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The Deep South

**SEE PAGES 6-7 FOR OUR PARENT CONFERENCE AND FAMILY FORUM ON
APRIL 8-9 AT THE HAMPTON INN IN DOWNTOWN NEW ORLEANS**

Spring 2011

Volume 4, Issue 4

TRANSITION SUPPORTS: STRATEGIES TO ASSIST PERSONS WITH DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES (ADJUSTING TO CHANGES IN DAILY ROUTINES AND MAJOR LIFE TRANSITIONS)

Speaker: Jay Sevin, Ph.D,
Director of Behavioral Health, Greater New Orleans Resource Center on Developmental Disabilities

**April 14, 2011
Audubon Zoo Auditorium
9:00am to 12:00p**

Pre-Register by April 12, 2011 with

AGENDA

8:30am to 9:00am: Registration
9:00am to 10:30am: Strategies to Support Transitions During Daily Routines. Discussions will include strategies for supporting persons with an Autism Spectrum Disorder.
10:30am to 10:45am: Break
10:45am to 12:00pm: Supporting Individuals Through Major Life Transitions. Preparation and processes to decrease stress and promote adjustment.

Sponsored by: The Metropolitan Human Services District and the GNO Resource Center on Developmental Disabilities

NOW RECIPIENTS!!!

Are you or your family member receiving NOW services? Were your hours reduced or are you concerned about your hours being reduced?

This is an opportunity for you or your family member or guardian to speak with state officials about your services and the hours you receive. Ms. Julia Kenny, Assistant Secretary for the Office for Citizens with Developmental Disabilities (OCDD), along with senior staff, will discuss the history of Resource Allocation used to determine the hours you need, how to get the most from your planning meetings, and what you need to know about the process to protect your rights and the services you receive.

OCDD also would like to hear your concerns and answer your questions. So mark your calendar be sure to attend one of the meetings listed below.

March 22, 2011

10:00 a.m. - 11:30 a.m.

First Baptist New Orleans

5290 Canal Boulevard, **New Orleans, LA**

and

March 22, 2011

6:00 p.m. - 7:30 p.m.

Knights of Columbus

3310 Florida Ave., **Kenner, LA**

Due to limited seating, these meetings are for parents, family members, and individuals with developmental disabilities.



"Please no food permitted in the auditorium"

PLEASE SHARE THIS WITH ANYONE YOU KNOW WHO IS RECEIVING NOW SERVICES AND LIVES IN JEFFERSON, ORLEANS, PLAQUEMINES, OR ST. BERNARD PARISHES!!!!

PREPARING FOR FUTURE SUCCESS, FINAL DOCUMENTATION: YOUR CHILD'S SUMMARY OF PERFORMANCE



IDEA 04 requires schools to provide a "Summary of Performance" to a student who will no longer be eligible for special education services because he is graduating from high school with a regular diploma or because he exceeds the age for services in his state. The Summary of Performance must include information on the student's academic achievement and functional performance; it must also recommend ways to help the student meet his postsecondary goals. The information provided in the summary should be adequate to satisfy the disability documentation required under federal laws such as the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) and Section 504 - which apply to both postsecondary education and adult employment.

**Be sure you, as the parent, obtain and keep a copy of your child's
Summary of Performance.**

This will ensure the document is not lost should your teenager misplace or discard his copy.

For more information, join us at the upcoming workshop

Thursday, March 31, 2011

10:00 am to 12:00 pm

Region I A.T. Center

8342 Highway 23

Belle Chasse, LA 70037

To register call 504-943-0343 or 1-877-243-7352

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Coffee Talk: Small group sessions for 5-7 parents on topics of interest held monthly at locations throughout Region1. Please contact our office at 504-943-0343 to register, request a topic or for more information.

Topics for the months of April - June

**April 20, 10:00-11:00 Sibling Perspectives, PJ's Coffee 6600 Franklin Ave.
Building B Suite B-1, New Orleans**

**May 18, 10:00-11:30 IEP Questions and Answers, PJ's Coffee, 2015 E. Judge Perez,
Chalmette**

**June 15, 10:00-11:00 Overview of Waiver Services, PJ's Coffee, 7614 HWY 23 Suite F,
Belle Chasse**



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Diana Parker
Bookkeeper

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LaCAN Leader

People First of NOLA meets
every third Tuesday of the
month at 4:30 pm.

Meetings will be held at:

Goodwill	April 19	September 20
3400 Tulane	May 17	October 18
Avenue	June 21	November 15
New Orleans,	July 19	December 20
LA 70119	August 16	



*The Mission of
Families Helping Families
of Southeast Louisiana
is to enable and empower
families of individuals with
disabilities through an effective
coordinated network of resources,
support, and services.*

*The Vision of
Families Helping Families of
Southeast Louisiana
is to ensure all individuals with
disabilities have the opportunity to
attend school, live, work and recreate in
their community with typical peers.*



Financial assistance is available to parents of children with developmental disabilities and to individuals with developmental disabilities that would like to attend workshops and conferences. Please visit the websites and/or call the agencies that are hosting the event you are interested in to see if this is something you would benefit from if you attended.

