

49 Media, Meetings and More

Dearest Advocates:

Today, the AJC newspaper included the article that was issued out from the Associated Press (AP) yesterday (page A-8). It was nice to see that Atlanta metro chose to cover the article along with a great photo of Jacob during his music therapy class! This just continues to bring additional local attention to disability awareness and issues.

<http://www.ajc.com/search/content/news/stories/2008/09/09/pespecial.html>

Please take this opportunity to continue the dialogue around disability awareness. Write a letter to AJC Editor (letters@ajc.com), call your local TV station, etc. The media needs to hear from you!

Society needs to see the potential of individuals with disabilities, given the right resources, love and support (which, yes, means funding too). The media needs to hear that this is a serious issue and family and friends of individuals with disabilities needs everyone's support in order for them to reach their full potential.

In addition, I have included information on the Disability Advocate Meeting with Dept. of Human Resources (DHR), an opportunity with GA State University on a language development program for toddlers, free wheelchair tennis lessons, Centennial High School special needs committee meetings.

I hope you find this information helps.

United... We Will Make A Difference!
Heidi

Disability Advocate Meeting with DHR:

There will be an advocates meeting with Dr. Hall and DHR staff on September 16th from 10-12pm at 2 Peachtree -26th floor

This is a forum for people with disabilities and their families to discuss both positive and negative issues that will better improve delivery of services. Would you please email me if you are attending and your issue so you can be placed on the agenda

Deirdre K. O'Brien

Executive Director

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1-678-904-1967

Georgia State Univ. Language Development Program:

Do you have a child 24 to 36 months of age with a diagnosed developmental disability and who uses less than ten words to talk?

If so, you and your child may be eligible to participate in a project at the Georgia State University Department of Communication looking at the language development of toddlers with developmental disabilities.

What you and your child will receive free for participating:

- developmental and language assessments
- 12 week augmented language intervention program
- Stipend for completing follow-up assessments one year post intervention
- guidelines for performing language intervention at home
- parking for visits to GSU
- convenient visits centered around family schedules
- intervention materials

For more information you may visit our website at: <http://www.communication.gsu.edu/toddlerproject>

If you would like to participate, please contact:

Language Intervention for Toddlers Project

Georgia State University

Dr. Mary Ann Ronski

404-413-5666

mronski@gsu.edu

Andrea Barton-Hulsey, Project Coordinator

404-413-5667

abarton@gsu.edu

We will continuously accept toddlers into the project through February 2011

Free Wheelchair Tennis Lessons:

2008 FALL SEASON

Sept. 6, 2008—Oct. 25, 2008

Every Saturday 2:00 PM—4:00 PM

Free Wheelchair Tennis Lessons

Blackburn Tennis Center

3501 Ashford Dunwoody Road NE

Atlanta, Georgia 30319

*Info: Ron Walker #770.998.2296
Email: rd_walker@mindspring.com*

☺ ATTITUDE ☺ EFFORT ☺ SPORTSMANSHIP ☺

Centennial HS Special Needs Meetings Scheduled:

Our new Centennial High School Special Needs Committee co-chairs are holding their first two meetings of the school year! Parents and supporters of Fulton County students with special needs are welcome to attend.

1) Wednesday, Sept. 10th at Centennial High School at 6:30 pm in room I-12

"Meet and Greet"

Your opportunity to meet other parents, learn about programs, opportunities and events in our community for individuals with special needs. Together we can do so much more!

2) Date TBD at Centennial High School at 6:30 pm in room I-12

Speaker: Lisa Cheyette, PhD

Topic: Relationship Developmental Intervention -- RDI

An innovative program that helps people with autism and related conditions reach their full potential.

Questions? Contact:

Centennial Special Needs Co-Chairs

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