents with cancer. Can-teen provides opportunities for teens to meet their peers, have fun, offer resources and promote well-being and leadership. Can-Teen was created to bring teenagers with cancer together so they can share experiences, help those that are newly diagnosed and to build friendships. This group meets the 3rd Wed of each month. Please call for meeting time and/or more information, call Michelle Vandermaas at (843)792-1380.

The National Alliance for the Mentally Ill (NAMI) of the Charleston area offers support group



meetings for individuals who suffer from a brain disorder and for family members and caregivers of those who have severe and persistent mental illness. The meetings are 6-7:15 p.m. **the second Monday of every month** at the Jewish Community Center, 1645 Wallenberg Blvd. in West Ashley Client member support group will meet in the senior lounge. Family member groups will meet in the JCC program directors conference room. **On the Third Monday of each month** the group meets at Bethany United Methodist Church, 118 West Third South Street Summerville. **The fourth Monday of each month** the group meets at The Church of the Holy cross, 299 Seven Farms drive, Daniel Island. Education meetings will begin again September 10th. For more information, call Yancey Wise at 884-7547 or yanceyk2@aol.comm. or visit www.namicharlestonarea.org.

Faith and Light Community is a spiritual organization for persons with mental disabilities, their families and caregivers. The group has taken the summer off but hopes to start up again sometime in the fall. For more information, please contact Helena at 875-5002

“A Place for Me” no longer meets monthly. Special events and meetings on special interest topics are sometimes held. Contact Brooke Hartig on Facebook at A Place 4 Me for more info.

Summerville Autism Support - Mom's Night Out meets at 5:00 PM for dinner at a local restaurant one Saturday each month. The location and date varies due to holidays and other events. To find out when and where the next meeting will be, contact Jodi Hortman at 870-3485.

Lean on Me meets at Christ Episcopal Church, 3304 N. Hwy 17, Mt. Pleasant, SC the third Sunday of every month from 5:30-7:30 PM. For questions or more information call Laura Nagelburg at 847-1568 or email: imagesbylauralynn@gmail.com

Respite: The Summerville Branch of Seacoast Church has started “Breathe Respite” a program for families of children with special needs. "Breathe Respite" provides respite the 2nd Friday of every month from 6-9 PM. Contact Seacoast Church in Summerville at 881-2100 for arrangements.

New Facebook Based Apraxia Support Group: Greater Charleston Childhood Apraxia of Speech Group was created to bring together those in the Charleston, SC area whose children have Apraxia. This is a place to ask questions about local issues like doctors, SLP's, school IEP's, etc... and also to connect through get togethers and playgroups. Check it out on Facebook

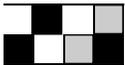
Parents Night Out: At Crowfield Baptist Church, 100 Hunters Lane, Goose Creek, at 6 PM on the 3rd Friday of every month for parents of children with disabilities. Advance registration is required. To get more info contact Crowfield Baptist at 843-569-6745.

Diabetes Support Group for Children & Youth: These social/support groups, run by a MUSC Pediatric Endocrinology social worker, are held once a month at various locations. The groups are age-based (4-9 year olds/10-13 year olds/14-18 year olds) and provide support and social interaction for children with diabetes as well as their families. Contact Marisa Gallagher, gallagmw@musc.edu or 843-876-1527, for more information, locations, and dates for upcoming groups.

We try our best to keep this list current. If your group is listed here and no longer meets or if you have a group that should be listed but isn't, please call us: 843-266-1318

Support Group for Spanish Speaking Families: 4th Friday of each month from 6-8 PM at the MUSC Northwoods Clinic, 2070 Northbrook Blvd., Suite A-16, N.Charleston. For more info call Saritta at 843-817-9384.

Un grupo de soporte para familias de habla Hispana se reune el cuarto Viernes de cada mes de las 6 a las 8 en la Clinica MUSC Northwoods 2070 Northbrook Blvd, Suite A-16, North Charleston. Para mayor informacion llame a Saritta al (843)817-9384



“Back to School with ADHD”

September 20

Glen Forest School, 1041 Harbor Dr.
West Columbia

Presented by: **Chris Dendy**

During her forty year career, Ms. Dendy has been a classroom teacher, school psychologist, mental health counselor, a mental health administrator, lobbyist & executive director of a statewide mental health advocacy organization, and national mental health consultant on children's issues. She is the mother of three adult children with ADHD. She has authored several books & videos for families who experience ADHD. To learn more about Ms. Dendy visit her website at: <http://chrisdendy.com>. This event is sponsored by PRO-Parents of South Carolina, please call 800-759-4776 for additional info.

Need Math Review Over the Summer?

Check out: <http://www.coolmath-games.com/>
This self-described “amusement park of math” offers free lessons & fun games designed for both math lovers & math haters.

Discover This Great Website

Great Schools is a comprehensive website for all things “school.” Make some time to discover everything this great website has to offer such as tips for dealing with homework concerns, examples of common core standards for the lower grades, & sample worksheets in all subjects. One of the most popular topics listed is “Raising My BiPolar Child” and another article addresses retention policies. There are free downloadable worksheets that can help you monitor your child’s skill levels over the summer months. Keeping on top of math and reading skills can offer your child a head start in the fall. Visit: <http://www.greatschools.org/>

And Something for the Little Ones

The Center on the Social and Emotional Foundations for Early Learning (CSEFEL) is focused on promoting the social emotional development and school readiness of young children birth to age 5. Visit: <http://csefel.vanderbilt.edu/>

Volunteers Needed!



