



www.familysupportctc.org

FSC/TC NEWSFLASH – NOVEMBER 2011

The next **Family Support Council** meeting will be on **Friday, November 11th at 11:30 AM** at Resource Connection Welcome Center Boardroom, 1100 Circle Drive, Fort Worth, TX 76119. Please RSVP for lunch to kimberly.gilchrist@mhmrtc.org no later than Wednesday, **November 9**.

Watch this space for the date announcement of the upcoming Transition & Disability Resource Expo – we expect to name a date and location in December! Visit <http://www.familysupportctc.org> for more information!



The next meeting of **The Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities Needs Council of Tarrant County** will be on **Thursday, November 3rd** from 8:30 AM to 10:00 AM at Easter Seals, 1424 Hemphill St., Ft. Worth, TX. For more information on the IDD Needs Council, call Beth Cain (817/877-1474) or email

beth.cain@iddcounciltc.org

The Arc of Texas presents PATH facilitator training on November 3 & 4 at Austin Avenue United Methodist Church, 1300 Austin Avenue, Waco, TX 76701. PATH (Planning Alternative Tomorrows with Hope) is a powerful future-planning tool. It helps to identify what a person wants in their future with step-by-step strategies to work toward that future. PATH also establishes a built-in support network to help accomplish goals. For more information, please visit The Arc of Texas.



Cook Children's Medical Center presents **Power Up!**, a workshop focusing on early intervention strategies and techniques for children with hearing loss and their families on **November 4 – 5** at Cook Children's Medical Center. For more information and scholarship requirements for family members, visit the web page at Cook Children's.

3rd Annual Cowtown Stand Down for Fort Worth, Wednesday, **November 16, 2011**, 9:00 am – 3:00 pm, Resource Connection Gym, 2300 Circle Dr., Fort Worth, TX 76116, Click [here](#) for details

Medicare Open Enrollment Events, October 15th - December 7, 2011, Various locations, click [here](#) for details

The Art of Caregiving at Moncrief Cancer Institute, 2nd Saturday of each month, 9:30 am - 11:00 am Moncrief Cancer Institute, 1701 River Run, Ste. 500, Fort Worth, TX, click [here](#) for details

Financial Education Classes, sponsored by Catholic Charities Diocese of Fort Worth, Inc. Various dates, times & locations. click [here](#) for details

Fort Worth Mayor's Committee on Persons with Disabilities Seeks Applicants for Appointment click [here](#) for details

The **ADRC of Tarrant County** helps people who are aging or have a disability, their families and caregivers, in understanding their options and successfully connecting with the services and supports they need. **Call the ADRC of Tarrant County at 1-888-730-ADRC (2372) or visit <http://tarrantcountyardrc.org/>.**

Learn from Home: Long Distance Caregiving – [Housing Options for Older Adults](#): Learn to identify the need for intervention, and how to identify the appropriate intervention, to make the right housing choice & talk to your loved one about making a change.



Family Caregivers
Education and Resources



Rise Adventures Now that the summer is over, the way to get involved weekly with RISE is to go to Georgia Farrow Recreation Center, 530 Davis Street, Irving, TX 75060, every Friday night 6-9 for Quad Rugby. Even if you don't want or can't play it's a great place to socialize. For more information, visit Rise at <http://www.riseadventures.org/>

Cal Farley's Family Resource Center invites you to a presentation: **Top Ten Basics of Special Education** - Bring all your special education questions! Presented by Stormy Lovett, PATH Regional Coordinator on **November 5, 2011** from **10:15 A.M. to 12:30 P.M.** at Arlington Northeast Branch Public Library, 1905 Brown Blvd., Arlington, TX 76006, 817-277-5573.



Don't forget to turn your clocks back on SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 6th at 2 AM!



Our Special Children



Families Helping Families

Education and support groups for people parenting or caring for a person with a developmental disability.

