



ARConnections is mailed directly to 2,000+ individuals and made available to many more who receive it through our partner organizations. Posting your group or event in ARConnections allows you to reach thousands of individuals and families throughout Chester County.

To receive this information monthly by e-mail send your e-mail address to:
info@arcofchestercounty.org

JUNE 2010
Local Conferences/Workshops, "Activities for Children and Teens,"
Support/Advocacy Groups and Resources

Programs at or Sponsored by The Arc of Chester County

6/10/10 – 10:00am-12:00pm

INCLUSION: WHAT DOES IT MEAN, WHAT DOES IT LOOK LIKE WHEN IT'S WORKING AND HOW TO MAKE IT WORK! Sponsored by the Chester County Right to Education Task Force, The Arc and The CCIU. All interested individuals welcome! There will be time set aside for questions. Also, come meet the LTF's new co-chairs. Held at CCIU, 455 Boot Rd, Downingtown. REGISTER: Call Connie 610-696-8090 x348 or email: cmohn@arcofchestercounty.org.

6/13/10-11:00am-2:00pm

The Arc's SEVENTH ANNUAL PICNIC 2010 with the 2nd Annual S.O.S. Walk (11am). Lunch buffet, games w/prizes, pony rides, **The PHILLY Phanatic!!!!**, Moon Bounce, Face Painting, Clowns, Music, Bingo, etc. Fun and food for all!! \$30 for immediate family or \$15 per person. Public Welcome! Held at the West Goshen Community Park. RSVP: Stephanie Cory: 610-696-8090, scory@arcofchestercounty.org.

TBA – Fall Start Date

NATIONAL SPECIAL EDUCATION ADVOCACY TRAININGS – Developed and presented by: Dr. Marie Lewis, RN, PhD. Seminars can be taken individually or as a series for the BCEA - Board Certified Educational Advocate designation. Location: TBA. Comprehensive Course outline is posted at: www.autismnationalresources.org. Act 48 credits offered.

LOCAL CONFERENCES/WORKSHOPS

Now through 9/30/10 – 6:00pm-9:00pm

ESL, ABE, GED, and COMPUTER LITERACY CLASSES. Offered by PathStone Corp of Kennett Square. Free. Mon thru Thurs. for income eligible students. Regis: 610-925-5600, nsotoramirez@pathstone.org.

6/1/10-6/4/10

MOVING EMPLOYMENT FORWARD: BUILDING EMPLOYER RELATIONSHIPS. A Penna. Employment Conference for People with Disabilities. The 11th Employment Supports Symposium hosted by Networks for Training and Development, Inc. Info/regis: Doris Kalina, 610-935-6624, 215-546-4111, registrar@networksfortraining.org.

6/3/10-9:00am-3:00pm

FINAL MEETING OF THE GASKIN ADVISORY PANEL ON THE LEAST RESTRICTIVE ENVIRONMENT (LRE). Presentation and discussion of the panel's final report of progress made under the Settlement Agreement. There will be opportunity for public comment. To read more about the Panel and Settlement Agreement: <http://disabilities.temple.edu/programs/lre/> Info: Dr. Martin Elks, Chair: MartinElks@aol.com.

6/4/10 thru 7/16/10 – 6:30pm – 8:30pm

PARENT-TO-PARENT – An intensive 8 week interactive course covering research based treatments for the education and parenting of children and adolescents with ADHD. Held at Church in the Vineyard, West Grove. Fee: \$105. Deadline: 6/1/10. Info/Regis: Marisaburton@comcast.net, 610-563-5035.

6/5/10-10:00am-12:00pm

Annual Accessible Nature Hike around French Creek State Park, 1 mile hike. Enjoy the scenery of Hopewell Lake and a guided nature tour. Meet at the playground behind French Creek State Park main Office. Bring water, snack, binoculars. Families welcome. Accessible restrooms. Dress accordingly. Info: Phil McGrath, 610-582-9669, pmcgrath@state.pa.us.

6/6/10-11:00am-5:00pm

SUPER SUNDAY on Gay Street in West Chester, rides, antique cars, crafts, music, food, etc. Info: www.westchester.com/events.php, 610-436-9010.

6/10/10 – 10:00am-12:00pm

INCLUSION: WHAT DOES IT MEAN, WHAT DOES IT LOOK LIKE WHEN IT'S WORKING AND HOW TO MAKE IT WORK! Sponsored by the Chester County Right to Education Task Force. All interested individuals welcome. There will be time set aside for questions. Also, come meet the LTF's new co-chairs. Held at CCIU, 455 Boot Rd, Downingtown. REGISTER: Call Connie 610-696-8090 x348 or email: cmohn@arcofchestercounty.org.

6/10/10 – 9:30am -12:00pm

CHESTER COUNTY PARENTS' RESILIENCY BRUNCH featuring Shawn Banks, Comedian. TOPIC: 10 WAYS TO BUILD RESILIENCE. Held at The Inn at Chester Springs, 815 Pottstown Pike, Exton, PA Free transportation from Coatesville and Downingtown. Sponsored by Child and Family Focus, Inc, 610-925-4683, hpierson@childandfamilyfocus.org.

6/13/10-11:00am-2:00pm

The Arc's SEVENTH ANNUAL PICNIC 2010 with the 2nd Annual S.O.S. Walk (11am-Registration Form on Website). Lunch buffet, games w/prizes, pony rides, **The PHILLIE Phanatic!!!!**, Moon Bounce, Face Painting, Clowns, Music, Bingo, etc. Fun and food for all!! \$30 for immediate family or \$15 per person. Public Welcome! Held at the West Goshen Community Park. RSVP by June 7th: Cathy Binz: 610-696-8090, cbinz@arcofchestercounty.org.

6/17/10

3rd ANNUAL CONFERENCE: IMPROVING LIFE AT HOME AND SCHOOL. Keynotes: Mark Durand, PhD – **Optimistic Parenting: Hope and Help for the Challenging Child** and Dennis Reid, PhD, BCBA – **Evidence Based Ways for Working with Staff to Promote Independence and Enjoyment among Individuals with Autism.** At Desmond Hotel & Conference Ctr in Malvern. Sponsored by Melmark. Resources. Info: Michael Donovan 610-325-4740, michaeldonovan@melmark.org. Regis: <http://www.melmarkcontinuingeducation.org/register.php>.

6/19/10- 8:00am-6:00pm

ACHIEVING PARADISE – CHANGES IN ADVOCACY. Speaking for Ourselves 2010 Annual Statewide Conference. Keynote Sessions with Rachel Simon. Song Time with singer/songwriter Karl Williams. Open mic. 8 new workshops. Resources. Dance Party. Held at the Sheraton Harrisburg-Hershey, Harrisburg. Info/regis: 800-867-3330, kara@kdmgt.com.

6/19/10

PARENTS NIGHT OUT. June 19th Parents Night Out! Volunteers needed. No PNO in July. Info/ regis: autismallianceofchestercounty.org

6/22/10 12:00pm-4:00pm

AUTISM: ABA AND INCLUSION, NOT MUTUALLY EXCLUSIVE. The school's responsibility to provide peer-reviewed, research-based programs including ABA and inclusion and how children with autism can benefit from both. \$100 for parents. Provided by the Public Interest Law Center. Info/regis: <http://pilcoptraining1.eventbrite.com/>

6/28/10 – 7/2/10 – 8:30am-4:30pm

EVIDENCE BASED INSTRUCTION FOR ADOLESCENTS WITH LEARNING DISABILITIES at The Conference Center at Penn State Great Valley School of Graduate Professional Studies in Malvern, Pa. Instructional techniques used in reg and sp ed classrooms, including content enhancements and learning strategies. Regis: 610-648-3275, <http://www.sgps.psu.edu/summer2010course/default.ashx?linkidentifier=id&itemid=4066>.

6/30/10 to 7/3/10

2010 NAMI NATIONAL CONVENTION: Celebrating the 4th in Our Nation's Capitol. Held at the Washington Hilton, Washington, DC. Specials Session w/ Ross Greene, PhD, author of "The Explosive Child," Improving Outcomes, Building an Effective Children's MH System in Your Community, Social Networking, Implementing CIT Programs for Schools, etc. Info/Regis: www.nami.org/convention.

7/14/10 to 7/18/10

2010 TRAINING INSTITUTE: EFFECTIVE PRACTICE AND PERFORMANCE FOR CHILDREN AND YOUTH WITH MH CHALLENGES AND THEIR FAMILIES. Held in Washington, DC. Info/Regis: <http://rucchd.georgetown.edu>.

7/19/10 – 7/22/20 AND 7/26/10-7/29/10 – Mon thru Thurs. 10:00 am to 12:00 pm

IS YOUR STUDENT WITH ASPERGER SYNDROME READY FOR COLLEGE?? Can he/she self advocate? Does he/she know what services and supports are available, know how to deal with a roommate, have sensory issues, be able to take notes, communicate with professors, etc.? Designed for high school students planning to go to college. Guest speaker, Scott Robertson. Held at Acting Antics Art Center, Glenmoore. Includes test. \$450. Info/regis: Cindy Schneider cindy@actingantics.org or 610-913-6018.

