

# The Coalition

## Advocacy Coalition for People with Disabilities

### 9th Annual Conference on Disabilities and Special Needs

## "A Community in Common"



**Saturday, May 13th**

**8:30 AM - 3:30 PM**

**Mark Clark Hall - The Citadel**

**171 Moultrie Ave. - Charleston, SC**

Sponsored By: The Family Resource Center for Disabilities & Special Needs ~ The Parent Training and Resource Center ~ Advocacy Coalition for People with Disabilities ~ Psychology Department, The Citadel

Conference Fee: \$ 10.00, Includes lunch

See Agenda on Page

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This 9th Annual Conference will feature the usual activities that have been so successful in the past. Registration begins at 8:30 AM, with conference activities ending at 3:30. The conference agenda includes a keynote speaker, general/concurrent sessions, advocacy awards, community resource tables, and a silent auction to benefit the projects of the FRC. A catered lunch will be served. The conference fee is \$10 and advance registration is encouraged to guarantee lunch.

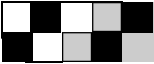
Mary Tutterow will provide the opening remarks that set this year's conference theme. Mary will share her vision

that inspired Healing Farms Ministries and its outreach ministry, Thornhill Farm. Healing Farm Ministries, Inc. is a faith based, not-for-profit corporation serving families and individuals touched by developmental disabilities. Thornhill Farm is a lovely 100 acre farm located on Highway 17 between Charleston and Myrtle Beach. It is a special place where people with developmental disabilities can live and work, welcome visitors and become an integral part of their local community.

Following Mary's opening remarks, will be a general session, "Finding Your Home in the Community." This panel session will address housing issues for people with disabilities. The talk will range from information on adapting current homes, funding sources, group homes and assisted living, private providers, and fair housing. The morning will also feature two concurrent sessions, one on effective strategies to support positive mental health, the other on creating parent/school partnerships. Lunch activities will include an awards ceremony and a special presentation by Jennifer Addison, JD, from Protection and Advocacy for Individuals with Disabilities. Jennifer will bring us up to date on the recent legislation that will improve the investigation of allegations of abuse and neglect in residential facilities operated by or contracted with the Dept. of Mental Health, Dept. of Disabilities & Special Needs, or local disability boards.

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The afternoon general session "A Community of Diversity" is a presentation that will feature a specifically created curriculum, "Parent & Professional Collaboration: A Cultural Perspective" and will include a facilitated panel discussion that will offer a variety of perspectives from members of our community. There will also be two concurrent sessions in the afternoon, one on the topic of bullying and the other, provided by Tim Conroy with the State Department of Education, will address homebound and home based educational settings.

As in previous years, community agencies and service providers will display information about their programs and many representatives will be available to answer questions during breaks and networking times.

The Family Resource Center will also be running a silent auction to raise funds for their important programming. The silent auctions are great fun and provide an opportunity to get great items and very reasonable costs, while providing support to the Parent Training and Resource Center, as well as other projects. A real win-win situation for everyone!

Plan now to join this day of learning and fun. Register today if you have not done so already. Advanced registration is encouraged to guarantee lunch. For more information call 266-1318.

### Conference Registration Form

#### "A Community In Common" - 9th Conference on Disabilities and Special Needs

Advance registration is recommended to guarantee lunch.

Please return registration to: **FRC, 1575 Savannah Hwy - Ste. 6, Charleston, SC 29407** Conference fee: \$ 10 includes lunch and all materials.

**Please make checks payable to ACPD**

Name: (Please Print): \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone (Day) \_\_\_\_\_ E-Mail (optional): \_\_\_\_\_

May we add your name to our mailing list: \_\_\_ yes \_\_\_ no

I am (all that apply): \_\_\_ An individual with a disability \_\_\_ Parent \_\_\_ Family Member \_\_\_ Professional \_\_\_ Educator \_\_\_ Service Provider \_\_\_ Other \_\_\_\_\_

Agency Represented: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ # of Registrants *Please enclose \$10/per person.* If registration pays for persons other than yourself, please list attendees: \_\_\_\_\_

How did you hear about the conference? \_\_\_ Newsletter \_\_\_ Web Site \_\_\_ Newspaper \_\_\_ Word of Mouth \_\_\_ Brochure /Picked up at? \_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_ Other (Please specify) \_\_\_\_\_

If special accommodations are needed to attend the conference please contact 266-1318 ASAP.

