



PEAL News

Parent Education & Advocacy Leadership Center
Serving Western and Central Pennsylvania

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There is nothing in a caterpillar that tells you it's going to be a butterfly.
- Buckminster Fuller

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Mission Statement

The mission of the PEAL Center is to ensure that children, youth, and adults with disabilities lead rich, active lives and participate as full members of their schools and communities by providing training, information, and technical assistance based on best practices to individuals, families and all people who support them.

CELEBRATE INCLUSIVE SCHOOLS WEEK

December 3—7, 2007

The PEAL Center wants you to tell us about the great things that happen in your inclusive school. We invite you to join the nationwide celebration of the 7th Annual Inclusive Schools Week sponsored by The Urban Special Education Collaborative and Education Development Center. Not sure how to get started? Just go to their website www.inclusiveschools.org and download the 60 page Celebration Kit. The pdf file is full of activities, and resources for schools, classrooms, and families. You will find examples of what other school districts have done in the past, lists of suggested activities, and many resources.

Tell us how your school celebrates Inclusive Schools Week 2007. Send us samples of your best essays, photos,* artwork, videos or descriptions of your celebration activities. We want to use our website and newsletter to highlight the great things happening in Pennsylvania's inclusive schools! We will choose several Celebrations to feature in our next newsletter. We will also create a link on our website to share the good news with the thousands who visit our website. To submit materials, please forward to the PEAL Center mailing address or via email to admin@pealcenter.org. Be sure to include your contact information!



Since its inception in 2001, Inclusive Schools Week has celebrated the progress that schools have made in providing a supportive and quality education to an increasingly diverse student population, including students with disabilities and those from culturally and linguistically diverse backgrounds. The week also provides an important opportunity for educators, students, and parents to discuss what else needs to be done in order to ensure that their schools continue to improve their ability to successfully educate all children.

* Please see note regarding photos on bottom of page 6.

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Public Briefing: Statewide Education Costing-Out Study

The State Board of Education will hold a series of public meetings to present the findings of a Statewide Education Costing-Out Study conducted in accordance with Act 114 of 2006. The study, performed by the firm of Augenblick, Palaich and Associates, Inc. (APA), focuses on the adequacy and equity of school funding and determines what educational resources and related expenditures are required to provide a quality primary and secondary education for each student in the Commonwealth's public schools. Representatives of the State Board of Education and APA will conduct each public briefing. All meetings are open to the public. Registration is not required. The report will be presented to the State Board of Education at the Board's Study Session scheduled at 3:00 p.m. on **November 14, 2007** in the auditorium of the State Museum of Pennsylvania, 300 North Street, Harrisburg, Pennsylvania, 17120-0024. A series of six regional public meetings, each to



begin at 7:00 p.m. and conclude by 9:00 p.m., will be held on the following dates and locations:

November 27, 2007, Luzerne County, Wyoming Valley West High School Auditorium, 50 Wadham Street, **Plymouth**, PA 18651

November 27, 2007, Delaware County, Upper Darby High School Performing Arts Center, 601 North Lansdowne Ave, **Drexel Hill**, PA 19026

November 28, 2007, Philadelphia, Benjamin Franklin High School Auditorium, 550 North Board Street, **Philadelphia**, PA 19130

November 28, 2007, Lancaster County, Hempfield High School, Hackman Auditorium, 200 Stanley Ave., **Landisville**, PA 17538

December 5, 2007, Clearfield County, DuBois Area H.S, Auditorium, 425 Orient Ave., **DuBois**, PA 15801

December 6, 2007, Allegheny County, Allegheny Intermediate Unit 3, , 475 E. Waterfront Dr., **Homestead**, PA 15120

Persons with disabilities needing special accommodations to attend contact Jim Buckheit, Exec. Director, State Board of Education, 333 Market St, Harrisburg, PA 17126, (717) 787-3787, TTY: (717) 783-8445 at least 48 hours in advance so that appropriate arrangements can be made.

