



The Link

A Newsletter of the Parent Information Center of Delaware, Inc.

POSITIVE COMMUNICATION BETWEEN PARENTS AND TEACHERS

Do you get the information you need at the beginning of the school year? **Do YOU:**

- Go to the school/classroom open house or orientation night?
- Have the teachers phone number and know convenient times to call?
- Read the school handbook so that you understand school rules?

Do you let the teacher know that you want to be informed regularly about your child's schoolwork and behavior? **Do YOU:**

- Give the teacher your home and work numbers and a convenient time to reach you?
- Tell the teacher that you want to hear about both negative and positive issues with your child?
- Read and respond to notes, newsletters, etc?
- Ask about class rules, routines, and what students will be learning?
- Talk to the teacher as soon as you have a question or concern about your child?

Do you let the teacher know that you want to be involved in your child's education? **Do you:**

- Go to parent-teacher conferences and other school meetings?
- Ask the teacher how you can help with schoolwork at home?

- Volunteer to help the teacher in class or with special events?
- Ask the teacher when you can visit the classroom?
- Mark your calendar with special school activities and events so your child is prepared for both of you to attend together?
- Work with the teacher to clarify your child's academic and behavioral goals for the year?
- Share information about your child's accomplishments at home or in extracurricular activities?

Do you act like a partner with the teacher for your child's education?

Do YOU:

- Tell the teacher that you want to work together to solve problems?
- Let your child know that you support the teacher's classroom rules and work goals?
- Let the teacher know about things at school that your child likes?
- Communicate with the teacher when you have questions, concerns, or suggestions to improve your child's learning experience?
- Ask for suggestions about activities you can do with your child to build on what he/she is

BACK to SCHOOL...

This issue of "The LINK" includes numerous tips and resources to help parents become active partners in their child's education.

A great way to start the new school year is by attending a **PIC workshop**—
see pages 4, 6 and 11 for a workshop near you!

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Thinking Out LOUD! LOUD! LOUD!

A much needed boost...

Although we are extremely dedicated to our work, we often wonder whether we make a difference in the lives of families of children with disabilities. Thanks to those of you who are thoughtful, as well as thankful, we get an occasional much needed boost such as this letter from a parent who we helped a few months ago.

Thank you so much for all of your help. I wanted to let you know that my son finally received his occupational therapy that we asked for. He received eleven sessions at a half hour a week. Next year he will only be seen on a monthly basis. His writing came a long way and he remained in his normal classroom. I will be keeping up with his occupational therapy over the summer either by paying someone and/or me doing it.

I just wanted to thank Parent Information Center again for giving me the resources to fight for my child and help me understand my child's rights. I would not have been able to receive the occupational therapy he needed without your help.

*Sincerely,
Mr. & Mrs. B.*

The Link is a quarterly publication of the Parent Information Center of DE, Inc. (PIC/DE). Please do not duplicate **The Link** in its entirety or partially without permission from PIC/DE.

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Parent Information Center of Delaware Locations

picofdel@picofdel.org Email

www.picofdel.org Website

(888) 547-4412 Toll Free for Families

700 Barksdale Road, Suite 16 * Newark, DE 19711

(302) 366-0152 Voice - (302) 366-0276 Fax

3707 N. Market Street * Wilmington, DE 19802

(302) 764-3252 Voice - 764-3171 Fax

1046 S. DuPont Highway * Dover, DE 19901

(302) 674-0184 Voice - (302) 674-0187 Fax

109 N. Bedford Street * Georgetown, DE 19947

(302) 856-9880 Voice - (302) 856-9882 Fax

PIC Board of Directors:

*Verna Hensley, Board President; Kevin Chong, Treasurer;
Penny Deiner; Joe Farrell; Joan French; Stephen Spence;
Mary Thomas; Martha Brooks, Ed.D., Ex-officio*

In July, we were pleased to have a visit from Donna Fluke, Education Program Specialist with the U.S. Dept. of Education/ Office of Special Education Programs and Paula Goldberg, Executive Director of PACER Center/Technical Assistance Alliance for Parent Centers .

Pictured left to right:

Paula Goldberg, Verna Hensley,
Marie-Anne Aghazadian and Donna Fluke.

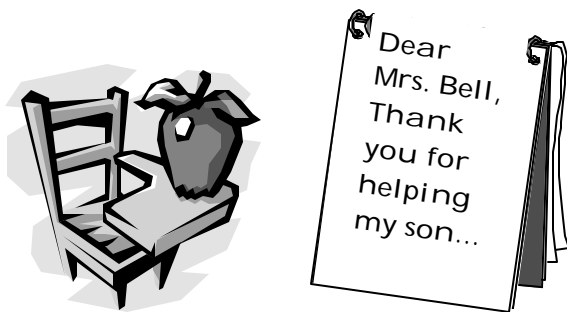
learning at school?

- Show respect for the teacher and school?
- Thank the teacher for his/her effort?

If you answered “YES” to these questions, **congratulations!** You have open and positive communication with your child’s teacher. Here are some tips to enhance parent-teacher communication:

- Write a note on your child’s homework to let your teacher know if the work was easy or difficult.
- Make an appointment so that you have time to talk with the teacher if you have a concern, and let the teacher know what you want to talk about.
- Talk about your concerns in a positive, problem-solving way.
- Avoid blaming or criticizing the teacher – especially in front of your child.
- Let your child know about talks you have had with his/her teacher.
- Children should see that open communication between home and school is a good sign of teamwork.
- Tell the teacher about any major changes in your child’s life (death in family, birth of sibling, divorce, etc.) that may affect his/her schoolwork.
- Show the teacher appreciation when he/she does something for your child.

(Source: *The Bridge Back-to-School 2001*)



“I never let my schooling interfere with my education.”

- Mark Twain

HELP YOUR CHILD MAKE FRIENDS AT SCHOOL

Tips and resources for helping your child ease into his or her first school or to a new school in a new location:

Kindergarten

Volunteer in the classroom to learn your children’s friends.

Get to know other parents when dropping off or picking up your children from school.

- Set up play times with the children and parents you find compatible.

Grades 1-3

- Ask your children to invite over their friends. Include them in family activities, such as game night, and include their parents, if possible.

Grades 4-6

- Encourage children to team up for school projects and to allow other children to join in with your children.



Grades 7-8

- Encourage children to remain true to their friends and resist peer pressure. Talk to your children about how they select their friends.

Grades 9-12

- Encourage children to participate in school and non-school activities, including volunteering with community service projects.

