

The Coalition

Summer 2008

Family Resource Center for Disabilities & Special Needs
Parent Training & Resource Center
Advocacy Coalition for People with Disabilities

There for You



Saturday - Sept. 13 2008

The Citadel
171 Moultrie Ave
Charleston

Registration: 8:30
Conference: 9:00 - 3:30

LIVE RADIO BROADCAST

The LaMondré Pough Show

Don't miss the Eleventh Conference on Disabilities and Special Needs - There for You. In addition to informative workshops and presentations, a catered lunch, award celebration, and a silent auction, there's a special treat this year. LaMondré Pough will broadcast his regular Saturday show by live remote from the conference. LaMondré will also be a featured presenter for a general session. In his presentation he will discuss the current state of assistive technology and explore the limitless possibilities it offers. Living with a severe disability, Spinal Muscular Atrophy, LaMondré has faced many challenges and has accomplished many things. He was a founding leader at South Carolina's first Independent Living Center and is the host of a weekly radio program, *The LaMondré Pough Show, Empowerment Radio*. He is the Business Development Manager for TecAccess, LLC, and the founder and CEO of LaMondré Pough Unlimited.

Joining LaMondré on the conference agenda will be presentations by a panel of young adults, led by Nia Green with the Disability Resource Center, who will talk about what has been "there for them."



LaMondré Pough

Ron Dozier

will present a general session on a new way to look at planning services for individuals with disabilities called self-directed support corporations, or Microboards. These are legally established, state-recognized, nonprofit organizations, composed of a small group of committed family and friends who know the best way to support their loved one with a disability. Ron is with the Center for Disability Resources,

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GREAT NEWS !!

PTRC FUNDED FOR THREE MORE YEARS

The Family Resource Center has received three-year funding from the US Department of Education

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**“There For You”
Mark Clark Hall, The Citadel**

AGENDA

8:30	Registration
9:00	Welcome
9:10 – 9:55	Panel - “There for Us”
10:00 - 11:00	General Session Ron Dozier: Self Directed Support Corporations
11:00 - 11:15	Break
11:15 - 12:30	General Session LaMondré Pough: Embracing the Possibilities
12:30 - 2:00	Lunch - Catered by Anmark Awards Presentations Networking & Agency Displays
1:00 - 2:00	Remote Broadcast of the LaMondré Pough Radio Show
2:00 - 3:00	Concurrent Sessions: Room: 230: Kay Ciganovic: Building & Sustaining Parent Advisory Councils Room: 228: Dave Zoellner: Age of Majority & Special Education
3:10 - 3:30	Closing Session “There for You” Answers & Referrals Silent Auction Winners Turn in Evaluations (Get a Reward)

A “There for You” Board will be available for attendees to post questions or requests for information in order to find the resources and supports that they hope will be there for them. During the final session questions will be answered and referrals provided.

A silent auction will be held in the Auditorium during the conference with proceeds supporting the Family Resource Center for Disabilities & Special Needs. Come prepared to have fun and support the cause - bid early & often on an array of interesting items.

DONATE FOR FUN & PROFIT



The Family Resource Center is seeking donations for items to be sold at the Silent Auction that will be held at the 11th Annual Conference on Sept. 13th. We are looking for new items, gift certificates or services. We find that loyal customers can successfully request gift certificates from businesses such as hair dressers, dry cleaners, restaurants, and favorite boutiques. If you can help in this endeavor please contact Joyce at 875-5763 or anielsen@sc.rr.com



11th Annual Conference

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University of South Carolina, School of Medicine and the Microboard Grant Coordinator with this South Carolina Autism Society project.

Dave Zoellner, Managing Attorney with South Carolina Protection & Advocacy for People with Disabilities, will talk about the things parents need to know when their child with a disability reaches the age of majority. Special focus will be given to what this means in the special education process.