Gaskin Settlement LRE Advisory Panel Public Hearing

Saturday, November 3, 2007—1:00 —4:00 PM — Millersville University, Myers Auditorium, McComsey Hall, 43 East Frederick Street, Millersville, PA 17551. RSVP Regina Goss, Secretary, Special Education Department. 717.872.3151

The Gaskin Settlement Agreement addresses inclusive educational practices for students with disabilities and articulates the establishment of an advisory group to the Department of Education to address such issues. This agreement mandates training and technical assistance, as well as monitoring and compliance regulations requiring local schools and school districts to offer a full continuum of support services allowing children with disabilities to be educated in regular classrooms. If you have any questions or concerns, please email Lynne Dougherty at ldougherty@visionforequality.org. To join the Bucks County mailing list or anything other Vision for Equality, Inc. listserv, please email anguyen@visionforequity.org.

Federal Disability Programs Need Improvement.

A recent report by the watchdog U.S. Government Accountability Office (GAO) said that "... social and legal changes have promoted the goal of greater inclusion of persons with disabilities in the mainstream of society, including adults at work. However, GAO's reviews of the largest federal disability programs indicate that such programs have not evolved in line with these larger societal changes and, therefore, are poorly positioned to provide meaningful and timely support for persons with disabilities." The report further cites the looming crises in the slowdown in the nation's labor force and the low rate of return to work for individuals with disabilities receiving cash and medical benefits.

www.gao.gov/new.items/d07934sp.pdf

"The Right to Early Intervention Services for Infants and Toddlers and Their Families In Pennsylvania: A Handbook for Parents."

This new ELC publication provides extensive tips, tools and resources parents can use to develop and implement early intervention programs for their children. You can download it for free at www.elc-pa.org, or you can order a copy at 215-238-6970 for \$10.00 plus tax.

ELC toolkits on special education regulations

ELC has three Toolkits (and Power Point presentations) to help navigate different aspects of the new IDEA regulations. The three toolkit topics are: New Era IEPs, Transition, and Dispute Resolution. You can download documents at www.elc-pa.org, Publications page .

Call for Applications for Grass Roots Advocacy Grants

PA Developmental Disabilities Council (PADDCC) "Grassroots Advocacy projects support local, citizen-based advocacy activities aimed at changing social conditions or governmental systems affecting people with developmental disabilities. These projects also provide capacity-building activities which strengthen and support the ability of grassroots groups and individuals with developmental disabilities and their families to advocate more effectively for themselves."

- Grants up to a maximum of **\$10,000.00**
- Applicant must provide a one-third match of in-kind or other non-federal funding support.
- The effective date of the grant will be July 1, 2008 through September 30, 2009.
- Applications due by December 5 at 3:00 PM.

www.paddc.org/index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=48&Itemid=47

Thanksgiving: Annual National Family History Day



Common diseases such as heart disease, cancer, diabetes, as well as some of the rare diseases, like hemophilia can run in families. A valuable tool for your doctor to have is your family health history. Knowing the diseases that your parents, grandparents and other family members have had will help your doctor help you become proactive to keep your family healthy.

The Surgeon General has introduced a national public health campaign called the U.S. Surgeon General's Family History Initiative, to encourage all American families to learn more about their family health history. Tools have been developed that can help you begin to record your family history at the website: www.hhs.gov/familyhistory. These tools make it easy to record the information on your computer or on a downloaded paper form. The information is available in both English and Spanish.

Thanksgiving Day is the 4th Annual National Family History Day. Holidays are an ideal time to gather information about the family health history to help your family spend many more celebrations together.

Health Care Notebooks



For Children with Special Health Care Needs (CSHCN), a health care notebook is a valuable tool for parents and professionals. When my daughter was younger, we had many specialists' appointments, hospitalizations, tests, and procedures. Each time she met a new doctor or was admitted to the hospital, they asked me for a complete medical history. With over twenty hospitalizations and even more diagnostic consults, I began to think that the point was to test my mental ability to remember all the information. I started to keep a notebook in an attempt to keep track of all the information that they needed. I appeared to be well organized when I could look up the exact dates of tests and treatments without needing to give a guesstimate. I created my own organizational format, including information about: dates of hospitalizations, illnesses, surgeries, immunizations, insurance information, medications and effects, equipment information, and copies of doctors' reports. I keep a running list of notes on my computer to keep the history in order, along with my personal notes, doctors' addresses and phone numbers.

I have recently found some excellent sources, better than mine, to organize a health care notebook. Whether you use your own system or an organizer you have downloaded, the important thing is to start now. Use a ring notebook and even if you do not have the time to enter information in after each appointment or hospitalization, you can put the records in the notebook and when you have time—maybe waiting in the doctor's office, you can do some recording and filing. The best sources that I have seen are from: Children's Hospital of Seattle, WA, the Care Notebook can be downloaded and printed from: www.cshcn.org. another similar notebook is from the Utah Family Voices: search for *Utah Care Notebook* at www.medhomeportal.org. You can select the forms that will be useful to your child's health information.