Transition Tips

- Establish a routine that mimics the school year, including wake-up times.
- Visit the school, attend new student orientation and meet with teachers.
- Find out the school’s academic expectations and requirements, whether your children will learn cursive writing or build an ant colony

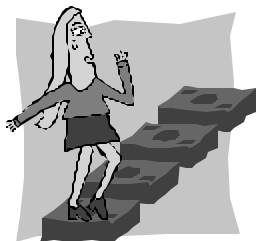
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NEW CASTLE COUNTY Workshops

Day/Date	Time	Topic	Location
Monday 9/8/03	6:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.	Advocating for your Child and Others through Action and Systems Change <i>Learn about the Legislative Process.</i>	Newark Library 750 Library Ave. Newark DE (302) 731-7550
Tuesday 9/16/03	6:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.	The SMART Individualized Education Program (IEP) <i>How to develop a SMART IEP</i>	Hockessin Memorial Hall Rt. 48 Hockessin DE (302) 239-5279
Thursday 9/18/03	6:00 p.m.- 8:00 p.m.	Basic Rights I <i>Provides an overview of the six principles of special education law also known as the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA).</i>	PAL Center 3707 North Market Street Wilmington DE (302) 764-3252 PIC office
Tuesday 9/30/03	6:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.	The Future Starts Now! Transition <i>Plan for your child's transition from school to adult life</i>	Boys & Girls Club 109 Glasgow Drive Newark DE (302) 836-6464
Saturday 10/4/03	10:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.	Basic Rights II <i>Offers more specific information about the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act. (IDEA).</i>	PAL Center 3707 North Market Street Wilmington DE (302) 764-3252 PIC office
Monday 10/6/03	6:30 p.m.- 8:30 p.m.	No Child Left Behind <i>Learn about education reform designed to improve student achievement.</i> Guest Speaker: Dr. Nancy Wilson, Delaware Department of Education	Kirkwood Library 6000 Kirkwood Highway Newark DE (302) 995-7663
Wednesday 10/8/03	6:30 p.m.- 8:30 p.m.	Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 <i>Learn about Section 504 accommodations and modifications.</i>	Hockessin Memorial Hall Rt. 48 Hockessin DE (302) 239-5279
Thursday 10/16/03	6:00 p.m.- 8:00 p.m.	DSTP <i>An overview of the DSTP process as it relates to children with special needs.</i> Guest Speaker: Dr. Wendy Roberts, Delaware Department of Education	PAL Center 3707 North Market Street Wilmington DE (302) 764-3252 PIC office
Wednesday 10/22/03	6:30 p.m.- 8:30 p.m.	The SMART Individualized Education Program (IEP) <i>How to develop a SMART IEP.</i>	Newark Church of Christ 300 East Main St Newark DE (302) 737-4711
Monday 10/27/03	6:00 p.m.- 8:00 p.m.	The SMART Individualized Education Program (IEP) <i>How to develop a SMART IEP.</i>	PAL Center 3707 North Market Street Wilmington DE (302) 764-6170 PIC office
Tuesday 10/28/03	6:30 p.m.- 8:30 p.m.	The Future Starts Now! Transition <i>Plan for your child's transition from school to adult life.</i>	Boys and Girls Club 109 Glasgow Drive Newark DE (302) 836-6464

NEW CASTLE COUNTY Workshops

Monday 11/03/03	6:00 p.m.- 8:00 p.m.	<p style="text-align: center;">Procedural Safeguards</p> <p><i>Will provide an overview of educational rights also known as Procedural Safeguards under the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA).</i></p> <p>Co-presented with: Fran Haug, Special Education Partnership for the Amicable Resolution of Conflict (SPARC) - University of Delaware</p>	Newark Library 750 Library Ave. Newark DE (302) 731-7550
Wednesday 11/5/03	6:00 p.m.- 8:00 p.m.	<p style="text-align: center;">Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973</p> <p><i>Learn about Section 504 accommodations and modifications.</i></p>	Appoquinimink State Service Center 122 Silver Lake Road Middletown DE (302) 378-2757
Thursday 11/6/03	6:00 p.m.- 8:00 p.m.	<p style="text-align: center;">Assistive Technology</p> <p><i>Learn about assistive technology devices and services.</i></p> <p>Co-presented with: Eden Melmed, Delaware Assistive Technology Initiative (DATI)</p>	Claymont Community Center 3301 Green Street Claymont DE (302) 792-2757
Wednesday 11/12/03	6:00 p.m.- 8:00 p.m.	<p style="text-align: center;">No Child Left Behind</p> <p><i>Learn about education reform designed to improve student achievement.</i></p>	Appoquinimink State Service Center 122 Silver Lake Road Middletown DE (302) 378-2757
Tuesday 11/18/03	6:30 p.m.- 8:30 p.m.	<p style="text-align: center;">DSTP</p> <p><i>An overview of the DSTP process as it relates to children with special needs.</i></p>	Hockessin Memorial Hall Rt. 48 Hockessin DE (302) 239-5279
Thursday 11/20/03	6:00 p.m.- 8:00 p.m.	<p style="text-align: center;">Procedural Safeguards</p> <p><i>Will provide an overview of educational rights also known as Procedural Safeguards under the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA).</i></p>	PAL Center 3707 North Market Street Wilmington DE (302) 764-3252 PIC office
Monday 12/1/03	6:00 p.m.- 8:00 p.m.	<p style="text-align: center;">Medicaid</p> <p><i>Learn how to access Medicaid for children with disabilities.</i></p> <p>Guest Speaker: Philip Soule, Deputy Director of Medicaid</p>	PAL Center 3707 North Market Street Wilmington DE (302) 764-3252 PIC office
Tuesday 12/2/03	6:30 p.m.- 8:30 p.m.	<p style="text-align: center;">Procedural Safeguards</p> <p><i>Will provide an overview of educational rights also known as Procedural Safeguards under the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA).</i></p>	Tentative Location Bear Library 101 Governors Place Bear DE (302) 838-3300
Wednesday 12/3/03	6:00 p.m.- 8:00 p.m.	<p style="text-align: center;">DSTP</p> <p><i>An overview of the DSTP process as it relates to children with special needs.</i></p>	Appoquinimink State Service Center 112 Silver Lake Road Middletown DE (302) 378-2757



Follow the steps to success and sign up for a
PIC sponsored workshop!

Call to register: Newark 366-0152 or Wilmington 764-3252

KENT COUNTY Workshops

Day/Date	Time	Topic	Location
Monday 9/15/03	6:00 p.m.- 8:00 p.m.	Basic Right I <i>Provides an overview of six principles of special education law also known as Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA).</i> (Presented in Spanish)	Reformation Lutheran Church 613 Lakeview Ave. Milford DE (302) 422-9117
Saturday 9/27/03	9:30 a.m.- 11:30 a.m.	Basic Rights I <i>Provides an overview of six principles of special education law also known as Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA).</i>	Paradee Center (U of D) Rt. 113 (adjacent to Dept. of Trans.) Dover DE (302) 739-8331
Monday 9/29/03	6:00 p.m.- 8:00 p.m.	No Child Left Behind <i>Learn about education reform designed to improve student achievement.</i> Guest Speaker: Dr. Nancy Wilson, Delaware Department of Education	Milford Library 11 S. Front St. Milford DE (302) 422-8996
Wednesday 10/8/03	9:30 a.m.- 11:30 a.m.	Transition from Part C to Part B <i>Birth to Three</i> (Presented in Spanish)	Location to be Determined Harrington
Saturday 10/11/03	9:30 a.m.- 11:30 a.m.	The SMART Individualized Education Program (IEP) <i>How to develop a SMART IEP.</i>	Paradee Center (U of D) Rt. 113 (adjacent to Dept. of Trans.) Dover DE (302) 739-8331
Monday 10/20/03	6:00 p.m.- 8:00 p.m.	Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 <i>Learn about Section 504 accommodations and modifications.</i> (Presented in Spanish)	Reformation Lutheran Church 613 Lakeview Ave. Milford DE (302) 422-9117
Saturday 10/25/03	9:30 a.m.- 11:30 a.m.	Basic Rights II <i>Offers more specific information about the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA).</i>	Paradee Center (U of D) Rt. 113 (adjacent to Dept of Trans.) Dover DE (302) 739-8331
Saturday 11/8/03	9:30 a.m.- 11:30 a.m.	DSTP <i>An overview of the DSTP process as it relates to children with special needs.</i>	Paradee Center (U of D) Rt. 113 (adjacent to Dept of Trans.) Dover DE (302) 739-8331

Looking for a way to meet other parents and share your experiences?
Sign up for a PIC sponsored workshop!
Call 1-888-547-4412 to register in Kent County.



