

Recipe for Inclusion: We All Bring Gifts to the Table



in conjunction with

State Representative Dan Miller's 3rd Annual Children & Youth Disability & Mental Health Summit

Thursday & Friday
March 3 & 4, 2016

Beth El Congregation
1900 Cochran Rd, Pittsburgh, PA

Supported by Funding from:
PA Department of Education
PA Training and Technical Assistance Network
PA Developmental Disabilities Council

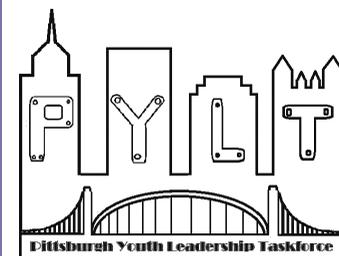


State Representative
Dan Miller's



21andable

MAP A BETTER FUTURE FOR YOUNG ADULTS WITH DISABILITIES



Keynote Speaker



Torrie Dunlap, CPLP

Featured Speakers

Keynote Speaker

Torrie Dunlap, CPLP, CEO,
Kids Included Together (KIT)

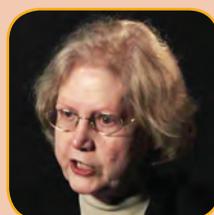
Torrie Dunlap is an educator who found her life's purpose while teaching a theater class for children that included a child with Down syndrome.

Torrie began as a volunteer at KIT, a national non-profit, where she is now the CEO. Torrie is renown speaker and published author. Torrie's keynote "The Promise & Possibility of Inclusion" will address how, as parents and advocates, we can help others in our community shift from the problems to the possibility and adopt an inclusive mindset.



Judith Gran, Esq., Partner,
Reisman Carolla Gran LLP

Judith Gran has represented children and adults with disabilities in eighteen states, including Pennsylvania and New Jersey. Judith has brought a number of class action and system change lawsuits designed to improve special education and community services and secure the right of persons with disabilities to inclusion and full participation in schools and communities.



Ron Hager, Esq., Senior Staff Attorney, National Disability Rights Network

Ron has specialized in disability law, particularly special education since 1979. Starting his legal career in Buffalo, New York as a VISTA attorney. At Neighborhood Legal Services (NLS) he represented clients in a wide variety of disability-related cases. As part of NLS's National AT Advocacy Project Ron was a frequent author on disability law-related issues.



Michelle "Sheli" Reynolds, Ph.D., UMKC Institute for Human Development

Dr. Reynolds's passion, knowledge, and experience come from growing up as a sibling of a brother with developmental disabilities. She is the Director of Individual Advocacy and Family Support at the UMKC Institute for Human Development (UCEED). Dr. Reynolds' work focuses on transformation of state systems through implementation of the Supporting Families LifeCourse Framework and Tools. Nationally, she is able to impact state systems in her role as the co-principal investigator on the National Community of Practice on Supports to Families grant from the Administration on Development Disabilities in collaboration with the National Association on State Development Disabilities Directors.



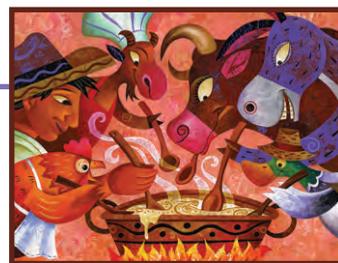
Conference at a Glance

Thursday, March 3rd

- 8:00–9:00 Registration – Come early for continental breakfast
- 9:00–10:00 Keynote: The Promise & Possibility of Inclusion
- 10:00–11:30 Breakout Sessions
- 11:00 Support Services Resource Fair Opens
- 11:30–12:30 Breakout Sessions
- 12:30–2:00 Breakout Sessions
- 2:00–3:00 Breakout Sessions
- 3:00 Support Services Resource Fair Closes
- 3:00–4:00 Breakout Sessions
- 4:00–5:00 Breakout Sessions
- 6:00–8:30 Workshop - Survival Guide to Life After High School, a 21 & Able Program

Friday, March 4th

- 9:00–10:00 Breakout Sessions
- 9:30–1:30 Influence to Action: Advocacy Leadership and Transition, a PA Youth Leadership Taskforce (PYLT) Session
- 10:00–11:00 Legislative Update: Helping Families in Mental Health Crisis Act
- 11:00 Employment and Transition Fair Opens
- 11:00–12:00 Breakout Sessions
- 12:30–3:00 Legislative Panel: State Policies on Disability Mental Health
- 2:00 Employment and Transition Fair Closes