The Down Syndrome Association of the Lowcountry is hosting BIKE CAMP again this summer and they need volunteers. The camp, which is offered to individuals with disabilities who wish to learn to ride a 2 wheel bike, is being held Mon-Fri, July 22-26 at the North Charleston Convention Center. Volunteers must be at least 16 years old and physically able to jog/run alongside the bike rider & stabilize them when tipping & stopping. They must commit to 75 minutes per day for 5 days and attend a 45 minute training session @ 4pm Sun. July 21. It’s important that volunteers are confident & supportive. If you’d like to help with this wonderful program for people with disabilities, contact Carrie Davis (carriecdavis@gmail.com - 843-345-0339 or Holly Annibale (annibh56@gmail.com- 843-991-8276).

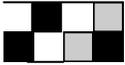
TumbleBooks

At the Charleston County Library (CCPL)!

TumbleBook Library is an online collection of animated, talking picture books which teach kids the joy of reading in a format they'll love. TumbleBooks are created by adding animation, sound, music and narration to existing picture books in order to produce an electronic picture book which you can read, or have read to you.

The TumbleBook Library provides enrichment to students who are reading independently with a variety of high interest material. It also provides support to students who require skill building with a variety of exercises that can be matched with other areas of the curriculum. In general, TumbleBooks are a great addition to a reading program that can be worked on independently by each student.

The TumbleBooks collection is accessed online through the CCPL website (www.ccpl.org). If you live in Dorchester or Berkeley County you will need to check to see if they have Tumblebooks. If not, you can obtain a CCPL card for an annual fee of \$40.



SI SU HIJO RECIVE EDUCACION ESPECIAL USTED DEBE:

Entienda que el IEP no es una garantía de éxito pero si es una garantía que la escuela esta haciendo un esfuerzo de buena fe al proveer los servicios del IEP.

Entienda que la mejor programación viene de la colaboración de los padres y de la escuela en conjunto para desarrollar, implementar, y evaluar los programas que se consideren importantes para el beneficio educacional.

Haga todos los requerimientos por escrito.

Entienda que hay otras instancias cuando los problemas existentes no han sido resueltos , algunas de estas son por ejemplo (Facilitacion y mediación, quejas a nivel estatal, acreditación del proceso)

Se le agradece especialmente al Dc. Mitch Yell por permitirnos el compartir esta información en el entrenamiento provisto al personal y mentores de el Family Resource Center.

Entienda que el IEP no es una garantía de éxito pero si es una garantía que la escuela esta haciendo un esfuerzo de buena fe al proveer los servicios del IEP.



Conference Registration

“The ABCs of IEPs” - 15th Conference on Disabilities and Special Needs

Please return this registration to: **FRC, 1575 Savannah Hwy, Ste 6, Charleston, SC 29407.**

Conference fee of \$ 10 includes a catered lunch. **Make checks payable to FRC**

Name: (Please Print)

Address: _____ ZIP _____

Phone (Day) _____ Please add my name to your mailing list: yes no

I am (all that apply):

An individual with a disability Parent Family Member Professional Educator

Service Provider Other _____ Agency Represented: _____

_____ # of Registrants *Please enclose \$10/per person.* If registration pays for persons other than yourself, please list names: _____

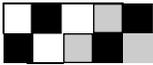
_____ *Please consider my request for hardship waiver of conference fee
(You will be contacted for confirmation)*

If special accommodations are needed please contact 266-1318 as soon as possible.

Registrations will be taken at the door but the facility has a limited capacity.

Advance registration is recommended to guarantee lunch.

We regret we will be unable to provide child care at this event.



1575 Savannah Highway - Suite 6
Charleston, South Carolina 29407
Phone: 843-266-1318
Fax: 843-266-1941
www.frcdsn.org

family resource center
FOR DISABILITIES AND SPECIAL NEEDS, INC.

NONPROFIT ORG.
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
PERMIT NO. 237
CHARLESTON, SC

SI SU HIJO RECIBE EDUCACION ESPECIAL USTED DEBE:

Entender el proceso de la Educacion Especial y sus derechos a proceder.

Estar envuelto en cada etapa del desarrollo del IEP desde su evaluación hasta la planificación incluida las revisiones del documento.

Asegurese de que todos los miembros del IEP estén presentes y que alguno de ellos tenga conocimiento en la discapacidad de su hijo.

No tenga temor de hacer preguntas y asegurese de no sentirse presionado.

Entienda que la planificación es parte del plan.

Conozca las respuestas a las preguntas importantes tales como:

Todas las necesidades de mi hijo o hija han sido identificadas y escuchadas.

¿Los goles se pueden medir?(Ejemplo; como se van a medir? Que tipo de observacion?

Porcentaje de que?)

Que servicios están disponibles y si están basados en investigaciones.

Como el progreso de mi hijo/hija va a ser monitoreado? Cuando? Por Cuanto tiempo? Como va a ser reportado?

Esta mi hijo o hija en un ambiente menos restrictivo?