7/21/10 to 7/23/10

NINTH ANNUAL PA COMMUNITY ON TRANSITION CONFERENCE: "EMPOWERMENT IN ACTION: A UNIFIED APPROACH." Held at Penn State Conference Center and Hotel, State College. Conference fee: \$125 with scholarships for families and individuals. Info/Regis: www.pattan.net.

8/2/10 thru 8/6/10

2010 NATIONAL AUTISM CONFERENCE: PROGRESS THROUGH PARTNERSHIP at the Penn Stater Conference Center Hotel, State College, Pa. Info: Katie Frieden, 814-863-5100; Info re: program content: Jill Detwiler, Pattan, 717-541-4960, jdetwiler@pattan.net, Brochure: www.pattan.net.

8/17/10

BACK TO SCHOOL WITH THE PUBLIC INTEREST LAW CENTER: IEP TIPS AND TRICKS. Two-part seminar. Explains ESY and Tips and Tricks to ensure your child's IEP meets his/her unique needs. Provided by the Public Interest Law Center. Info/regis: <http://pilcoptraining2.eventbrite.com/>

TBA – Fall Start Date

NATIONAL SPECIAL EDUCATION ADVOCACY TRAININGS – Developed and presented by: Dr. Marie Lewis, RN, PhD. Seminars can be taken individually or as a series for the BCEA - Board Certified Educational Advocate designation. Location: TBA. Comprehensive Course outline is posted at: www.autismnationalresources.org. Act 48 credits offered.

CCIU COURSES: <http://www.cciu.org> and click “courses.”

PATTAN TRAININGS: <http://www.pattan.net/profdev/trainingcalendar.aspx>

ASCEND EVENTS: <http://www.ascendgroup.org/>

ADHD CHADD ONLINE PARENT TRAINING CONFERENCES:

http://www.chadd.org/Content/CHADD/Conferences_Training/ParenttoParentProgram/Online_Parent_to_Parent_Class/default.htm

CHADD AD/HD TRAININGS – Local: <http://www.chadd.org/222>

NAMI MH EVENTS: <http://namipa.nami.org/programsindex.htm>

DPW ODP (Office of Developmental Programs) (ex. PUNS, Consolidated Waiver, IFSP, etc):

<http://www.odpconsulting.net/>

Web Casts: http://www.odpconsulting.net/index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=163&Itemid=223

ACTIVITIES & SUPPORTS FOR CHILDREN AND TEENS

ACADEMIC SUPPORT ON THE WEB (replace the game boys and ds):

www.softschools.com: online work and worksheets, Pre K to Middle School.

www.onlinemathlearning.com: worksheets with concepts and explanations.

www.hawaii.edu/suremath: chemistry, physics, and algebra.

www.starfall.com: EXCELLENT website for young (up to 4th grade) emerging readers.

www.webmath.com

www.funbrain.com: games to improve grammar skills.

www.eduplace.com/tales: like an online Mad Libs. Reading and writing skills.

www.factmonster.com: lots of great stuff!

www.cut-the-knot.org: puzzles on tons of math topics up to 12th grade.

www.mathgoodies.com: go to PARENTS and find free activities and worksheets.

www.aaamath.com; www.aaaspelling.com; www.aaawhere.com: all online work.

www.quizlet.com: Make tests, flashcards...for any subject.

ACADEMICS – STRIVE – Ages 14 - 18. School-based academic support. Info: Coatesville Rotary 610-384-9196.

ACTING/DRAMA – Ages 8-13 on Autism Spectrum. 6-week prog. to improve communication, socialization, and motivation by having fun with drama and theatre. \$160. Call: Kate McLenigan Altman 610-283-2230, kate@theatrehorizon.org.

ACTING ANTICS – BUILDING SOCIAL SKILLS – drama workshops for students with Asperger Syndrome, non-verbal learning disorder, and/or social cognition deficits. Teaches power body language, voice modulation, and facial expressions. Call: Cindy Schneider, Ed. Consultant/Theatre Dir., 610-913-6018.

AD/HD - CHADD TEEN SUPPORT GROUP with Jill Crawford. 3rd Th. 7:30 - 8:30pm. Exton Community Baptist Church, 141 E. Swedesford Rd, Exton, 610-564-6835, jill@jillcrawfordcounseling.com.

AD/HD - GO GIRLS CLUB for girls ages 8 - 12 (or in 3rd -6th grade) with ADD or ADHD. Girls must be aware of their diagnosis. \$100 for 6-mo. Info: Natalie 215-275-4978, info@ahdhaware.org. www.ADHDAware.org.

AD/HD - BOY2BOY CLUB for boys ages 8 - 12 (or in 3rd - 6th grade) with ADD or ADHD. Boys must be aware of their diagnosis. \$100 for 6-mo. Info: Natalie 215-275-4978, info@ahdhaware.org.

ART – ART PARTNERS STUDIO – Ages 6 – 12. Art classes & special events. Call: Lindsay 610-384-3030, ycrow@mac.com .

ART – CENTER FOR CREATIVE ARTS – in Hockessin, DE. Classes for special needs students ages 6-12. www.ccarts.org, 302-239-2434.

ART - EXPRESSIVE ARTS THERAPY GROUPS FOR CHILDREN at Building Bridges in Media. Two sessions: ages 5-9 and 10-13. Mon eves. Info: 484-574-2858, debleoni@comcast.net.

AUTISM - CLASSROOM PROGRAM - ABLE – Autism...Building the Basics through Learning Experiences for 2-Year-Olds run by The Arc of Chester County (First Step) and taught by a skilled speech therapist with a unique blend of TEACCH, total communication, positive reinforcement, and child-centered learning. Held at Discovery Day School, Tu & Th 9:30am - 12:30pm. Info/Regis: Anne Bernstein 610-696-8090.

AUTISM - SPARC – Southeastern PA Resource Center in partnership with WCU. Non-profit clinic serving children, adolescents, and young adults with ASD. Includes: Diagnostic Services, Behavioral Therapeutic Services, Feeding Evaluations and Treatment, Home Programs, Academic Tutoring, Social Skills, Consultative Services, Daycare/School/Service Providers Consulting Services, Babysitting/Respite Care. Located on the WCU campus. Info: sparc@wcupa.edu, 610-430-5678.

AUTISM - TODDLER/PRE-SCHOOL PLAY GROUP for children with ASDs. Structured play dates where children can develop social/play skills w/peers while parents network/support each other. Communicate thru Yahoo group: http://groups.yahoo.com/group/ASD_Playgroup/. Subscribe by sending email to ASD_Playgroup-subscribe@yahoogroups.com.

CAMP – EASTER SEALS CAMPS IN PA – [Http://esep.easterseals.com/site/Search?entgr=O&access=](http://esep.easterseals.com/site/Search?entgr=O&access=)

CAMP- CAMP JOY- Schwenksville-Special needs camp for kids and adults with DD, ID(MR),autism, brain injury and neurological disorders. <http://www.campjoy.com/>

COMPUTER WORKSHOPS – April/May

Held at the Chester County Library at 450 Exton Square Parkway monthly. April sessions: Introduction and Intermediate Word 2007, Online Job Searching, Word Mail Merge, Interested in Your Genealogy, Skype Demonstration, and Intermediate Excel 2007. May sessions include Introduction to Powerpoint 2007. Space limited. Regis: 610-280-266, ccljtc@ccls.org. Library calendar available at: www.ccls.org/assets/pdfs/cclnews.pdf.

COMPUTERS – Low-cost, refurbished computers available for \$50 to \$300 for qualifying families. Download an application from the website: www.TeamChildren.com. Phone: 610-666-1795.

DANCE – DIAMOND DIVAS – Ages 7 – 16. Drill and step team for girls. Info: Geri Allen 610-380-4465, gbadiva@verizon.net .

NEW!!!! DANCE – RHYTHM IN MOTION: A CREATIVE DANCE CLASS FOR KIDS – Ages 5 and up with or without disabilities. Explore movement, rhythm, visual imagery, and body and spatial awareness thru games, themes, storytelling and music. Focus: Fun through dance! Wed: 4:15-5:00pm, 4/7 – 5/12/10. Held at AI DuPont Hosp. for Children. \$60 fir 6 sessions. Taught by PT. Info/Regis: Jamie Fusetti 302-651-5595.

DAY CARE – LAUREN’S HOUSE, A CARING CENTER FOR SPECIAL CHILDREN ages birth- 8 years with skilled medical/nursing needs, acute or chronic in nature. A medical day health center. Can be used In lieu of or as a complement to private duty nursing in the home. Located in Coatesville. Info/regis: 877-589-0854, www.laurenshouse.com.

DRIVERS TRAINING – Two courses: “Classroom (Highway Safety)” and “Behind the Wheel” offered by the CCIU. For info/brochure: <http://www.cciu.org/Departments/CustomEd/drivereducationpdfs/DriverEd2009-10.pdf> or call: 484-237-5189.

