

Newsletter #54 Various Disability Information

Dearest Advocates:

On Tuesday, Georgia Advocacy Office and Atlanta Legal Aid and Georgia Legal Services had a wonderful information session training for parents who are faced with Katie Beckett hearings. Over 30 families attended this training. They have agreed to give me the presentation that was distributed, and I will post them on my website very soon. Many thanks to all three organizations for helping continue to educate families on our rights and the process involved with the fair hearing process.

In addition, below is information regarding upcoming sensory friendly movies at AMC theatres, an augmentative alternative communication (AAC) parent meeting, Region 3 MHDDAD planning board meeting details, and information on National Disability Employment Awareness Month.

I have also provided information regarding the Atlanta 2008 Community Quarterback Award request to nominate volunteers from the community.

Soon the NOW and COMP disability waivers will be implemented on November 1st of next month. I hope to have additional information regarding that process very soon. I am concerned about how this transition will take place and making sure we continue to receive the services individuals with disabilities need. Stay tuned-

As always, I hope you find this information helpful. Please note: I will not have access to e-mail next week. Thanks.

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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From Autism Society of America: Sensory Friendly Films with AMC!

AMC Entertainment® and the Autism Society of America have teamed up to bring families affected by autism a special opportunity to enjoy their favorite films in a safe and accepting environment on a monthly basis.

With Sensory Friendly Films, the movie auditoriums will have their lights brought up and the sound turned down, and the AMC "Silence is Golden" policy will not be enforced.

Three theaters in the Atlanta market have been selected to host "Sensory Friendly Films".

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| AMC Discover Mills 18 5900 Sugarloaf Parkway Lawrenceville, GA 30043 678-847-9265 | AMC Phipps Plaza 14 3500 Peachtree Road NE Atlanta, GA 30326 404-231-1492 | AMC Southlake 24 7065 Mount Zion Circle Morrow, GA 30260 770-473-0719 |
|---|---|---|

For tickets to this unique experience, please visit the theater's box office the day of the event.

**BEVERLY HILLS CHIHUAHUA
SATURDAY, OCTOBER 11TH - 10:00am**

**MADAGASCAR 2
SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 8TH - 10:00am**

Please forward as appropriate.

Office: 770-904-4474
Fax: 770-904-4476
E-mail: office@asaga.com
(Please forward as appropriate)

www.asaga.com

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From Atlanta Area AAC Parents: AAC Meeting

Do you have a family member who uses Augmentative/ Alternative Communication ("AAC")?

Please join us from 3:00 to 5:00 p.m. on Sunday October 19, 2008 at Starbucks Hwy 29 and LaVista , 4294 Lawrenceville Hwy, Tucker, GA 30084, (770) 492-9073

Meet and greet other parents/caregivers of AAC users to discuss our families' needs (trainings, social groups, etc.) and ideas for future meetings (topics, locations, days, times).

Your input on the direction of our Group will help ensure that we are better able to meet the needs of all families in the metro Atlanta area

AtlantaAreaAACParents@charter.net

Co-Chairs: Krista Harper Elema ekelema@comcast.net and Lora Lastinger Langley llangley@charter.net

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From Mark Johnson of Shephard Center: National Disability Employment Awareness Month

<http://www.bdi-atl.org/NDEAM/index.aspx>

Many people do not realize that people with disabilities are Americas largest minority group. The disability community numbers approximately 54 million and contains people of every ethnicity, age, and gender. Despite this significant presence, there is a lack of regular public dialogue about how to be inclusive of this major segment of our population.

Disability 101 can help! The four Web-based modules of Disability 101 provide the answers, tips, and resources to help our communities and businesses look beyond the disability and actively include people with disabilities. Disability 101 training is free

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From: United Way- ATLANTA FALCONS COMMUNITY QUARTERBACK AWARD

The Atlanta Falcons are pleased to announce the criteria for the 2008 Community Quarterback Award. The Atlanta Falcons Community Quarterback Award honors volunteers in Georgia (ages 13 and over) who exemplify leadership and dedication to bettering their communities. Many organizations rely on quality volunteers to create and facilitate programs that benefit many lives throughout the state of Georgia. The Community Quarterback award is designed to recognize and reward these volunteers.

Nomination forms must be completed with all required information and returned to:

Kyla Clark
Community Relations Coordinator
Atlanta Falcons
4400 Falcon Pkwy, Flowery Branch, GA, 30542

Must be postmarked by October 13, 2008. You can also fax a nomination form to 770-965-3185, ATTN: Community Quarterback Award or by email kclark@falcons.nfl.com by 5pm, October 13, 2008.

Please submit one nomination form per person. Individuals can nominate themselves or others for the 2008 Community Quarterback Award. Winners will receive tickets to a 2008 Falcons home game where they will be recognized and a \$2,000 grant to the organization that they serve.

Nominations can be downloaded by clicking on the link below

<http://www.unitedwayatlanta.org/e0-nfl.asp>

United Way of Metro Atlanta
100 Edgewood Ave. NE
Atlanta, GA 30303

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Region 3 MHDDAD Planning Board Meeting

Thursday, October 16, 2008

11 a.m. - 1 p.m.

Region 3 MHDDAD Office

100 Crescent Centre Parkway - Suite 900

Tucker, GA 30084

AGENDA

Call to Order

Introductions - Board Members and Guests (5 minutes)

Public Comments* - Three minutes each (no more than 30 minutes for all)

Approve Minutes from 8-21-08 Meeting (2 minutes)

Regional Coordinator's Report/Announcements (5 minutes)

Guest Speaker - Dr. Steven Hall, Director, Georgia Office of Developmental Disabilities

Committee Reports (5 minutes each committee)

Old Business

- Report on the planning retreat held October 9 (15 minutes)
- Membership Recruitment
- Legislative Advocacy in Light of Statewide Budget Cuts

New Business

Announcements (5 minutes)

- Next Regional Planning Board Meeting - Thursday, December 11, 2008

Adjourn

*Participants who wish to address the board must indicate their intent on the sign-in sheet prior to the meeting.