The State Department of Education has a "Parents Advisory Committee" that provides input on the education of children with disabilities. Every district would benefit from the same sort of dialogue. Kay Ciganovic, the Parent Liaison for the Charleston County School District, Office of Exceptional Children, will share her experiences with building and maintaining a parents advisory council. Kay serves on the state council and has been instrumental in the Charleston County Parents Advisory Committee which she now leads.

This day long conference is jointly sponsored by the Family Resource Center for Disabilities & Special Needs, The Citadel Psychology Department, and the Advocacy Coalition for People with Disabilities. It is funded in part by a grant from the US Department of Education.

Please find the registration form on the back page of your newsletter and mail it, along with \$10 conference fee to the FRC, 1575 Savannah Highway, Ste 6, Charleston, SC 29407. If you need assistance with the conference fee please contact Bev at 266-1318. A limited number of conference scholarships are available. We are sorry we are UNABLE to provide child care or CEUs for this conference.

You will definitely enjoy this conference experience. You'll learn something new, meet new people, hear about resources, share the joy of award recipients, and enjoy a tasty catered lunch. You'll even be able to shop at our silent auction! We request advance registration in order to guarantee lunch. Please direct questions to Bev at 266-1318 or by email: bevmccarty@frcdsn.org



SAVE THESE DATES

National Down Syndrome Society
Down Syndrome Association of the Lowcountry
2008 Lowcountry Buddy Walk
Sunday, Oct. 5
Etiwan Park, Daniel Island
Registration: 12:30 PM
Walk Begins at 3 PM
For More Information Call: 553-3725

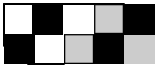


South Carolina Autism Society (SCAS)
Annual Conference
October 3rd & 4th
Columbia Conference Center
169 Laurelhurst Ave., Columbia

Dr Temple Grandin leads a line-up of professionals who will deliver talks at this year's conference. Dr. Grandin is well known for her books about her first-hand experiences with living with ASD. Dr. Diane Twachtman-Cullen and Dr. Rose Iovannone also will provide keynote addresses at this year's conference. For more information and to register please contact the SCAS at 800-438-4790

Remember The SC Department of Education has someone There for You!

There is a toll-free statewide helpline for parents, advocates, and agency representatives who have questions about the education of children with disabilities. Hours of operation are from 7:30am-6:00pm. Calls are routed to a mailbox and returned within three days. The number is 1-866-628-0910.



Workshops, Conferences, and Events

The Breakthrough Conference Featuring Rick Lavoie

**Blenforest School
1041 Harbor Drive
West Columbia, SC**

**9:00 AM - 3:00 PM
Registration: \$ 25
Scholarships Available**

Rick LaVoie has held administrative positions at residential programs for students with disabilities for thirty years. Rick serves as a consultant on Learning Disabilities to several agencies and organizations. He is probably best known for his videos "[How Difficult Can This Be?: The F.A.T. City Workshop](#)" and "[Last One Picked, First One Picked On: The Social Implications of Learning Disabilities](#)".

Wrightslaw: Special Education & Advocacy Presented by Peter Wright, Esq.

**Midlands Technical College
Airport Campus - Academic Center
1260 Lexington Dr.
West Columbia, SC**

**8:30 AM - 4:30 PM
Professional: \$60 - Parents: \$50
CEUs Available
2 Books Free w/Registration Fee**

Peter Wright has practiced special education law since the 1970s. In 1993 he represented Shannon Carter before the US Supreme court in *Florence County v. Shannon Carter* (510 U.S. 7). He is the author of several books, including Wrightslaw: Special Education Law and From Emotions to Advocacy. Conference attendees will receive these books with registration.