EDUCARE Street Smarts. KenCrest’s Extended School Day Transition Support for Students with Autism & Other Developmental Disabilities. Building Bridges to the community for school-age children 13-21. 610-636-1575.

FEEDING- SPARC- Southeastern PA Resource Center in partnership with WCU – Evals and treatment in clinic, home, and community/school. At: 1160 McDermott Dr, West Chester. Info: 610-430-5678, sparc@wcupa.edu.

GAMES- FREE ON-LINE GAMES:

- **AARP:** <http://games.aarp.org/categories/all.aspx> : includes beach soduko, carniball, cryptogram, disco bowling, driver safety program word search, easy crossword, Word Search, etc.
- **UCLICK:** <http://content.uclick.com/games.html> : includes: daily tootonym, daily roundup, flash arcade solitaire, play four, soduko, universal trivia, universal jigsaw puzzle, universal crossword, up and down words, worsense challenge.
- **HAPPY NEURON GAMES:**
<http://www.happy-neuron.com/partners/index.php?refcode=006AARP>

GAMES- PAID ON-LINE GAMES:

- **Fit Brains:** <http://www.fitbrains.com/>
- **Luminosity Brain Games-** <http://www.lumosity.com>

HOMEWORK – BRIDGE ACADEMY & COMMUNITY CENTER – Ages 4 – 18 or 18 – Up. Homework Club, arts & crafts, dance, sewing, carpentry, computer classes. Info/regis: Jordan 610-466-9505, Jordan.crans@gmail.com .

KARATE – KICKS FOR KIDS: TAE KWON-DO ages 5 to 17 with gross motor impairments who can stand and walk with or without an assistive device. Basic stances, blocks, kicks, and strikes. Individualized instruction. Taught by PT. At AI DuPont Hosp for Children ground floor gymnasium. 4:15-5:00pm, 3/22-5/24. \$100 for 10 sessions. Info/Regis: Jason Beaman 302-651-6027. jbeaman@nemours.org.

MENTORING–CHESTER COUNTY FUTURES – Ages 14 – 18. School/ Community based mentoring program. Info/regis: Kathy 610-516-1050, kmclaughlin@ccfutures.org.

MENTORING–GIFTS – Ages 13 – 18. Mentor Program for Teenage Girls. Info/regis: Jackie 610-384-3344, jcarter@nlicf.org .

MENTORING–TIMS – Ages 11 – 18. Mentoring Program for Young Men. Info/regis: Alphonse 610-384-8595, anewsuan@comcast.net .

MENTORING–YOUNG LIFE – Ages 14 – 18. Mentoring and Youth Programs. Info/regis: Josh 484-354-9496, jdcrans@aol.com .

MUSIC – TEMPO MUSIC THERAPY SERVICES West Chester and King of Prussia. Individual and group for all ages as well as inclusive family music (Music Together) classes. Info: 610-344-7030, www.tempotherapy.com

NEW!!!! PRE-SCHOOL PROGRAM for THREE and FOUR-YEAR-OLDS. FREE! Pottstown and OJR school districts offering free programs for children who were three and four by 9/1/2009, and live in families 300% or less of the federal poverty levels (ie: family of four earning up to \$66,150/year). Held at Warwick Child Care Centers. Info: Michelle (Pottstown) 610-323-1601, Tana (OJR) 610-326-4522.

READING – COATESVILLE AREA LIBRARY Ages Birth – 12. Reading programs, story-time, play groups, family groups, special events. Info: 610-384-4115.

RECREATION – ACCESS PASS – FREE LIFETIME PASS TO NATIONAL PARKS for permanent residents with a permanent disability. Links/Info: www.store.usgs.gov/pass/access.html.

RECREATION – COATESVILLE ARTS & RECREATION DEPT. Ages 8 – 15. Summer /Winter Basketball Leagues, Summer Programs and Art Classes. Info: 610-384-0300.

RECREATION – COMMUNI-TEENS A service and recreational program for teens using wraparound services and neighborhood peers sponsored by The Institute for Behavioral Change. Limited to 10 teens. Contact 610-383-1432.

RECREATION – FAMILY MOVIE NIGHT! 1st Fri, 7pm at The Journey church in West Chester. Movies shown on 9 ft x 13 ft big screen. Soda & popcorn provided! Contact Scott Smith, pastor, at Scott@thejourneywc.org.

RECREATION – FUN CLUB Ages 6-12 , one Sat/month. Community fun! Run by The Arc of Chester County. Call your supports coordinator for funding options. Contact Rob: 610-696-8090, ext. 240, rmalone@arcofchestercounty.org.

RECREATION – LITTLE LEAGUE – Spring 2010 Regis: for West Side Little League Challenger Division Ages 5 – 21 . Practice 1x week beginning mid March. Games begin April. Info/Regis: Ellen or Andrew 610-344-0979, Challenger@westsidelittleleague.org.

RECREATION – MY GYM LIONVILLE – Special Needs Class/Children with Autism on Fridays, 3:00 to 4:00pm Info: 610-363-6090, mygym@verizon.net.

RECREATION – SYNERGY RECREATION – Home-based services offering personalized activities. We design meaningful recreational experiences by building on client's current interests. We help people create lasting relationships within families and communities. We're all about fun! Info: Heather@synergyrecreation.com or 610-324-8307.

RECREATION, SOCIAL SKILLS AND RESPITE – TEEN LINK TO THE COMMUNITY (TLC) CLUB – Ages 13-21 yrs. Meets monthly on Sat or Sun for 4+ hrs. Community based barbecues, swim parties, zoos, outdoor games, dances, bowling, train rides, etc. Call your supports coordinator for funding options. Call: Rob at the Arc of Chester County 610-696-8090 x240, rmalone@arcofchestercounty.org.

RESPITE – The Arc of Chester County TAP PROGRAM (Temporary Assistance Provider) – offers one-on-one respite assistance to families by the hour, day, or week. All ages. Info: Janine 610-696-8090 ext. 239, jcaldwell@arcofchestercounty.org.

RESPITE – ARCares (Ages 18+) COMMUNITY RESPITE & EXCURSION SERVICES RESPITE PROGRAM. Planned community excursions each month at same time of month, allowing caregivers to schedule respite time on a consistent basis. Info: Janine 610-696-8090 ext. 239, jcaldwell@arcofchestercounty.org.

RESPITE – CHESTER COUNTY RESPITE NETWORK – respite provider as well as in-school 1:1 support service provider (Personal Care Assistants). We participate in the Phoenixville Grant program, Waivers, Family Driven Dollars, agency pay, and private pay for respite. School services are funded by the districts. Info: Donna at respitenetwork@comcast.net.

RESPITE – FUN CLUB Ages 6-12 , one Sat/month. Community fun! Run by The Arc of Chester County. Call your supports coordinator for funding options. Contact Rob: 610-696-8090, ext. 240, rmalone@arcofchestercounty.org.

RESPITE – MH Helping Hands. Respite for caregivers with children birth- 21 living in Chester County who receive MH services. Contact The Arc, Janine, jcaldwell@arcofchestercounty.org, 610-696-8090 ext. 239.

RESPITE – PARENT’S NIGHT OUT-- Opportunities for worry-free nights out. Events held at the Brandywine YMCA 3/21, 4/11, 5/16, 6/13. Must register by the Wednesday before and receive confirming email to attend. For info: Brenda, brendae@cciu.org, 484-237-5354. for calendar of events go to: www.autismallianceofchestercounty.org.

RESPITE, WCUPA Autism Respite Care – WCU student volunteers trained in ASD and behavior principles provide free in-home respite care to families of children on the spectrum. Weekday evenings. To receive respite services, please contact Dr. Corinne Murphy, BCBA, Asst. Professor at WCU at cmurphy@wcupa.edu.

RIDING – HOPE SPRINGS EQUESTRIAN THERAPY – equine therapy for autistic and challenged riders. Weekly group and individual sessions and summer camps with special ed professionals combining riding and classes (June and July). At: Green Lane Rd, Malvern. Info: Jeannie Knowlton 610-827-0931, greyhorse22@gmail.com, www.Hope-Springs.org.

RIDING – MAKING STRIDES HIPPO THERAPY & THERAPEUTIC RIDING – programs and instruction for both typically developing children and adults as well as those with disabilities. Individual programming and flexible schedule with physical therapist. Location: Brinton’s Bridge Rd, West Chester. Call: 610-656-8438, Robin.Langerhans@comcast.net.

RIDING– QUEST THERAPEUTIC SERVICES, INC. – full-range of therapy services, including hippotherapy, with flexible scheduling with OT/PT, and therapeutic horseback riding for children with special needs. Indoor arena heated for year-round use. Some insurance reimbursable. Location: Cann Rd, West Chester. Info: 610-692-6362, SandraMcCloskey@msn.com.