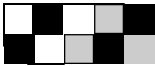
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If you are a parent/family member of an individual with a disability please take a moment to complete the following information required by our funder. This information is kept confidential.

Child's Disability: \_\_\_\_\_ Child's Age: \_\_\_\_\_ Race: \_\_\_\_\_

If school age, School placement: \_\_\_\_\_

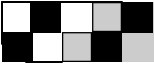
Thank you for your assistance in helping improve our conference and service delivery



## A Community in Common Conference Agenda

8:30	Registration & Refreshments	Auditorium
9:00	Welcome	Auditorium
9:00 – 9:40	Keynote Address “Building A Special Community” Mary Tutterow, Founder Healing Farms Ministries/Thornhill Farms	Auditorium
9:45 – 10:45	General Session “Finding Your Home in the Community” Panel: Phil Blevins, CASLS, (Facilitator) Shelli Quenga, Carolina Children’s Charities, Kathryn Thompson, Berkeley Citizens, Sissi Langford	Auditorium
10:45 - 11:00	Break & Networking	
11:00 - 12:00	Concurrent Sessions #1: “A Community Builds Mental Health” Sonya Jenkins, - School Based Counselor Charleston Mental Health  “Parents and Schools: The Shared Community” Connie Mathis, Ph.D., Charleston County School District, Executive Director, Student Support Services & Kathy Kiniry, M.ed, Special Education Consultant, Dorchester District 2	Room 228  Room 230
12:00 – 1:30	Lunch and Awards Protection & Advocacy Presentation by Jennifer Addision	Auditorium
1:30 – 2:15	General Session “A Community of Diversity” Panel: Toni Boucher, (Facilitator) Maria Lundell, Massum Warid, Dandrea Woolridge, Vi Smith	Auditorium
2:15 – 2:30	Break & Networking	
2:30 – 3:30	Concurrent Sessions #2: “A Community Without Bullies” Susan Clark, Family Resource Center  “When Community Means Home” Tim Conroy, Education Associate, State Department of Education	Room 230  Room 228
3:30	Collect Silent Auction Item Wins & Turn in Evaluations	Auditorium

The Family Resource Center is seeking donations of items, recreational excursions, restaurant gift certificates and/or other services for our silent auction. These donations will help raise money for our programs. If you have new items to donate please contact the Family Resource Center at 843-266-1318. All donations to the Family Resource Center are deductible under federal 501(c)3 guidelines



## UNIFIED SPORTS



The City of Charleston Unified Sports Programs are coming to a close for the spring but Adult Wiffle Ball will continue to play through the end of May. This is open to athletes and their partners ages 18 and older. It plays every Saturday at noon at the Miracle League Field.

Other unified sports programs include :

- Team Handball for ages 5-21
- Cheerleading ages 5-21
- Unified softball ages 5-adults
- Unified Basketball ages 5-adults
- Spring Therapeutic Tennis ages 6-adults
- Rhythmic Gymnastics ages 5-adults

If you've missed the spring activities, make plans now to participate in some of the fun fall programs. They include :

- Unified Youth Soccer for ages 5-18
  - Unified Adult Soccer ages 19-35
  - Therapeutic Tennis ages 6 thru adult
  - And Buddy Bocce ages 5-21 (never played Bocce? Now's your chance to learn how!)
- Fees for most programs are \$25.00, some are free.

There are also many volunteer opportunities available. Call 724-7337 for more information.