NEW RESOURCES

**The following resources are new to the
PIC Lending Library!**

Practical Solutions to Everyday Challenges for Children with Asperger Syndrome Myles, Haley M., 2002

A nine year old girl, and her mother, share ideas and strategies for dealing with some of the challenges and frustrations that come with having Asperger Syndrome. Practical solutions are offered for many issues including: “Knowing what to touch and not touch”, “How to start a conversation” and “Following rules”.

Riding The Bus With My Sister Simon, Rachel, 2002

Rachel’s adult sister, Beth, who has mental retarda-

tion, spends her days riding the buses in a Pennsylvania city. Rachel, a writer and college teacher, decides to explore her sister’s lifestyle and ends up experiencing a personal life journey of her own.

Social Skills Training Baker, Jed E. Ph.d., 2003

This book outlines a social skills curriculum designed for children and adolescents with Asperger Syndrome and Social-Communication Problems.

Tictionary, A Reference Guide to the World of Tourette Syndrome, Asperger Syndrome, Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder and Obsessive Compulsive Disorder for Parents and Professionals Ottinger, Becky, 2003

This book is a helpful resource to parents and professionals that defines and expands upon many terms/issues that these children face daily.



**Websites For Kids To Build Brainpower And Confidence...
While Still Having Fun!**

discoveryschool.com—Click on “For Students” for links to more than 700 sites for help with topics from science to foreign languages.

aplusmath.com—Site for middle school students to build basic math skills—There are countless fun math games that test memory and interactive features, such as flashcards and worksheets.

vocabulary.com—For students grades 5 and up—Find user-friendly puzzles that make it easy to learn a passel of new words—Styled like a detective game, with a cluster of clues provided to solve the mystery and help remember the words.

wordsmith.org—Where a word is featured like the flavor of the day, along with everything you need to know about it.

nationalgeographic.com/homework—Print out maps

kidsnewsroom.org—Site offers a summary of current events that will impress any teacher.

Disability Related Groups for SUPPORT, INFORMATION & ADVOCACY

Adoptive Families with Information and Support (AFIS) Provides support to families during all phases of the adoption process including pre-adoptive information. Call for meeting dates/times.

Statewide—Mary Jo Wolfe (302) 239-6232 AFIS@delanet.com

NAMI/DE (formerly Alliance for the Mentally Ill in Delaware (AMID)) Offers advocacy, support and housing information for individuals with mental illness and their families. Meetings for support groups are held in all three counties. Call for meeting dates/times.

Statewide—Rita Morrocco, Exec. Dir., (302) 427-0787, Oya Alatur (888) 427-2643

Arc of Delaware (Association for the Rights of Citizens with Mental Retardation in DE)

New Castle County—Self-Advocacy Group - DE People First. One meeting each month—date/time varies, please call for information. Employment, Housing, Friend-to-Friend. Bill Love, Exec. Dir. (302) 996-9400

Kent County—Mary Horn, Ofc. Mgr. (302) 736-6140

Sussex County—Need not be a member to receive services. Carol Reid Hall, Outreach Coordinator (302) 856-6019

Autism Society of Delaware Support and information for parents of children with Autism/PDD. Meetings held the 12th of every month, 7:00 p.m. usually at Special Olympics Office (meet 4 times per year in Dover). Speakers, conference, public awareness efforts.

Statewide—Theda Ellis, Exec. Dir. (302) 777-7335 delautism@aol.com

Brain Injury Association of Delaware

www.biausa.org/Delaware/bia.htm

New Castle County—Meets 3rd Thursday of the month (Jan-Nov) 7:00 p.m. at Christiana Care Health System Room 110. Margie/John Goodier (302) 378-3035, (800) 411-0505,

Kent County—Meets 2nd Tuesday of the month (Jan-Nov) 7:00 p.m. at Kent General Hospital Outpatient Therapy Facility. 560 S. Governors Ave., Dover. Rusty/Marilyn Sheridan (302) 653-9433

Sussex County—Meets the 4th Tuesday of the month (Jan-Nov) at Wesley United Methodist Church, 102 E. Laurel and Race Street, Georgetown, 7:00 p.m. Eve Tolley, Facilitator (800) 411-0505, (302) 537-5770

CHILD, Inc. Statewide parent education, home visiting, and counseling. Promotes parental involvement in education. Specialized services for families experiencing divorce/separation or domestic violence.

Statewide—**WARMLINE (800) 874-2070**—confidential telephone support service for parents of children birth-18. Provides referrals to community services.

New Castle County—(302) 762-8989

Kent County—(302) 697-2292

Children & Adults with Attention Deficit/Hyperactivity

Disorders (CHADD) Greater Newark Chapter

Adult and parent Support Group meets 3rd Wednesday of the month 7:00 p.m. United Church of Christ (UCC), Main Street, Newark, DE (old police station). Meetings feature a speaker presentation and/or group discussion. Presentation on ADHD to interested groups.

New Castle County—Ruth Wolfe (302) 737-5063 newarkchadd@yahoo.com, www.chadd.org

Children & Adults with Attention Deficit/Hyperactivity

Disorders (CHADD) Brandywine Valley Chapter

Meets 2nd Thursday of each month (except August & December) at DuPont Hosp. for Children, Rockland Rd., Wilmington. Newcomers at 6:45 with both the parent & adult support groups mtg. at 7:30 p.m.

New Castle County—(302) 376-0900 brandyw_chadd@yahoo.com

Children & Families First Statewide private social service agency

dedicated to improving the quality of individual, family, and community life through prevention, treatment, education and training services such as: Parenting Plus, Community Education, Special Needs Adoption, Parent & Child ADHD Group, Grandparenting Support Groups.

New Castle County—(302) 658-5177

Kent County—(302) 674-8384

Sussex County—(302) 856-2388

Client Assistance Program (CAP) Assists persons who are seeking or receiving rehabilitation services with questions and/or problems.

Statewide—Melissa Shahan, Dir. (302) 698-9336, (800) 640-9336

Delaware Assistive Technology Initiative (DATI) Statewide, information, referral, training & technical assistance, loan program. DATI fosters increased access to assistive technology devices and service for all Delawareans with disabilities. Provides information about products and services, advocates for more consumer-responsive laws and policies, and helps individuals locate sources of funding for assistive technology. DATI maintains 3 Assistive Technology Resource Centers (ARTC).