PARENTS ON CALL

Parents on call are volunteer parents who provide support and information to other parents of children with special needs or disabilities. Deneesa Rasmussen 361-389-5126 Denise Gasmire 817-481-9700 Mary May 817-547-5715 Emma Ramirez-Bell 817-265-6009



OUR SPECIAL CHILDREN

Saturday, November 12th , 2011

9:30am till 12noon

1051 HASKELL STREET, SUITE 106

FORT WORTH, TEXAS 76107

Dynavox Communication Devices, Speech Therapy, and Durable Medical Equipment

Ms. Amy Kelley, Pediatric AAC Consultant—Dynavox Mayer-Johnson

Ms. Carol Kretchman, M.S., CCC/SLP—Speech Therapist

Mr. Eddie Waymire, Equipment Specialist—Texas DME

This month at Our Special Children, we will feature a panel presentation about the Dynavox communication device, a speech pathologist discussing the role a speech therapist plays in the treatment of a child with a speech delay, and an overview by the staff of Texas DME about the latest examples of durable medical equipment. The Arc of GTC has recently had a Dynavox communication device donated and it will be a part of our library. This way, families might be able to visit our office and determine whether this communication tool could benefit their child. Ms. Amy Kelley will be here representing Dynavox and demonstrating all their features and benefits. She will be able to discuss prices, insurance coverage and potential sources of funding. This is your opportunity to learn about this amazing communication device.

Ms. Carol Kretchman will be speaking about her work as a speech therapist. We will hear all about how children get diagnosed with speech problems, what can be done about it, how speech therapy can be effective in the treatment of these children, and what are some of the communication devices that parents can count on to assist the children. Are speech delays permanent or can they be corrected? Bring your own questions and issues for the speech pathologist. Finally, we are glad to have the people at Texas DME come and share information about all of the adaptive equipment they provide our families. Many of us get our children's wheelchairs and other equipment through Texas DME. But did you know that they also handle medical supplies ? Many of us receive monthly shipments of undergarments and other supplies (funded through Medicaid) from Texas DME. We look forward to a very informative and interesting presentation by these three providers.

Information concerning children and youth: Deneesa Rasmussen (361) 389-5126 or Philip Bell (817) 877-1474 - deneesar@yahoo.com philip.bell@arcgctc.org



Arlington Housing Authority Announces the OPENING OF WAITING LIST FOR THE HOUSING CHOICE VOUCHER PROGRAM

The Online Application will be available beginning at 8:00am on **November 1, 2011**. Applicants can apply online at www.arlingtonhousing.us. Persons with disabilities or those requiring assistance to complete the application, may apply via computer in AHA's office located at 501 W. Sanford Suite 20 Arlington TX 76011, between the hours of 8:00am -5:00pm M, W-F and Tuesday 8:00 am -7:00pm. **QUESTIONS?** Shaylon Scott, Human Services Specialist Arlington Housing Authority shaylon.scott@arlingtonhousing.us 817-276-6705 Fax: 682-367-1025 www.arlingtonhousing.us



FEAT-NT is hosting a workshop: **Addressing Social, Flexible Thinking & Executive Functioning Skills in Children with Autism** on November 16th from 10 AM – 1 PM at the FEAT-NT Resource Center and Library, 7286 Glenview Dr, Richland Hills, TX 76180.

Registration is open now. Call Melinda or Lori at 682-626-5000 or email events@featnt.org for more information. A favorite topic at our 2011 Teaching Does Make a Difference Conference, we are happy to offer for parents and professionals: Addressing Social, Flexible Thinking & Executive Functioning Skills in Children with Autism, presented by Regina Crone, PhD, BCBA-D and Jenny R. Keese, M.Ed., BCBA, Teach Me LLC. . There is a fee for this presentation. Seating is limited, to secure your spot please mail your payment of \$25.00 to: FEAT-NT, P.O. Box 92123, Southlake, TX 76092.

Fort Worth ISD presents **Celebrating Our Students Abilities** on Tuesday, **November 8th**, from 5:30 PM – 7:30 PM at The International Newcomer Academy, 7060 Camp Bowie Blvd, Fort Worth, TX 76116. Parents will attend and interact in group workshops. Information will be provided regarding programs that impact students with diverse needs and disabilities. Register early to secure childcare and transportation by calling Patricia Benitez at 817-814-2848 or Monica Moreno (bilingual) at 817-814-2849. Dinner, transportation, childcare and translators provided.



