

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

The Coalition

**Parent Training
& Resource
Center (PTRC)**

August 2014

Be Prepared! Always Good Advice

Don't most things go more smoothly when we're prepared? That sure holds true with school. So with that in mind, the Parent Training and Resource Center will be providing a 1-2 hour workshop for parents titled "**Preparing For School Success**" at three locations during August.

The workshop will focus on topics that include reviewing your child's IEP/504 plan and behavior interventions. You'll learn ways of keeping up with data collection and progress monitoring. You'll get ideas on working with teachers to keep communication lines open and addressing homework concerns. The workshop will help if your child is transitioning to a new school and tips will be suggested for managing morning & bedtime routines (we know that puts EVERYONE in a better mood!). So if you're asking yourself: "Is my child making progress at the expected rate?"; "Do any goals need to be changed?"; "How can this be a successful school year for the whole family?" consider attending this free workshop.

Workshops are scheduled as follows:

Saturday August 16 - 12:00-2:00

Dorchester County Library
76 Old Trolley Road
Summerville

Thursday August 21st - 6:30-8:30

Family Resource Center
1575 Savannah Hwy, Suite 6
Charleston

Friday August 22 - 12:00-2:00

Berkeley Citizens, Service Coordinator Meeting Room
1301 Old U.S. 52,
Moncks Corner

All workshops are free but registration is necessary. To register, or get directions, please call the office at 843-266-1318 or email Susan Clark at: susanclark@frcdsn.org.

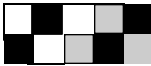
When Trouble Happens at School

No one likes those calls that deliver the news that your child has been suspended from school. Or worse, a recommendation has been made for expulsion. Maybe you get numerous calls to come to the school to pick up your child for misbehavior. Maybe you've heard that children with disabilities can't be suspended or expelled from school.

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Sherry Brooks

The Family Resource Center lost a friend, and, along with families throughout the lowcountry, a dedicated education advocate when Sherry passed away on Aug. 1st. After a long & successful career in the public school system, Sherry became one of our Peer Parent Mentors in 2001. Over the next nearly ten years, Sherry helped so many parents of children with disabilities as they tried to maximize their child's education. Sherry believed in the mission of the Family Resource Center and lent her wonderful support during our formative years. We miss her already.



Same Services Different Document

Your child's IEP is going to look a little different.

Beginning in August 2014, SC Enrich will be launched state-wide and replace Excent as the new IEP System for development and implementation of individualized education programs for students with disabilities. By October 2014, the transition process will be complete and all Districts will be using Enrich. This move to a new software program for IEP development is said to be an improved system to help schools better customize their learning plans and will allow educators to increase differentiated instruction for all students.

Enrich is unique because:

- Administrators can access essential data, including course rosters, assessments, grades, attendance, and discipline to determine and report district-wide achievement.
- Enrich accepts any publishers' assessments and accommodates standard state assessments. It allows for multiple assessments from various sources without mandating assessment type.
- Educators can prescribe interventions from a variety of sources and track the success of those interventions within Enrich.
- The flexible and user-friendly interface ensures that teachers at any technical skill level can enter, extract and analyze student data.
- Graphical representations of data provide vital information in an easy to analyze dashboard format.

Enrich is designed to integrate seamlessly with student information systems streamlining implementation and ongoing system management. With state, district, program, and classroom-level assessments integrated into one flexible system, Enrich provides educators with an accurate and complete picture of EVERY student's progress at their fingertips.

Districts will be providing parents with information on this new system as the October deadline nears.

See it Here First!

The Parent Training & Resource Center (PTRC) will be providing an introduction to the new **Enrich** document when we conduct our next two **IEP Fairs**.

Thurs. Sept. 11

6:00 - 7:30

**Dorchester
County Library
76 Old Trolley Rd
Summerville**

Wed. Sept. 17

11:30 - 1:30

**FRC office
1575 Savannah
Highway,
Suite 6
Charleston**

Over the summer, the Berkeley County School District has been providing training on Enrich to their special education staff. Director Kelly Wulf was kind enough to invite PTRC staff & Mentors to attend. For those who have not yet seen the new documents, those attending these IEP Fairs will receive an introduction.

Bring your questions about special education and we'll try to answer them all. If you'd like personalized help in understanding your child's services, bring along their IEP (or 504 Plan) and PTRC staff/mentors will provide individualized consultation. This workshop is free. Please call the office to register: 843-266-1318

Licensing Autism Awareness



The South Carolina Autism Society (SCAS) has announced the launch of a new SCAS "Autism Awareness" specialty license plate. The license plate fee is \$30 every two years in addition to the regular motor vehicle registration fee. The plate is available to anyone & a portion of the fees collected will be used to support the mission of the SCAS. To order a plate on line, visit the SC/DMV website at <http://www.scdmvonline.com/DMVNew/PlateGallery.aspx?q=Specialty>

Walgreens' New Technology for the Visually Impaired

Do you have a child or young adult with a visual impairment, or, who is unable to read? Are you concerned that they may have difficulty learning to take their own medications? Worried about medication mix-ups, over or under dosage, or taking medications at the wrong time?