Statewide—Beth Mineo Mollica, (302) 651-6790, (302) 651-6794 TDD, (800) 870-DATI, www.asel.udel.edu, dati@asel.udel.edu

Delaware Assistive Technology Resource Center Provides hands on access to the latest assistive technology and information resources. Equipment is available for short-term loan.

New Castle County—Maureen Schweitzer (302) 328-2872, (302) 328-2905 TDD

Kent County—Hours of operation: 8:30 a.m.—4:30 p.m. Alma Cordero (302) 739-6885, (302) 739-6886 TDD

Sussex County—Hours -Monday to Friday 8:30 -4:30 Sandy Walls (302) 856-7946, (302) 856-6714 TDD, swalls@gt.esdel.org

Delaware Association for the Blind Provides services that improve the life for individuals who are blind or visually impaired.

Statewide—(302) 655-2111

Delaware Chapter of the American Society for Deaf Children

Affiliate of national organization. Goal is to distribute information, provide educational & emotional support.

New Castle County—Joanne Koston (302) 731-4879 Voice & TTY

Delaware Learning Resource System

Educational materials for borrowing. Materials include all subjects and levels birth through adult—includes books, games, toys, videos, manipulatives, cassettes, software, etc.

New Castle County—Call for hours (302) 831-8148

Kent County—Hours Mon.-Thurs. 8:00 a.m.—

7:00 p.m., Fri. 8:00 a.m.—4:00 p.m. Summer hours differ -please call first. (302) 672-1958, (302) 672-1959

Sussex County—(302) 855-1649

Delaware Parents Association, Inc. A network for the education, support and empowerment of families. Offers a workshop series which focuses on racial and ethnic relations.

Statewide—(302) 678-9288

Delaware Special Olympics Sports training for eligible participants in athletic pursuits; organized competitions.

Statewide—Ann Grunert, Exec. Dir. (302) 831-4653

Delaware State Parent Advisory Council (DSPAC) Works with families to enhance educational opportunities of educationally disadvantaged students and their parents. Also has local radio and t.v. show for parents.

Statewide—Bill Weiss (302) 325-1756

Delawareans with Special Needs, Medicaid Managed Care

Panel A parent run group which meets monthly to address health issues and services for our children.

Statewide—Gail Launay (302) 226-5232

Developmental Disabilities Council To assure that individuals with developmental disabilities receive services, supports, and other assistance and opportunities that promote independence, productivity and inclusion in the community. Meetings open to the public-call for times.

Statewide—Pat Maichle, Exec. Dir. (302) 739-3333 TDD, www.state.de.us/ddc

Disabilities Law Program Provides free legal assistance to individuals with disabilities in civil areas of law.

New Castle County—Brian Hartman (302) 575-0660, (800) 292-7980

Kent County—Christopher White (302) 674-8503, (800) 464-4357

Sussex County—Patricia Shipe (302) 856-0038

Down Syndrome Association of Delaware, Inc. Support & information for families of a person with Down Syndrome. Call for information on meeting locations, dates and times.

Statewide—Steven Cleary (302) 995-1004 www.DSADelaware.com

Early Intervention Program (DMR) Offers developmental testing and care management. Is a member of the Child Development Watch Team.

Statewide—Nancy Colley, Director (302) 995-8576, ncolley@state.de.us

Easter Seal Society of Del-Mar Medical rehabilitation, independent living services, camping & recreation opportunities, vocational and educational services, other.

New Castle County—Sandra Tuttle, President (302) 324-4444

Kent County—Gary Cassidy, Director (302) 678-3353, (302) 734-2888

Sussex County—Cathy Anderson, Director (302) 856-7364

Educational Surrogate Parent Program Recruits, trains, and supports volunteers who represent children in state custody who receive special education services.

Statewide—Faith Moore (302) 577-3545, fmoore@state.de.us

Epilepsy Foundation of Delaware Educates and supports individuals with epilepsy and their families. Support groups are available. EFD increases awareness of epilepsy in the general community and facilitates prevention and management of epilepsy. Also provide educational programs for schools, workplaces and community groups to increase awareness of epilepsy.

New Castle County—Barbara Blair, RN (302) 324-4455, (800) 324-4514

Kent County—Support group meetings 2nd Monday of every month. Donna Goldsborough, RN, MSN (302) 674-7135

dgoldsborough@kgh.bayhealth.org

Exceptional Family Member Program, Family Support Center

Assists military members who have family members requiring exceptional medical or special educational services. A mandatory enrollment/identification program for active duty personnel who have family members with exceptional medical, psychological, developmental, or educational needs. The program assists in assigning an active duty member to an area where his/her exceptional family member's special needs can be met. Office location Bldg. 263 Chad Street, 2nd Flr.

Statewide—Family Advocacy Office (302) 677-2711

Families United for Positive Change For families of children with mental health challenges

Statewide—Doreen Roberson (302) 368-6903, ext. 30008

Family Forum For families of children with developmental delays and disabilities-birth to five years.

New Castle County—Kelly McKeefery (302) 577-4556

Kent & Sussex County—Sandy Ward (302) 422-1335 sward@state.de.us

FamQuest, Inc.—Personal development, training and coaching firm offering various programs for families and youth. Parents as Leaders (PALS) Program: Parenting program designed to assist parents in raising responsible and purposeful children. Topics include: What every child wants to know; attitude of a champion; your best discovery yet; keys to unlocking your child's potential.

New Castle County—(302) 498-5191 www.famquest.com

Food Allergy Support Team of Delaware (FAST) Support group meets 1st Wednesday of each month at A. I. duPont Hospital for Children, Wilmington.

New Castle County—Katie Hamilton (302) 995-7123, Carol Youngdale (302) 235-1119

Governor's Advisory Council for Exceptional Citizens Provides advocacy for people with disabilities.

Statewide—Wendy Strauss, Admin. (302) 739-4553

Governors Council on Deaf Equality Provides advocacy & information to members of the deaf community & their families.

Statewide—Kyle Hodges—739-3673

Independent Resources, Inc. Resource center for individuals with disabilities and the communities in which they reside.

New Castle County—Larry Henderson, Exec. Dir. (302) 765-0191, (302) 765-0194 TDD, Lhenderson@IndependentResources.org

Kent County—(302) 735-4599

Sussex County—(888) 561-2120

Leukemia & Lymphoma Society Offers free educational materials - Leukemia, Hodgkin's Disease, Multiple Myotoma, Lymphoma. Patient Aid Financial Program.

Statewide—Sharon Schuh (302) 661-7300, (800) 220-1617, www.de.leukemia-lymphoma.org, schuh@de.leukemia-lymphoma.org

March of Dimes Birth Defects Foundation Offers programs, educational services, research, advocacy for the prevention of birth defects and the improvement of maternal and infant health.

Statewide—Cathy Kanefsky, Exec. Dir. (302) 225-1020, www.modimes.org

Mental Health Association of Delaware Offers support, advocacy, and information. Call for information about support group meeting dates/times.