In addition to your CSHCN, it is useful for each child in the family to have a health care notebook that they can continue to use throughout their lives. Mary Ann McGuirk of UCP also kept a notebook like this for her mother. Those of us who are in the "sandwich generation" (the middle generation who are responsible for care of their children and their parents) will need every tool we can find to keep all the balls in the air. If you have some helpful tip for CSHCN that have worked for you, please share them by sending them to me at: jbadger@pealcenter.org.

Share your Dental Experiences



People with disabilities in Pennsylvania often have difficulty getting access to dental care. So, the Pennsylvania Developmental Disabilities Council has funded a project to explore some of the reasons why it can be so difficult and also whether some specific communities may have more difficulty or experience different barriers than others. So we're holding a series of focus groups and we'd like to ask you to participate in one for Latino families.

Wednesday, November 7th, Time: 6 to 8 pm

Location: Saint Hyacinth Church— Participants will receive stipend and be provided a light dinner. Space is limited; please RSVP to Meghan Warner at 412-578-0402. This event is sponsored by ACHIEVA and funded by PA Developmental Disabilities Council.

Comparta sus experiencias cuando ha tenido que ir a ver al Dentista

Las personas con alguna discapacidad usualmente tienen dificultades para ver al dentista. El Consejo de Discapacidades de Pensilvania ha creado un proyecto para explorar algunas de las razones por las cuales el ver a un dentista es difícil y en particular si algunas comunidades tienen mayores dificultades y tienen mayores barreras que otras. Por tal motivo se realizarán unos grupos comunitarios a los que estamos invitando a las personas interesadas a participar, uno de estos es para la comunidad Latina del Suroeste de Pensilvania.

Fecha: Miercoles Noviembre 7, Hora: 6 a 8 pm

Lugar: Iglesia de San Jacinto. Los participantes en este evento recibirán una remuneración por su tiempo y se proveerá comida durante la reunión. El espacio es limitado. Favor llamar a Meghan Warner al 412-578-0402 para reservar un lugar para esta reunión. Este evento es patrocinado por ACHIEVA y recibe el apoyo económico del Consejo de Discapacidades de Pensilvania.



RESOURCES THAT MAY HELP



In each issue of our newsletter, we will list some of the available resources. If you have information you would like included in our newsletter, please write or email the PEAL Center with a brief description. For a more complete listing of resources visit our website www.pealcenter.org.

The Down Syndrome Center of Western Pennsylvania provides families with the tools they need to become educated and strong advocates of children and adolescents with Down syndrome. The center staff: Provides specialty health care to children and adolescents that is specific to conditions related to Down syndrome; Consults with families regarding challenging developmental and behavioral concerns in children with Down syndrome; Provides information to families about Down syndrome, Offers support and follow-up to children recovering from an illness or surgery at the hospital; Assists families in locating community services and resources, Clinical services using a preventive approach are available. These services include: Comprehensive medical assessments for children and adolescents; Referral of patients to specialists who have an interest in meeting the needs of people with Down Syndrome; Adult services; Behavioral, psychological and family therapy services. For more information about the Down Syndrome Center of Western PA, Children's Hospital of Pittsburgh visit www.chp.edu/clinical/03b_downsserv.php or call 412-412-692-7963.

Other Down Syndrome Centers in PA are:

Eastern PA Down Syndrome Center, PO Box 60, 6900 Hamilton Blvd., Trexlertown, PA 18087, 610-402-0184, E-Mail Info@EPDSC.org.

Trisomy 21 Program, Children's Hospital of Philadelphia, 34th Street and Civic Center Blvd., Philadelphia, PA, Phone: 267-426-5283

Another good source of information about Down syndrome can be found at www.ds-health.com.

HUNE is a non-profit organization established in 1998. HUNE provides free bilingual English and Spanish training, technical assistance and individual assistance to parents of infants, toddlers, children, and youth with disabilities and to professionals who work with children. This assistance helps parents to participate more effectively with professionals in meeting the educational needs of children and youth with disabilities. HUNE works to improve educational outcomes for children and youth with all disabilities (emotional, learning, mental, and physical) from 0-21 years of age. - www.huneinc.org — 215-425-6203. HUNE offers a special education hotline: 215-425-5112

Community of Practice on Early Childhood Family Support — Family Wisdom, Professional Wisdom, Best Available Research, Legislative Policy Making—an on-line gathering place to participate in discussions, share insights, and experiences.

