

FAMILY ENGAGEMENT NEWSLETTER

This month's topic: Transition

Upcoming Statewide Events

The Key to Your Future: Understanding Transition for School Aged Youth

This training will focus on the new Postsecondary Transition Plan (PTP).

Date & Location: Sept. 10th- Brookfield Public Library; Sept. 10th- Franklin High School; Sept. 17th-West Allis School District; Sept. 25th-St. Francis Children's Center

Cost: free

Registration: online at www.disabilityrightswi.org/ptp-training

Questions: Call Disability Rights Wisconsin at 414-773-4646

Puberty Workshops for Pre – Adolescents with Cognitive Disabilities

Separate workshops for boys and girls ages 10-14.

Dates: Sept. 14 and Sept. 21 from 9:30-11:30

*Girls attend **both** dates.

*Boys select **one** date.

Location: Children's Hospital 999 N 92nd St. Milwaukee, WI

Cost: Males - \$30.00

Females- \$45 (2 parts)

Register: by e-mail at tcouwen@execpc.com

2013-2014 Parents and Partnership (PIP), and Youth in Partnership with Parents for Empowerment (YIPPE) Trainings

Locations:

PIP: Rhinelander, Lac du Flambeau, & St. Croix Falls

YIPPE: Green Bay, Milwaukee

Cost: free

Registration: Contact Martha at deyoungm@cesa5.org or visit www.wspei.org or DPI website at <http://sped.dpi.gov/sped>

FAMILY ENGAGEMENT IMPACT

How Parent Centers Can Help

By Matthew Zellmer

For now, most school buildings are still relatively quiet. But some staff have returned to work and students are close behind. That means that the phones in parent centers across the country will soon be ringing regularly, and the callers won't want to discuss their summer vacation.

New school years routinely bring concerns for families of children with disabilities. Some are ongoing and some are fresh, but the issues are many and often serious. And when the bell rings, parent training and information centers are there to help calm those worries.

Parent Training and Information Centers (PTIs) and Community Parent Resource Centers (CPRCs) are federally funded under the Individuals with



Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) to provide training and assistance to families of children ages 0-26 with all disabilities. There are currently 106 parent centers in the nation, serving 7 million children.

The majority of parent center staff members are parents of children with disabilities and/or individuals with disabilities who bring knowledge, experience and empathy to their jobs. Parent Centers help families to better understand their children's disabilities and educational needs as well as parental

rights granted under IDEA. PTI's also often participate with families in the special education process, helping them secure appropriate IEP goals and services, working with them to improve communication with their child's IEP team and resolve disputes as necessary, and connecting them with community-based resources that aid children and youth with disabilities.

Through meaningful collaboration and reliable data collection, Parent Centers strive to improve outcomes for children and youth with disabilities. When they succeed in building engagement between schools, students and families, positive results are much more within reach. To find a Parent Center in your state, visit: <http://www.parentcenternetwork.org/parentcenterlisting.html>

RESEARCH TO READ

Promoting Transition Success for Culturally and Linguistically Diverse Students with Disabilities: The Value of Mentoring

Leake, David Waldegrave, Sheryl Burgstahler, and Margo Vreeberg Izzo. *Creative Education* 2.2 (2011): 121-129.

www.doaj.org/doi?func=fulltext&aid=1017467

Abstract: Youth with disabilities are less likely to enroll in and complete

postsecondary education programs and transition to employment than their non-disabled peers, and this is especially so for those from culturally and linguistically diverse (CLD) backgrounds. To help provide insight into factors influencing the transition process, a multi-site study was conducted using survey interviews, focus groups, and case studies.

The importance of mentoring emerged as a consistent theme. Most participants cited informal and formal mentors as role models and key motivators for gaining supports needed for success and helping them gain fresh perspectives to take steps toward personal, academic, and career goals. The insights gained from the research support greater use of mentoring to help CLD youth with disabilities.

"Did You Know? Now You Know!"

Training on health care and community services and supports, providing information for parents and consumers looking at public services and waiting lists.