Cover artwork by Rafael López

This image is from *The Cazuela That The Farm Maiden Stirred*, written by Samantha R. Vamos and illustrated by Rafael López. The work of Rafael López is a fusion of strong graphic style and magical symbolism. Growing up in Mexico City he was immersed in the rich cultural heritage and native color of street life. Influenced by Mexican surrealism, dichos and myths he developed a style with roots in these traditions.

www.rafaellopez.com

Sessions

Thursday, March 3rd
9:00 - 10:00 Keynote

10:00 - 11:00



1. Enforcing the Right of Students with Significant Disabilities to Participate in the General Education Curriculum

Judith Gran, *Reisman Carolla Gran LLP*

Faulty assumptions about students with significant disabilities include the idea that they need to be taught a “functional curriculum” in segregated life skills classes, where in fact, instruction is anything but functional. This session will focus on changing assumptions about students with significant disabilities and replacing the paradigm based on the “continuum” and “deficiency” models with personal futures planning, access to common core standards, and skills that are truly “functional” for 21st Century citizens.

2. Supporting “Good Lives” for All

Sheli Reynolds, *Institute for Human Development, University of Missouri, Kansas City*

Over the last several years the disability field has undergone many policy and practice changes, however what hasn't changed is the need to support persons with disabilities and their families to have good lives. This presentation will provide an overview of the LifeCourse framework and tools that are helpful for guiding conversations and planning for individuals, families, professionals and policymakers. Come learn how these tools can enhance expectations and actions to support a good life of everyone.

3. Autism Spectrum Disorders and Challenging Behaviors

Gloria J. Rodriguez-Ranson, LPC, IMHC, *Salud Mental Pittsburgh*

In this session behavioral challenges related to attachment, self-regulation, communication, and interaction will be defined. We will consider setting, development, health, family and culture in consideration for strength base strategies, techniques, games and activities for caregivers and providers to implement into their everyday interactions and treatment plans. The P.L.A.Y. Project intense play based intervention will be discussed www.playproject.org. As a P.L.A.Y. Project Clinician, Gloria, will share how play enhances attachment, self-regulation, communication and interactions, while decreasing aggression and challenging

behaviors. Participants will learn the importance of early detection, the use of screening tools, observation and parent/provider training in order to implement strategies that address the child's sensory motor profile, developmental age and comfort zone preferences.

Thursday 11:30 - 12:30

4. Mental Health: Self-Medication with Drugs and Alcohol

Carin J. Fraioli, LSW, CCDPD, *Gateway Rehabilitation Center*

Individuals with mental health concerns may abuse drugs or alcohol as a means of escapism or self-medication. Co-occurring disorders are only growing, further complicating the ability of individuals to find independence and opportunity. Learn about interventions, treatment, and how to overcome addictions when accompanied with a mental health diagnosis.

5. A Conversation with Pat Hozella, Director of PA Bureau of Special Education

Pat Hozella, *PA Bureau of Special Education*

Director Hozella will have an informal discussion with participants, updating you on the latest efforts in improving classroom integration and performance and answering questions.

6. Navigating Early Intervention

Erica Balint, *Alliance for Infants and Toddlers*
Amy Sukay, *Allegheny Intermediate Unit #3*
Elizabeth Strickland, *Pittsburgh Public Schools*

For those diagnosed young, starting and maintaining services until kindergarten is key to preparation and progress. This session will discuss the evaluation process and initial service involvement as well as the early transition markers from Alliance for Infants, to DART or PPS Early Intervention, to school.

Thursday 12:30 - 2:00

7. Making Connections: Fostering Friendships for Children With and Without Disabilities

Torrie Dunlap, CPLP, *Kids Included Together*

The best thing that a child can gain from a program is a quality friendship. Many times, children with and without disabilities struggle with initiating and maintaining friendships. In this

KEY: Symbols identify the organizer for each session:



PEAL Center



Rep Dan Miller



Pittsburgh Youth Leadership Taskforce (PYLT)

21 and Able

workshop, participants will learn how to help all children develop their friendship skills by examining the barriers to social interaction, applying a mapping tool and practicing using scenarios.