**Both Conference are Sponsored by ProPARENTS, SC
Call Heather for more info or to register: 800-759-4776**

Behavior Analysis for Lasting Change With emphasis on home/school collaboration

Presented by Colleen Cornwall, MS, Nationally Board Certified Behavior Analyst and founder of Applied Behavioral Learning Enterprises

**September 3, 2008 - 8:00 AM Registration; Conference ends at 4.
Columbia Conference Center - 169 Laurelhurst Ave. - Columbia
Registration Fee: \$ 65.00
Register online at www.scautism.org or call 1-800-438-4790
Sponsored by the South Carolina Autism Society**

This workshop is designed to provide educators and parents with a thorough understanding of quality indicators in programs for children with autism and related disabilities. Ms Cornwall has been a classroom teacher working with students with disabilities varying from severe emotional disorders to mental handicaps. As the Lead Behavior Analyst for Collier County Public Schools she developed behavioral interventions for children served in all special education programs. As a national consultant, Colleen has assisted school districts and training facilities in developing group and individual behavior change programs, providing assessment, program development and consultations.



NOMINATE YOUR FAVORITE ADVOCATE FOR AN AWARD

Each year at our Annual Conference on Disabilities, the Advocacy Coalition for People with Disabilities awards outstanding advocates for their efforts on behalf of individuals with disabilities and their families. Nominations should fall within the following categories:

- Advocate of the Year - Recognition of significant efforts
- Teacher of the Year - General Ed or Special Ed teacher who's had an impact
- Tina Paul Advocacy Award - Recognizes advocacy over the long term
- Frances Roy Advocacy Award - Recognizes advocacy by an employee of the Disabilities

Board of Charleston County

- Parent Advocate of the Year - Outstanding advocacy by a parent of a child with a disability
- Self-Advocate of the Year - Outstanding advocacy by an individual who experiences a disabling condition

Please fax (266-1941); email (bevmccarty@frcdsn.org); or mail (FRC, 1575 Savannah Hwy, Ste 6, Charleston, SC 29407) your nominations. Deadline for accepting nominations is Sept 5th. Winners will be asked to attend the conference as our guest to receive their award; those who nominate the selected advocate are asked to attend the conference to present the award. If you need more information please contact Bev at 266-1318.



The Family Resource Center would like to thank the following for their recent contributions

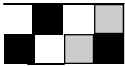
- The Charles Webb/Ed Croft Endowment Fund of the Coastal Community Foundation
- Triangle United Way, Raleigh, NC
- State Department of Education
- US Department of Education
- Advocacy Coalition for People with Disabilities
- Trio Solutions
- Denis Keyes, Ph.D.
- Joyce Nielsen
- Susan Tillman

OPENINGS ON THE FAMILY RESOURCE CENTER BOARD OF DIRECTORS

The Family Resource Center for Disabilities & Special Needs is recruiting members for their Board of Directors. Projects sponsored by the Family Resource Center include the Parent Training and Resource Center (PTRC). Members are selected from Berkeley, Dorchester, & Charleston Counties. Currently, only parents of children under the age of 25 with a disability are being considered. The Board meets five times per year and some committee work is expected. Meetings are held at the FRC office on Savannah Highway, usually around 6 PM. If you're interested, please contact Bev McCarty at 266-1318.

It's Not Too Late to Join Cheering Squad

Although the first day of practice has passed (Aug 7th) it's not too late to join the Special Olympics Cheer Squad. The Squad practices on Thursdays in Aug & Tuesdays and Thursdays starting in Sept. Practice is held at the Goose Creek Rec Center off Old Moncks Corner Road. Deadline to join is August 28th. Email Erica Dean at eadean@edisto.cofc.edu or call 873-2776 for details.