Treehouse Thursdays - A Special Gathering for Special Parents Only: A support group in Azle, for parents of special needs children! Hosted by Rise for Special Children, www.riseforspecialchildren.com. Location: First Baptist Church of Azle, 1016 Boyd RD, Azle, TX 76020 Time: 6.30pm-8.00pm (Brown Bag

Dinner) For more information call Petra at 940-293-7388

The Arc of Northeast Tarrant County

1806 Haltom Road ▪ Haltom City, Texas 76117 ▪ 817-834-7700 ▪

www.arcnetc.org



THE Arc OF NORTHEAST TARRANT COUNTY ANNUAL MEETING & DINNER

Guest Speaker: Nancy Davenport, Author, Advocate and Mom

November 4, 2011 from 6:00 PM – 9:00 PM

First United Methodist Church of Hurst | 521 West Pipeline Road · Hurst, Texas 76053

For more information or to reserve your spot (required), visit: www.arcnetc.org.

FRIDAY WITH FRIENDS SOCIAL

A monthly social event for individuals who have a disability ages 14 and up.



The next Friday with Friends Social: Friday – November 18, 2011 7:00 – 9:00 | Join us for our November social, a Thanksgiving celebration. An evening filled with good food, friendship, and discussions that answer the question, “What are you thankful for?” RSVP’s are required. RSVP deadline: November 10th.

Turkey will be provided. Please contact Wendy to see what additional items are needed and to RSVP: wwarcnetc@gmail.com or (817) 834-7700.

FAMILY CONNECTIONS...

PARTNERSHIP IN EDUCATION, ADVOCACY, & SUPPORT (PEAS) MEETUP GROUP

Family Connections – PEAS (Partnership in Education, Advocacy and Support) is a cross-disability Meetup group for families of children, regardless of age who have a disability.

Mission: To create a network of support for families of children who experience life with a disability label.

The Family Connections PEAS Meetup group provides...

- Parent-to-parent support & networking
- Social opportunities
- Informational meetings

If you would like to join us, visit: <http://www.meetup.com/PEAS-ArcNETC/>.

This is a great way to connect with other families and resources in the D/FW area.



Better Together

THE Arc of NORTHEAST TARRANT COUNTY WEBSITE

The Arc of NETC website: www.arcnetc.org is designed to *inform, inspire, educate* and *provide resources* that promote community inclusion for all!



- Assistive Technology
- Funding Resources
- Guardianship & Alternatives
- Input Opportunities
- Person Directed Planning
- Self-Advocacy / Self-Determination
- Post Secondary Education
- Special Education and *more...*



**Partners Resource Network's
2011 Statewide Parent Conference
December 2 & 3, 2011
Hilton Austin Airport Hotel, Austin, TX**
Hosted by the PATH, PEN and TEAM Projects

You are cordially invited to

Partners Resource Network's
25th Anniversary Celebration and 2011 statewide conference

Beyond the ARD: Parents Engaged for Positive Change

- Take a look at the challenges facing families of children and young adults with disabilities that extend **beyond** the school day, **beyond** the school years. Topics will include such "gems" as:
*A Look Across the Parenting Life Span (An On the Job Training Experience),
Effective Advocacy and Leadership Skills,
Guardianship and Estate Planning,
Sexuality – A reality for persons with disabilities,
Person-Centered Planning,
State and Community Services and Resources,
Parents as Case Managers --Get Your Stuff Together,
Behavior Management,
Family Life -- What About the Rest of Us?, and
Life AFTER School or When the School Bus Doesn't Stop at Your House Any More.*
- Voice your opinions and concerns about the challenges your family faces. PRN will document the discussions and pass the information on to agencies, legislators, and others who can make a difference. After the conference, visit PRN's web-based information-sharing site for further discussions and follow-up.
- Join the celebration of PRN's 25th anniversary and look at how far we've come since 1986.
- Visit with exhibitors and parent organizations to learn about their products and services.
- Participate in the roll-out of PRN's biggest step into the media world – a parent-friendly DVD about IDEA's Procedural Safeguards! Everyone who provides feedback gets a free copy.
- Try your luck at winning a door prize, including BIG ones like DVD players, laptops, and software!

The cost to attend is \$140 registration (includes materials, 2 breakfasts, 2 lunches, and breaks). Hotel cost is \$99 per night plus tax. Registration forms are at www.partnerstx.org or call 1-800-866-4726. **A limited number of parent stipends are available (includes registration, hotel, travel and child care allowances.)** Stipend application forms are available at www.partnerstx.org or contact a PRN Regional Coordinator **no later than November 4th**.