8. Using the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act to Improve Employment Outcomes

Ron Hager, *National Disability Rights Network*

WIOA, The Workforce Innovation & Opportunity Act requires “competitive, integrated employment” for individuals with disabilities. In this session, you will learn what this means for youth with disabilities and what parents can do to support families in this effort.

9. Using Assistive Technology to Participate in Instruction

Scott Dougherty, *PA Training and Technical Assistance Network (PaTTAN)*

Assistive Technology (AT) is one aspect of a student’s IEP which can lead to improved outcomes in a student’s communication, learning, and progress in school. Participants will be introduced to categories of AT tools in the areas of communication, computer access, mathematics, organization, reading, seating and positioning, sensory support, and writing. Examples of AT devices across those areas will be shared throughout the session.

Thursday 2:00 -3:00

10. Environmental Literacy through Technology? Yes, please!

Ceil Belasco, *Parent & Teacher*
Catherine Belasco, *Educator, Student & Sibling*

Technology (both high-tech and low-tech) can indeed make literacy in the environment more accessible to all. The use of devices or well-placed visual supports can provide access to the community for all individuals and provide more independence in daily routines. Navigating home or community locations can be daunting to individuals who do not yet decode words, but using technology daily to your advantage can dissolve barriers and increase self-efficacy.

11. Education Evaluation and Neuropsychological Evaluation: What’s the Difference?

Nancy Klucher, *Comprehensive Psychology and Education Solutions*

What should parents expect when the school undertakes an educational evaluation? When should parents have their child undergo a neuropsychological evaluation? What can a neuropsychological evaluation reveal about a child that a school

evaluation cannot? And, is it always better to have a neuropsychological evaluation instead of a school evaluation? We will explore the parameters of both school evaluations and neuropsychological evaluations to help parents better understand what to expect from each type of evaluation. We will also discuss how parents can use the results of these evaluations to develop comprehensive and targeted interventions and accommodations for their child.



12. Overcoming Barriers to Access and Learning Using Supplementary Aids & Services

Jeannine H. Brinkley, *PaTTAN Pittsburgh*

The Supplementary Aids and Services (SaS) Toolkit is a facilitated process to inform IEP teams as they develop or revise a student’s IEP. A trained facilitator supports a student-focused team to explore possible supplementary aids and services that may be effective to support learning and participation in a general education classroom. This presentation will provide an overview of the process and examples of results of the process.

Thursday 3:00 - 4:00

13. Mental Health: Battling Suicide & Depression

Kathe Niznik, *St. Clair Hospital*
Christina Hostutler, LCSW, *Outreach Teen & Family Counseling*
Debbie Ference, *National Alliance on Mental Illness (NAMI)*
Ian Cummins, *NAMI Board of Directors*

Suicide is the second leading cause of death among youth age 10-24 and 90% of those who commit suicide have an underlying mental illness. Youth with learning or physical disabilities are at higher risk for mental health problems than those without these disabilities. This session will cover the prevailing stigma around these issues as well as help identify signs, symptoms, causes, and treatment options.

14. Special Needs in the Courtroom

Honorary Bill Ward, *Court of Common Pleas*
Gary Ratica, *Mt. Lebanon Police Department*
Maegan Susa Filo, Esq., *Ambrose Law Centre*
Cate Axtman, *KidsVoice*

Entry into the court system can be stressful enough, but what additional challenges can one face when having a disability or mental health diagnosis? Whether for divorce, custody, delinquency or dependency, learn what to talk about before the need arises.

★ 15. Safe at Home for Children with Disabilities

Alicia Louge, BCBA, NCC, LPC, *Independent Consultant*
Bonita Todd, *Respond/Pathways*
Mary Jo Alimena-Carusio, *CareBreak at The Watson Institute*
Lt. Chris Switala, *Mt. Lebanon Fire Department*

All parents worry about their children's health, happiness, and general well-being, but parents of children with special needs must often make extraordinary efforts to ensure that their family is safe at home and in their neighborhood. Learn how to work cooperatively with caregivers, neighbors, and first responders to create a home safety plan for your family.