RIDING – BARN AT SPRINGBROOK FARM – Animal assisted activities for children with disabilities. Children can have fun while interacting with farm animals. Gains in knowledge, confidence, and self-esteem. Location: Locust Grove Rd, West Chester. Info: 610-793-1037, www.springbrook-farm.org.

SCOUTING – GIRL SCOUTS OF EASTERN PA – Girl Scout Troop for disabled girls and non-disabled girls who would like to join in as buddies. Ages 6-13. Meeting in an accessible home on the Honey Brook/Coatesville border with 3 cats and 1 dog as honorary members of the troop. Info: Meira 610-273-7858, meira-harvey@att.net.

SCOUTING – BOY SCOUT TROOP 599, Hawk Mountain Council – for boys & young men with special needs 11 yrs. old and up. Location: St. Paul’s Lutheran Church, Old Swede Rd, Amity Township. Cost \$40/yr. Contact: Chris or Kim Murray cm6klr@dejazzd.com, 610-404-1206, 484-638-4906, or 484-638-2002 (Kim’s cell).

SCOUTING – CUB SCOUT PACK 599, Hawk Mountain Council – for boys ages 7-11 with special needs. Location: St. Paul’s Lutheran Church, Old Swede Rd, Amity Township. Cost \$40/yr. Contact: Chris or Kim Murray cm6klr@dejazzd.com, 610-404-1206, 484-638-4906, or 484-638-2002 (Kim’s cell).

SCOUTING – CUB SCOUT PACK 64 – Chester County, for boys on the Autism Spectrum. St Phillip/James Church, Exton. www.cubscoutpack64.com.

SELF-ADVOCACY – PA YOUTH LEADERSHIP SELF-ADVOCACY – monthly conference calls to explore topics of interest to young self-advocates. 1st Sunday of each month from 7:00- 8:00pm. Call 1-309-946-5255. access code 376191#. Visit the PYLN website at www.pyln.pbwiki.com for additional information.

SENSORY – SNACK AND PLAY: A PLAYGROUP FOR CHILDREN 3-5YRS WHO ARE “FUSSY EATERS” One group of 5 children will meet 3x / wk. for 4 weeks, led by an instructor and an OT. Call for more details: Karen Schillinger, Easter Seals, 610-873-3990.

SIBLING GROUPS – ONGOING – 2nd Sat of the month from 8:45- 10:00am for 4-6 year- olds and 10:00- 11:30am for 7-11 yr. olds. In Wayne. Uses play, arts and crafts, snack, talking, and stories. Facilitators: Dale Fisher, LCSW and Deirdre Miller, MA. Cost \$35. 610-668-8890, dalefish2000@aol.com.

SIBSHOPS – Pottstown. 2nd Sat of the month (Sept thru May). Creative Health Services, 610-326-2767, jtyson@creativehs.org.

SIBSHOPS FOR TEENS! Call 610-783-1788 ext. 223 or email kbrenneman@childandfamilyfocus.org.

SIBSHOPS for 8-to-13-year-old brothers/sisters of children with emotional/behavioral disorders. **Starts June 19, from 9:30AM – 12:30pm.** Mixture of new games, Discussion, and guest speakers. Fun while learning. Held at Devereux Day School, Boot Rd, Downingtown. Info/regis: Crissy at 610 688 1205 or cauger@devereux.org.

SOCIAL CLUB – YOUNG ADULT SOCIAL CLUB/TEEN CLUB OF CHESTER COUNTY sponsored by Easter Seals of SE PA for teens/young adults w/disabilities. Have lots of fun exploring the community, singing karaoke, dancing, cooking, and socializing. Meet 2x/mo. usually 1st & 3rd Fri. Info: Kim 610-565-2353.

SOCIAL SKILLS – PROMPT AND PLAY CENTER – Ages 3-18 in need of social skills, life skills, counseling. www.promptandplay.com.

SOCIAL SKILLS – GROUPS – THERAPLAY, INC., 638 Brandywine Parkway, West Chester. 610-436-3604, ext. 12, mhugel@theraplayinc.com, www.theraplayinc.com.

SOCIAL SKILLS – GROUPS – led by Licensed Speech Path and Physical Therapist. Dynamic, interactive, and fun sessions at Little Wonders Child Growth & Development Center, Inc. Info: 610-275-KIDS.

SOCIAL SKILLS – YOUNG CHILDREN GROUP – 4-6yrs. (WAYNE) – 2nd Sat of the month from 8:45- 10:00am. Info: Dale Fisher., dalefish2000@aol.com, 610-668-8890.

SPORTS – SPECIAL OLYMPICS – Don't miss the fun! **Winter: Basketball, Gymnastics, Ice Skating, Skiing, Swimming, etc.** Info/schedule: 484-320-9401, SOPAChesterCounty@Comcast.net, www.pasocc.org,

SPORTS – COATESVILLE AREA LITTLE LEAGUE – Ages 5 -18. Little League Baseball Program. Info: Pat 610-384-5689.

SPORTS – COATESVILLE MIDGET FOOTBALL – Ages 4 – 14. Little League Football, Cheerleading Program and Flag Football. Info: Patty 610-384-2404.

SUMMER CAMP – AMPUTEES/THOSE WITH LIMB DIFFERENCES
www.amputee-coalition.org/fact_sheets/Kidscamps.html.

SUMMER CAMP – CHRONIC, LIFE-THREATENING ILLNESS/DISABILITY
www.brave-kids.org/camps.

SUMMER CAMP – CAMP SAFARI – ages 4-11yrs – Two sessions: June 21-25 and/or August 16-20. Campers are paired with volunteer teen mentors to maximize the camp experience. Camp is held at the incredible Camp Paradise in Chester County (Downingtown). Call your supports coordinator for funding options. Call: Rob at the Arc of Chester County 610-696-8090 x240, rmalone@arcofchestercounty.org.

SUMMER CAMP- CANCER - www.acor.org/ped-onc/cfissues/camp.html.

SUMMER CAMP- DEAF OR HARD OF HEARING - www.tinyurl.com/yzk3ngx.

SUMMER CAMP – DIABETES -www.childrenwithdiabetes.com/camps or www.diabetescamps.org/.

SUMMER CAMP – EASTER SEALS DIRECTORY OF DAY AND RESIDENTIAL CAMPS
http://www.easterseals.com/site/PageServer?pagename=ntl_directory_camprec.

SUMMER CAMP – HEMIPLEGIA AND STROKE (CHASA)-www.chasa.org/summercamps.htm.

SUMMER CAMP- SPECIAL NEEDS-www.mysummercamps.com/camps/SpecialNeedsCamps/index.html.
www.tinyurl.com/yzr66da.

SUMMER CAMP – TEEN CAMP – Ages: 13-20 yrs. August 9 – 13. Campers are paired with volunteer teen mentors to maximize the camp experience. Camp is held at the incredible Camp Paradise in Chester County (Downingtown). Call your supports coordinator for funding options. Contact Rob at The Arc of Chester County 610-696-8090 x240, rmalone@arcofchestercounty.org.

SWIMMING – SHARK TAILS: ADAPTIVE AQUATICS FOR KIDS ages 6 and up with or without disabilities. Explore water safety, basic swim skills, breathing and relaxation thru use of games, themes, music and exercise. Focus: Have fun swimming! 5:15-6:00pm, 4/9-5/28/10. \$80 for 8 weeks. At AI DuPont Hosp for Children Ground Floor Pool. Regis: Jamie Fusetti 302-651-5595.

TEEN - SUPPORT GROUP – GLBTQA – SUPPORT GROUP for GAY, LESBIAN, BISEXUAL, TRANSGENDER YOUTH. Meets weekly, Th from 6:30- 8:30pm at Unitarian Fellowship of West Chester. Sponsored by Planned Parenthood with Unitarian Fellowship of West Chester. Info/brochure: 610-692-1770 ext. 108, lfraser@ppccpa.org or wgrinwis@ppccpa.org.

THEATER – CHILDREN’S THEATER – Ages 11 – 14. Children’s Theater Program. Info: Rev. Sherry 610-384-4771.

TUTORING SERVICES – CLUB Z! TUTORING. Call 610-268-5363 or 302-252-6689,
www.clubztutoring.com/avondalepa.

VOCATIONAL/GED – CHESTER CTY OPPORTUNITES INDUSTRIALIZATION CENTER (OIC) – Ages 16 – 24. GED, Computer, Employment and Certified Nursing Training. Info : 610-692-2344, Joyce Chester, jchester@cc-oic.org or Gina Venuti, gvenuti@cc-oic.org .

VOCATIONAL/GED – CAREER LINK – Ages 16 – Adult. GED Preparation, vocational training, resume writing, computer workshops, Job Corp. Info: 610-384-9393.

VOCATIONAL/TRANSITION – EARN CENTER – Ages 18-24. Job readiness, Occupational training, Employment activities and retention. Info: Lila 610-384-6900, lsingleton@chesco.org .