Statewide—Diane Treacy, Exec. Dir. (302) 765-9740, (800) 287-6423

National Multiple Sclerosis Society Offers information and lending library, assists in service referrals. Statewide organization, call main office for details.

Statewide—(302) 655-5610,

www.msdelaware.org

New Directions Delaware, Inc. Support group for people with depression or manic depression and their families and friends. Call for meeting dates and times.

Statewide—(302) 286-1161 www.newdirectionsdelaware.org

Nurses 'N' Kids at Home Provides "Prescribed Pediatric Extended Care" to medically/technologically dependent children; prescription from primary physician required. Statewide services available.

New Castle County—(302) 323-1436

Kent & Sussex County—(302) 424-4467

Parent Information Center of Delaware Provides information, education, referrals and support to families of children with special needs and professionals.

New Castle County—(302) 366-0152 Newark, (302) 764-3252 Wilmington

Kent County—1-888-547-4412 (toll-free can be dialed anywhere in state)

Sussex County—(302) 856-9880

www.picofdel.org

Continued on page 10

Parents as Teachers Statewide parenting program for families raising their first child. Parents receive visit from parent educator. Serves families from pregnancy through third birthday.

New Castle County—(302) 454-5355

Kent County—(302) 697-4545

Sussex County—(302) 856-5909

Prader-Willi Syndrome Delaware Association Provides information and support to families, teachers, caregivers, and physicians. Meetings held monthly at varied locations and times. Call for details.

Statewide—Karen Swanson, RNC (302) 378-7385

Reading Assist Institute Support for parents of children with reading difficulties; lending library -Suite 910 in Community Services Building. Volunteer tutoring teams in local schools. Limited referrals for private tutoring. Teacher training center for research-based multi-sensory structured language instruction.

Statewide—(302) 425-4080 readinfo@projectassist.org

Special Education Partnership for Amicable Resolution of Conflict (SPARC) Neutral mediators and facilitators from the University of Delaware are available, free of charge, to facilitate difficult IEP meetings or mediate special education disputes between family and school.

Statewide—Kathy Wian/Fran Haug (302) 831-2927 or www.ipa.udel.edu

Spina Bifida Association of Delaware To promote the prevention of SB and to enhance the lives of all affected. Provides seasonal newsletter and social activities. Call for support group meeting dates/times.

Statewide—Karen Basara, www.angelfire.com/de/sbaofde, sbaofde@juno.com

State Council for Persons with Disabilities Provides advocacy for and reviews issues related to disability.

Statewide—Rita Landgraf, Chairperson (302) 739-3613, Kyle Hodges, Admin.

Supported Employment Program, Division of Vocational

Rehabilitation Provides services related to supported employment such as job coaching, training and follow-up services.

Statewide—Mike McGarrity (302) 761-8275

Tourette Syndrome Support Group Meetings held 3rd Wednesday monthly, 7:00 p.m., Aldersgate United Methodist Church, 2313 Concord Pk., (Rt. 202) Room 132, Wilmington.

New Castle County—Jean Deerlove (610) 274-2321, Joy D'Avanzo (302) 999-1916

United Cerebral Palsy of DE Offers support, advocacy, and referrals for children with Cerebral Palsy and other disabilities; operates a summer camp and client assistance program.

New Castle County—Bill McCool, Exec. Dir. (302) 764-2400,

Kent & Sussex Counties—Carma Carpenter (302) 335-5626

University of DE Center for Disabilities Studies University affiliated whose mission is to enable people with disabilities to achieve their personal goals.

Statewide—Michael Gamel-McCormick, Director (302) 831-6974

YMCA Resource Center Provides training and information to parents and teachers to promote parental involvement in education.

New Castle County—(302) 571-6975

Kent County—(302) 739-3698



Making Friends...

(continued from page 3)

this year.

- Find out your children's supply needs: new gym uniforms, lunchboxes or colored pencils.

Coping with Anxiety

Dr. Helen Orvaschel, a specialist in child and adolescent psychopathology, recommends a simple breathing exercise for students who show symptoms of anxiety about entering school;

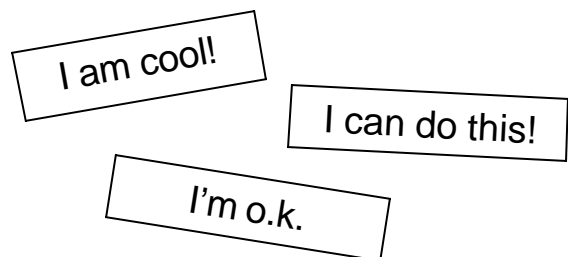
- Children should be in a comfortable chair. First, they breathe in through their noses on a slow count of three. Then, they hold their breaths for a slow count of three. Finally, they release the air from their mouths to a slow count of five.
- Orvaschel recommends repeating the procedure at least three times.

When people get tense, they tend to hyperventilate. Breathing exercises compel deep breathing and calming. Students should practice the exercise, get accustomed to what it feels like and repeat it whenever needed.

The student also may need to repeat self-empowering statements, such as "I can do this," or "I'm OK." You may individualize statements depending on the child's age and situation.

The more specific a student may be about what's upsetting him, the better, Orvaschel said. Depending on what causes the anxiety, you may employ the breathing exercises as you gradually expose the student to the object of their fears.

(Source: *Sunday News Journal* – August 24, 2003)



SUSSEX COUNTY Workshops

Day/Date	Time	Topic	Location
Wednesday 9/10/03	6:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.	Basic Rights I <i>Provides an overview of the six principles of special education law also known as the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA).</i>	Laurel Public Library 101 East 4 th Street Laurel DE (302) 875-3184
Thursday 9/25/03	4:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m.	Basic Rights II <i>Offers more specific information about the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA)</i>	Frankford United Methodist Church Clayton & Daisy Streets Frankford DE (302) 732-3215
Monday 9/29/03	6:00 p.m.- 8:00 p.m.	No Child Left Behind <i>Learn about education reform designed to improve student achievement.</i> Guest Speaker: Dr. Nancy Wilson, Delaware Department of Education	Milford Public Library 11 South Front Street Milford DE (302) 422-8996
Wednesday 10/8/03	5:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m.	The SMART Individualized Education Program (IEP) <i>How to develop a SMART IEP</i>	Laurel Public Library 101 East 4 th Street Laurel DE (302) 875-3184
Saturday 10/18/03	10:00 a.m. 12:00 p.m.	DSTP <i>An overview of the Delaware Student Testing Program (DSTP) and how it relates to children with special needs</i>	Parent Information Center 109 North Bedford Street Georgetown DE (302) 856-9880
Monday 10/27/03	6:00 p.m.- 8:00 p.m.	Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 <i>Learn about section 504 accommodations and modifications</i>	Frankford United Methodist Church Clayton & Daisy Streets Frankford DE (302) 732-3215
Wednesday 11/12/03	6:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.	Transition from Early Childhood Programs to Educational Services <i>An overview of the transition process from IDEA Part C to Part B</i>	Seaford Public Library 402 Porter Street Seaford DE (302) 629-2524
Thursday 11/20/03	6:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.	Medicaid & SSI <i>Learn about accessing medical assistance through Supplemental Security Income</i> Guest Speaker: Patricia Rowen, Social Security Administration	Easter Seals 600 North DuPont Highway Georgetown DE (302) 856-7364
Wednesday 12/10/03	5:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m.	Procedural Safeguards <i>Will provide an overview of educational rights also known as Procedural Safeguards under the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA)</i>	Parent Information Center 109 North Bedford Street Georgetown DE (302) 856-9880

Don't know which way to turn?
Turn to PIC for educational and informative workshops!
Call 856-9880 to register in Sussex County!