Thursday 4:00 - 5:00

★ 16. Mental Health: A Conversation about Adversity in Early Childhood

Bonnie McNally-Brown, LPC, NCC, *Child, Family & Community Inc.*

Please join us for a discussion of a growing public health concern—childhood trauma. We'll discuss what types of experiences may be traumatic for children, how early adverse experiences impact development, long term outcomes for children and what to do about it. Presenter Bonnie McNally-Brown is a therapist in private practice who specializes in working with children and their families as they overcome adversity.

★ 17. Discipline in School

Cheryl Kleiman, Esq., *The Education Law Center*
Rebecca Heaton-Hall, Esq., *Weiss, Burkardt, Kramer LLC*

Learn about the rights that students with special needs have when it comes to disciplinary measures in schools and best practices schools can use to ensure the safety and learning of all students.

★ 18. Homework Strategies for Students with IEPs

Tina Tolkacevic, *Mt. Lebanon School District*
Lori Sutton, *Bethel Park School District*
Suzanne Lochie, *Keystone Oaks School District*

For students with special needs, the completion of homework can produce anxiety at home and cause frustration and stress for parents. This session will discuss useful and practical strategies to help make homework a more positive experience for everyone.

Thursday 6:00 - 8:30

21 19. Survival Guide to Life After High School: A 21 and Able Program

Mary Hartley, *21 and Able*
Erin Guay, *PA Health Law Project*
Jeni Hergenreder, Esq., *Disability Rights Network*
Cheryl Kleiman, Esq., *Education Law Center*
Marcy Katona, *Office of Vocational Rehabilitation*
Chris Rodocker, *Allegheny County Office of Intellectual Disabilities*

Identify resources and support services for transition to adulthood, including an overview and information on adult Medicaid waivers and services; how transition to employment is changing in the Office of Vocational Rehabilitation; and special education and IEP writing for a successful transition. Your personal questions will be answered, and connections made to those who can help.

Free pizza dinner at this session. Pre-registration required.

Friday, March 4th

9:00 - 10:00

20. Financial Planning

Lisa Dougan, *Achieva Family Trust*
Tim Pawol, *Life Enrichment Trust*

Planning for your future is important, especially when dealing with a loved one with a disability or mental health concern. This session will cover special needs trusts, powers of attorney, and guardianships – why they are needed and how to get started.

21. Pathways & Possibilities: Exploring & Building Skills Toward Obtaining & Maintaining Employment

Michael Stoehr, *PA Training and Technical Assistance Network (PaTTAN)*

This session will provide information on how transition-aged high schoolers can use a “value driven” approach to find employment opportunities after graduation. Key points that will be covered in this presentation include: the importance of self-determination, meaningful assessment, utilization of accommodations and supports, building upon social capital and accessing current resources and supports. Also included in this session will be information regarding the Leadership in Schools project that is designed to promote and develop leadership skills that are aligned to the PA Core Curriculum for all students.

Friday 9:30 - 1:30

22. Influence to Action: Advocacy, Leadership and Transition: A PA Youth Leadership Taskforce Program

Pennsylvania Youth Leadership Task Force (PYLT)

This session is for transition-age students. Keynote Speaker Chaz Kellum, Distinguished Disability Advocate, will open the session

with inspiration and then students will have the opportunity to learn the following skills: how to become a leader of tomorrow, how to navigate disability support services through self-advocacy, how to interact with elected officials, and how to network with potential employers at the Employment and Transition Resource Fair. This program will culminate with the Legislative Panel.

Pre-registration is required for this session. Free pizza lunch. Use this link to register for this session:
<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/F3TVM5N>

Friday 10:00 - 11:00

★ 23. Update on Mental Health Crisis Act

Congressman Tim Murphy, *18th Congressional District of PA, Co-Chair of the Mental Health Caucus, member of the GOP Doctors Caucus*

Congressman Murphy will present an update on his Helping Families in Mental Health Crisis Act which attempts to fix our nation's broken mental health system by expanding treatment options, integrating mental and physical care, and reducing barriers and stigmas associated with mental illness.

Friday 11:00 - 12:00

★ 24. ABLE Act: Tax-Free Savings Accounts for Qualified Expenses

Amy Strano, *Achieva Family Trust*
Nancy Murray, *The Arc of Greater Pittsburgh Representative, Office of Senator Bob Casey*

Senator Casey's Achieving a Better Life Experience (ABLE) bill has allowed for tax-advantaged savings accounts for individuals with disabilities. Enabling legislation has been working its way through Harrisburg. We will discuss its complexities and implications and how an ABLE account can be a game-changer for some families.