Shelli Davis, coordinator of the Unified Sports Program can be reached at 769-8246 or at [daviss@ci.charleston.sc.us](mailto:daviss@ci.charleston.sc.us)

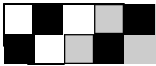
## **News from Carolina Children's Charities**

Carolina Children's Charities is now located at 6296 Rivers Ave, Suite 300 in the United Way building (the old Post and Courier building) next to Shoney's. At this new site, they have also opened their "parent Personal Computer center" (also called the PC center.) This center is equipped with a computer and printer which is free for parents to use to look up information on the internet or to use to make visual supports and schedules for their children to use at home. There is a new version of Board Maker, a picture symbol software program used to make schedules and other visual supports for children with autism and other disabilities. There is even a version in sign language if the child understands this mode of communication. This can also be used to make schedules and information cards in sign language with written language and picture symbols. Use of these items can be helpful for parents and other family members when a child has learned some sign language but friends or other family members find it difficult to understand. Carolina Children's charities will provide white paper, use of the color printer and use of a laminator at no charge to families. The center will be open whenever the office is open but individuals interested in using the equipment should call Sandy Powell to schedule an appointment to ensure staff will be available.

Carolina Children's Charity provides assistance to help cover costs of specialized services and equipment to children in the tri-county area with birth and genetic defects. To inquire about eligibility for assistance go to [www.carolinachildren.org](http://www.carolinachildren.org) or call 554-6222.

**GREAT NEWS  
FOR CHILDREN WITH  
DISABILITIES**

*The 19th annual  
Carolina Children's  
Charity Telethon*  
was a huge success.  
As of the date of this  
newsletter \$299,074.00  
has been raised.



**Looking for more things to do? Come have fun and donate to a worthwhile cause at the same time.**

## **CAMP GOOD TIMES FUNDRAISERS**

Camp GoodTimes will once again be located at Ashley River Creative Arts School from June 12-15, 19-22, and 26-29. This year 107 campers including children with autism and many of their friends are expected to attend. The camp is funded entirely from grants, camper fees, donations and fundraisers. Several fundraisers are planned in the next few weeks.

On May 6th, at 4:00 PM, the Captain's meeting for the Man of the Sand half rubber tournament will take place at the Barrier Island Surf Shop on Folly Road. The meeting is open to the public and will feature entertainment, door prizes and a pig pickin'. The tournament itself is May 13 and 14 and composed of 3-4 man teams. The cost is \$25.00 per person and cash prizes will be awarded for first second and third place. For more information and registration call Brian at 345-7646.

On May 28th(Sunday), Piccolo Spoleto will present "Divas of the Blues" at Bowen's Island from 4-8 PM.

The following Sunday (June 4th), Piccolo Spoleto will present "Old Times Blues Review" also from 4-8 at Bowen's Island. Camp Good Times will receive proceeds from beverage sales.

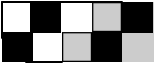
Wednesday June 14th will be the Captain's meeting for the Low Country Anglers tournament from 6-8:00 PM. This event is also open to the public and will feature live music, food, and a raffle. The tournament itself is Saturday June 17th with weigh in starting at 4:00PM. For more information contact Cory Hume at 766-7061, 830-5525 or CHUME@Kronos.com. The Man of the Sand and the LowCountry Anglers donate a generous portion of their proceeds to Camp Good Times.

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## **Project SAGE (Self Advocates for a Good Education)**

The US Congress recognizes the importance of involving students in the special education process; they even included language in the federal law (IDEA 04) to support this philosophy. Assurances were made that allowed students to participate as members of their IEP planning meetings, requiring participation by their sixteenth birthday. Sadly, the majority of students with developmental disabilities are unprepared to assume this role of self-advocate and there are few, if any, community resources available to help them acquire the skills to contribute to the process in meaningful ways.