If you want to attend and need help with the cost of the registration, hotel and/or mileage, please call us for a "Stipend Application".

Funds are limited so we ask that you notify us of your request as early as possible.

Call us at 504-943-0343 or 1-877-243-7352.



As a non-profit doing business in Louisiana, board meetings are open to the public. Our meetings are scheduled quarterly, on the second Thursday of the month at 6 pm. Board meetings are scheduled for **April 11, 2011, July 14, 2011, and October 13, 2011.** As FHF of SELA seeks LANO certification, work groups will be formed, which are also public meetings. Meetings will be posted on the FHF website. If you are interested in serving in any capacity, please contact Carol at 943-0343.

**Metropolitan Human Services District
In collaboration with
LSU Health Sciences Center**

Announces Early Childhood Initiatives

For
Children ages 3 – 5 years of age
With
Developmental Disabilities

For More Information and Registration
Please Contact Gina Easterly, PhD, CCC-SLP
504-914-2833
geaste@lsuhsc.edu

Music Together Classes: March 27 to June 7, 2011

**Jewish Community Center
5342 St. Charles Ave.
New Orleans, LA. 70115**

4 families from MHSD participating in each of the following classes

**Tuesdays at Jewish Community Center Uptown 9:15 – 10:15
Thursdays at Jewish Community Center Uptown 10:45 – 11:45
Sundays at Louisiana Children's Museum 3:15 – 4:15**

Prime Time Reading at Mahilia Jackson Early Childhood Center

**Mahilia Jackson Early Childhood Center
2405 Jackson Ave.
New Orleans, LA. 70112**

6 families from MHSD participating in each of the following sessions

**April 6 to May 16, 2011 on Wednesdays from 5:30 – 7:00 pm
June 14 – July 19, 2011 on Tuesdays from 5:30 – 7:00 pm**

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Reserve Now, Space is Limited!!!!

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✿ NOLA ✿

Sibshops: A program just for brothers and sisters of kids with special needs!
Sibshops are a celebration of the many contributions made by brothers and sisters.



May 7th - June 11th
Ages 8 - 10 9am-11am
Ages 11- 13 12pm-2pm
Audubon Zoo



Sibshops are co-sponsored by:
 Metropolitan Human Services District
 And
 Families Helping Families of Southeast Louisiana

For More Information and Registration
 Please Contact Monica Roberts 504-943-0343
 Registration Fee is \$15.00

Here's what kids say about Sibshops:

"At Sibshops you can talk about the good and not-so-good parts of having a brother or sister who has special needs".

"At Sibshops you get to meet other brothers and sisters of kids with special needs".

"Sibshops have outrageous games".

"Sibshops are fun"!!!

Sibshops are for kids who have a brother or sister with developmental disabilities.
Join Us!!!!

Reserve Now, Space is Limited!!!!

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Turning Conflict Into

Opportunities:

A Road Map to Conflict Resolution

Keynote Speaker: Marshall Peter, founding Director of the Center for Appropriate Dispute Resolution in Special Education (CADRE).

This session will provide:

Information on problem-solving and dispute resolution including approaches to conflict, listening to be understood and varying positions and interests.

Tested tips for dealing effectively with schools and human services agencies.

Time will be allowed for parents to share strategies that have worked for them and to offer input on difficult situations.

April 8, 2011

8:30-3:30

Hampton Inn and Suites

New Orleans

1201 Convention Center Blvd.

New Orleans, La 70131

To register please call

504-943-0343

or register online at [http://
www.fhfsela.org/event-
signup/](http://www.fhfsela.org/event-signup/)

This event is open to any PARENT OR LEGAL GUARDIAN that has a school age child in the state of Louisiana.

Breakfast and lunch will be provided along with validated parking.

If you live more than 50 miles from New Orleans and need hotel accommodations please call our office at 943-0343 to register.

Afternoon Breakout Sessions

1:00—3:15 How to Write a State

Complaint by Sharon Dufrene,

Partners in Education

1:00—2:00 Reading Interventions

1:00—2:00 Post-Secondary Options

2:15—3:15 Alternate Assessments

2:15—3:15 Extended School Year Services (ESYS)

3:15—3:30 Evaluations /Wrap-Up

Extra Special Gift to Parents: You will receive a copy of a Wrightslaw book for attending this event and will receive a special invitation for a follow up workshop that will provide one-on-one support from the education advocates at FHF of SELA.