Mark Your CALENDAR For These Events

Delaware Events

10/3, 2003 - 10 am—3:00 pm, Smyrna Municipal Park, **3rd Annual Disability Awareness Day Picnic**. Food, beverages, music and special events. Contact DE Developmental Disabilities Council at 739-7192.

10/10, 2003 - 8:00 am— 3:30 pm, Dover High School, **Delaware Federation of the Council for Exceptional Children (DE-CEC) Annual State Convention “The Keys to Unlocking Success”**. Convention is being held on the statewide inservice day. Workshop strands include: Early Childhood, Curriculum Issues, Special Topics, Secondary Transition, Positive Behavior Supports. Contact Dawn Roland, Convention Chair at 302-378-4238, ext. 214 or dawn.roland@state.de.us.

10/13-24, 2003 Delaware Technical & Community College, Wilmington, **Created Equal: Stories of Delawareans with disABILITIES**. Hear first hand what people with disAbilities have to say about themselves and others.

10/17-18, 2003 Sheraton Hotel Dover, **Connect to Employment**. 2 day opportunity to learn about programs that lead to employment and independence for transitioning students and adults with disabilities. Contact Joanne Koston, DVR, at 761-8275.

11/6, 2003 8:00 am –3:15 pm, Ruddertowne, Rehoboth Beach, **Collaborative Teaming**. Key-note speaker Marti Snell, University of Virginia Professor in teacher preparation in special education. Other topics: Collaborative teaching; Accessing general curriculum; Classroom management; Inclusive strategies. Contact DE Developmental Disabilities Council at 739-7193 or mmills@state.de.us.

1/22/2004, 8:00 a.m. Dover Sheraton Hotel **6th Annual LIFE Conference**. Conference addresses the following topics: Legislation, Independence (through AT), Families, and Education. The day will begin with a continental breakfast followed by the keynote speaker, Bobby Silverstein, Director of the Center for the Study of Advancement of Disability Policy. Mr. Silverstein’s keynote address will focus on legislation and advocacy efforts at the national level. All workshops are planned with consumers, families and service providers in mind. Registration materials will be available in November with a fee of \$35.00 for the day. Contact Marsha Mills at the Developmental Disabilities Council at 302-739-7193 or e-mail at mmills@state.de.us.



For weekly updates, please visit our website at www.picofdel.org

Elsewhere around the Country

9/8-11, 2003 Georgetown University Conference Center, Washington, D.C. **Georgetown University National Technical Assistance Center for Children’s Mental Health “The System of Care Symposium”** A program for families, professionals and policy makers who are striving to develop and sustain a comprehensive service delivery system that will improve the social, emotional and behavioral well being of children and their families at the local, state and federal level. Registration must be received by 8/29/03. Questions: contact Shannon Spickard, 202-687-5479 or ses38@georgetown.edu (Logistics) or contact Ellen Kagen, 202-687-5087 or kageneb@georgetown.edu (Content). Contact The Georgetown University Marriott for reservations at 800-555-5855. Refer to the Symposium for a special rate of \$145/per night + tax.

9/11-12, 2003 Oregon Ridge Conference Center, Cockeysville (Baltimore), MD **Third Annual Conference “Social, Emotional and Academic Skill Development for Children with High-Functioning Autism and Asperger Syndrome”** sponsored by Maryland Asperger Advocacy & Support Group. The conference is for

teachers, parents, speech-language pathologists, therapists, psychologists and others who live or work with individuals who have intense social and communication needs. Fees: Prof. (\$195) (\$170 for or more), Parent (\$120), Both Parents (\$105), People with AS (\$60.00). Register on line at www.asperger.net or call 913-897-2632.

9/12-14, 2003, 3 days **Abilities EXPO, Providing Unique Solutions to Life's Everyday Challenges**, World Trade Center, Boston, MA. Contact www.abilitiesexpo.com or call 800-385-3085. This is a great opportunity to discover the newest advances in independent and assisted living products and services. Conference is for everyone.

9/15/-16, 2003, 2 days, **Easter Seals "People on the Move: Using all Transportation Options (ADA and Beyond...)"**, St. Louis, MO. A free "train-the-trainer" initiative to increase accessible transportation in your community. Forms for registration may be downloaded from www.projectaction.org or contact Easter Seals Project ACTION at 800-659-6428.

9/23-24, 2003, Center of New Hampshire, Holiday Inn, Manchester, NH **New Hampshire's Real Choice Systems Change presents "Real Choices for Older Adults and Individuals with Disabilities Living in your Community"** New Hampshire has long been recognized as a

leader in the field of community-based supports and services for people with disabilities. Communities have recognized the value of all residents. Many have embraced the goals of equality of opportunity, full participation, independent living and economic self-sufficiency. This conference will highlight the most promising practices being implemented throughout the State to achieve these goals. For more information call 603-228-2084 or visit www.realchoicenh.org. Ind. Rate \$75.00 (2 days) \$50.00 (1 day). Team rates available. For hotel information, call: 603-625-1000, fax: 603-625-4595 or Reservations: 1-800-HOLIDAY. Special conference rates are available through 8/30/03 upon request.

10/12-15, 2003 Marriott Wardman Park Hotel, Washington, D.C. **The Division for Early Childhood of the Council for Exceptional Children "From Practice to Policy and Back Again: 30 Years of Advocacy for Young Children and Their Families"** Learn new skills to help change the lives of young children with special needs and their families, become informed of the latest resources in early childhood special education, share your experiences with others, learn how to become involved and participate in discussions with leaders in our field. Registration begins 10/11/03 from 4:00 pm to 8:00 p.m., or each day of the conference. Contact the DEC Conference

Office at 410-269-6801 or email: pfaff@gomeeting.com

10/19-22, 2003 Radisson Valley Forge Convention Center, King of Prussia, PA **29th Annual Family Involvement Conference** for School Administrators, Teachers, and Parents promoting school/family partnerships. 36 Topics included – the following are just a few: Teaching Your Kids to Soar, "Stressbusters": Managing the Stress Beast, Developmental Stages of a Family, and many more. Contact Louis Casari by e-mail, 30parinv@psupen.psu.edu or call 570-455-8196. For hotel registration call 888-267-1500. Mention the conference for discounted prices. Hotel reservations deadline is 10/1/03.


11/5-8, 2003 - 2 days **Using Brain Research As the Pathway to Student Memory, Motivation & Achievement**, Boston Marriott Cambridge Hotel, MA. Register online at www.edupr.com or call 617-469-6789. Conference deadline for lowest rate is 10/20/03 at \$495 per person. Group rates available. Hotel registration deadline 10/16/03.