The Family Resource Center is pleased to announce a new training initiative for middle and high school students with developmental disabilities in Charleston, Berkeley and Dorchester Counties. Set to begin July 1, 2006, Project SAGE will begin activities by conducting a series of focus groups with students, educators, and parents to ascertain the current level at which students are participating in their IEP and other educational planning meetings. During this time, the Project will also assemble an Advisory Committee of parents, educators, students, and others with a special interest in this topic to help guide Project SAGE. The Project SAGE trainers will receive specialized training from Project consultants on working with students with developmental disabilities to improve their self advocacy skills. The Project will utilize recognized curricula on self-directed IEPs and deliver the training in recurring sessions.



## From the Caring Connection.....

The Caring Connection, a support network for families whose children need extra care, offers a variety of grant-funded support services. For more information on the program and on the monthly family activities, please call Amarylis Cranwell, Program Coordinator, at 876-1505 or e-mail [cranwela@musc.edu](mailto:cranwela@musc.edu)

### The Caring Connection's Support Events:

#### **BOWLING**

Roll a Strike at Family Bowling  
Sandpiper Lanes, 3291 Ashley Phosphate Rd., N. Chas. Child with special needs must be at least 5 yrs. old. Special equipment is available. Games are \$1.25, and shoes are \$2.00.

Join the bowling fun on  
Sunday, May 21st, 3:00 - 4:30 PM.

#### **MOM'S NIGHT OUT**

**MAKE NEW FRIENDS...  
FOR FUN, FELLOWSHIP, AND FOOD,  
PLUS.....At each Mom's Night Out a drawing will  
be held for a free restaurant gift certificate from  
the restaurant where we dine.**

May 18th, 7 pm Olive Garden Italian Restaurant, 2156 Northwoods Blvd., N. Chas

For more details, call Kathy at 552-4934 after 5:30pm.

#### **Project SAGE**

*Continued*

Other Project SAGE activities will include a conference focusing on Self Advocacy and recurring support group meetings for interested students. Those students who participate in the training will attend their IEP meetings accompanied by a Peer Parent Mentor from the Parent Training and Resource Center. Project SAGE is recruiting individuals to participate on the Advisory Committee and focus groups. We are also looking for students who wish to receive the training. If you (or your child) would like to participate in any Project SAGE activities, or if you'd simply like to learn more, please contact Bev at the Family Resource Center (843.266.1318) or email: [bevmccarty@frcdsn.org](mailto:bevmccarty@frcdsn.org).

**WHAT: Regular Parties !!**

**The "No Limits" Events!**

**WHEN: 3rd Fridays of every even  
Month (June, August, October, December)  
7:00-9:00 PM**

**WHERE: Metro North Church**

**WHO: Adults/Young Adults, High School  
Age and Older with special needs**

**PLEASE NO SMALL CHILDREN**

First Timers please call 553-3405

Plan your calendar for the next Events!: 6/16, 8/18, 10/20, 12/15. Call 553-3405 (ask for Betty) to confirm the date a few days in advance. Due to church functions some dates may be changed on occasion. Come have fun with friends, a live DJ and refreshments!

Metro North Church is on Central Ave. in Goose Creek just behind the Publix shopping Center and near Paradise Pools on Central Ave..

### **SPECIAL NEEDS MINISTRY**

at

**Crowfield Baptist Church**

100 Hunters Lane, Goose Creek

offers

#### **Parents' Night Out**

for children with special needs and their siblings.  
This ministry offers a structured program with a choice of activities including music, crafts, games, and movies.

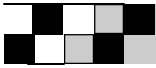
Third Friday of Each Month from 6 - 9 PM

Advanced registration is required.

Call the church at 569-6745x13.

