
**"UniteOurVoices" Newsletter # 141
January 21, 2015**

Dearest Advocates:

Many of you are already aware of the upcoming NOW/COMP home and community based waiver community forums that will be taking place in the coming weeks. This is our time as parents, providers and concerned citizens to make sure our disability waivers are written properly with necessary supports and services. This only happens every 5 years! I hope you make every effort to attend of the below meetings! Hope to see you there...

NOW/COMP Community Forums: Division of Developmental Disabilities, Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Disabilities

The division of developmental disabilities is planning a series of six public forums to collect comments and suggestions for the Medicaid Waiver Programs for people with developmental disabilities. Don't miss this opportunity to make a positive difference in the direction of services for individuals with developmental disabilities in Georgia. We need your input.

At this meeting you will:

Receive the latest information on the NOW/COMP waivers from Catherine Ivy, director of community services for the division of developmental disabilities.

Participate in a focused discussion with other advocates and record your suggestions for improvements to services within the NOW/COMP waivers.

Network with other stakeholders who share your experiences and concerns.

Have the opportunity to positively impact services provided in Georgia.

Who should attend: anyone who participates in receiving, providing or managing waiver services in any of these programs: New Options Waiver (NOW) AND Comprehensive Supports Waiver Program (COMP)

January 26, 2015 – Columbus

Evening session

6 p.m. – 8 p.m.

In collaboration with the Georgia Winter Institute and the Center for Leadership in Disability at Georgia State University:

Georgia Convention and Trade Center

801 Front Avenue

Columbus, GA 31901

RSVP: columbushcbs@gmail.com

Please indicate if you are family member, self-advocate, or provider.

February 5, 2015 – Cartersville

Afternoon session

1 p.m. – 3 p.m.

Cartersville Civic Center
435 West Main Street
Cartersville, GA 30120

RSVP: cartersvillehcbs@gmail.com

Please indicate if you are family member, self-advocate or provider.

February 10, 2015 – Norcross

Afternoon or Evening session

1 p.m. – 3 p.m. or 7 p.m. – 9 p.m.

Lucky Shoals Park Recreation Center
4651 Britt Road
Norcross, GA 30093

RSVP: norcrosshcbs@gmail.com

Please indicate afternoon or evening session and if you are a family member, self-advocate or provider.

February 17, 2015 – Savannah

Afternoon session

1 p.m. – 3 p.m.

Coastal Georgia Center/Georgia Southern University
316 Fahm Street
Savannah, GA 31401

RSVP: savannahhcbs@gmail.com

Please indicate if you are family member, self-advocate or provider.

February 24, 2015 – Tifton

Afternoon session

1 p.m. – 3 p.m.

University of Georgia Tifton Campus Conference Center
15 R D C Road
Tifton, GA 31794

RSVP: tiftonhcbs@gmail.com

Please indicate if you are family member, self-advocate or provider.

February 28, 2015 – Athens

Morning session

9 a.m. – 11 a.m.

In collaboration with the Northeast Georgia Transition Team

UGA Tate Center

45 Baxter Center

Athens, GA 30602

RSVP: athenshcbcs@gmail.com

Please indicate if you are family member, self-advocate or provider.

Hosted by the Georgia Department Behavioral Health and Developmental Disabilities, Division of Developmental Disabilities, in collaboration with the Center for Leadership in Disability at Georgia State University, Parent to Parent of Georgia and the Northeast Georgia Transition Team

I hope you find this information helpful. Happy 2015!

Sincerely,

Heidi

"United - We Will Make A Difference"

Sincerely,

Heidi J. Moore

(Proud Mother to Jacob - 15 yrs old with Down syndrome, Autism & Leukemia Survivor and Jared - 13 yrs old with amazing spirit & love for his brother)

For more information and to see previous newsletters and disability information, please go to www.UniteOurVoices.com.

Join Heidi on Twitter at www.twitter.com/UniteOurVoices and FaceBook Group at https://www.facebook.com/groups/435101099921721/?ref=br_tf

To follow Jacob's Journey with Leukemia, please go to: <http://www.caringbridge.org/visit/prayforjacobmoore> or www.teamjacob.org . To watch Jacob's Journey with Cancer video: www.youtube.com/watch?v=2GjPfmIZ76g

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

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