WORSHIP – REJOICING SPIRITS WORSHIP SERVICE – 2nd Sun of the month, 4:00pm. Innovative inclusive ministry at St. Paul’s Lutheran Church, Lionville/Exton. Lots of music, refreshments, and fellowship follow the service. Info: 610-363-6264, info@rejoicingspirits.org, www.rejoicingspirits.org. All faiths are welcome!

YMCA -Free YMCA Memberships for 7th Graders - Ongoing

Three area YMCAs offering free memberships for 7th graders, with current 7th graders being eligible through August 31, prior to entering the eighth grade. The YMCA of the Brandywine Valley, (Coatesville, Kennett Square, West Chester, Jennersville, Cochranville, and Elverson); Upper Main Line YMCA (Berwyn, Lionville and Eagleview); and the YMCA of Philadelphia and Vicinity (Media and Ardmore), are part of a national focus on healthy lifestyles for youth. Info: at the local YMCAs or www.ymcabwv.org/7GI/index.html, www.umly.org, and www.rockyrunymca.org.

YOGA – ADAPTIVE YOGA CLASS for children, 7 – 14 yrs w/special needs at The Center, Yoga Power and Light, Downingtown. Noncompetitive and fun. Simple yoga postures and breathing techs thru games, stories and movement to music. Improves body awareness, strength, flexibility, social/ emotional health. \$55. Regis/info: 610-269-7171, www.thecenterhya.com.

YOGA – PRETZEL UP: A YOGA CLASS FOR KIDS – ages 5 and up with or without disabilities. Tues, 4:00-4:45pm, at AI DuPont Hosp for Children. \$80/8 sessions. Explore yoga positions, breathing techniques, visual imagery and relaxation techniques thru use of games, themes, storytelling, music and art. Yoga and fun! Regis: Jamie Fusetti 302-651-5595.

YOUTH OUTREACH UNION. Peer-driven support and advocacy network of young adults for young adults. Website: www.youthoutreachunion.com.

SUPPORT/ADVOCACY GROUPS

RIGHT TO EDUCATION TASK FORCE – Chester County – Usually 2nd Th - 10:00 - 12:30pm at the Chester County Intermediate Unit, Rm. 300, 455 Boot Rd, Downingtown. (Meets Sept through June). Get involved and improve your skills as an advocate. For info/activity schedule/resource manual: www.righttoed.org or call: Lauren LaFountain, LaurenL@cciu.org, 484-237-5057, voicemail: 610-696-8090 ext. 348. Task force monitors and advises local special education services, provides training and networking opportunities for parents, and informs the public about state/national special education issues. **Time set aside at every meeting to address individual concerns.**

RIGHT TO EDUCATION TASK FORCE – DELAWARE COUNTY. Del Cty Intermediate Unit, 200 Yale Ave, Rm. 171, Morton. Training opportunities. 610-938-9000 ext. 4037.

RIGHT TO EDUCATION STATE TASK FORCE – video-conferenced, 5/12 from 10:00am to 12:00pm at Pattan. Info: Pattan, King of Prussia: 1-800-441-3215. Get involved!

ADDICTION – DRUG AND ALCOHOL SUPPORT LINE FOR FAMILY MEMBERS OF ADDICTS – 215-736-1643.

ADOPTION – SHARING OUR ADOPTION RESOURCES (SOAR) – parent support group discussing joys /challenges of raising post-institutionalized, school-age children adopted internationally. Lvandivner@aol.com.

ADOPTION: Orientation/Info Nights held for those interested in low-cost adoptions. Meetings held at Friends Association, West Chester. Info/Regis: Melrena Flowers at 610-431-3598 ext. 209.

ADULTS WITH PHYSICAL DISABILITIES SUPPORT GROUP –for young/older adults to share information, support, socialization, and resources. 610-524-5850, LindaR@ccdisability.org.

ARCconnections. Empowers parents of special needs students through training in the special education process, sharing of resources/ knowledge, and offering emotional support from other parents who are also working to secure appropriate educational supports for their children. Info: The Arc of Chester County, call Connie 610 696-8090, ext. 220 or visit www.arcofchestercounty.org. **Individual advocacy help available.**

ADOLESCENT SUPPORT GROUP. Info: Lvandivner@aol.com, and **CHILDREN'S SUPPORT PROGRAM.** Info: pkfunk@verizon.net.

APRAXIA Support Group. Info/dates: Lia - jimliagorman@comcast.net. Wendy wenobrooks@aol.com.

ASCEND (Asperger's and Autism Support)– Info: Deirdre 610-449-6776, dcwright@ascendgroup.org, or www.ascendgroup.org.

ASPERGER SUPPORT GROUP OF WEST-MONT – 3rd Wed. at St. Luke's United Church of Christ, Collegetown. Support, info, resources. Info: Valarie, 610-454-7217, VBeckius@Yahoo.com.

ATTACHMENT DISORDER NETWORK ONLINE SUPPORT – nancy@radzebra.org, julieb@radzebra.org.

AUTISM – ASA PHILA LISTSERV – for families of adults with ASD and related disorders. Restricted to family members in PA. Join at <http://health.groups.yahoo.com/group/FamiliesOfAdultsAutismASaphilly/>.

AUTISM SUPPORT GROUP for parents of children under 5 with Autism. Share experiences, voice questions, seek advice, and share in laughter with other parents. St. Matthews United Church of Christ, 2350 Conestoga Rd, Chester Springs, PA 19425. Info: Janice at The Arc 610-696-8090.

AUTISM ALLIANCE MEETING – Monthly at the CCIU, Downingtown. Contact Brenda, Autism Network Coordinator, brendae@cciu.org, 484-237-5354. Info: www.autismallianceofchestercounty.org. Ask about Parents' Night Out events!

AUTISM GROUP FOR FAMILIES AND CAREGIVERS OF ADULTS ON THE SPECTRUM, coordinated by Adult Services Committee of the ASA of Greater Phila. Chapter for those with loved ones on the autism spectrum 17 years old and above. <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/FamiliesOfAdultsAutism-ASaphilly>.

AUTISM – TACA (TALK ABOUT CURING AUTISM). National non-profit now holding monthly meetings in PA. 1st Fri. mo at 16 Campus Blvd, Suite 200, Newtown Square. Co-coordinator: Honey, 610-405-5388, honey.rinicella@tacanow.org, www.tacanow.org.

AUTISM website: The Help Group <http://www.thehelpgroup.org/autism-info.htm#programs>. Downloads and articles.

AUTISM – CHESTER COUNTY AUTISM SUPPORT GROUP – Parent luncheons around the county and families-only listserv (chesterco-supportgroup@yahoogroups.com). Open by invitation . Get connected! Jane: 610-345-1156 JaneLeet@aol.com.

AUTISM – DELCO FAMILY “PASS” (PDD/Autism Spectrum Support). Monthly support meetings, newsletter, scholarships, and parents-only listserv. www.delcofamilypass.com or barbzimmerman@delcofamilypass.com. 610-626-9511.

AUTISM – SPARC – Southeastern PA Resource Center in partnership with WCU. Non-profit clinic serving children, adolescents, and young adults with ASD. Includes: Diagnostic Services, Behavioral Therapeutic Services, Feeding Evaluations and Treatment, Home Programs, Academic Tutoring, Social Skills, Consultative Services, Daycare/School/Service Providers Consulting Services, Babysitting/Respite Care. Located on the WCU campus. Info: sparc@wcupa.edu, 610-430-5678.

BRAIN INJURY – ACQUIRED BRAIN INJURY NETWORK – SUPPORT EVENTS AND NEWSLETTER, www.abin-pa.org, Mailing list 215-699-3391, b2272@prodigy.net.

CARING COMMUNITIES COALITION MEETING – Meets at COAD in Exton. Info on date/time: Kathleen, gyphy@kennett.net.

CELIAC – MALVERN R.O.C.K. (Raising our Celiac Kids) For parents, families, and friends of kids on the gluten-free diet because of celiac disease, gluten intolerance, autism, ADD/ADHD, allergies, or personal preference. Info/Regis: www.malvernrock.org or email Jen Manzi Jennifer_manzi@yahoo.com.

CHADD – CHESTER COUNTY CHILDREN AND ADULTS WITH ATTENTION DEFICIT DISORDER – PARENT/TEACHER MEETINGS. Support/education meetings for Teens with AD/HD; Parents, Teachers and Caregivers; and Adults with AD/HD. Meets at Kesher Israel Congregation, West Chester, www.chestercountychadd.org. For specific dates and topics www.chadd.net/222 , CHADD Message Line 610-429-4060.

CHESTER COUNTY HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES Websearch – Search for services provided in Chester County by category, keyword, or agency/program name. <http://www.referweb.net/chesco/>.

CHESTER COUNTY COLLABORATIVE BOARD – Service providers, community, parents addressing issues involving children/ families. Kathy Brauner – 610-344-5262.

CHESTER COUNTY FAMILY AND COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIP – Families, funders, providers, community organizations working together to build awareness, share information, and improve efforts on behalf of children/families in Chester County. 610-783-1788 ext. 223, kbrenneman@childandfamilyfocus.org.