A GOOD SUPPORT SYSTEM CAN MAKE A DIFFERENCE - LOOK FOR SUPPORT FROM AMONG THESE AREA GROUPS:

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 Robert Durland at 270-5001 or Lee Anne Bellamy at 852-5550 ext. 11

HIPS (Head Injury Support Group for Survivors): meets the 3rd Tuesday of each month, from 1:00-2:30 PM at the HASCI Center, St. Andrews Shopping Center, Savannah Hwy, Charleston. Contact Lee Anne Bellamy at 852-5550 ext.11

Down Syndrome Association of the Low Country: sponsors four Information Programs and four Social Events each year - in addition to Mothers Night Out. For more information call 553-3725, check their website at www.dsalowcountry.org for a complete calendar of events or email Glenda Crain at crainclan@comcast.net

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

Autism Support Groups: 1st Monday of each month at Vickery'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. at Carolina Children's Charities office at 6296 Rivers Ave. Suite 300. Contact Kelly Herrick at 863-1445 for information regarding meeting changes 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

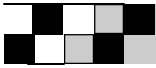
The Palmetto Autism Spectrum Support Group meets at Palmetto Behavioral Health at 2750 Speissegger Drive suite 106 in North Charleston. The group is geared to the needs of children with high functioning autism or Aspergers although no one is turned away. The meetings are the third Wednesday of each month from 6-8PM. For additional information contact Elizabeth Thames (pronounced Tims) at 571-6301 or email her at elthames@comcast.net

Epilepsy Support Group - For individuals with epilepsy, caregivers/spouses, and volunteers. MUSC Harper Student Center. (843) 953-5720, www.epilepsyfoundation.org/local/socarolina.

The disAbility Resource Center support group meets the fourth Monday of each month from 5:30-6:45PM. Call 225-5080 for more information. Check out page 9 for more details.

The Tri County Support Group for Children & Teens (and their parents) with Diabetes now meets the second Monday of every other month (call to confirm meeting cycle) from 6:30-8:00 PM at Healthfinders, Northwoods Mall, N. Chas. Contact Melanie Robinson at 792-3561 or 1-800-305-4173 for more information.

Trident Spinal Cord Injury Peer Support Group: This group is open to any person with a spinal cord injury or other mobility difficulties. The meetings provide a forum for the members to discuss problems and receive immediate feedback. Some members use the meetings to brainstorm with



Support Groups Continued

peers possible solutions to ongoing problems. In addition, the group provides members with social opportunities to develop a social network. Meetings are held on the second Tuesday evening of every other month (6:00-7:30 PM). Next meeting dates are: Sept. 9; Nov. 11; & Dec 9 (Holiday party). All meetings are held at the HealthSouth Rehabilitation Hospital – 9181 Medcom Street, North Charleston, SC 29406 (Located off Hwy. 78, across from Charleston Southern University).

Turner Syndrome Society Support Group: The Palmetto Chapter of the Turner Syndrome Society of the United States is back! To learn more, please contact Robin Butler at (843) 252-9622 or e-mail auntrobin74@yahoo.com. You may also contact Cheryl Dashnaw at (843) 327-6769 or e-mail at minibotl@sc.rr.com for more information.

Grief Support Group for Children - Bereavement group for children ages 8-12 (1 group) and 13-15 (2nd group) sponsored by Heartland Hospice, 1064 Gardner Rd, Suite 204, West Ashley, Charleston. For more information contact Kathy Stringer at 513-3623.

Sickle Cell Sisters (for teenage girls with sickle cell disease)

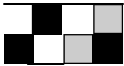
Sickle Cell Sisters is a therapeutic support group for teenage girls between the ages of 13 and 18. The group meets every other month at MUSC Children's Hospital and focuses on psychosocial aspects of living with sickle cell disease. For more information about this group contact Christine Campbell Marcoux (843) 792-4152 or Jennifer Redfern (843) 792-2466

Can-Teen (for teenagers with cancer) Can-Teen is a support group for adolescents with cancer. Can-teen provides opportunities for teens to meet their peers, have fun, offer resources and promote well-being and leadership. Can-Teen was created to bring teenagers with cancer together so they can share experiences, help those that are newly diagnosed and to build friendships. This group meets the 3rd Wed of each month. Please call for meeting time and/or more information, call Michelle Vandermaas at (843)792-1380 or Christine Campbell at (843) 792-4152 or visit the Can-Teen Web site at www.can-teen.net.