11/7-11/9, 2003 Hilton McLean, Tysons Corner, VA (DC Metro Area) **7th International Conference Autism and Disorders of Relating and Communication "Pathways to Communication, Thinking and Mood Regulation"** sponsored by the Interdisciplinary Council on Develop-


Continued on page 16


DID YOU KNOW....?


All of the information below can be found on the Delaware Department of Education's website?


 You can obtain a copy of the **Administrative Manual for Special Education Services (AMSES)** by contacting the DE Department of Education (DOE). The AMSES addresses the State and federal requirements for the administration, delivery of services and supports for children with disabilities under the age of 21.


 More than **13,000 students receiving special education services** were enrolled in Delaware schools according to September 2001 statistics. This is compared to over 101,000 students enrolled as "regular education" students.

 As part of the 1997 reauthorization of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act, it was mandated that all students be included when state or school districts implement an assessment program. **The Delaware Alternate Portfolio Assessment (DAPA)** was designed specifically for students with moderate to severe cognitive disabilities who are enrolled in a functional/life skills curriculum. Detailed information about the standards for a functional life skills curriculum is available on the Department's web site.

 A new IEP form is being piloted among Delaware schools for students age 14 and older. This new IEP form emphasizes having team discussions about "transition planning" throughout the entire IEP process rather than having such discussions in isolation. Transition planning is program planning and services designed to support the successful movement of students from high school to adult life. Transition planning should include the student; and teams should explore any number of areas from higher education to employment and functional life skills. Student preferences should be carefully considered. The new secondary IEP form will be adopted for the 2004-2005 school year for all students receiving special education services beginning at age 14. *A new IEP form for all students can be downloaded from the DOE site.*

 A **Resource Guide to Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973** can be downloaded from the Department's site. Section 504 is civil rights legislation that provides reasonable accommodations to students who qualify as having a physical or mental impairment which substantially limits a major life activity.

 **The Delaware Learning Resource System (DLRS)** is a statewide network of Centers that provide resources and services to help educate children, particularly those with special education needs. The DLRS has three instructional materials centers, one in each of Delaware's counties. And it publishes the "Spotlight on Education" newsletter which can be downloaded from the DOE site.

 **The SmartMoves Resource Kit** is the product of the five-year Transition Services Quality Management Project (TQM) directed by the State of Delaware Department of Education, in conjunction with the Delaware Department of Labor's Division of Vocational Rehabilitation (DVR), and the Parent Information Center of Delaware (PIC). Information manuals (for parents, teachers and professionals) relating to transition programming and services for students with disabilities 14 years and older can be downloaded from the DOE site.

If you would like any of the material mentioned here, visit the DE Department of Education's web site or contact the nearest PIC office.



Delaware Department of Education Web Site
<http://www.doe.state.de.us>

BULLETIN BOARD

OCTOBER 7, 2003
Sheraton Dover Hotel

AD/HD for 2003: The Forward Edge
Update on Research & Techniques for
At-Risk Children & Teens

Featuring John F. Taylor, Ph.D.
Author of Helping Your A.D.D. Child,
From Defiance to Cooperation and more

Dr. Taylor will present information about recent research indicating that the majority of children with AD/HD don't receive the level of comprehensive intervention needed for best results.

He will also speak about how AD/HD is being increasingly recognized as a body-wide condition affecting several organ systems, not just the brain.

Dr. Taylor's presentation is geared toward helping professionals, but the seminar is a benefit to parents as well.

*Register by calling 1-800-847-1233 or
visit www.ADD-Plus.com*

PUBLIC HEARINGS

The Delaware Department of Education (DDOE) will be conducting two identical public hearings:

OCTOBER 9, 2003
William Penn High School
(auditorium), New Castle

OCTOBER 16, 2003
Polytech Adult Conference Center,
(Conference Room #516), Woodside

The purpose of the hearings is for the public to comment on two educational agreements, which will be discussed at each hearing:

The Interagency Agreement Between the
Division For The Visually Impaired and the
DE Department of Education
and

The Interagency Agreement Between The
Delaware Autistic Program and
The Exceptional Children and Early Child-
hood Education Group of the
DE Department of Education.

All interested individuals are welcome!

Holidazzle 2003 proudly presents

"The Boys Next Door"

By Tom Griffin

October 11, 2003 – 8:00 p.m.

The Grand Opera House
Wilmington, Delaware

Call DFRC: 454-2730
Ticket prices begin at \$50

"The Boys Next Door" is a light hearted play about four men living in a group home. It was originally produced off Broadway where it received the New York Critics award and was made into a Hallmark Hall of Fame teleplay, which starred Nathan Lane. "The Boys" will tickle your funny bone, warm your heart and affirm what advocates for persons with disabilities already know...Attitude is everything!

CALENDAR Cont.

mental and Learning Disorders. Solutions, strategies and approaches to Bipolar, mood and impulse disorders, sleep problems in children with ASD are just some of the topics covered in this conference. Professional and parents welcome. Pre-conference workshops are being offered as well starting 11/5/03. For more information call 301-656-2667. Registration fees vary.

11/12-15, 2003 Town & Country Resort and Convention Center, San Diego, CA **“Our Mission to Literacy,” the 54th Annual Conference** sponsored by The International Dyslexia Association. This conference covers topics such as diagnosis, teaching approaches, math, spelling, comprehension, ADHD, advocacy, social issues, legislation, early intervention, foreign language learning adult issues, study skills, teacher training...and much, much more. Registration must be made prior to 10/10/03. Registration Fees are based upon Member, Non-member and student status and broken down according to number of days attending. Programs only given to IDA members. Contact 1-800-ABC-D123 or e-mail at info@interdys.org.

12/4-5, 2003 Washington, D.C. **Easter Seals Project Action** presents **“People on the Move: Using All Transportation Options (ADA and Beyond...)”**

A free “train-the-trainer” initiative to increase accessible transportation in your community. Registration due by 10/3/03. Contact Lena Timmons at 800-659-6428 or e-mail: Itimmons@easter.seals.org.

5/12-15/2004, Downtown Chicago, IL **Family Support America’s 10th Biennial National Conference**. The nation’s largest gathering of family support professionals, unparalleled range of resources and activities, new ideas and energy. Visit www.familysupportamerica.org or call 312-338-0900.

6/23-27/2004, San Francisco, CA **Training Institutes** sponsored by **National Technical Assistance Center for Children’s Mental Health Georgetown University Center for Child and Human Development “Developing Local Systems of Care for Children and Adolescents with Emotional Disturbances and their Families: Early Intervention.”** Call for proposals and recommendations of topics and presenters for the program. Suggestions must be submitted by 9/30/03 to the above center by phone: 202-687-5000, fax: 202-687-1954 or e-mail: institutes2004@mindspring.com.



We are happy to share information about your event with our readers!



ARE YOU READY TO WORK FOR CHANGE IN PUBLIC POLICY?