COMMUNICATE PA COMMUNITY – Online community for individuals with complex communication needs and their families, advocates, service providers, policy makers, and other stakeholders. Website: <http://communicatepa.wikispaces.com/>. To join the listserv: <http://communicatepa.wikispaces.com/ListServ>. Contact: Jennifer M. Seale, M.S. CCC-SLP, seale@temple.edu, voicemail at 215-204-3032.

NEW!!! COMMUNITIES THAT CARE (CTC) GROUPS – in local school districts to promote healthy youth development and prevent and reduce negative youth health and behavioral issues including substance abuse, delinquency, teen pregnancy, school drop-out, and violence.

- **WCASD CTC** – 2nd Wed/mo at various locations. Info Christina, mobilizer, 610-696-8262.
- **DASD CTC** – 3rd Tues/mo at Lionville Community YMCA. Info: Elena Seeman, mobilize, 610458-9090 x2827, dtownctc@umly.org.
- **GVSD CTC** – Great Valley Partnership for Healthy Youth – 3rd Wed/mo at GVSD offices, 46 Church Rd, Malvern. Info: Shanna Cornuet, PHY mobilizer, 484-886-8437.

COMMUNITY CARE FAMILY ADVISORY COMMITTEE – Community Care manages mental health & substance abuse treatment services for individuals with MA under Health Choices program. The Advisory committee meetings are held quarterly. For times, locations, and to RSVP: 1-866-771-1259.

CPPASD – Concerned Parents of Phoenixville Area School District – Info: CPPASD, Box 633, Phoenixville, PA 19460, or forconcernparents@yahoo.com.

DASD – Support for Parents of Students with Special Needs in Downingtown SD. Meets the 4th Tu.- 7pm at Lionville Middle School. talis.family@comcast.net, 610-518-2343.

DELCO FAMILY “PASS” (PDD/Autism Spectrum Support). Monthly support meetings, newsletter, scholarships, and parents-only listserv. www.delcofamilypass.com or barbzimmerman@delcofamilypass.com. 610-626-9511.

DEPRESSION / BI-POLAR Support Group for MH Consumers – Every Th.- 6:30 - 7:30 pm at Community Crossroads Peer Support Center, 825 Paoli Pike, West Chester. John: 610-429-1702 or email: community.crossroads@hhinc.org.

DIFFICULT/CHALLENGING TEEN-PARENT SUPPORT GROUP –at Willowdale Chapel, Rt. 82. 610-274-2248.

****DOUBLE TROUBLE – Consumer support group for those recovering from addiction and mental health problems.** Meets every Tu. & Th.- 3:30-5pm at Community Crossroads Peer Support Center, 825 Paoli Pike, West Chester. John at: 610-429-1702 or email community.crossroads@hhinc.org.

DOWN SYNDROME INTEREST GROUP of Chester County – Meets 1st Th.- 7:30pm at The Arc of Chester County, West Chester. RSVP to Hotline: 610-889-0291, www.ccdsig.org. Newsletter is going to email format only, so send in your email address to DSIG.

EARLY INTERVENTION – CHESTER COUNTY LICC. Meetings for professionals and parents with children with special needs in the early intervention years. Mission: support families and enhance the quality of services. Meetings held Sept thru June at **The Intermediate Unit, room #300, 455 Boot Rd. (CCIU)**. For info/newsletter/event listing: co-chair Patty 610-436-3600, pmiller@theraplayinc.com or co-chair, Lynne Goetting 610-344-5946, lgoetting@chesco.org.

EDUCATION FOR ALL COALITION OF PA. Working together to promote education that *includes* all children. Online community, parent consultant network, training/technical assistance. Diane Perry 610-522-0698, dperry300@paedforall.org, website: www.paedforall.org.

ESPECIALLY FOR PARENTS – Online support group for parents of children with special health care needs. Visit us by going to www.pamedicalhome.org and clicking on the “Parents” button!

EXCEPTIONAL CHILD SUPPORT GROUP – For parents with children with all types of exceptionalities. We discuss educational ideas to help all children experience success and shine and currently sponsor a special CC child in the community. Info: Jane, JaneLeeT@aol.com, 610-345-1156.

FOSTER CARE – Orientation/Info. held for those interested in becoming foster parents. Held at Friends Association, West Chester. Info/Regis: Melrena Flowers at 610-431-3598 ext. 209.

GOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS/ADVOCACY COMMITTEE of The Arc of Chester County, 610-696-8090 ext. 220.

GVSD PARENTS OF SPECIAL NEEDS AND THE GIFTED – Support group, presentations, and parent info. center. Meets at the District Office. Visit info center at the GVMS Library. Info: Sandra, SADDSMom@aol.com, 610-640-0507.

H.O.P.E. – Helping by Offering Prayer and Encouragement – Christian support for parents of special needs children. Downingtown. Karyn, 610-873-4698, musicchr@earthlink.net or Debbie, 484-888-5443.

HARD OF HEARING CHILDREN – Parents meet every 4th Tu. at CHAD in West Chester. Info/Regis: Janine Ruch. 610-918-6250, ruchjm@comcast.net,

HOPEWELL SPECIAL PARENT SUPPORT GROUP – All welcome. Relaxed/informal time of devotions/prayer. 1st Wed. Sept. thru April 6:30 - 7:30pm at Hopewell United Methodist Church, Downingtown. Info/Regis: Rose garyrose@verizon.net or Vicki: Vicki@hopewellumc.org.

INCLUSION SUPPORT - KIDS TOGETHER, INC – Volunteer, non-profit providing information on inclusive communities/education. Advocates, listserv, email, newsletter, and website. staff@kidstogether.org, www.kistogether.org.

MH - BRIGHT FUTURES – Helping those in recovery access their educational and employment goals. Open to any Chester County resident who is in mental health recovery. No cost for classes or materials. Funded by the Chester County Dept of MH/IDD. Classes: 9 wks, 2 days/wk, 9:00am - 12:00pm. Contact Carelink 610-429-1702 or Chester County MH/IDD 610-344-6265.

MH – VALLEY CREEK CRISIS CENTER – 877-918-2100.

MH – CONSUMER WARM LINE – 877-846-2722.

MOM'S CLUB – Big calendar of activities w/playgroups. **Chester Co Chapter**, 610-719-0816. Local groups: **Landenberg**, 2nd Tu.- 9:30am, West Grove UMC, 610-255-3975; **Chadds Ford**, last Tu. CFmomsclub@hotmail.com, 610-455-0137; **Oxford**, 1st Tu.- Oxford Nazarene Church, 610-932-6122.

MOTHERS OF CHILDREN WITH DISABILITIES – SUPPORT GROUP. Share experiences and learn from one another. You are not alone! Coordinated/facilitated by The Arc of Chester County and The YWCA Mother's Center. **Mon.- 9:30 - 10:30am** at The Arc of Chester County. Regis: 610-692-3737.

****NAMI-NATIONAL ALLIANCE ON MENTAL ILLNESS – Vast info/resources: www.nami.org. Children and adolescent issues: www.nami.org/caac.** Medications, stigma, faith net, family to family, peer to peer, veterans, resources, networking, membership, persons missing, etc.

****NAMI-PA – www.namipa.nami.org.**

****NAMI CHESTER COUNTY – 484-947-5643, www.chester.nami.org, namichesco@gmail.com.**

****NAMI CHESTER COUNTY HELPLINE – 610-430-0177.**

****NAMI- SUPPORT GROUP FOR FAMILIES AFFECTED BY BORDERLINE PERSONALITY DISORDER.** New location in Phoenixville. 610-430-0177.

****NAMI CAN – SUPPORT GROUP FOR FAMILIES OF A CHILD OR ADOLESCENT TO AGE 22 WITH SEVERE EMOTIONAL DISTURBANCES.** 2nd Mon. 7- 9pm at Central Presbyterian Church, Downingtown. CALL AHEAD: 610-935-0739/ 610-296-0377.

****NAMI – CHESTER COUNTY GENERAL MEETINGS**, 3rd Th.- 7- 9pm at Christ Memorial Lutheran Church, Paoli Pike & Line Rd., Malvern. Guest presenters. ALL WELCOME. 484-947-5643/ <http://chester.nami.org>.

****NAMI – FAMILY-TO-FAMILY – MH Family Member Education/Coping Course 12 wks @ 1x wk, 7 - 9pm** in regard to persons 18 yrs + who have a severe mental illness. Instructors are trained NAMI family members. MUST call ahead: 484-947-5673.

****NAMI GRIEF AND LOSS (Family & Friends) SUPPORT GROUP** – 2nd Th.- 7 - 9pm at private home. MH facilitator attending. For MH family members who have experienced death of a loved one with mental illness. Call ahead! 610-269-3476.

****NAMI – FAMILY SUPPORT GROUP** – 2nd Th.- 7 - 8:30pm at new location in Phoenixville. MH facilitator attending. Call ahead! 610-430-0177 or email gmurphy4@verizon.net.