Add your voice to bring about wisdom-based actions that are needed to enhance the lives of children with disabilities and their families.

For more information or to join, please visit www.beachcenter.org

The Mentor Parent Program is a community-based parent project created in 1989 by parents of children with special needs to support, assist and provide expertise to parents in rural northwest Pennsylvania. The Mentor Parent Program exists to provide support and services to parents of children with disabilities through a coalition of united efforts of parents, educators, service providers, and professionals to effectively meet the needs of children with disabilities in the rural Appalachian region of Pennsylvania. The purposes of the Mentor Parent Program are: to provide assistance and training to parents and professionals, to provide one-on-one mentoring and support, to provide information and appropriate referrals, to develop home-school partnerships, to foster parent involvement with the early intervention & education systems, to develop community awareness of the needs of children with disabilities. For more information, visit www.mentorparent.org or contact: 888-447-1431 (Toll Free), 814-563-3470 (Local), 800-855-1155 (TTY) or email mpp@riu6.org

The Puzzle of Autism-online —This booklet is a great resource for teachers and anyone who works with children with autism in the school setting. www.nea.org/specialed/images/autismpuzzle.pdf

Making Transition Work: Tools for a Successful Transition —A new professional development opportunity has been added to the Pennsylvania Community of Practice on Transition sharedwork.org web page. The training is sponsored by the Special Kids Network System of Care in collaboration with the Neighbours, Inc. High School Transition Project. The Center for Schools and Communities, as a division of the Central Susquehanna Intermediate Unit, is offering Act 48 professional development credits for both the face-to-face and online sessions for those with Pennsylvania teaching or administrative certificates. Participants must attend the session from beginning to end to receive credit. For more information and to register please visit www.center-school.org/sknsoc.

A Teacher's Guide to Neuromuscular Disease—The two articles from teachers who are former students with a neuromuscular disease are worth the visit to this site. — <http://www.mdausa.org/publications/tchrdmd/default.htm>

IEP & Conference Preparation Kit - Schwab Learning —www.schwablearning.org/banners/iep.asp

United Way and SPARC partner to share information on more than 700 after school programs.

As a partner with the Southwestern PA Afterschool Resource Collaboration (SPARC), the United Way has information about more than 700 after school programs at almost 300 different agencies in the region. To search for a program that is right for your child visit www.unitedwaypittsburgh.org/NewsAndEvents.aspx?id=4014

INTERESTED IN TEACHING YOUNG CHILDREN WITH AUTISM?

Learn to work with children with disabilities under age 5 years and their families
 Specialize in teaching children with autism
 Earn a Masters degree in Early Intervention
 Consider adding a teacher certification in Special Education or Early Childhood Education
 Apply for a federal scholarship to partially cover tuition costs (service obligation applies)
 Want more information?
 Contact Diana Knoll M.Ed.
 dknoll@pitt.edu or 412-648-2133
www.education.pitt.edu/ei/index.aspx

¿INTERESADO(A) EN ENSEÑAR A NIÑOS PEQUEÑOS CON AUTISMO?

Aprenda a trabajar con niños menores de 5 años con discapacidades y con sus familias
 Especialícese en enseñar a niños con autismo
 Obtenga un título de Maestría en Intervención Temprana
 Considere sumar a su hoja de vida un certificado en enseñanza en Educación Especial o Educación Temprana Infantil
 Aplique a una beca parcial federal que cubre costos de matrícula (obligaciones de servicios aplican)
 Requisito tener prueba de dominio del Inglés
 Mayor información
 Escríbale en inglés a Diana Knoll M.Ed.
 dknoll@pitt.edu or 412-648-2133
 O visite www.education.pitt.edu/ei/index.aspx

Assistive technology for students with disabilities

Children with a wide range of disabilities are entitled to assistive technology devices and services in the school or early intervention setting when needed to provide a free appropriate education. An assistive technology device is any item that is used to maintain or improve the functioning of a child with a disability, such as an augmentative communication device, screen-reading software, or an FM listening system. Assistive technology services include evaluation, selection, training, and maintenance of a device.