Walgreens has an answer for you. Their accessibility initiative will help people with visual impairments who have difficulty or are unable to read a standard prescription medication label. Walgreens is the first in the industry to offer a talking prescription device, called the Talking Pill Reminder, at all of its retail locations. The device attaches to prescription containers and will be provided free of charge with prescription medications dispensed to pharmacy customers who are blind or who have visual impairments. The Talking Pill Reminder can be recorded to speak the information on the customer's prescription medication label, and also has an audible alarm to remind patients when to take a medication.

The Talking Pill Reminder is available to customers of Walgreens retail pharmacies across the country and through Walgreens prescription mail service. The devices also are available in Walgreens drugstores for purchase for a retail price of \$9.99.

Trouble at School

Continued from Page 1

There are rules & regulations that apply to the discipline procedures used with a child with a disability. If you need to know those rules, regulations, & procedures, then consider our upcoming training:

Applying Discipline Rules to Students with Disabilities

Wed. Sept. 24 - 6:00 - 7:30

**Charleston Public Library/Otranto
2261 Otranto Road, North Charleston
More info: 266-1318**

More Late Summer Fun

Still looking for something to do this summer? Need a road trip with Destination Fun? Consider Splash Bash 2014 for Swimming, Play & Leisure Time. (with adapted services by Health-South Columbia).

Saturday, August 23 - 10 AM - 5 PM
Dreher Island State Park,
3677 State Park Road,
Prosperity, SC 29127

Prospect, SC is about 145 miles from Charleston, just north of Columbia off I26. Registration is FREE to enjoy activities that include: Water sports, fishing, access to adaptive equipment for hunting and other wheelchair sports.

For More Information & directions:
Contact Rafe Ellisor, 803-401-1365,
rafe.ellisor@healthsouth.com

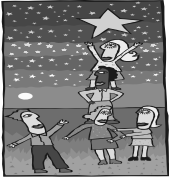
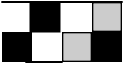
A variety of organizations and vendors will be present to provide their expertise and services. Enjoy adapted sports and leisure activities for adults and young adults (14 years & older) with disabilities. You must be preregistered to attend.

While you're there, be sure to visit the SC Assistive Technology exhibit for some great ideas on technology to make life easier!

Voice Your Opinion SC Protection & Advocacy is Asking

SC P&A is preparing annual priorities for the 2014-2015 year which begins October 1, 2014. They are inviting public comments about their proposed priorities and program until September 10. There is an on-line process using "Survey Monkey" to respond to a series of questions. To take the on-line survey, visit: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/priorities2014-2015>

Or on the P&A website: www.pandasc.org
The P&A website has a printable survey form that can be returned by fax or US mail. Alternative versions of the survey are available upon request. Call 800 743-2553 with questions.



Get the Support You Need Check These Out:



Trident Head Injury Support Group: meets the 1st Tuesday of each month from 700-8:30 PM at the HASCI Drop In Center, Westwood Plaza (intersection of Hwys 7 & 61), Suite 6, next to Hancock Fabrics. For more info: Debbie Schneider at 852-5550 ext 226. Follow on Facebook.

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

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 more information contact Linda Bodiford at 821-5809 or Suzanne at 276-1001.

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.

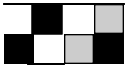
Trident Spinal Cord Injury Peer Support Group: This group is open to any person with a spinal cord injury or other mobility difficulties. The meetings provide a forum for the members to discuss issues and concerns and receive immediate feedback. Some members use the meetings to brainstorm possible solutions 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 month (6:00-8:00 PM). *Meetings are no longer held at the Golden Corral.* For more information and to confirm the location for the next meeting, contact Barb Delia at 843-572-8600.

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.

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.com. or visit www.namicharlestonarea.org.

Summerville Autism Support - This group meets frequently, but irregularly, for a night out. Please call Jodi Hortman (870-3485) for information on the next get together.



We Are Here: A group for families and caregivers of individuals with all types of disability or special needs. The “sharing & caring” group meets the third Wednesday of every month at the Baum Temple AME Zion Church, 943 W 1st N St, Summerville, SC (843) 873-2475. Participants are encouraged to bring refreshments (but NOT required.) For more information or if you wish to share specific information, plan an activity, or teach a craft or skill please contact Shawnetta at 843-695-8262 or 843-801-7421.