BACK-TO-BACK EVENTS! PARENTS, COME JOIN US FOR ONE OR BOTH DAYS. LIVE MORE THAN 50 MILES AWAY? CALL AND ASK ABOUT HOTEL ACCOMMODATIONS AT 504-943-0343



STEPS TO



INCLUSIVE RECREATION

Get out, Explore and Have Fun



Come join us in a screening of "I'm An Artist", which tells the story of the often hidden students of our times. In this heartwarming documentary young adults with Down Syndrome, Autism, and behavior issues collaborate with a dedicated teacher to create artwork for their first professional gallery exhibition. As the students draw, color, and

paint we witness how these

individuals, who often struggle in life every day, gain confidence and self-acceptance through artistic expression.

Keynote Speaker Rachel Profiloski

Followed by Lynette Fontenot

When: Saturday April 9, 2011

**Where: Hampton Inn and Suites
New Orleans**

**1201 Convention Center Blvd.
New Orleans, La 70131**

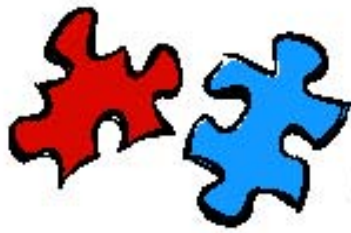
Time: 8:30am-2pm



Break out sessions and vendors to include a hands-on painting workshop by the keynote speaker, an art gallery of Lynette's work, information on sports, dance, photography, social skills and MORE!

To register please call 504-943-0343.

This event is partially supported under a contract with the Louisiana Department of Education with funds under Part B of the Individuals with Disabilities Improvement Act.



7th Annual Walk for Autism Awareness

Where the pieces come together

Date:

Saturday, April 16, 2011

Time:

registration opens at 8:00 am

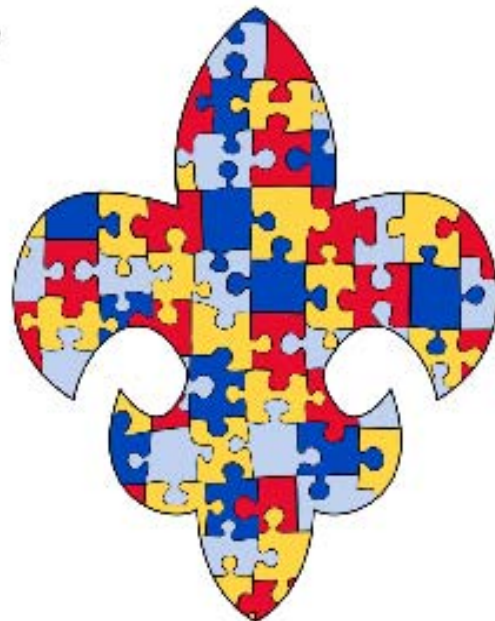
Walk begins at 9:30 am

Location:

**LaSalle Park, next to Zephyr Stadium
6600 Airline Drive in Metairie**

**For more Information, contact
ASA-GNO (504) 464-5733
www.autismsociety.org/chapter168**

**Email:
gnoasachapter@yahoo.com**



**Greater New Orleans
Autism Society of America**

- **Music**
- **Food**
- **Children's Activities**
- **Raffle**



SAVE THE DATE!

April 6 2011

Best Practices

A One Day Conference
presented by

Louisiana Disability Summit Foundation, Inc.

Individuals with disabilities, their families and friends, and those who support them are invited to attend a one day conference on Best Practices at

River Oaks Catering and Event Center

Lafayette, Louisiana

CEU's are under
submission

Topics and Speakers will include
 ☉ "Healthy, Wealthy and Wise"
 With Daphne Glindmeyer, M.D.
 of New Orleans, LA



Daphne Glindmeyer, M.D.

☉ "Show me the Money"
 With Kay Miller, M.Ed. of
 Charlotte, NC



Kay Miller, M.Ed.

☉ "Moving on Out!"

☉ "It's All About Me!"

With Thea Lobell, Ph.D. of
 Baton Rouge, LA



dr.thea

Cost is \$50 for this incredible one day event, and lunch will be provided at the facility. **Registration will begin soon!**

For more information, please contact Doanie or Lori at
 337-475-8084 or 1-800-631-8810



The Power of Three:

Partnerships for Better Community Living
 People · Their Families · Support Services

Parents, see page 3 for information about financial assistance to attend.

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JUNE 7 - 9, 2011




PRESENTED BY

**LSUHSC
Human Development Center**

The **LASARD Project** and the **LSUHSC Human Development Center** are proud to present the **2011 LASARD Summer Institute**.

The Institute focuses on evidence based practices applied in educational settings for individuals with ASD. The Institute will include presentations on effective strategies and tools for use in those settings. Each day will feature a national speaker along with breakout presentations by regional speakers and school teams. The Institute is open to any professionals or family members.