Date September 16, 2013

Location: Milwaukee

Register: Contact Brad at bholman@chw.org

Sponsored by: Family Voices and the S.E. Regional Center

Care in the Community Conference

This is a 1-day conference for parents and providers.

Date: September 26, 2013

Location: Ramada Inn, Wauwatosa

Cost: Families, Guardians, & Students-\$15 per person; Professionals \$20 per person; Social Workers requesting clock hours- \$40 per person.

Register by Wednesday, Sept. 18, 2013 online at:

http://www.maxishare.com/included/docs/conferences/1309_care_community.pdf

Questions: Meg Steimle at 414-266-3192

17th Annual Down Syndrome Awareness Walk

This event supports the Down Syndrome Association of WI.

Date: September 29, 2013

Location: Milwaukee County Zoo

Cost: Adult (13+) \$15; Juniors (3-12) \$10; Child (2 and under) \$7 with food add \$2

Register at:

<https://secure.ggiv.com/hobnob/event/17021/register>

Questions: ellen@dsaw.org or 414-324-3729

Wisconsin Annual Early Childhood Conference

The WECA Annual Conference is Wisconsin's leading child care conference!

Date: October 10-12, 2013

Location: Kalahari Conference Center, WI Dells

Cost: 1 day: member=\$85; non-member=\$105 until Sept. 1
2 days: member=\$145; non-member=\$185 until Sept. 1

Phone: 800-783-9322 ext. 7227

Registration:

training@wisconsinearlyhchildhood.org

RESEARCH TO READ

A National Study of Kindergarten Transition Practices for Children with Disabilities

Daley, Tamara C., Tom Munk, and Elaine Carlson. *Early Childhood Research Quarterly* 26.4 (2011): 409-419.

www.researchgate.net/publication/225292779_A_national_study_of_kindergarten_transition_practices_for_children_with_disabilities/file/d912f50e97e6f8b2e3.pdf

Abstract: This study used data drawn from a large, national sample to describe transition practices provided to 1989 children with disabilities as they entered their kindergarten year, obtained through a survey

administered to kindergarten teachers.

Using path modeling, we examined the child and family, school, and district factors that predict which children and families receive high- and low-intensity transition support as they enter kindergarten and, in particular, what types of high-intensity practices they receive. Low-intensity transition supports were more commonly used than high-intensity supports by the kindergarten teachers.

In a path model that included a range of child and family, classroom, and



district factors, four variables emerged as predictors of transition support. Children from larger districts and higher poverty districts who were entering kindergarten from a different setting were less likely to receive support during the transition period. Rural districts differed little overall from suburban districts because they are, on average, higher poverty, but smaller in size. Urban districts demonstrated efforts that counterbalanced the barriers of size and poverty.

Statewide Parent Agency:



Family Voices of Wisconsin (FVW) is a nonprofit organization and Wisconsin affiliate of the national Family Voices. FVW works closely with the state's Centers for Children and Youth with Special Health Care Needs and is home to Wisconsin's Family-to-Family Health Information and Education Center.

Family Voices' work honors the principles that children come first, that families have great capacity to care for their children's special needs, and that services and supports function best when children, families, schools and service providers forge positive relationships and work collaboratively with the singular goal to meet those

needs. FVW believes that the result of such cooperation is a comprehensive system of health and community supports which concentrates on the inclusion of people with disabilities.

Family Voices' role as advocates for children and families with disabilities includes information and referral services and training for families, advocacy for children's issues and legislative policy development. The well received "Did You Know? Now You Know!" training and "What's After High School" transition training are provided around the state. FVW has a wealth of information on the

Affordable Care Act on their website, including updates on the ACA in their quarterly newsletter and providing information about the ACA in our Did You Know? Now You Know! training. Training dates and locations, as well as all training materials, can be found online at <http://fvofwi.org/training-and-events/>.

Family Voices is dedicated to strong partnerships between families and essential allies (providers, policy makers and others) to improve the systems of supports and services for children. To connect with Family Voices of Wisconsin, visit <http://fvofwi.org/> or "like" them on Facebook.

