



NREIC

Collaborations

Update November 2008

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Community of Bergen, Hudson and
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www.nreic.org

(973)-256-8484

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CAPE Special Services Resource Center to Open 1/5/09!

The mission of the CAPE Special Services Resource Center is to promote Collaboration, Access, Planning and Education among the special needs community. The CAPE Center serves individuals from infancy through adulthood as a central point of contact for guidance and connection to accessible and appropriate services, information, education and resources for people with disabilities. The Center is committed to helping individuals and families access the system of services to enrich all aspects of life. Please visit their website which is up and running.

<http://bcss.bergen.org>

Adding a Co-Guardian

By Herbert D. Hinkle, Esq. and S. Paul Prior, Esq.

Parents who are court-appointed guardians of an adult child with a disability can pass on guardianship through their wills (in the event of death) and through a power of attorney (in the event of incapacity). However, a growing number of parents are electing to seek a court appointment of a younger person as co-guardians so that nothing at all needs to be done later. Contact the law office at 609-896-4200 or 215-860-2100 or subscribe to their free newsletter at

<https://builder.campaigner.com/app/campaigner/services/optinlist/processoptinrequest.jsp?oilb=89307242&builderType=paid>

Above and Beyond Learning Group (ABLG) is one of largest and most experienced private organizations effectively treating children and adults with Autism and other developmental disabilities and disorders. They provide quality treatment, education, and professional training and mentoring in New Jersey, as well as throughout the United States and overseas. They service individuals ages 18 months and up. ABLG teaches learners all skill domains from basic to advanced. Their services include Applied Behavior Analysis, Verbal Behavior, Program Staffing, Education and Behavioral Evaluations as well as services for School Districts and inclusion with typical peers. They are located at 230 Braen Avenue, Suite D, Wyckoff, NJ.

Telephone: 973-423-2254 email: therapy@ablg.org Website: www.ABLG.org

PASS is a coalition of parents & agencies in NJ dedicated to supporting siblings of children with different abilities in an environment that is encouraging, supportive and ongoing. PASS offers opportunities for these siblings to meet each other and obtain mutual support while having fun. Please join them Friday, January 9, 2009, 5:30 p.m. till 7:30 p.m. at Garden Palace Bowling Alley, 42 Lakeview Avenue, Clifton, NJ. This event is for siblings 6 years of age and older. Registration fee \$5 per Family. Pre-registration is required-space as space is limited- no walk-ins. Parent or legal guardian must remain at Bowling Alley. Please enclose check made payable to The Statewide Parent Advocacy Network (SPAN) and note: PASS in the memo section. Mail to Myriam Alizo at SPAN, 35 Halsey Street, 4th Floor-Newark, NJ 07102 For more information email:

maliac@comcast.net

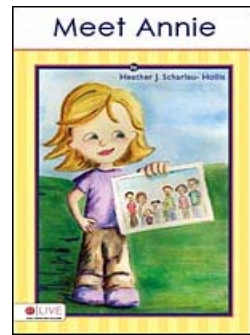
The DSA (Down Syndrome Association) of Greater Cincinnati has just released the following video on adopting a child with Down Syndrome. Please take a look and pass it on to friends and families you know who may be considering adoption and please circulate to your OB-GYN so they understand that there are MANY families waiting to adopt children with Down Syndrome and this option presents a viable alternative to termination.

<http://www.dogooder.tv/Orgs/dsagc/default.aspx>

Meet Annie by Heather J. Scharlau- Hollis

"Meet Annie! She is a special little girl that is just like you, but she has Down syndrome.

Join Annie in her engaging story and learn how we accept who we are. Come on in and meet Annie. She can't wait to meet you!" www.tatepublishing.com/bookstore/book.php?w=9



New Socialization Groups at the CHILD Center in Pompton Lakes

Attention all parents of children 20 months to 3 years of age receiving Early Intervention services. The CHILD Center in Pompton Lakes will be offering socialization groups once a week for 8 weeks starting January 7, 2009. Children, under the guidance of a professional team, practice their skills in small group settings while their parents share experiences and exchange resources in a separate room.

For more info regarding dates, times, and fees please call 973-839-2214.

Just Released: Family-Centered Care Tools!