****NAMI MH FAMILY MEMBERS, Support Group**, Eastern Chester County. 4th Wed.- 7pm at Daylesford Abbey, Paoli. MH facilitator. 610-296-8036.

****NAMI – PAOLI REGION FAMILY SUPPORT** – 4th Wed.- 7 - 9:00pm. Call ahead: 610-296-8036.

****NAMI – PEER TO PEER, MH Education Course** taught by trained MH consumers to MH consumers.
Info: Marian Stevenson, Jr. 610-384-6058 or 484-947-5643 to register.

****NAMI – SOUTHERN CHESTER COUNTY FAMILY SUPPORT GROUP**– 1st Th.- 7:30 - 9pm at
Friends Meeting House, Rt. 82, Kennett Square. 610-444-5993.

MH RE-INTEGRATION: Local site: Stepping Stones Clubhouse. stepping_stones@verizon.net.

OJR –PSNS – Parents of Special Needs Students –3rd Wed. 7:30 - 9pm at the OJR High School, LGI room.
Speakers, open forum, support. Banks207@aol.com.

PA EDUCATION FOR ALL COALITION, INC. Chapter meetings, on-line, parent consultant network,
Diane Perry, 215-204-3031

PA FAMILIES INC – Statewide family network. 1-800-947-4941, pafamilies@comcast.net.

PA FAMILY SUPPORT ALLIANCE – Support and education group meets at CYWA in Coatesville. 610-
384-9591.

PARENT NETWORK – Workshops held 2nd Tu. 6:30pm - 8:00pm at E. Brandywine Twp Bldg, 1214
Horseshoe Pike, Downingtown. Call: Martie Muzzy 610-696-8211 or trmfoundation@gmail.com

PARENTS OF PREMIES – Support for Parents of pre-term babies in the NCIU or at home. 4th Th 7pm at 74
Pottstown Pk Suite 1001, Chester Springs. Info: Melissa Anstine 610-715-5253,
Support@ThePremieLife.com.

PARENT TO PARENT OF PENNSYLVANIA – Linking families of children and adults with disabilities or
special needs. Free/confidential help locating a support group, technical assistance, connection to the nearest
regional office, resources, or a volunteer peer supporter. 1-888-727-2706, www.parenttoparent.org.

**PHYSICAL DISABILITIES – SUPPORT GROUP FOR PARENTS OF CHILDREN WITH CP AND
OTHER PHYSICAL DISABILITIES** to share information, knowledge, resources, and support. Exton. Jen at
CPA of CC– 610-524-5850, JEshenbaugh@ccdissability.org.

REACTIVE ATTACHMENT DISORDER/DIFFICULTIES PARENT SUPPORT GROUP in Lincoln
University. Nancy 610-255-3664.

RECOVERY INTERNATIONAL – Support group for adults seeking self-help addressing nervous symptoms
and fears. Meets every Wed. 7 - 9pm – Phoenixville Area, 610-415-0920.

“RECOVERY WORKS” CONSUMER SUPPORT GROUP – Formerly “Schizophrenia Support Group.”
Meets every Tu. 6:30 - 7:30pm at Community Crossroads Peer Support Center, 825 Paoli Pike, West Chester.
John 610-429-1702 or email: community.crossroads@hhinc.org.

SCHOOL DISTRICT-BASED SUPPORT GROUPS (*contact info is located elsewhere in this document and
listed alphabetically by support group abbreviation*)

CPPASD – Phoenixville Area SD

DASD – Downingtown SD/Lionville

Great Valley – Great Valley SD

GVSD – Great Valley SD

OJR PSNS – Owen J Roberts SD

TE/SD – Tredyffrin-Easttown SD

WCASD – West Chester Area SD

SELF-DETERMINATION ACTION TEAM – Help implement changes to the IDD system through education, identification of needs, and challenging barriers that limit funding and community resources. Meets 1st Wed. at Government Services Bldg, 601 Westtown Rd, West Chester, PA. Info/Regis: Sue at 610-344-6265 or sberg@chesco.org .

SEVERE AND PROFOUND SUPPORT – For parents of children with severe/profound disabilities incl: genetic disorders, neurological impairments, seizures, IDD, and physical limitations. Meets the 2nd Tu. at the Exton Specialty Care Center, Children's Hospital of Philadelphia, 7:30 - 9:30pm. Info/Regis: Barbara Beck, RN, CPNP CHOP, Neurology Dept., 215-590-4583.

STARFISH ADVOCACY ASSOCIATION – Online community for families of children with neurological disorders (ADHD, ASD, Bipolar, PDD, SID LD, OCD, Tourette's, etc). 216-283-2377, www.starfishadvocacy.org., starfish@starfishadvocacy.org.

SUICIDE PREVENTION COUNCIL – FEELING BLUE A non-profit community service organization serving PA and the Tri-State Area:Box 7193, St. David's, PA. 1-800-273- TALK, www.feelingblue.org. Now offering trainings.

SUICIDE SURVIVORS -SHARING THE SILENCE SUPPORT GROUP – at The Carriage House, St. Martin's Episcopal Church, 400 King of Prussia Rd, Radnor, PA 7 - 8:30pm. Contact Carrie Miluski 610-687-5150.

SUICIDE – Chester County Youth Suicide Prevention Task Force –Held at COAD, Exton. Call 610-594-9740 for date and time. www.ccysp.org.

SURVIVORS OF SUICIDE SUPPORT – 2nd Wed. 7pm at Paoli Memorial Hospital (Potter Room) 215-545-2242.

NEW!!! SURVIVORS OF SUICIDE SUPPORT GROUP – Bette Coatsworth, 215-736-1643.

SYSTEM OF CARE ADVISORY TEAM – at Government Services Center in West Chester. kbrauner@chesco.org .

TOURETTE'S SYNDROME SUPPORT GROUP – Meets 2nd Tues. 7:30 – 9pm. Individual Advocacy/IEP support available. Lesley 610-409-0833, lgeyer@comcast.net or Eileen 610-222-4870, acklerfamily@verizon.net . Website: www.patourettesyndrome.org.

T/E SD's B.U.I.L.D. (Better Understanding of Individuals with Learning Disabilities) – Call for date/time. Regular meeting at the Education Services Center, 738 First Ave., Berwyn. Cindy, 610-202-4371, www.tesd.k12.pa.us.

TRANSITION COUNCIL MEETING – Quarterly meetings. Is your child 14-21 yrs. old and preparing for transition from high school to employment, independence, further education? Call: Cindy-484-237-5000.

TRAUMATIC BRAIN INJURY (TBI) – For survivors, families, caregivers. Meets the 2nd Tu. 7pm at Bryn Mawr Rehab Hospital, 610-251-5400.

VALUE – Vision and Leadership Uniting Education. Coalition of PA advocacy groups for children w/special needs. Ellen–emancuso@ppainc.org.

WCASD – West Chester Area Parent/Caregiver Support Group – 7-9pm at the Spellman Bldg, 829 Paoli Pike, West Chester. Meets Sept through May with speakers. Info/date/support: Peggy 484-571-6725, mccaughern@yahoo.com or Chris Hazley at cehazley@comcast.net.

EXPLORE YOUR RESOURCES!

ADVOCATES/MENTORS: *FREE SERVICES*

The Arc of Chester County, Connie Mohn, Med, BCEA 610-696-8090 ext. 220.

The Arc of Chester County, Clare Algeo, LSW, BCEA 610-696-8090 ext. 218.

The CCIU: Mary Ann Amici, Parent Mentor 484-237-5123, MaryannA@cciu.org;

Bureau of Sp. Ed. Consultline, A Parent Helpline: 800-879-2301.

Child & Family Focus, Family Mentors - 610-783-1788 ext. 223, www.childandfamilyfocus.org

Ed McKenna, 610-783-1788 ext. 238, emckenna@childandfamilyfocus.org; Kim Booz, kbooz@childandfamilyfocus.org; kbrenneman@childandfamilyfocus.org, and Debbie Willett, Family Support Advocate for Chester County Juvenile Probation, 484-238-4594, dwillett@childandfamilyfocus.org.

Disability Advocacy Support Hub (DASH) 866-915-3274 or 877-375-7139 (TTY) (listserv)

Disability Rights Network PA: Sp. Ed. legal advice, technical assistance, publications/info: 800-692-7443, www.dmpa.org/publications.

HUNE – Hispanos Unidos para Ninos Excepcionales – Special Ed Helpline – 215-425-5112.

Jill Santiago, Family Voices Advocacy Services – 610-563-7802, hxsantiago@juno.com.

Mental Health Assoc. – 800-686-4226, www.mhasp.org.

National Alliance on Mental Illness Help Line (NAMI-Ches.Co.) <http://chester.nami.org>, 610-430-0177.

PA ELKS Home Service Program, www.paelks.com, 814-781-7860, 724-225-1395.

PA Tourette Syndrome Assoc., 800-990-3300.