FEATURED ONLINE RESOURCES

TOPIC: TRANSITION

[Let's Get to Work](http://www.letsgettoworkwi.org/) is a 5-year project to promote national systems change to improve community employment outcomes for students with intellectual developmental disabilities. The stories and resources sections would be a good place to start.

<http://www.letsgettoworkwi.org/>

[IEP: Postsecondary Transition Plan](http://www2.dpi.state.wi.us/PTPDemo/Pages/DistrictMenu.aspx) DPI has provided this interactive site allowing parents and students to write their own transition IEP. This can be used in the transition IEP along with the draft the teachers have written. DPI Special Education IEP: Postsecondary Transition Plan <http://www2.dpi.state.wi.us/PTPDemo/Pages/DistrictMenu.aspx>
http://sped.dpi.wi.gov/sped_spp-transition

[Transition to Adulthood – National Dissemination Center for Children with Disabilities](http://nichcy.org/schoolage/transitionadult) On this site you will find a thorough consideration of all the domains that need to be addressed in a transition IEP into adulthood.

<http://nichcy.org/schoolage/transitionadult>

[Birth to Three Transition Timeline](http://ec.dpi.wi.gov/files/sped/pdf/spp12-transition-timeline.pdf) The flow chart on this site provides the timeline for the transition from Birth to Three to Early Childhood. As you will see, this timeline starts well before a child's third birthday. It also provides the time allowed between each step.

<http://ec.dpi.wi.gov/files/sped/pdf/spp12-transition-timeline.pdf>

[Serving Children with Disabilities Indicators 8/12 Transition](http://www.collaboratingpartners.com/disabilities-indicators-8-12.php) On this site you will find practices, policies and resources required to assure compliance with Office of Special Education Programs (OSEP). In addition, both the WI Department of Health [Birth to 3 Program](#) and the WI Department of Public Instruction [WI State Performance Plan \(SPP\), Indicator #12 | Special Education](#) maintain web sites that are useful as well.

<http://www.collaboratingpartners.com/disabilities-indicators-8-12.php>

<http://www.dhs.wisconsin.gov/children/birthto3/index.htm>

http://sped.dpi.wi.gov/sped_spp-tran-presch

Autism Society of Wisconsin Fall Conference: All Kids can Succeed: Effective Interventions for Behavioral and Social Challenges – Presented by Jed Baker

This conference addresses the challenges presented by children who have difficulty regulating their feelings and interacting socially.

Date: October 16, 2013

Location: Liberty Hall Banquet & Conference Center, Kimberly, WI

Cost: Member- \$120; Non-Member-\$150; Individual w/ASD- \$75

Questions: 920- 558-4602 or

conference@asw4autism.org

Register at: http://www.asw4autism.org/conferences_workshops.html

Regional Special Education Conference – Supporting Children Who Have Experienced Trauma (trauma informed care)

This conference will address how trauma impacts a child at home, in the school, and in the community

Date: Saturday, Oct. 19, 2013 8:30-3:15PM

Location: Wintergreen Resort & Conference Center, WI Dells

Cost: free

Registration: contact Sandra McFarland at 877-374-0511 or smcfarland@wifacets.org or online

<http://www.wifacets.org/events/workshop-registration-form>

Special Education Conference Over 30 sessions will be presented that will appeal to regular and special educators.

The New Special Education Teacher Academy will be offered as a pre-conference on Oct. 29, 2013 and will offer sessions for educators new to special education.

Date: October 30-31 2013

Location Kalahari Convention Center, WI Dells

Cost \$199 until September 30 and after that \$249

Registration: Coming Soon at: <http://www.edevents.org/conferences/special-education-conference#register>

Six Degrees of Self-Determination: Self-Determination Conference

An educational and inspirational conference focused on the ways that self-determination changes and enhances lives for people with disabilities in Wisconsin.