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. Another location meets on the fourth Monday of each month at the Institute of Psychiatry, 67 President Street, 5th floor, North Tower classroom 526. Free parking is available for this group in Visitor Lot G and doughty street Garage. The support group sessions often are followed by an educational program. For more information Call NAMI at 727-6405 or visit www.namicharlestonarea.org.

Faith and Light Community is a spiritual organization for persons with mental disabilities, their families and caregivers. Faith and Light is centered in the Catholic tradition but is open to people of all faiths. Its purpose is to recognize the unique gifts of the mentally disabled and to provide them a place of prayer, sharing, support and celebration. We will meet at St. Theresa's Catholic Church, 11001 Dorchester Road., Summerville, SC 29485. For more information, please contact Msgr. Edward Lofton at 875-5002

We make every effort to keep this list updated.
Please contact 266-1318 to make corrections or additions to this listing



FAMILY CONNECTION ACTIVITIES FOR PARENTS & KIDS

FEST: Fun, Education and Support Together

FEST is a monthly arts, recreation and education program for families with children with special needs. FEST is held at Mt. Moriah Missionary Baptist Church, 7396 Rivers Ave. N., N. Chas. Each month families will participate in fun, interactive activities like Yoga, Martial Arts, Dance, Music, Arts, & Crafts. After enjoying the activity together, parents attend a workshop while children continue the activity with trained professionals. Lastly, the family comes together again for a snack and to mingle with other families.

On Saturday, Aug. 23, Liz Johnson, Dietician will speak about "Keeping Your Child & Yourself Healthy; the kids will be entertained by David Parker, a children's magician.

September 27 at 10:00, Susan Clark will give a talk on Bullying: Protecting Your Child. For kids there will be pet therapy & story time with K-9 Care Unit for Kids. Therapy dogs will be on site.

Registration is required. For more information and to register please call Meagan at 843-556-5010.

Kid Connection Is Coming

Saturday, September 20 - 1pm-4pm at the St. Andrews Public Library in West Ashley
(the Library is located on Woodmere Drive, off Sam Rittenberg,
next to Subway and Village Square Apartments)

Especially for siblings of kids with special needs, Kid Connection is a safe place to talk and share your feelings. A trained facilitator will lead children in a workshop to explore their feelings and learn how to handle situations that may arise having a family member with special health care needs. The children play games, do arts and crafts, and have a great time! The event is free but registration is required, so call Meagan at 556-5010.

LET' GO FISHING!

What: Fishing, nature hikes, refreshments, arts & crafts, and more

When: Saturday morning, October 25.

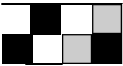
Where: Sewee Environmental Education Center, 5821 Hwy. 17 North, Awendaw, 29429.
About 13 miles north of IOP Connector

Join in Family Connection's Second Annual Fishing Rodeo for families of children with disabilities and special needs. Don't miss this SUPER FUN event! Remember to register; call 556-5010

Need A Break?

How about three hours of time to yourself or spouse or friend? Sound like a dream come true?
COME ON OUT TO A FAMILY CONNECTION RESPITE NIGHT!

Respite Nights are the last Friday and Saturday of each month. Friday nights are held at Mt. Moriah Missionary Baptist Church in N. Charleston and Saturday nights at Charleston Harbor Bible Church in West Ashley. Your children will spend time with trained volunteers, skilled caregivers and other children having story time, music time, crafts and a movie and you get to RELAX! You MUST register, so please call Meagan at 556-5010 for details.



Support Group Information
Continued from Page 7:

A new Support Group for Adults (18 and up) with disabilities is being held at Trident Health Finders at Northwoods Mall, 2150 Northwoods Blvd, N. Chas. The group meets the 4th Monday of each month from 5:30PM-6:45PM. Refreshments are served, and you're also welcome to bring a snack or dish to share. For more information or if you need special accommodations, please call Maria Saxon (225-5080 Ext. 16) or email: saxonm@drcilc.org at the disAbility Resource Center.