This year's focus will be instructional issues and strategies for individuals with Autism Spectrum Disorders and related disabilities from early childhood to young adulthood. Keynote speakers and daily themes include:

-  **Tuesday, June 7th:** Covering the Lifespan. Keynote: Individuals with ASD and their family members across the age-span
-  **Wednesday, June 8th:** Using Evidence-based Instruction. Keynote: Dr. Christi Camahan, University of Cincinnati
-  **Thursday, June 9th:** Designing Instruction for All Learners. Keynote: Dr. Joy Zabala, CAST: Center for Applied Technology

Please visit our page on the Institute's venue website for hotel and accommodation (*special conference rate!*) information at:

http://hamptoninn.hilton.com/en/hp/groups/personalized/M/MSYLAHX-LAS-20110606/index.jhtml?WT.mc_id=POG.

For more information, please visit our website at: www.hdc.lsuhs.edu or email lasard@lsuhsc.edu

We're looking forward to seeing you in June!



Parents, see page 3 for information about financial assistance to attend.

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Tracks to Transition



A Conference for Parents and Youths with Disabilities

New Orleans Airport Hilton
901 Airline Drive, Kenner, LA 70065

Friday, April 1, 2011
12:00 - 8:00 p.m.

Saturday, April 2, 2011
8:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.

Featuring



Patrick Schwarz, Ph.D.

Dr. Schwarz is dynamic and engaging professor, author, motivational speaker and leader in Education and Human Services. He is a professor in the Diversity and Learning

Teaching Department at National-Louis University, Chicago; CEO of Creative Culture Consulting, LLC. His professional mission is to promote education and human services that advance the status of people of all ages with diverse support needs. This will enable individuals to successfully be engaged, find meaning and be respected members of their learning, working or living communities. Patrick will lead the parent track and will assist parents in creating an individualized transition plan for their children.



Sharon Delvisco

Sharon has provided supports to people with disabilities for over 25 years. She has worked as a job coach and a Direct Support Professional and provided supported employment and

supported living programs. Sharon has served as an Advisor to People First Self Advocacy Groups in the past. She has provided training to people with disabilities, their family members and providers in the state of Louisiana. Sharon will lead the student track; expect to have fun while enjoying her humorous approach to teaching self advocacy skills. Effective self advocacy skills is the key to a meaningful adult life and independence.

Families Helping Families of Jefferson invites families to register for a rare opportunity to engage in meaningful and fun transition planning. This 2 day event is for families ready to take control of their destiny. Parents and their youth with disabilities will learn the important steps to ensure a meaningful adult life. All meals are included. Hotel accommodations available for families traveling more than 50 miles one way. Limited space available.

Requirements: Parents residing together must both attend with their youth. Youth with a disability must be at least 14 years old and NOT in their last year of school. To register, go to:

<http://tinyurl.com/TracksToTransition> or call: 504-888-9111 or 1-800-766-7736.

Real life transition requires real life planning!



4118 Franklin Avenue
New Orleans, LA 70122

504-943-0343
1-877-243-7352 (Toll-Free)
504-940-3242 (Fax)

www.fhfsela.org


ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED

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• FHF of SELA receives partial funding from the Louisiana Developmental Disabilities Council, Metropolitan Human Services District, Louisiana State Department of Education, Family to Family Health Information Center, Louisiana

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Still Waiting for Waiver Services?

Join LaCAN NOW!

LaCAN (Louisiana Citizens for Action Now) is a statewide grassroots network of individuals and families who have worked together since 1988 advocating for a system that supports individuals to live in their own homes rather than having to move to a facility to receive needed services.

MAKE A DIFFERENCE! JOIN LACAN!


WWW.LACANADVOCATES.ORG



Louisiana Together Educating All Children (LaTEACH) is a grass root network of individuals that believe all children should have the opportunity to be educated with their typical peers in a typical classroom.

LaTEACH has made great strides this year but they still need **YOU** to help make a difference in improving education for our children with disabilities.

Christy Cormier, Statewide Coordinator
Louisiana Together Educating ALL Children
2927 Hodges St
Lake Charles, LA 70601
337-436-2578 FAX
1-800-894-6558



A Statewide Talk List

What is LadisAbility Talk? An e-mail talk list from Louisiana Parent Training and Information Center/Families Helping Families of Jefferson to help families of people with disabilities and their advocates in Louisiana share information, resources, and support.

What's a talk list? It is a way for e-mail users to be in a group with others who have similar interests.

Who should join? Parents of children with disabilities, self-advocates, and advocates for people with disabilities in Louisiana.

How do I join? Just send an e-mail to: fhfprompter@yahoo.com or LaDisabilityTalk-subscribe@yahoogroups.com.

FREE—FREE—FREE