Date: October 29-31, 2013

Location: Kalahari Resort, WI Dells

Cost: Urgent! Early Bird Registration ends 8-30-2013! Consumer- \$90 Early Bird-\$75;

Consumer with a scholarship-\$25; Family Member- \$100 Early Bird-\$75; Professional-\$200 Early Bird- \$175

Registration: <https://www.regonline.com/Register/Checkin.aspx?EventID=1224601>

Sponsored by: Wisconsin Board for People with Developmental Disabilities (BPDD) and People First Wisconsin



WI FACETS Phone Workshops

Registration for all phone workshops: Contact Sandra McFarland at 877-374-0511, smcfarland@wifacets.org or on line at www.wifacets.org

Transición del Programa Nacimiento a 3 a la Escuela
When: 9-5-13 noon-1
Presenter: Martha Lechuga

Section 504 & ADA
When: 9-9-13 noon-1
Presenter: Charlotte Price

Understanding Wisconsin School Report Cards
When: 9-11-13 noon-1
Location: phone/webinar
Presenter: Laura Pinsonneault, DPI

Dispute Resolution Options
When: 9-12-13 12-1pm
Presenter: WSEMS

IEP Part 1
When: 9-17-13, 4-5 PM
Presenter: Charlotte Price

SLD Eligibility Criteria: An Update webinar
When: 9-18-13 noon-1
Presenter: Scott Brown WDPI

VPL Webinar #3 (To participate in SLD webinar)
When: 9-18-13, noon-1
Presenter: Nelsinia Wroblewski

Roles of Families on Decision Making Groups
When: 9-19-13, noon-1 and 7-8 PM
Presenter: Emilie Braunel

Introducción a la Educación Especial
When: 9-24-13, noon-1
Presenter: Martha Lechuga

IEP Part 2
When: 9-24-13, 7-8 PM
Presenter: Charlotte Price

CONTRIBUTIONS TO NEWSLETTER

Next month's newsletter topic: Bullying Prevention

There are two ways to submit contributions. Use either the online form at <http://bit.ly/WO9a39> or use the attached fillable PDF form for contributing articles, events, and resources.

Send the fillable PDF form submissions to mzellmer@wifacets.org or ebraunel@wifacets.org

*Deadline for submitting contributions to each month's issue is by the **20th of each month at noon**. For time sensitive training advertisements, the information should be sent a minimum of two weeks prior to the event date; ideally a month ahead of time.*

Material appropriate for the monthly newsletter include web links to sources of family involvement/parent leadership resources, advertisements for statewide trainings for parents, youth or parent/educator audiences, information about statewide parent agencies, recent research pertaining to family engagement, and family engagement success articles. Family engagement success or impact stories can be written at an individual or family level, classroom level, school building level, district level, county level, CESA level, etc.

Your submittal may not be in the final copy of the upcoming month's newsletter if it was in a previous month's email, the event date has passed, the web link doesn't work, or there is already an article in place. Articles and resources will be saved to be used for later newsletters. We reserve the right to edit contributions as needed.

This month's update is provided by WI FACETS to share statewide information regarding parent leadership and family involvement.

* **WIFACETS website:** <http://www.wifacets.org> 

Please visit the following links to the Parent Leadership Hub web page of the State Personnel Development Grant (SPDG) website:

* **Just in Time Information (JITI):** http://wispdg.org/pl/res_jit.html

* **Resources:** <http://www.wispdg.org/pl/resources.html>

* **Multi-Media Workshops, Video and Webcasts:** <http://wispdg.org/pl-multi.html>

DISCLAIMER

Inclusion of information in this newsletter does not constitute an endorsement by Wisconsin FACETS, the Department of Public Instruction, the U.S. Department of Education, or the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services.

NOTE: If you would like to receive this monthly update or if you would like to have your name removed from the distribution list, please contact:

Emilie Braunel, WI FACETS SPDG Coordinator at 715-561-2559 or ebraunel@wifacets.org

Matthew Zellmer, WI FACETS SPDG Research Coordinator at 414-374-4645 x203 or mzellmer@wifacets.org.