The Education Law Center has recently revised its fact sheet on assistive technology for students with disabilities. The fact sheet may be found on the Education Law Center's website: www.elc-pa.org. To find the fact sheet on the website, click on "Publications," then click on "Children with Disabilities," and then scroll down to "Special Education: Related Services."

The direct link to the revised fact sheet is: www.elc-pa.org/pubs/downloads/english/dis-assistive%20technology%208-06.pdf.

If you need help regarding assistive technology in the school or early intervention setting, please contact the Education Law Center at 215-238-6970 (voice) or 877-375-7139 (TTY).

Moving Forward with Technology -- FREE Webinar Series

The Moving Forward with Technology Webinar Series is an outreach collaboration between Don Johnston Incorporated and the Center for Implementing Technology in Education (CIDE), a project funded by the U.S. Department of Education. This webinar series delivers key information about implementing technology in education. Sessions are presented live and online by national leaders in the field.

Differentiating Instruction with Technology—[November 29th at 11:00 am ET](#) & [December 4th at 3:00 pm ET](#)

Technology Decision Makers Hold Keys to Successful Implementation—[January 4th 11:00 am ET](#) & [January 14th at 3:00 pm ET](#)

The Role of Technology in Response to Intervention (RtI)—[February 11th at 11:00 am ET](#) & [February 28th at 3:00 pm ET](#)

View calendar of more upcoming sessions as well as links to archived sessions on a variety of topics, including Using Multimedia Materials to Engage and Challenge Learners and Universal Design for Learning How to Ensure That All Students Meet AYP

www.donjohnston.com/prof_services/VIP.html

The Telecommunications Device Distribution Program (TDDP)

TDDP provides eligible individuals who are unable to use standard phones with free adapted phones. For more details on eligibility and available equipment, visit <http://disabilities.temple.edu/programs/assistive/tddp>.

This fall, TDDP is sponsoring free Equipment Training for people who would like to volunteer to help people with disabilities use their TDDP equipment or anyone who would like to learn to operate TDDP equipment. The registration form is available online as a PDF and a Word Document at <http://disabilities.temple.edu/programs/assistive/tddp/training.htm>.

The Assistive Technology Training Online Project (ATTO) provides information on AT applications that help students with disabilities learn in elementary classrooms.

<http://atto.buffalo.edu>



Some Upcoming Events in PA

Let us know what's going on in your area so we can keep our newsletter and website current with upcoming events.



PEAL Mini Series--Beginning with the End in Mind-- Part 1: Developing a Strong IEP

UNIONTOWN November 5, 2007 6:30 – 8:30 PM --Fayette County Children & Youth Services, 130 Old New Salem Rd.

WILLIAMSPORT November 8, 2007 6:00 – 8:00 PM --Williamsport Best Western Inn, 1840 East Third Street, Williamsport

For more information, visit www.pealcenter.org or call 412-281-4404 or toll free 866-950-1040

Part 2: How can I get my child an inclusive education?

GREENSBURG — November 6, 2007 6:30 - 8:30 PM --The Arc of Westmoreland, 316 Donohue Road, Greensburg

MT. LEBANON — November 27, 2007 6:30 - 8:30 PM --Mt. Lebanon Public Library, 16 Castle Shannon Blvd., Pittsburgh

UNIONTOWN — November 13, 2007 6:30 – 8:30 PM --Fayette County Children & Youth Services, 130 Old New Salem Rd.

WILLIAMSPORT — November 15, 2007 6:00 – 8:00 PM --Williamsport Best Western Inn, 1840 East Third Street, Williamsport

For more information, visit www.pealcenter.org or call 412-281-4404 or toll free 866-950-1040

Transitioning Your Child's Medical Care Making it Their Responsibility

November 7, 2007--6:30 PM - 8:30 PM—The Arc of Greater Pittsburgh, Beaver Office, 500 Market Street, Bridgewater, PA 15009.

After adolescence, people transition from pediatric care to primary care physicians and specialists who provide adult and geriatric medical care. This process is sometimes more difficult for young adults with disabilities who have special health care support needs. Participants will become familiar with strategies for navigating through the maze of changing from pediatrics to adult health care.