These newly-published Family-Centered Care Self-Assessment Tools are

designed as an opportunity for health care practices and families to assess current areas of strength and identify areas for growth, plan future efforts, and track progress

toward family-centered care. These tools include

a Family Tool, a Provider Tool, and a Users Guide. An online feedback survey will soon be

available for you to give input to help us to continue to improve these tools.

<http://www.familyvoices.org>



Disability Rights New Jersey (DRNJ)- Parent Survey

Formerly known as *New Jersey Protection & Advocacy, Inc.*

DRNJ is conducting a parent survey to learn more about what parents experience during the IEP process.

Please complete the survey at the following site. The information may be used to further our special education

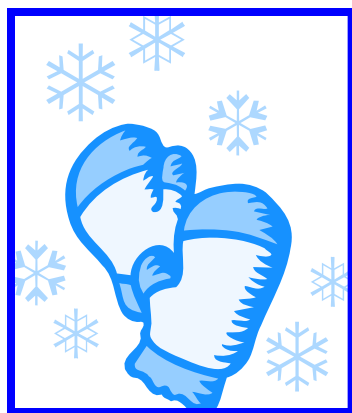
advocacy efforts. http://www.surveymonkey.com/Home_Landing.aspx

Pfizer has free or low cost prescription assistance for the un- or underinsured of all ages. This includes undocumented immigrants and the Medicare Rx "donut hole". There are several different programs, 95% of which are free, and eligibility ranges from 200% FPL up to no income limit depending on the program. You have to answer 5 questions: Age, income, meds., lack prescription coverage, and where you live. Pfizer will also refer to other programs if they don't carry that medication. www.PfizerHelpfulAnswers.com or call toll-free (866)706-2400 and representatives will tell you which program(s) you are eligible for, in English and Spanish. Disability groups can also put a link on their website by clicking on the Community button which also has a 15 min. free online training for professionals. If you prefer, the Partnership for Prescription Assistance has a gateway to all prescription programs, including Pfizer, at www.PPARx.org or call (888)4PPA-NOW.

INDOOR WINTER GAMES IDEAS!

Vary the game to the skill level and age of your child!

MITTEN MATCH



- Separate pairs of mittens
- Give each child a mitten and put matching mitten in a pile
- Encourage children to form a circle around the mitten pile.
- Encourage children to take turns picking a mitten from the pile and finding the child with the matching mitten

INDOOR SNOWBALL HUNT

Supplies Needed: Cotton balls, empty egg carton cut in 2 and a marker

Hide cotton balls around the room. Give each child an empty egg carton with the cups labeled from 1—6.

Let the children walk around the room looking for the hidden "snowballs". Once all the snowballs have been found, count them together!



Billy's Buddy's Brunch With Santa



Join us for brunch with Santa !
Sunday, December 14, 2008
11:30am-1:30pm
Wyckoff Family YMCA



**Superior Precision Eyewear for
Children who are Special Inc.**

SPECS4US, Superior Precision Eyewear for Children who are Special, introduces a new concept in eyewear for children with Down Syndrome that eliminates the problems regular eyeglasses never could. The mission is simple: To improve the sight and quality of life for children with DS by providing custom frames that fit your children's unique needs. The frame line entitled *Erin's World* provides frames that are custom designed to fit the unique facial features of your children with shortened temples (arms), extra wide frame fronts and a lowered bridge. The frames are made from titanium and memory flex that creates a flexible bridge and temples that can spring out 180 degrees to keep up with your children's active lifestyles. These special features will allow your children to explore the world with clear vision, as they will no longer be hindered from the problems associated with ordinary frames.

Created and founded by an optician and fellow mother of a child with Down Syndrome, Maria Dellapina, SPECS4US frames became available in June 2008 in a variety of sizes and colors made especially for your children. Please feel free to email info@specs4us.com with names of trusted local doctors and optical shops so we can contact them in regards to carrying *Erin's World* frames in your area, which will enable you to use vision coverage if needed. Frames are currently available at Budd Optical, located at 175 Route 70, Suite 21, Medford, NJ 08055. To contact Budd Optical call 609-953-8700. To order frames directly or request more information visit www.specs4us.com.

