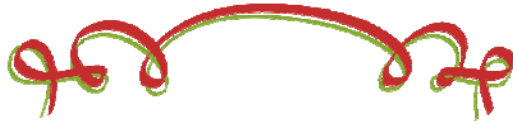


NJ Statewide Parent to Parent Newsletter



2009 NJ Family Learning Conference “Empowering Families with Children Who Are Deaf and Hard-of-Hearing”

The third bi-annual Family Learning Conference was held at Atlantic Cape Community College on May 2, 2009. There were thirty families in attendance this year. We had The River provide a wonderful children’s program that included various activities through out the day for each age group.

There were many exhibitors for parents to meet with to obtain great resources and information about raising a child who is Deaf or hard-of-hearing.

Once again our keynote speaker was Dennis Jones Jr., who is known for his sense of humor and his intense dislike of ties. In 2006 Dennis wrote a book about his life as a hard of hearing person entitled, **Tarnished Halos and Crooked Fences: A Journey into the World of the Deaf and Hard-of-Hearing.**

This year we presented the Brian C. Shomo Parent Leadership Award to four very deserving parents. These ladies, Kim Cherichello, Pamela D’Alessio, Mary Katherine Weatherby and Lynne Whitenight were all involved in working with Jeannine Gleba to pass the legislation for hearing aides to be covered by health insurance. This legislation is now known as Grace’s Law.

SPRING/SUMMER 2009



Father’s Corner

June 18th- 12pm-1pm. Join us for a lunchtime conference call with Dr. Robert Naseef and other fathers, as they share their personal experiences on fatherhood, as well as an open discussion about important issues facing fathers today! For more information go to www.spannj.org/support

Register at: 1-800-654-SPAN X 116

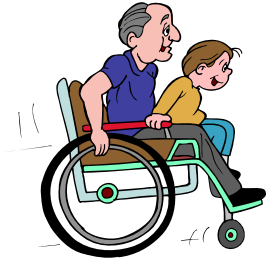


Books on Autism

Alex: The Fathering of a Preemie by, **Jeff Stimpson.** Chronicles Jeff’s family feelings, frustrations, and hopes as Alex fought lung damage, failure to thrive, and the first signs of Autism.

Targeting Autism: What We Know, Don’t Know, and Can Do to Help Young Children With Autism and Related Disorders by, **Shirley Cohen.** "This book is a good overview of autism and methods of treatment. An excellent resource for families are coming to terms with autism and looking for ways to help their children live as full and successful lives as possible."

Another Life by, **Danson Mandela Wambua.** Danson is a 9-year old boy, who is nearly non-verbal and Autistic, these words are Danson's blessing for the world. This book represents a selection of Danson's writings from February 2008 to June 2008.



Caregivers of New Jersey

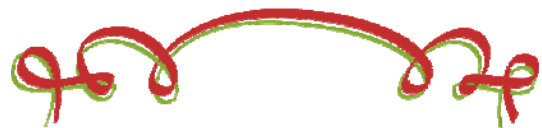
Caregivers of New Jersey is dedicated to providing a central point of contact on caregiving issues, resulting in more effective information dissemination, increased support and awareness and advocacy. For more information call 732-262-8020 or www.njcaregivers.org

Digital TV transition is coming! June 12, 2009

Call CSD Digital TV Help Center for help. The DTV Help Center is specially designed to handle calls from deaf, hard of hearing and deaf-blind communities. You can reach us through videophone with signing representatives, TTY, Instant Messenger, e-mail or simply call our voice number through any relay service, including Captel. For more information go to www.dtv.c-s-d.org

Great News!

New one page application for NJ Family Care can be downloaded at this site in English & Spanish. NJ Family Care is a federal and state funded health insurance program created to help New Jersey's uninsured children and certain low-income parents and guardians to have affordable health coverage. www.njfamilycare.org



Upcoming Events

6-4, 6-18 & 7-2. Family Support Center of NJ and AMERIGROUP Community Care will be Conducting Health Care Coverage Enrollment Days. All days are from 10:00AM – 1:00PM. www.fscnj.org

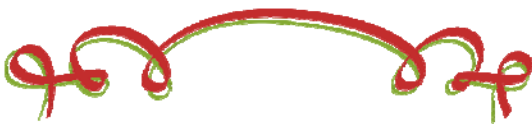
7-8 & 9-09 – The NJ Coalition for Inclusive Education, Summer Inclusion Conference “Reflection-Instruction-Inclusion: Hands-on Solutions for Teachers Administrators, Professionals & Families.” For more info www.njcie.net

7-10-09- SPAN Family Fun Day 10am. - 3pm. at the Horse Park of NJ in Allentown, NJ. Tickets are \$10 pp. For more information go to www.spannj.org

7-30-09 – Wrightslaw-Special Education Law & Advocacy Training Conference. Mercy College-Dobbs Ferry, NY. Online registration at www.childrenshearing.org

10-29-09 - Save the Date- 6th Annual National Caregivers Conference. Woodbridge Hotel & Conference Center. For more information go to www.nationalcaregiversconference.org

6-5-09-Central Region- The Lanes



Parents & Agencies Supporting Siblings

PASS Bowling Events

6-05-09 – The Lanes at Sea Girt. 4pm-6pm. To register call Ramona Carmeci at 732-528-8080.

6-26-09 – Playdrome Bowling & Entertainment Center. 4pm-6pm. To register call Bob Williams at 609-828-6767.

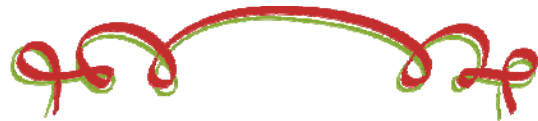
*"Mama exhorted her children at every opportunity to 'jump at de sun.' We might not land on the sun, but at least we would get off the ground."
- Zora Neale Hurston*



Have a safe, fun-filled day at the beach surfing in NJ!

www.bestdayfoundation.org

Helping kids with special needs build confidence and self-esteem through safe, fun, adventure activities--The next Best Day at the Beach events are scheduled for June 13, 14, July 11, 12, 25 and 26th.



RESOURCES

www.cdc.gov/CDCTV/GetThePicture

“Get the Picture: Childhood Immunizations” A 6 minute video put out by the Center for Disease Control & Prevention that answers questions parents have about vaccines for their children.

www.bluesuitmom.com

This website offers many ideas and suggestions on a variety of issues for working mothers.

www.childrensdisabilities.info

This website offers articles and resources empowering parents of children with disabilities and special needs.

www.healthandwellnessrecord.com

This gift-quality health journal is for parents to record health, wellness and educational information for their child. It has been designed for children who are developing typically or those with complex health issues.

www.state.nj.us/humanservices/ddd

The NJ Division of Developmental Disabilities serves more than 40,000 people with developmental disabilities.

As part of its services provision, DDD offers case management , residential services , and various family support services that help both people with developmental disabilities and their families