

Newsletter #52 URGENT: Katie Beckett Waiver Legal Training Announcement & Other Important Information!

Dearest Advocates:

Urgent News: Please see below a wonderful training opportunity next week, **Tuesday, October 7th, 2008** for those families that need help understanding the Medicaid hearing process for the Katie Beckett Waiver. A few weeks ago, many families responding that they have been contacted by an attorney representing Medicaid regarding their fair hearing requests for Katie Beckett Waiver eligibility from years ago. There are a ton of questions out there regarding this process and this is a way to get them answered!

If you plan on attending the below meeting, please send me a quick e-mail back so they know how many people will be attending. I don't have any other information at this time but please try to attend if you have questions and need additional information regarding this process and **YOUR** rights for your child. The only way YOU will be able to advocate for your child is to properly educate yourself!

In addition, I have including other various items in this newsletter including an announcement regarding Julie and Katie Beckett speaking at the CDC, voting information, and a new special needs ministry.

In addition, Monkey Joes is sponsoring it's second annual **FREE** special night for special kids on October 28th in Roswell. Hope to see you there. For additional information, see below!

United... We Will Make A Difference!

Sincerely,

Heidi

(Proud Mother to Jacob - 8 yrs old with Down syndrome and Jared - 7 yrs old)

“Help the Children Now, So They Can Help Themselves Later!”

www.heidijmoore.com

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Katie Beckett Waiver Hearing- Legal Training

Georgia Advocacy Office and Atlanta Legal Aid and Georgia Legal Services are offering to do a training for parents who are faced with Katie Beckett hearings. The draft agenda is below. We can do the training on **Tuesday, October 7th, from 1 pm to 4 pm at the State Bar Headquarters at 101 Marietta Street, 3rd Floor, Atlanta, GA 30303.** It is between the 5 Points and Omni MARTA Stations, and there is some parking in the building for \$6.00. The training is free. We know this is short notice, but it's been hard to find a time to do it, given the short time some parents have before their hearings.

AGENDA

1:00 - 1:15 What happened to raise this issue at this time?

Harkins v. Medows -

1:15 - 1:30 What happens from here?

OSAH hearings have been scheduled

Motions for Summary Determination

1:30 - 2:00 OSAH Rules and Procedures

Website

Time lines

Responding to a MSD

Evidentiary issues

Remainder of Administrative Process

Final decision, DCH final administrative appeal, judicial review

Vicky Kimbrell or CB/JN/LL

2:00- 2:45 Substance of Katie Beckett Administrative Case

Care Plans - Physicians

Parental plans -

DCH website forms

Regulations

2:45 - 3:15 Other Medicaid Programs - Eligibility and Services

3:15 - 3:45 Questions and Answers - We cannot answer questions specific to your case.

If you have questions about procedures, administrative law, or general Medicaid law

we are glad to try and respond.

Questions: Contact:

Linda Smith Lowe

Public Policy Advocate

1137 Moreland Place, SE

Atlanta, GA 30316

404-274-1746

404-622-5079 (fax)

smithlowe@earthlink.net

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Julie and Katie Beckett Speak at the CDC:

A Focus On Disabilities, Announcement, NCBDDD, CDC....Please try and attend OR register to participate in the 'Audio' Conference.

Julie Beckett is an inspiring mom and advocate and 'Katie Beckett' is pretty much a household name for families having children with disabilities.

There is no fee, but registration is required.

<http://www.cdc.gov/ncbddd/>

http://www.surveymonkey.com/s.aspx?sm=0cK0EPlqYg_2f73x_2f3_2b_2fcDpw_3d_3d

Join CDC's National Center on Birth Defects and Developmental Disabilities in welcoming a presentation from Katie and Julie Beckett. Julie Beckett currently serves as Director of National Policy for Family Voices. Her daughter is Katie Beckett, in whose name a Medicaid home and community-based waiver program was developed—often called the Katie Beckett Waiver program (read more about Katie and Julie Beckett below). The Becketts will share details on bringing families and communities together to obtain services for children with special needs/disabilities. This event will mark the twentieth anniversary of the Disability and Health Program at CDC.

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Please let me know if you have any questions.