Epilepsy Support Group for families of children with epilepsy meets on the 2nd Saturday of each month at Cathedral of Praise, Bldg. A, Room 103, 3790 Ashley Phosphate Rd., N. Charleston. Look for SAFE sign outside building. The Group meets from 11am-1pm (First hour is education/business meeting, second hour is support group) For more information contact Karen St. Marie at 843-991-7144 or at Karen@scepilepsy.org.

These Groups No Longer Meet:

Lean on Mean Respite Support - A Place for Me - Can Teen (for teen agers with cancer) - HIPS (Head Injury Support Group for Survivors) - Faith & Light Community (spiritual organization for persons with Intellectual Disability & their families and caregivers)

New Autism Support Group: Low Country Autism Support Group sponsored by the Early Autism Project meets the 2nd Monday of the month at the Early Autism Project Clinic, 1123 Queensborough Dr., Mt. Pleasant, from 6:30-7:30. Speakers will be invited to each meeting and refreshments are served. Bev McCarty with the Family Resource Center will speak on Sept. 9th about IEPs & special education. Childcare is provided but you must register in advance for the free service. You do not have to be a client of the Early Autism Project to participate. For more information and to register for child care, call Anna Bullard at 912-293-5217.

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 Martha at 843-876-2505.

Un grupo de soporte para familias de habla Hispana se reúne el cuarto Viernes de cada mes de las 6 a las 8 en la Clínica MUSC Northwoods 2070 Northbrook Blvd, Suite A-16, North Charleston. Para mayor información llame a Martha al (843) 876-2505

Looking for Someone to Talk with about Autism? There are two on-line ways to reach out to others in the “autism community” in South Carolina. An on-line support group has been organized for teachers, professionals, service providers & family members. To subscribe, send a blank email to: autismsouthcarolina-subscribe@yahoogroups.com.

The SCAS has an organized discussion group for parents & families who want to share their joys, stories, challenges, and solutions. To subscribe, send a blank email to: scautismforum-subscribe@yahoogroups.com

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

Check Out: The South Carolina Bar Association's on-line booklet to help with transition planning for young adults with disabilities. To find it go to www.sctbar.org and look for **Transitions, Legal Issues for Parents and Caregivers of Special Needs Children Transitioning to Adulthood**



Friday Night Lights is Back!

Join the Charleston Police, Recreation and Fire departments every Friday night during the summer as we provide a fun, exciting and safe place for actives such as sports, movies, crafts and much more. Ages 5 and up welcome for these family friendly nights starting at 7 and lasting till 10 pm.

Activities from 7pm - 8:30pm: include Basketball, Flag Football, Soccer, Tennis, Double Dutch, Jump Castles, Art, Swimming, Music , and More!

8:30pm - 10pm: Movie in the Park

Dates and Locations:

8/15: Thomas Johnson Playground
1443 Secessionville Rd., James Island

8/22: Martin Park
155 Jackson St., Charleston

8/29: Governor's Park
Seven Farms Drive, Daniel Island

For more information call Crystal Reed at 579-7525



Respite for Parent's Night Out

Crowfield Baptist Church, 100 Hunters Lane, Goose Creek, provides free respite on the 3rd Friday of every month at 6 PM. Advance registration is required. To get more info contact Crowfield Baptist at 843-569-6745.

Family Connection's Fun Stuff!

Thursday, August 21 - 5:30 - 7:45 PM
Stress Management Techniques for Family Caregivers

Otranto Road Regional Library
2261 Otranto Road, North Charleston
A FREE Chair Massage available for participants after workshop. RSVP to Anne Sanderson 843-475-2527

Thursday, August 28
Moms Night Out - 5 PM

Andolini's Pizza, 6610 Rivers Ave, North Chas.
Please RSVP to Evelina Thomas, 843-810-9294

Thursday, August 28
Walk n' Talk Support Group - 10:30 AM

Meet at the NORTHWOODS MALL Food Court
Contact Michelle Perry 843-276-9615

Saturday, August 23 & Aug. 30
Family Splish, Splash, Support - 10 AM

Wannamaker County Park
8888 University Blvd, N. Chas.
For more INFO/RSVP contact Evelina Thomas, 843-810-9294 or by e-mail: ethomas@familyconnections.org

Monday, August 18 & 25
"Coffee O'Clock" - 10am-12pm

Otranto Road Regional Library
Entry area conference room
2261 Otranto Road, North Charleston
Bring your coffee cup / free coffee will be served
Contact Evelina Thomas 843-810-9294

SAVE THE DATE
3rd FREE FORUM ON AUTISM

Saturday, October 4th 2014
Sottile Theater, College of Charleston
44 George Street - Charleston
Sponsored by the Lowcountry Autism Consortium
Register at: <http://www.lowcountryautismconsortium.org>