PA Education for All Coalition, Inc. Chapter meetings, on-line, parent consultant network.

Diane Perry, 215-204-3031

Parent Education Network, Maggie Buckley 800-522-5827; separentednet@gmail.com.

Parent to Parent of PA-800-9860-4550; **Special Kids Network** – 888-727-2706.

Sandy Wadsworth, Co-Chair Delco Right to Ed. Task Force and Advocate, 610-938-9000 ext. 4037, wadsworthss@hotmail.com

Special Kids Network – Helps individuals find resources and helps groups develop, and maintain programs and supports. 800-986-4550.

Susan Rzucidlo, SPEAK Unlimited, 610-659-3145, srz@dol.net

Vision for Equality – Helps individuals access supports and services. 215-923-3349, resources@visionforequality.org.

ADVOCATE/MENTORS: *FEE FOR SERVICE*

The Arc of Chester County, Christine Hesling, chesling@arcofchestercounty.org.

Alexandra Bricklin, 610-415-9629, alexsolre@mac.com.

Becca Devine, 610-658-9909, devinerl@msn.com.

Carol Szymendera, 610-268-2281, szyms2@verizon.net.

Denise Johnson, 610-280-9842, accidentaladvocate@live.com.

Kari Burdeau, 610-761-6936, kari.burdeau@verizon.net.

Kelly Barton, MEd, Barton Educational Consulting, bartonedconsulting@gmail.com. 610-696-6018

Linda Heller (Non-Litigating Attorney) 610-667-9019.

Marie C. Lewis, RN, PhD, Education Consultant, marieclewis@verizon.net.

Trish E. Lubarda, CSEC, ATP/L, Certified Special Education

Consultant, Assistive Technology Practitioner, trish@advocates4U.org. 610-334-8381, trish@advocates4U.org.

SPECIAL EDUCATION CONSULTANTS & ADVOCATES (Fee for Service)

Kelly Barton, MEd, Barton Educational Consulting, bartonedconsulting@gmail.com. 610-696-6018.

ADVOCATE - EXCLUSIVELY SERVING “PARENT VOLUNTEER ADVOCATES” and PAID ADVOCATES: Michalisa Marshall Pugh, Esq. – A Resource for Advocates! – 610-696-5006.

“AGENCY WITH CHOICE” PROGRAM for IDD WAIVER SERVICES – Offering more control/choice over the services your family member with IDD receives via his/her ISP and/the provider of IDD services. Call the AWC Program Director, Kari Burdeau, at 610-696-8090, ext. 241 or kburdeau@arcofchestercounty.org.

AUTISM- TRANSITION PLANNING HANDBOOK for INDIVIDUALS with AUTISM- Online resource for families in Pa. www.autismhandbook.org/index.php/Main_Page.

BULLYING TOOLKIT – “Eyes on Bullying...What Can You Do? Toolkit to Prevent Bullying in Children’s Lives.” Developed by the Ed. Dev. Center in Mass. Free. www.eyesonbullying.org.

CELL PHONES – 42 minutes/month FREE to qualifying individuals in selected area codes. Visit Lifeline at www.safelink.com or call toll-free at 1-800-977-3768 for more details.

CHILD HEALTHCARE SERVICE GRANTS AVAILABLE FOR UP TO \$5,000 (medical services/ equipment.) Child must be 16 yrs or younger. Online app. at UHCCF website. <http://www.uhccf.org>.

EYEGLASSES – Program provides prescription eyeglasses for low-income individuals. <http://www.neweyesforthe needy.org/utilities/contact.html> , phone: 973-376-4903.

EMPLOYMENT – disABLEDperson Inc.- Info: www.disabledperson.com.

EMPLOYMENT – Campaign for Disability Emp.. www.whatcanyoudocampaign.org/.

EMPLOYMENT – WORKFORCE 3- www.workforce3one.org/page/home.

EMPLOYMENT– TOOLS FOR AMERICA’S JOB SEEKERS – US Dept of Labor www.careeronestop.org/jobseekertools.

FAMILY GUIDE ON EVIDENCE-BASED PRACTICES AVAILABLE. Title: Choosing the Right Treatment: What Families Need to Know about Evidence-Based practices. For Copy: 717-238-1514, 800-223-0500, or www.namipa.nami.org.

FOR THE LATEST ALERTS, ADVOCACY, AND EMAIL NEWSLETTERS:

- Advisory Board on Autism and Related Disorders – www.aboard.org
- Children’s Advocacy Project – www.cap4kids.org
- Council of Parent Attorneys and Advocates – www.copaa.net
- Disability Rights Network – PA – www.drmpa.org
- Education Law Center – www.elc-pa.org
- Public Interest Law Center of Phil. – www.pilcop.org

FREE & LOW COST HEALTH INSURANCE FOR CHILDREN AND FAMILIES – Now almost all children in PA can get some kind of health insurance! Call PCCY (Public Citizens for Children and Youth): 215-563-5848 ext. 17, www.pccy.org.

FREE CLINIC IN PHOENIXVILLE – **providing medical care to those without insurance.** Located: 143 Church Street, Phoenixville, PA 19460 <http://www.theclinicpa.org>.

IEP GOAL BANK – <http://www.bridges4kids.org/IEP/iep.goal.bank.pdf>.

LEGAL AID NETWORK, CHESTER COUNTY, 877-429-5994, www.palegalservices.org.

MENTAL HEALTH RESOURCE – Newsletter from COAD now available online. <http://www.coadgroup.com/mentalHealth.asp#MHRnewsletter>

PUBLIC CITIZENS FOR CHILDREN AND YOUTH (PCCY) – Help get children health insurance or find a place to get health care services. Email: dzubow@pccy.org, www.pccy.org, 215-563-5848 ext. 17.

RENTAL ASSISTANCE for qualified MH consumers – 484-947-5643.

NEW!!! RESOURCE GUIDE FOR THE AUTISM COMMUNITY – Free internet directory highlighting autism-friendly businesses and locations. www.autismresources.com.

RFB&D – RECORDING for the BLIND & DYSLEXIC – FREE access to the nation’s largest audiobook library of textbooks and literature. www.rfbd.org

SENSORY AND LANGUAGE TOOLS – Child therapy products/ special needs toys to build skills/empower children of every ability. www.funandfunction.com.

SERVICE DEFINITIONS for FY10/11 for IDD Programs:

http://gallery.mailchimp.com/19e8ee8c57999492d1f109d2b/files/FY10_11DRAFTSvc_Defs_Bulletin.pdf

WRAPAROUND – NEW RESOURCE GUIDE TO WRAPAROUND – from the National Wraparound Initiative. Now available: <http://www.rtc.pdx.edu/NWI-book/index.shtml>.

HOW TO GET MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES IN CHESTER COUNTY

Chester County Dept. of MH/IDD 610-344-6265, 800-692-1100, www.chesco.org.

Crisis/Emergency Services: Call MH Crisis Intervention: 877-918-2100, 610-918-2100.

For Community Mental Health Services:

If you have Medical Assistance: Call Community Care Behavioral Health 866-622-4228,
Espanol: 866-229-3197.

If have private insurance: Call the number on the back of your insurance card.

If have no insurance/need outpatient services: Call Core MH Service provider:

ADULTS:

Human Services, Inc (WC, Downtn, Coates, Parkes. areas) 610-873-1010/ 888-873-1001.

Human Services, Inc (Oxford) 610-869-8557.

Fellowship Health Resources (Phoenixville area) 610-415-9301.

Creative Health Services, Inc. (Spring City Area) 610-948-6490.

CHILDREN:

Child Guidance Resource Centers (Coatesville) 610-383-5635, 866-799-3325.

Community Services of Devereux (Phoenixville) 610-933-8110.

Creative Health Services (Spring City) 610-948-6490.

Human Services, Inc. (Downtown) 610-873-1010, 888-873-1001.

Human Services, Inc. (Oxford) 888-873-1001.

Human Services, Inc. (West Chester) 610-430-6141.

Holcomb Behavioral Health (Kennett Square) 610-388-7400.

The Arc of Chester County | 900 Lawrence Drive, West Chester, PA 19380 610-696-8090 ext. 220

Individual Education Advocacy Services Available by Request!

The mission of the Arconnections advocacy effort is to support, empower, connect, and inform parents of special needs students in Chester County and to promote collaborative efforts toward attaining quality special education supports and services for children.

If you would like to be added to/removed from to this monthly email, please email info@arcofchestercounty.org and request that your name be added/removed or call Connie at 610-696-8090 x239 and leave a detailed message. If you want your event or group listed, please email info@arcofchestercounty.org. We can only list groups and events if we know about them. PLEASE PARTICIPATE!

PLEASE NOTE: We provide this information as a convenience for our community. It is not an all-inclusive list but rather a work in progress. Although we attempt to keep the listings up to date, we cannot guarantee that all links and phone numbers are current. This list is for information purposes only and is not intended to recommend or endorse any specific professional or therapeutic treatment or any person or organization.