Notice herein of any workshop, seminar, conference, therapy, program, etc., not offered by the NREIC, does not constitute an endorsement of any specific methodology, organization, or opinion

THANK YOU TO THE FOLLOWING INDIVIDUALS, COMPANIES AND ORGANIZATIONS WHO CONTRIBUTED TO THE SUCCESS OF OUR SIXTH ANNUAL CASINO NIGHT!

INDIVIDUALS

MONA LISA ADAMO
JOANN BRENNER
MARGARET BRIANT
CHRISTINA CHIVILY
BRIAN CICCONE
G.M. CLARKE
EILEEN DEMAREST
ROBERT DESCHERER
BARBARA ELLIS
YARONA EYAL
FOSS GLENN MEMBER
CARL A. GARGIULO
LESLIE GREENBERG
ELISABETH INOMATA
KASSALEH FAMILY
KIRALY FAMILY
JANET LA RUSSO
LILENTHAL FAMILY
JUDI LOVAS
LUSTBADER FAMILY
MR. & MRS. JOSEPH MEYER
KRIS O'BOYLE & FAMILY
CANDEE ROMBA
PETER SANCHEZ
DR. & MRS. PETER SCAGLIONE
CHARLES & KARI SCAGLIONE
PHYLLIS TARANTINO
CATHERINE WAGNER
DR. & MRS. DAVID WEINSTEIN

COMPANIES & ORGANIZATIONS

ADVANCED SPORTS MEDICINE
BIRICCHINO RESTAURANTE
BERGEN SPECIAL CHILD HEALTH SERVICES
BLOCKBUSTER, INC
EVOLUTION FITNESS
INTEGRATED TRANSLATION SERVICES
MADISON SQUARE GARDEN
MCCARTER THEATER
THE NEW JERSEY JETS
THE NEW YORK NETS
THE NEW YORK KNICKS
THE NEW YORK RANGERS
OFFICE DEPOT
THE PAPER MILL PLAYHOUSE
PEDIATRIC THERAPY ASSOCIATES, LLC.
ROCK PROPERTIES
THE RUM CAKE FAIRY
SCHOLASTIC BOOKS
ST. JOSEPH'S CHILDREN'S HOSPITAL
TD BANK
THERACARE STAFFING, LLC
TOYS R US
TRADER JOE'S
VERMONT TEDDY BEAR COMPANY
AUDREY WROBEL & ASSOCIATES

THANK YOU TO OUR WONDERFUL CASINO NIGHT VOLUNTEERS:

LILY AMEZCUA	DANIELLE CICCONE
PATTI CICCONE	CAROL FERRANDO
JOY HAMMERMAN	DIANE KLEMM
SUSAN REDDING	LENA SCAGLIONE
CATHERINE WAGNER	LISA WEINSTEIN
OCTAVIA WILSON	

APOLOGIES IF WE MISSED ANYONE!



Preschool Expansion Update

--A component of the School Funding Reform Act of 2008 with the goal of providing high-quality preschool to at-risk 3 and 4 year olds in NJ.

--Based on the successful outcome data for preschool students in Abbott districts. Children who attended these programs performed statistically significantly better on language (100%) and math (70%) measures than those who did not attend. These difference were still observable at the end of the kindergarten year.

--Districts will have 6 years to fully implement the program and will be required to offer either a targeted or a universal preschool program.

--Universal (approximately 120 districts)- these districts are required to offer a six-hour preschool program to all 3 and 4 year old children in the district, including students with disabilities, regardless of family income.

--Targeted (majority of districts)- these districts are required to offer the six-hour program only to children eligible for free and reduced lunch. In addition to eligible general education students, preschoolers with disabilities who are also eligible for free & reduced lunch must be offered the six-hour/day program. Children with disabilities who do not meet the income criteria would receive a program of at least 10 hours per week, unless the IEP team determines otherwise. The IEP takes precedence!

--Requires comprehensive curriculum and assessment. One certified teacher and teacher assistant for every 15 children.

--District may contract with community based providers (such as typical child care centers) or other districts to fulfill the requirements.

--Tuition may be charged for non-eligible children that meet the age cutoff.

--Refer to N.J.A.C. 6A:13A for more information. www.nj.gov/education/ece/code/