Presenter: Angela M Hoenig, RN, Clinical Care Coordinator, PSAkids. Act 48 credits available. There is a \$10 processing fee. Please bring a check payable to Temple University. RSVP 724-775-1602 x10 or email: kvodenichar@achieve.info

Focusing on Assistive Technology (AT) Tuesday Series—Downlinks throughout the state of Pennsylvania.

PaTTAN - Harrisburg, PaTTAN - King of Prussia, PaTTAN - Pittsburgh. Each session 4:00 pm - 6:00 pm

Detailed information for each session is available on the PaTTAN website at <http://www.pattan.net/profdev/trainingcalendar.aspx>

Session One November 13, 2007 4:00 - 6:00 PM Focusing on AT: **What Every Educator Needs to Know**

Session Two November 27, 2007 4:00 - 6:00 PM Focusing On AT: **AT Trials and Short Term Loans**

Session Three December 11, 2007 4:00 - 6:00 PM Focusing On AT: **Tools for Struggling Writers**

Credit: Up to 6 clock hour per session are available for Act 48 and ACVREP and Up to 0.6 CEUs are offered for ASHA. Certificates of Attendance will be distributed at the end of each PaTTAN sponsored session. There is no cost for this workshop. Register on-line at www.pattan.net and enter On-line Registration page. Content Related Questions: Nan Rodgers, 800- 360-7282 (PA only) ext. 3721 or e-mail nrogers@pattan.net. General Registration Questions: Kim Fino: kfino@pattan.net

A Good Start is Not Enough: Improving Reading Achievement for Middle and High School Students.

November 12, 2007-- 9:00 AM—3:15 PM. Training/Viewing Sites: The PaTTAN Distance Learning Center will contact districts

and intermediate units that have been downlink sites in the past to determine if they would like to downlink this teleconference. If your organization has not been a downlink site for previous PaTTAN teleconferences and would like to download the November 12 teleconference, please contact Joel Thomas at: jthomas@pattan.net. No registration fee will be charged. For information on program content, contact John Dellegratto at: jdellegratto@pattan.net. For general registration information, contact Kristen Olszyk at: kolszyk@pattan.net. For more information visit:

www.pattan.net/profdev/trainingcalendar-event.aspx?year=2007&month=11&day=12&Ident

Understanding the MR System: Self-Determination Class 1 for Self-Advocates—

November 13, 2007-- 6:00 PM – 8:00 PM. This class is an introduction to Self-Determination, which is a way to think about how to live and how to get the services you need. You will learn how a civil rights movement has worked to get full civil rights for people with disabilities. You will have the opportunity to discuss Choice and Control. You will learn about the five principals for Self-Determination: Freedom, Authority, Support, Responsibility, and Self Advocacy, and the steps to take towards becoming a self-determined person. Arc of Crawford County, 222 Chestnut St, Meadville, PA 16335 TO REGISTER: Contact: Donna Johnson, Email: dkjohnson222@alltel.net. Phone: 814.724.7346

* The PEAL Center would really like to receive photos of kids to use in our publications, i.e. future newsletters. Digital photos are preferred, but good quality photos will be accepted. Please send photos to LRose@pealcenter.org. Please make sure to include contact information. We will need permission for everyone in the photo.

AVID Autism Conference—Washington, PA , November 13, 2007. Information at www.avidlearning.org .

The Greenspan Floortime Model featuring Jake Greenspan and Tim Bleecker,
Thursday, November 15, 2007, 6:00 PM– 9:00 PM and Friday, November 16, 2007, 8:00 AM– 4:00 PM
Westmoreland Intermediate Unit #7, 102 Equity Drive, Donohoe Rd, **Greensburg, PA.** Register on line www.arcwestmoreland.org.
Thursday, \$15 for professionals, no charge for family members. Friday - \$60.00 – fee includes breakfast, lunch on Friday
DWP and Act 48 hours available. Child care available. Contact Debi McKeever, 724-837-8159 x132 or email to:
dmckeever@arcwestmoreland.org

"Walking the Path" Through the Transition Years for All Youth with Disabilities--ABOARD'S Fall Conference
Friday, November 16, 2007 - 9:00 AM to 4:00 PM. Presenter: Jackie Marquett, Author, Consultant, Researcher, and Parent
Radisson Hotel **Pittsburgh**, Greentree. Continuing education credits provided. Registration fees: professional \$99, family member or
individual \$89, person with ASD \$49. To register or for more information, visit ABOARD's website www.aboard.org or call 800-827-9385.