If the answer is yes, **Partners in Policymaking®** is for you! The program consists of eight, 2-day sessions that are held once a month at the Dover Sheraton Hotel between the months of January and September. Participants will be trained and educated about topics such as *How to Meet Public Officials and Give Legislative Testimony, Inclusive Education, Assistive Technology, Community Organizing, Futures Planning,* and much more!

The training takes place once a month between Fridays at noon and Saturdays at 4:00 p.m., and is provided at no cost to participants. Lodging and meals are provided. Preference is given, but not limited to young adults who have developmental disabilities and parents raising young or school-aged children who have developmental disabilities.

If you are interested in learning the steps to make positive changes for you or your family members with a disability, please contact
Marsha Mills,
Program Coordinator
DE Developmental
Disabilities Council.
Call (302) 739-7193, or visit <http://www.state.de.us/dde/policymaking>. A downloadable application is available on the web.

TRACKING YOUR CHILD'S SUCCESS

Questions to Ask

Are you concerned about how your child measures up to age-specific milestones during their education? Following are suggested questions to ask educators and health professionals.

At all ages

- ? How do I know that my child is going to be in a safe environment?
- ? How can I help my child succeed in school?
- ? How can I help you succeed as a teacher?
- ? How will you communicate to me as the parent?
- ? If my child needs extra help in an area, how will you help my child be successful?
- ? If my child excels in an area, how will you challenge my child so he or she won't be bored?
- ? What is your classroom management style and discipline policy?
- ? What's the focus for learning at this grade level?
- ? What is the dress code for students?

Kindergarten

- ? Is my child going to learn to read or learn pre-reading skills?
- ? How will you help my child make the social transition in a classroom of new faces?

Grades 1-3

- ? How do I help my child become excited about reading?

Grades 4-6

- ? What is the homework responsibility?

Grades 7-8

- ? How are the expectations for my child different in junior high than in elementary school?

- ? Will my child be prepared for high school?
- ? How will you help my child make the transition to having different teachers and different classes and more choices?
- ? What is the school's policy for public displays of affection?
- ? What extracurricular activities are available?

Grades 9-12

- ? How will the school help my child prepare for college-entrance exams?
- ? How does the school help students balance academic and extracurricular activities?
- ? If my child isn't interested in college, how will the school help my child identify trades or other career options?
- ? What is the school's policy for public displays of affection?
- ? If the school campus is closed, how do you handle the shorter lunch periods?
- ? If the school campus is open, how do you handle the traffic and safety issues at lunch?

(Source: *The News Journal: Tuesday, August 19, 2003*)

Senator Thomas R. Carper visits the Parent Information Center of Delaware office in Newark.

Shown about left to right:

Verna Hensley (Parent and President of PIC Board, Representative Carper, Ruth Wolfe (Parent) and sitting Carol Strasser (Parent).

THANK YOU! We couldn't continue our work without your support!

Marie-Anne Aghazadian
 Robert Aviles
 Sylvia/Todd Bachman
 Steven Bachrach
 Linda/David Bahm
 Bank One Employees
 Florence Barczewski
 Karen Bashkow
 Doug/Karen Batt
 Amy Beers
 Nancy Bellinger
 Linda Brenckle
 Timothy & Martha Brooks
 Carol Bugglin
 Anthony/Martha Chieffo
 Lisa Chieffo
 Kevin/Susan Chong
 Stephen/Deborah Colino
 Nancy Colley
 Computer Sciences Corporation
 Employee Campaign
 Daniel/Evelyn Conlon
 Denise Connelly
 Ellen Coulston
 Harry/Johnetta Dallas
 Lenore Dauphin
 Jerry/Joy D'Avanzo
 Penny/John Deiner
 DE/MD Paralyzed Veteran's
 Association
 Gail/Neil DeLeeuw
 Eva DeVincentis
 Cindy/Daniel DiGuglielmo
 Charlene Dolgos
 John/Beth Eckerd
 Joseph Farrell
 Carol Fitzgerald
 William/Gail Fowler
 Michael Gamel-McCormick

Brenda Garrett
 Marjorie E. Gooden
 Donald/Yvonne Goodwin
 Alberta Gordon
 John Gray
 Jim & Kathy Graybeal
 Bernhard Greenfield
 Deborah Hammond
 Kevin/Verna Hensley
 Kathryn Herel
 Nila Hill
 Carole Hines
 Susan Hudson
 Dayle Joseph
 JP Morgan Chase & Co
 Paul/Audrey Jungling
 Barney R. Kantar
 Artie/Marcy Kempner
 John/Dorian Kleinstuber
 Deborah Kliman
 Joanne/Thaddeus Koston
 Andrea Kreiner
 Stewart Krug
 Christina Lief
 Alfred/Stefanie Lord
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 Karen McCall
 Albert & Annmarie Merena
 Rosa Millbourne
 Ryan Moeller
 Maryanne O'Neill
 Umesh Pattanayak
 Donald & Lynn Peters
 Marshall & Rosie Potamkin
 Claire & Wyman Priester
 Keith Ragan
 Frederick Reed

Richardson Park Learning
 Center PTO
 Frederick S. Reed
 Charles/Lana Rivers
 Christopher/Flavel Rogers
 Marsha Rogers
 Alexander Rose
 June Roux
 Steven/Kathleen Russo
 Celeste/John Ryan
 Martha Jane Sanclemente
 Thomas L. Sager
 Joanne Sassi
 Felix Sczubelek
 Keshia O. Shepherd
 Rosalynn/William Simpson
 Lynne Sklar
 Linda A. Smith
 Kausar/Yousuf Sohail
 Stephen/Susan Spence
 State Employees Charitable
 Campaign
 Mary Susan Stine
 Paul/Jeanne Susie
 Gary/Michelle Taylor
 Mary Thomas
 Martha Toomey/Ron England
 Sam/Sandy Tuttle
 Rae Unger
 United Way of DE
 David/Louann Vari
 Lilian Vassalo-Tejeira
 Virginia Vaughn
 Kathy Viscount
 Alan/Cynthia Wedgewood
 Katie West
 Bridget Wheatley
 Gerald R. Wild
 Don/Takouhy Wise
 Alma J. Yerger

JOIN Parent Information Center of Delaware TODAY!

MEMBERSHIP FORM

Your membership with the Parent Information Center of Delaware shows that you believe our unique services are of great value and truly benefit families of children with disabilities and professionals throughout Delaware.

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Home Phone _____ Work Phone _____

Employer _____

Email Address _____

Annual Membership Dues—Subscription to “The LINK” included

\$15.00	Individual	<i>I am a:</i>	
\$30.00	Family	Parent	
\$50.00	Contributing	Educator	_____
\$75.00	Agency/Organization	Professional	_____
\$100.00	Sustaining	Consumer	_____
\$300.00	Corporate	Organization	_____
\$500.00	Fairy God Parent	Other (specify)	_____
\$500.00+	Guardian Angel		

The Parent Information Center of Delaware is a United Way WRITE-IN Agency.
If you wish to designate your United Way contribution to the Parent Information Center of Delaware,
kindly write
“Parent Information Center of Delaware” and
our code number 725 in the Specific Care section of your pledge form.

The Parent Information Center of Delaware is a non-profit 501(c) (3) organization.
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