[www.crowfieldbaptist.org](http://www.crowfieldbaptist.org)

Trained volunteers will supervise the children



## LOOK FOR SUPPORT FROM AMONG THESE AREA GROUPS:

**Advocacy Coalition For People with Disabilities (ACPD) also Special Olympics** contact Paula Byers 795-5316

**Autism Support Groups:** 1st Monday of each month at Locklear's in Mt. Pleasant at 6:30 PM. Contact Laurie Priester at 884-3062 for information. A group also meets the 3rd Thursday of each month in North Charleston at 6:30 PM. This group is presently taking a break for the summer but will begin with regular meetings again in August. The meetings will be at Carolina Children's Charities office at 6296 Rivers Ave. Suite 300. Contact Kelly Herrick at 863-1445 for information regarding the date of the next meeting or email at specialneedssupportsc@yahoo.com. In the Summerville area a group meets from 6:30-8 PM at the Summerville YMCA (900 Cross Creek Drive off Trolley Rd.) Childcare is provided. For more information please contact Kima at 821-9337.

**Trident Head Injury Support Group** meets the 1st Tuesday of each month at 7:30, at the HASCI Center, St. Andrews Shopping Center, Savannah Hwy, Charleston. Contact Patricia Glenn at 875-5806.

**HIPS (Head Injury Support Group for Survivors)** meets the 3rd Tuesday of each month, at 7:30, at the HASCI Center, St. Andrews Shopping Center, Savannah Hwy, Charleston. Richard Aust, 852-5550)

**Low country Polio Survivors Network** will meet on Sept. 22 at Roper Hospital, Downtown, Conference Room 1 off the 1st Floor and on Oct. 27 at the Summerville Crestview Motor Park Club House. Both meetings begin at 3:00 PM. For directions or more info contact Patricia Buckner at 559-2728.

**Down Syndrome Association of the Low country** sponsors 4 Information Programs and 4 Social Events each year - watch for details of approaching events. For more information call 762-7602.

**Parent & Guardian Association of the Coastal Center** holds general meetings four times a year. The meetings are held on the 3rd Sunday in January, April, July, & October, for more info call Barbara West at 821-5809.

**Rett's Syndrome Support** - for families needing a contact person to access support services for girls with Rett's Syndrome contact Nancy Banov at 556-4632

**Stroke Support Group** meets the 2nd Tuesday of each month from 6:00 - 7:00 PM at Roper Rehab Hospital, 8th Floor, E Elevator, Roper Hospital. Call Carla Boyette at 792-2829 for more information.

**Tourette's Syndrome Support Group** meets the 1st Sunday of each month, at 3:00 PM at Healthfinders, next to Belk in Citadel Mall. For more information contact Nannetta Navarro at 873-3233

**Summerville Multiple Sclerosis Support Group** meets the 4th Friday of each month from 11:00-12:30 at Scottie's Restaurant Meeting Room on 10050 Dorchester Road. For more information, contact Elizabeth Peterson (873-0818), epertson6@sc.rr.com

**Heart to Heart**—a support group for patients, family members and parents of individuals with congenital heart disease meets the first and third Thursday of each month from 3-4 PM in room 841 at the MUSC Children's Hospital. Various topics of interest are discussed at each meeting. Contact Robin Ellinger at 792-3179

**The National Alliance for the Mentally Ill (NAMI)** of the Charleston area offers support group meetings for individuals who suffer from a brain disorder and for family members and caregivers of those who have severe and persistent mental illness. The meetings are 6-7:15 p.m. the second Monday of every month at First Christian Church, 1293 Orange Grove Road, West Ashley and at Sunrise Christian Church 102 Myers Road, Summerville. Also on the fourth Monday of each month at the Institute of Psychiatry, 67 President Street, 5th floor, North Tower. The support group sessions often are followed by an educational program. For more information Call NAMI at 727-6405.

Please contact 266-1318 to make corrections or additions to this listing



## Congratulations to Our Award Winners

Each year the Advocacy Coalition for People with Disabilities (ACPD) honors those who have gone the extra distance to support individuals with disabilities and their families. This year, we're pleased to honor:

Advocate of the Year: Floyd Brace Company

Teacher of the Year: Kelly Smith  
Alston Middle School

Frances Roy Award: Judi Curran  
Vocational Program  
Manager, DBCC

Tina Paul Award: Nancy Banov

Parent Advocate of the Year: Eula Thompson

Family Resource Center for Disabilities and  
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