PLEASE NOTE - THE FOLLOWING SUPPORT GROUPS ARE NO LONGER MEETING:

The Coastal Autism Division Support Group for parents of children with new diagnosis

Heart to Heart

The Circle of Friends Community Choir

Tourette's Syndrome Support Group

Low Country Polio Survivors Network

The Parent/Family Support Group led by Dr. Jennifer Gans

**Special Olympics'
Special Athletes**

Paul Nimmach, a Special Olympics athlete from James Island, has been chosen as one of several Special Olympics athletes from across the country to appear in an upcoming Coca-Cola commercial. The ad will run through the 2008 Olympics in Beijing, Paul was selected from miles of video footage of Special Olympic events. The photo that will be used is from the 2006 National Games where Paul participated in tennis.

Katie Smith, from Charleston County, will compete in the Alpine skiing event at the 2009 World Winter Games in Boise, Idaho on Feb. 6-13. Katie qualified for her event at Southeast regional competition in Boone, North Carolina last year. She will join 3,000 athletes from eighty-five countries who will compete in seven different sports categories at the World Games. Congrats to Katie and Good Luck!!

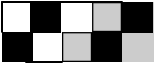
**LAST CHANCE THIS YEAR TO
APPLY FOR PEER PARENT
MENTOR POSITIONS**

Due to schedule changes, there is still time to apply for work as a Peer Parent Mentor with the Parent Training and Resource Center (PTRC). Mentors are parents, or close family members, of children with disabilities who have received education in the public school system. Mentors are engaged as consultants, provided with extensive training and support, compensated for their time and reimbursed for travel. The position requires good communication skills and professional demeanor. Peer Parent Mentors should have experience as active participants in their own child's IEP process and understand the fundamentals of IDEA and special education delivery. Mandatory training for Peer Parent Mentors will be held on Sept 4 & 5 by invitation only. Mentors must be available to attend day-time IEP meetings and have reliable transportation. Deadline for application is Aug 30. For more information please contact Bev McCarty at 266-1318 or by email: bevmccarty@frcdsn.org

**SOUTH CAROLINA AUTISM
SOCIETY (SCAS) NOW OFFERS
SERVICE COORDINATION
IN CHARLESTON
(& SURROUNDING) AREA**

The South Carolina Autism Society (SCAS) is a non-profit organization advocating for individuals with autism and their families. SCAS has offered programs of information, referral and advocacy for over 35 years. They are expanding now, opening a Charleston office and offering Service Coordination. For more information call Nita Toler at 870-1650 or visit their website: www.scautism.org

DisabilityInfo.gov is the federal government's one-stop website for people with disabilities (including veterans), their families, employers, veterans, workforce professionals & others.



“There for You!!” - 11th Conference on Disabilities and Special Needs
Conference Registration

Send to: FRC - 1575 Savannah Hwy, Ste. 6 - Charleston, SC 29407

Make checks payable to: Family Resource Center

Advance registration is recommended to guarantee lunch.

Name: (Please Print) _____

Address: _____ ZIP _____

Phone (Day) _____ Please add my name to your 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 names: _____

_____ *Please consider my request for hardship waiver (we will contact you)*

If special accommodations are needed to attend the conference please contact 266-1318 as soon as possible. We regret we will not be able to offer childcare or CEUs.

If you are a Parent/Guardian of a child with a disability please help us provide necessary information to our funders by answering these questions:

Age of Child: _____ Race: _____ Disability: _____ Grade in School: _____

School Placement (i.e.: self-contained, resource, homebound, etc): _____

Family Resource Center for Disabilities and Special Needs
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Charleston, South Carolina 29407
Phone: 843-266-1318
www.frcdsn.org

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