25. Getting Around: Transportation Assistance in Allegheny County

Karen Hoesch, *ACCESS Transportation Systems*
Deborah Skillings, *Port Authority of Allegheny County*
Michelle Holsopple, *AIU3*

Transportation is vital to independence – whether traveling to school, work, or home. This session will discuss how to qualify for transportation assistance, existing programs that provide individual travel training, and how the public transit system works to provide access for all.

Friday 12:30 - 3:00

26. Legislative Panel: State Policies on Disability & Mental Health

Hosted by Representative Dan Miller, *42nd District State Representative, Co-chair Subcommittee on Special Education and Intellectual Disabilities and Autism Caucus*

Representatives, Senators, and elected leaders from across the area will get together for a panel discussion to talk about state policies and legislative initiatives that need to advance in order to increase independence and opportunity for everyone.

Important Information

Resource Fairs

Resource fair options have been expanded over two days. March 3rd Rep. Dan Miller will host a "Support Services Resource Fair" and on March 4th Rep. Dan Miller will host an "Employment & Transition Resource Fair."

21 & Able | United Way of PA: *Survival Guide to Life After High School: A 21 and Able Program (Thurs. 6-8:30)*

Session is free. You must register for this session in advance on the Eventbrite or registration mail-in form. Pizza dinner included. Registration for this session will not be accepted on the day of the conference.

Pittsburgh Youth Leadership Taskforce (PYLT): *Influence to Action: Advocacy, Leadership and Transition: A PA Leadership Network Task Force Program (Fri. 9:30-1:30)*

You must register in advance for this session using the PYLT online registration at <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/F3TVM5N> by Feb. 12th. Pizza lunch will be provided for participants. Questions? Call 412-632-1878 or email pylinfo@gmail.com.

Meals

Please note that there is no scheduled break for lunch. Box lunches are optional and can be purchased for \$8.20 when registering for the event. Box lunches will be available from 11:30 – 2:00.

Choose from three sandwich options: tuna salad, egg salad and hummus. Indicate your sandwich choice on your registration. Cookie, salad, apple and beverage included. As this is a kosher facility, outside food is not permitted on the premises.

Act 48

Act 48 Credit hours for educators will be available. To receive credit you must bring your Pennsylvania Professional ID number with you to the conference, as well as your Professional Personnel ID, which you can find at:
www.perms.ed.state.pa.us/Screens/wfPublicAccess.aspx.

Social Workers (CEU) and Lawyers (CLE)

Approval for continuing education credits are pending for Social Workers and Lawyers. For updated information on which sessions qualify please visit disabilitysummit.com. To give an idea of past offerings, we previously had 8 hours for lawyers and 14 hours for social workers. We anticipate having similar or greater numbers of hours available this year.

Conference Registration Form

Register online: <https://disabilitysummit2016.eventbrite.com> or complete the following form and mail or fax to the PEAL Center (see below).

Note the link to register for the conference will take you to an EventBrite page for Rep. Dan Miller's Disability & Mental Health Summit. You are on the correct page. The PEAL Center's 10th Annual Inclusive Communities Conference is in conjunction with Rep. Miller's Summit. If you have any questions please email events@pealcenter.org.

Please print clearly (one form per person, please).

First Name	Last Name	
Address	<input type="checkbox"/> Home <input type="checkbox"/> Work	
City	State	ZIP
Home Phone	Alternate Phone	
Email Address		
School District	IU	County
Employer		

Indicate the day or days you will be attending: Thursday Friday
 Indicate the presentations you plan to attend (check only one per time block):