Booz Allen Hamilton (BAH) is a place where diversity is truly a core value. As a leading strategy and technology consulting firm, BAH is celebrating National Disability Employment Awareness Month

Disability★Blog

A blog about the latest disability-related news, information & trends.

with a series of events sponsored by our diverseABILITY Forum, which engages, educates and advocates for employees with disabilities. The purpose of the diverseABILITY Forum is to increase awareness and understanding of disability-related issues and the contributions made by people with disabilities at our firm. While the forum proudly sponsored Disability Mentoring Day (DMD) in McLean, Virginia and San Diego, California with an interactive panel of employees with disabilities, the forum's true purpose is to advocate for a cooperative, accessible and supportive environment at BAH year-round. To read the complete article, visit [The Disability Blog](#).



Outbreaks caused by eating contaminated sprouts--

"sproutbreaks"--have occurred every year in the United States since at least 1995. These episodes have taught us

that sprouts are a risky food to eat. Sprouts were found to be the cause of a devastating outbreak of Shiga toxin-producing *E coli* infections in Europe this summer. Ultimately, this outbreak caused more than 4,000 illnesses, more than 900 cases of hemolytic uremic syndrome, and 50 deaths. Why are sprouts a risky food, you might ask? Some people think of them as the ultimate healthy food -- fresh and natural. In fact, raw sprouts can be anything but safe. Lessons from outbreaks have taught us that it is a good idea for people who want to lower their risk for food poisoning to cook raw sprouts or avoid eating them raw. Read more at [FoodSafety.gov](#).

DARS Commissioner Debra Wanser has announced that DARS is beginning a year-long effort to increase awareness of



TEXAS

Department of Assistive and Rehabilitative Services

disabilities and encourage understanding of the disability rights movement. The agency's initiative supports the newly designated Persons with Disabilities History and Awareness Month (October), which the 82nd Texas Legislature created in House Bill 3616. The DARS Web site [Disabilities History and Awareness page](#) will feature regularly updated information about a variety of disability issues, a historical overview of how people with disabilities have achieved independence and equality, and a calendar of disability events around the state and other observances. Every month, we will turn our attention to a different disability and the programs the agency provides to help Texans with that disability. DARS is committed to providing quality services to people with disabilities and families with children who have developmental delays. We invite you to join us in celebrating their accomplishments and successes throughout the coming year. Visit [The Department of Assistive and Rehabilitative Services](#) for more information.





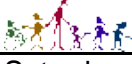



U.S. Department of Health & Human Services

HHS.gov

Flu Vaccine Finder: It's flu season and time to get vaccinated. Now it's even easier. Just enter your zip code in the Flu Vaccine Finder to find locations near

your home. The CDC recommends that everyone six months of age or older get vaccinated against the flu. Learn more at <http://www.flu.gov/>.

COMING UP IN NOVEMBER...