The contents of this newsletter were developed under a grant from the US Dept. 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.





www.frcdsn.org

A website for All of our Friends



We've finally launched our new & MUCH improved website!! Now visitors will find more resources, agency information, and valuable links. AND, it's fully accessible under 508 standards. We've retained resources from the old website like the "Parent's Guide to Special Education Services" (and the user's guide), our "Special Education Crash Course", the "Project REST Manual on Recommended Practice" regarding restraint & seclusion, and our "Transition Toolkit for Parents and Students". Now you can also find the South Carolina Special Education Process Guide with the Standards for Evaluation and Eligibility Determination (SEED), and the full text of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA). We've provided links to our main SC government officials as well as agencies and organizations that assist individuals with disabilities and their families. We've included links to OSEP, the Office of Special Education Programs at the US Department of Education. OSEP maintains a website that is continually being updated with special education information. There is a special page, "Español", for Spanish speaking families. There's even a place on the home page to make a tax-deductible donation through PayPal. Click on the "Upcoming Events" on the home page to keep up with scheduled training workshops & other low-country happenings.

We are still adding content, testimonials, and pictures to personalize our website. Please consider sending us a photo or short note if you've found our services helpful. If your testimonial or picture is chosen to be added to the website, you will be asked to sign a permission form before anything submitted is shared with others. Submissions may be faxed (843-266-1941), emailed (bevmccarty@frcdsn.org) or snail mailed (FRC, 1575 Savannah Hwy, Ste 6, Charleston, SC 29407) We hope we'll hear from you!

17TH ANNUAL KIDS' DAY 2014

"Guarding, Advocating, & Protecting Adults with Intellectual & Developmental Disabilities"

With grant funding from the Developmental Disabilities Council, the South Carolina Autism Society (SCAS) developed a booklet for parents of a child or young adult with all developmental disabilities. The booklet contains information regarding guardianship and conservatorship, wills, trusts and estate planning for individuals with disabilities.

This booklet is NOT a substitute for legal advice but can help provide useful information from which to develop questions and discussion topics BEFORE hiring an attorney thus saving time and money. It covers topics such as the difference between guardianship and conservatorship, power of attorney and durable power of attorney, how a trust can be used to allow your child to still be eligible for Medicaid or other benefits, and a glossary of frequently used terms and definitions.

This booklet can be downloaded for free from the SCAS website at: <http://www.scautism.org/pdf/SCAS%20Guardian%20Handbook%20Final.pdf>

The FRC has also provided a link to the booklet from our website: <http://frcdsn.org/resources/>

If you don't have access to the internet, you may call the SCAS (800-438-4790) and request that a booklet be mailed to you.

Cross High School

1293 Old Highway 6, Cross, SC

Mon. Aug. 25th - 3:30 - 6 PM

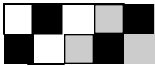
Co-sponsored by Communities Helping to Encourage Change in Kids (CHECK)

Events include food, games, prizes, exhibits, vendors, & more - All activities are free

PLUS: Crash Course in Special Education Training Workshop provided on site by

PTRC staff from 4 - 5:30

Questions: Call Theresa at: 843-753-7045



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.

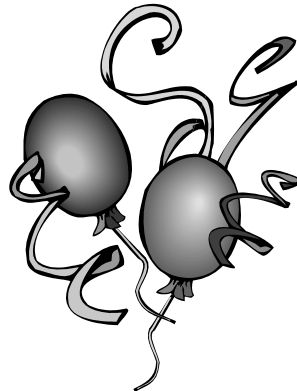
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PERMIT NO. 237
CHARLESTON, SC

**Special Needs Prom
“Game Night”**

August 22 - 6:00 - 8:00

Bees Landing Recreation
Center

1580 Ashley Gardens Blvd.
(Grand Oaks Subdivision),
Charleston



Enjoy the fun with a life-size board game,
Photo opportunities
& refreshments.

A Prom King & Queen will be crowned!

Admission: Charleston County
residents: \$ 4.00 Out of County & at the
door: \$ 5.00

**Call Melissa Bernhardt for more info:
795-4386**

Sponsored by
Charleston County Parks & Recreation

**Necesidades Especiales
Prom “Noche de Juegos”**

Agosto 22 - 06:00 - 08:00

Abejas Rellano Centro de
Recreación

1580 Ashley Gardens Blvd. (Grand
Oaks Barrio), Charleston

Disfruta de la diversión con un juego de mesa
de tamaño natural, Oportunidades y refrescos Foto.

A Prom King & Queen serán coronados!

Admisión: Residentes del Condado de Charleston:
\$ 4.00 Fuera del Condado y en la puerta: \$ 5.00

**Llame a Melissa Bernhardt para más información:
795-4386**

Patrocinado por
Charleston Condado de Parques
y Recreación