CHOOSE your Thursday, March 3rd sessions

<p><u>9:00-10:00</u></p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Keynote: The Promise & Possibility of Inclusion (Dunlap)</p> <p><u>10:00-11:00</u></p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> 1. Rights of Students with Significant Disabilities (Gran)</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> 2. Good Lives (Reynolds)</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> 3. Autism Spectrum Disorders (Rodriguez-Ranson)</p> <p><u>11:30-12:30</u></p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> 4. Self-Medication with Drugs and Alcohol (Fraiola)</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> 5. A Conversation with Pat Hozella (Hozella)</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> 6. Navigating Early Intervention (Balint, Sukay, Strickland)</p> <p><u>12:30-2:00</u></p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> 7. Fostering Friendships for Children (Dunlap)</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> 8. Using WIOA to Improve Employment Outcomes (Hager)</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> 9. Using Assistive Technology (Dougherty)</p>	<p><u>2:00-3:00</u></p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> 10. Literacy through Technology (Belasco, Belasco)</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> 11. Education / Neuropsychological Evaluation (Klucher)</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> 12. Using Supplementary Aids and Services (Brinkley)</p> <p><u>3:00-4:00</u></p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> 13. Suicide & Depression (Niznik, Nostutler, Ference, Cummins)</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> 14. Special Needs in the Courtroom (Ward, Ratica, Filo, Axtman)</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> 15. Safe at Home (Logue, Todd, Alimena-Carusio, Switala)</p> <p><u>4:00-5:00</u></p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> 16. Adversity in Early Childhood (McNally-Brown)</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> 17. Discipline in School (Kleiman, Heaton-Hall)</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> 18. Homework Strategies (Tolkacevic, Sutton, Lochie)</p> <p><u>6:00-8:30</u></p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> 19. Life After High School (Hartley, Guay, Hergenreder, Kleiman, Katona, Rodocker)</p>
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CHOOSE your Friday, March 4th Sessions

<p><u>9:00-10:00</u></p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> 20. Financial Planning (Dougan, Pawol)</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> 21. Obtaining & Maintaining Employment (Stoehr)</p> <p><u>9:30-1:30</u></p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> 22. Advocacy, Leadership and Transition (PYLT)</p> <p><u>10:00-11:00</u></p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> 23. Update on Mental Health Crisis Act (Murphy)</p>	<p><u>11:00-12:00</u></p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> 24. ABLE Act (Strano, Murray, Office of Sen Casey)</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> 25. Transportation Assistance (Hoesch, Skillings, Holsopple)</p> <p><u>12:30-3:00</u></p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> 26. Legislative Panel (Miller)</p>
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Please tell us about yourself:

Youth

Parent/Family Member

Teacher/Administrator

Health Professional

Other Professional

OPTIONAL Information:
 (to assess whether we are reaching all communities) Check all that apply:

African American

Asian American

European American

Hispanic

Native American

Other

OPTIONAL Box Lunch

I would like to purchase a box lunch for \$8.20? Yes No

If yes, I would like:

Tuna Salad Sandwich

Egg Salad Sandwich

Hummus Sandwich

As this is a kosher facility, outside food is not permitted on the premises.

I NEED the Following

ASL Interpreter

Spanish Interpreter

Other Accommodations: *Contact Grace D'Angelis (412) 281-4404*

Pending approval of Act 48, Social Work and Legal credits will be offered. I want to earn:

Act 48

Social Work (CEU)

Legal (CLE)

PAYMENT Method

Register and pay for lunch on line at: <https://disabilitysummit2016.eventbrite.com> or send your registration form and payment or payment order to:

PEAL Center
1119 Penn Ave., Suite 400
Pittsburgh, PA 15222

Charge to my:

Visa

Mastercard

American Express

Card # _____

Purchase Order Enclosed:
 # _____
 (Tax ID for PO - 20-2043378)

Check # _____
 (Payable to PEAL Center)

Money Order



PEAL Center
1119 Penn Avenue, Suite 400
Pittsburgh, PA 15222
412-281-4404
Toll Free 866-950-1040
TTY 412-281-4409

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Available in alternate formats upon request

“Recipe for Inclusion: *We All Bring Gifts to the Table*”



The theme of this year’s conference, stems from the beautiful children’s story *The Cazuela That the Farm Maiden Stirred*. When a farm girl starts cooking, all of the animals want to help. The cow contributes milk, the hen offers eggs, and even the duck makes a special trip to the market. While the pot is bubbling merrily on the stove, everyone dances and sings. This book is a bilingual celebration of food and community. The mission of the Parent Education & Advocacy Leadership (PEAL) Center is to ensure that children, youth and adults with disabilities and special health care needs lead rich, active lives and participate as full members of their schools and communities. Each person brings a special gift to their communities, and much like the animals and farm girl in the story, the community we create together when everyone is included is that much richer. This year’s conference offers sessions on inclusion, intervention, support, education, advocacy, fostering friendships, employment, technology, and so much more! Make plans now to join this wonderful community gathering.