DATE		TIME	ACTIVITY & LOCATION
Saturday 	Nov 5 Drop off your Food Drive Items	10:00am – 12:00pm	SNAP – Helping Hands Food Drive North Texas SNAP, Inc. Helping Hands Food Drive Drop Off Date: Saturday, Nov. 5th, 10:00 am – Noon Location: SNAP Office, 901 Clinic Dr, Euless, TX 76039 (Non-perishable food only or cash donations to be used to purchase food.)
Sunday	Nov 6	Time Change	Daylight Savings Time "Fall Back" November 6, 2011 at 2:00am is the time to set clocks back one hour.
Monday 	Nov 7 Drop off your Food Drive Items	6:30pm – 8:30pm	SNAP J.O.B.S. (Just Our Business Support) Club JOBS Club is for SNAP members interested in being the best employee they can be! Both those currently employed and those desiring employment are welcome. Small Conference Room & SNAP Board Room 901 Clinic Dr, Euless, TX 76039 Contact Paula Baker C 817-832-6683 Prbaker56@aol.com
Tuesday 	Nov 8	5:45pm – 8:00pm	SNAP Bowling AMF Hurst Lanes 720 W. Pipeline Road, Hurst, TX 76053 Cost is \$2.00 with your SNAP membership card and \$3.00 without. If you have not received your card yet, you can pick it up that night or you can buy one for \$2.00 that night. RSVP to Ms. Linda Gardner by Monday E linda1960@verizon.net
Sunday 	Nov 13	TBA	SNAP Movie – TBA Tinseltown Movies 911 W Highway 114, Grapevine, TX 76051 (Hwy 114 @ Wm D. Tate) RSVP to Regina Kropf by Friday Morning Contact: Regina Kropf 817-946-4109 Regk25@aol.com
Monday Creative Life Coaching Monday Night Workshop	Nov 14	6:30pm – 8:30pm	Creative Life Coaching – Monday Night Workshop - Honest talk about Guy/Girl Relationships SNAP Board Room 901 Clinic Dr, Euless, TX 76039 Registration fee: \$25 per person at the door. Contact Paula Baker by Wednesday, Nov 9th C 817-832-6683, E Prbaker56@aol.com www.specialneedslifecoaching.com
Tuesday 	Nov 15	2:00pm	SNAP Member Recruitment Committee Meeting SNAP Board Room 901 Clinic Dr, Euless, TX 76039
Saturday  	Nov 19	TBA	SNAP Girls Night Out Ladies and SNAP Men's Club will be assisting with North Texas SNAP, Inc. Helping Hands Food Drive Ask for food donations from family & friends! SNAP Men's Club will be providing TURKEYS to add to each family's food gift box! On Saturday, Nov. 19th we will be assembling and delivering our food gift boxes. (If you can help with finding medium-size boxes let us know.) Contact Paula Baker C 817-832-6683 E Prbaker56@aol.com
Thursday	Nov 24		Thanksgiving Day
Monday 	Nov 28	6:30pm – 8:30pm	SNAP Girls Night Out – with Shirley Knudson and Paula Baker TBA RSVP to Shirley Knudson Contact: Shirley Knudson 817-688-5552 shirley.knudson@charter.net



**OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR
RICK PERRY**

The Governor's Committee on People with Disabilities has announced the winners of the 2011 Lex Frieden Employment Awards, which recognize employers who go above and beyond the legal

requirements in hiring, training and maintaining positive working relationships with employees with disabilities. To see the nominees, visit [The Office of the Governor](#).

Action Parent: Creating Your Own IEP ~ Being an ACTION Parent is being an effective advocate for your child. What goals and objectives do YOU need to work on and master? What accommodations and modifications do YOU need to be successful? This is a "get real" session! Make a difference in your child's life: become an ACTION PARENT! This workshop is scheduled for **November 28th** from 9 AM – 10:30 AM at Easter Seals, 1424 Hemphill, Fort Worth, TX. For more information, contact Stormy Lovett at prnstormy@hotmail.com

New Medicaid Resource Available from The Arc



The Arc is excited to announce a valuable new resource available at www.thearc.org to help guide people with intellectual and developmental disabilities and their families through the complexities of Medicaid benefits, services and supports. [The Medicaid Reference Desk](#) offers detailed, state-by-state information about Medicaid benefits, a glossary of terms, answers to frequently asked questions, person-centered planning resources and a blog from The Arc's training specialist about issues related to Medicaid, self-advocacy and person-centered planning.

Medicaid is the largest source of financing for disabilities services in the United States. For people with disabilities and for those who provide their care, Medicaid serves as a valuable safety net. Often the only source of financial assistance for health care, Medicaid plays a critical role for people with disabilities in providing coverage and access to care. Medicaid is, however, extremely complicated. At least half of the funds for Medicaid programs come from the Federal government with the remainder coming from state funds. Federal law contains detailed requirements and limitations on eligibility, services, and financing. But, state law varies widely.

This project was made possible by a grant from the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Administration on Developmental Disabilities (Grant No. 90 DN0215). We encourage you to explore the Medicaid Reference Desk via the Resources section of www.thearc.org or www.thedesk.info.

If you are not receiving this newsletter through e-mail, please send us your FULL NAME as it appears on the mailing label and e-mail address to kimberly.gilchrist@mhmrtc.org with "Requesting FCS NewsFlash" in the subject line. This will help us cut our postage costs. Thanks!!!!!!!!!!!! The NEWSFLASH is brought to you by the Family Support Council & MHMRTC, MR/IDD Services. Your help in alerting us to community information is greatly appreciated. Please forward to Kim Gilchrist @ kimberly.gilchrist@mhmrtc.org or call 817-569-5491. If you have received this mailing and would prefer not to be on our e-mailing list, please send back a reply with REMOVE in the subject line. Para mas informacion en espanol, por favor llamar a Ruth Valdez al (817) 569-4014.