

## **#129 NOW & COMP Waiver Update, FOCUS, DBHDD changes coming....**

Dearest Advocates:

It's been a long 7 months for our family due to complex issues associated with Jacob's cancer treatment and side effects. This is why you have not received as many newsletters from me about events, issues happening in the disability world. I hope that Jacob's health continues to get better so I can spend more time helping families, providers and concerned citizens with being connected to the proper information and advocacy needed in the disability world. I realize that some of the information on my website is dated and hope to have more time later this year to update, as well as, have some more exciting announcements in the coming months. Stay Tuned.....

Positive changes are coming at the Georgia Dept. of Behavioral Health and Developmental Disabilities (DBHDD). David Blanchard (formally Executive Director of AADD) has been named as DBHDD Deputy Assistant Commissioner! . Congrats Dave on your new position! <https://dbhdd.georgia.gov/press-releases/2012-07-25/david-blanchard-named-dbhdd-deputy-assistant-commissioner> There are many changes happening to DBHDD....Things are looking up for families and providers in GA!

Another major announcement in the last couple of weeks from Georgia Medicaid was that they are not proceeding with managed care for individuals with disabilities at this time! Great news! <http://www.ajc.com/news/state-tables-medicaid-revamp-1477825.html>

Over the last two weeks, I have been hearing about a lot of positive news from families about receiving the NOW/COMP home and community based waivers! This is great news since the waiting list continues to be over 6,000 individuals in need. If you have not filled out the paperwork for your loved one with developmental disabilities in Georgia, I strongly recommend you go ahead and get on the waiting lists! You have nothing to lose and everything to gain. To receive an application, please contact your regional DBHDD office (most of metro Atlanta is Region 3) To find which region you are in and contact information go to: <http://dbhdd.georgia.gov/regions> Ask for the NOW/COMP waiver application.

In addition, tomorrow is a DBHDD Region 3 Provider Fair for those interested. See below for information

I do have some very sad news. Last night a non-profit organization that many of our families are involved with was broken into and all of their computers and electronics were stolen. Yes, insurance will pay for replacements, but they still have a couple thousand \$ for their deductible. If you could please consider making a small donation to this amazing organization, it would be appreciated. [www.focus-ga.org](http://www.focus-ga.org)

Have a great evening and enjoy the Olympics! I will!

*United- We Will Make a Difference!*

Heidi J. Moore

(Proud Mother to Jacob – 12 yrs old with Down syndrome and Leukemia and Jared- 10 years old with amazing spirit & love for his brother)

\*\*\*\*\*

Region 3 office of the Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Disabilities is hosting a provider fair. Here is an opportunity to meet providers that serve the 6 counties of our region! (Clayton, Fulton, Gwinnett, Newton, Rockdale, and Dekalb)

**DBHDD Region 3 Office  
Hosts  
Provider Fair  
Saturday, July 28, 2012  
10am – 2pm  
Gwinnett Conference Center  
6400 Sugarloaf Parkway  
Duluth, GA**

**Provider Fair for Families in Regions 3**

The Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Disabilities/ Division of Developmental Disabilities is sponsoring a Provider Fair for families in Regions 1 & 3. The provider fair is intended for families to give them an opportunity to meet and greet the providers within their region. Families will have a chance to interview and ask questions of their prospective providers as well as get to know what services they provide. The provider fair will begin at 10am and will end at 2:00pm. Sign-in for the families will begin at 9:30am. Pre-registration is not required for families; however, it is required for participating providers.

Who should attend??

- Families of those needing services, are on a waiting list, or are receiving services but would like to see what else is out there for you to consider.
- Even if your funds are directed or self-directed...
- Individuals that would like to see what other options they have for services
- Concerned citizens that have an interest or work with those with a disability (Developmental Disability, Mental Health or Addictive Disease) that would like to see the options in the region.
- ALL are welcome!
- It is **Free!**

For more information – Call the Region 3 Office 770-414-3052

\*\*\*\*\*

If you would like to receive Jacob Moore's updates or post prayers, please go to:

<http://www.caringbridge.org/visit/prayforjacobmoore> or [www.teamjacob.org](http://www.teamjacob.org) . To watch Jacob's Cancer Journey video: [www.youtube.com/watch?v=2GjPfmIZ76g](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2GjPfmIZ76g)

For disability information and previous newsletters, please go to [www.heidijmoore.com](http://www.heidijmoore.com) .

*"Help The Children Now, So They Can Help Themselves Later!"*

The material contained in this e-mail is for general information only. It is not intended in any

way to provide or offer legal advice. To obtain legal advice please consult with your attorney or a qualified legal representative.