Thanks,

Marcia

Marcia Miller, MPH
Health Education Specialist
Centers for Disease Control and Prevention
National Center on Birth Defects and Developmental Disabilities,
Division of Human Development and Disability
1600 Clifton Road, MS E-88, Atlanta, GA 30333
404-498-6408 and 404-498-3050 (fax)
mfv9@cdc.gov

Guest Speakers
Katie Beckett and Julie Beckett
From Family Voices

Tuesday, October 21
3 p.m. (EST)
CDC, Roybal Campus

Tom Harkin Global Communications Center

Building 19, Auditorium B 3

1600 Clifton Road, NE

Atlanta, GA 30333

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For more information, visit www.cdc.gov/ncbddd or contact Marcia Miller at mfv9@cdc.gov or Angie Colson at ftt7@cdc.gov.

More about Katie and Julie Beckett

Katie contracted viral encephalitis when she was 6 months old. The virus caused severe damage to her body, including her ability to breathe. She was placed on a ventilator and spent three years at a pediatric intensive care unit. Created in 1982, the home and community-based waiver program often called the Katie Beckett Waiver program, allows children who would otherwise be hospitalized or institutionalized to get treated at home

and continue to maintain Medicaid eligibility. Katie was the first recipient of this waiver. Her mother, Julie Beckett, worked with Congress to obtain this waiver.

About Family Voices

Family Voices, a national grassroots network of families and friends, believes that people with special health needs face common problems caused by fundamental inadequacies in our health care system. Family Voices does not support any specific health care reform plan. Instead, Family Voices advocates for the inclusion of a set of basic principles in every health care reform proposal.

Audio conferencing is available. Please click on the registration link for more information.

Presented in partnership with Association of University Centers on Disabilities.

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NEW Special Needs Ministry:

Green Light Ministry

Children with special needs and their family members face more than their share of red lights as they travel through life. Unfortunately, for many of these families, the church has been just another one of these red lights along the road, but at Johnson Ferry Baptist Church, we think it is time to flip the switch with our new Green Light Ministry designed especially for children, grades K-5, who have special needs.

This fall, the Children's Ministry at JFBC is excited to announce 2 new options for Sunday Bible Study – an inclusion program with one-on-one buddies as well as a special 10:00am Green Light Sunday Bible Study class designed for children who have special needs, taught by teachers with special education training, and assisted by nursing staff who will be on-call during the Bible study hour. In the spring, we will also be kicking off a new respite event called Refuel. Exciting things are happening at JFBC!

IMPORTANT: You must be pre-registered in order to attend a Green Light event. Visit us online at www.johnsonferry.org/children/greenlight to download our registration forms or contact Eden Hutchins at eden.hutchins@jfbc.org or (770) 794-2992 to find out how you can get plugged in!

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From AADD: Early Voting in Georgia Information:

Is your schedule hectic? Not sure if you'll be in town on Election Day? Want to avoid Election Day crowds? Then take advantage of one of the numerous voting options offered here in Georgia. Go to

http://www.sos.georgia.gov/elections/advanced_voting.htm

Fill in this PDF application online, or print the application and then write in the information. Verify all information on your application. Sign your application. Mail the completed, signed application. No postage necessary if mailed in the United States. Go to

http://sos.georgia.gov/elections/voter_registration/voter_reg_app.htm

Are you registered to vote in Georgia? If so, you can use the Secretary of State Poll Locator to get maps and directions to your polling place, find your elected officials, and check your voter registration information. Go to

<http://sos.georgia.gov/elections/polllocator/PollLocator.aspx>

David Blanchard - Atlanta Alliance on Developmental Disabilities

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**Monkey Joes Presents:
2nd Annual Special Night for Special Kids!
On Tuesday, October 28th**

Monkey Joes of Roswell will be opening its doors to all families of children with special needs.

FOR A NIGHT OF FREE PLAY!

6:00pm- 8:30pm

In addition food and drink has been donated by Pizza Hut on Holcomb Bridge Road, Mama Fu's on Mansell and Alpharetta Highway, and Moe's on Crossville Highway...all in Roswell

<http://www.monkeyjoes.com/contactus30076.aspx>