2nd Annual MDA Duchenne Muscular Dystrophy educational seminar.
Saturday, November 17, 2007, from 9:00 AM to 2:00 PM at the Edgewood Country Club in **Edgewood**.
For more information and to RSVP contact Sandra Thompson at sthompson@mdausa.org or 412-823-4094

UCP Kids Workshop -No Excuses! Special Education Law is EVERYONE's Responsibility
November 29, 2007—6:00 AM—9:00 PM. Act 48 and Social Work credits available. UCP's Community Service Centre, Centre Ave.,
Oakland, **Pittsburgh**. For information call 412 683-7100 ext. 1030 or email UCPcares@ucppittsburgh.org or visit www.ucp.org.

Roots for Change: Pennsylvania Latino Education Agenda 2012, La Cumbre Latina de Educación
December 10-11, 2007. Penn Stater Conference Center Hotel, **State College, PA**—An opportunity for educators, community leaders, and
those who work for and on behalf of Latino students to engage in dialogues that will generate a long-term data and policy-driven agenda to
proactively address the needs of Latino students. View agenda at <http://www.center-school.org/latinosummit/agenda.php>
No fee however, pre-registration is required. Participants are responsible for lodging, travel and any meals not included.
Registration deadline November 21, 2007. To register for this event, www.center-school.org/registrations/latino.
For information visit: www.center-school.org

IEP Workshop presented by the PEAL Center — **Dubois** Special Education PTA
December 13, 2007, 6:00—8:00 PM.
For more information, contact the PEAL Center—412-281-4404 or 866-950-1040.

ODR Dispute Resolution Training at PaTTAN-Pittsburgh (Harmarville)
Friday, December 14, 2007 -- 9:00 AM-12 noon. For more information contact Cindy Duch at the PEAL Center.
412-281-4404 or 866-950-1040 or email info@pealcenter.org.

UCP Kids Workshop—Healthy Smiles Continuing to Explore Oral Healthcare's Relationship to Community
January 31, 2008—6:00—9:00 p.m. Act 48 and Social Work credits available
For information call 412 683-7100 ext. 1030 or email UCPcares@ucppittsburgh.org
UCP's Community Service Centre, Centre Ave., Oakland, **Pittsburgh**. Visit: www.ucp.org

The Pennsylvania Training Partnership for people with Disabilities and Families provides trainings on a variety of subjects
Including: Understanding the MR System in PA, Individual Support Plans, PUNS, Self-Determination, What is a Waiver and How Do I
Apply?, Augmentative and Alternative Communication (AAC); Estate Planning ; and Transition to Adulthood. To find out more about these
and other trainings, where you can attend or how to schedule a session in your area visit: www.temple.edu/thetrainingpartnership.

Family Support Specialist—Non-profit family organization seeks an individual to provide assistance & support to diverse families
raising young children (ages 0-6) with mental health issues. Qualified applicants will have the ability to document program outcomes, ex-
cellent organizational & communication skills, & the ability to speak before groups. Preference will be given to individuals who live in North
Side community. Candidates must have the following: Experience raising a child with mental health issues, Knowledge of the mental health
system Knowledge community resources, Valid PA driver's license, A reliable means of transportation. Act 33/34 clearances will be re-
quired. Please send cover letter, salary requirements and resume to: Allegheny Family Network, Human Services Building,
1 Smithfield Street, 5th Floor, Pittsburgh, PA 15222 or AlleghenyFamilyNetwork@comcast.net



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Save the Date
March 11-12, 2008
PEAL's Second Annual
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Keynote: Dr. Paula Kluth
Four Points Sheraton
Pittsburgh North

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THANK YOU.



PEAL wants you to know...

- The PEAL Center is scheduling trainings on a variety of topics including "Developing a Strong IEP." For more information about having us present in your area, call the PEAL Center at (412) 281-4404 or toll free 866-950-1040.
- We would like to include some information in both English and Spanish in each issue of our newsletter. If you are willing to volunteer to translate an article for the PEAL News, please contact Linda Rose.
- This newsletter is available in alternate formats by request.
- Photos on cover — Left: Annette Payne
Right: Sarah Rose and Jason Shea

Let us know what you think about this issue.
Tell us what kind of information you would like to see included in our newsletter.
Reply to Linda Rose, Editor at lrose@pealcenter.org or 412-281-4404 ext. 11