



MARCH—APRIL 2010

EDITOR: SUSAN LAWRENCE



The Annual IEP Review



A right of SPRING!

As sure as the crocus will push through the cold ground, and spring fever will descend upon people of all ages, the time is rolling around for many of us to review our children's IEP (individual education plan).

Through the years I have found that parents most often underestimate the importance of their part in the IEP process. They might feel less knowledgeable about the teaching process, devalued as members of the IEP team, or believe that school staff thinks them unrealistic in their expectations of the school. Being ever the parent advocate, I've listed a few of the many reasons that parents are vital to the IEP process:

- * Parents know their child better than anyone else.
- * Parents have the most complete understanding of a child's physical, social, developmental, and family history.
- * Parents are the only adults in the educational process who have been and will continue to be deeply involved throughout the child's school career and life.
- * A parents' suggestion for change and improvement based on their knowledge of the child is invaluable.
- * Parents chart the future for their children with every step they take.

There is no friendship, no love, like that of the parent for the child.

Henry Ward Beecher



Parent Outreach
News Brief

THE
COUNCIL
ON MENTAL RETARDATION, INC.

Inside This Edition

Page 2

Art from the Heart,
FIND, Council Picnic

Page 3

Future Planning Se-
ries, Session on Hu-
man Sexuality

Back Page

New Technology Re-
source

Save A Tree

Send Your Email

Address Our Way!

To receive this news brief

electronically, email at:

slawrence@councilondd.org

or call Susan at 584-1239



Please join us for a gala dinner and auction to benefit the programs of the Council on Developmental Disabilities

Saturday, March 13, 2010 at 6:30 PM

RSVP via phone at 502 584 1239 or email to:

cmueller@councilondd.org



- Cash bar, dining, silent auction and live auction
- Cocktail Attire
- Louisville Marriott Downtown, 280 W Jefferson St
- Master of Ceremonies: Dawne Gee
- Auctions will offer fabulous vacations, jewelry, and the dazzling work of many fine artists in every imaginable media

“Exploring Options”

An event that will give families and their children with disabilities an opportunity to explore information on colleges, technical schools, and much more, as they look toward an independent future.

Time: 9AM to 12PM

Place: The Ballroom at Spalding University

Date: March 27, 2010

RSVP: 587-6500



FIND of Louisville is funded by the U.S. Department of Education



**MARK
THIS
DATE**

The Council's Annual Picnic

Thursday, May 13, 2010

5PM to 7PM

Calvin Presbyterian Church, 2501 Rudy Lane

RSVP at: 584-1239 or email at: mdowns@councilondd.org

The Council On Developmental Disabilities

HOPE . VOICE . VISION

The Council Presents: A Future Planning Series

Guardianship—Is it needed? What is the process? Is follow up required?

Speakers: April DuVal, Susan Lawrence

When: Wed, April 14—5PM to 7PM

The Michelle P Waiver Presentation, hand outs on HCB and SCL waivers

Speakers: To be announced

When: Wed, April 28—5pm to 7pm

Securing a Sound Financial Future for My Child with Disabilities

Dennis Johnson, Financial Planner

When: Wed, May 12, 5pm to 7pm

Wills, Trusts, and the Record of Information

Richard Bush, Attorney and Parent

When: Wed, May 26, 5pm to 7pm

To RSVP: Call Susan at 584-1239 or email at: slawrence@councilondd.org

All meetings will be held at: Exceptional Teens and Adults
724 W. Breckenridge St.
Louisville, KY 40203



Helping Your Child who has Developmental Disabilities learn about Human Sexuality

Teaching your child about human sexuality has tangible and significant benefits. These include improved social skills, positive changes in behavior, such as adopting more acceptable expressions of sexuality, reduced risk of sexual abuse, sexually transmitted infections and unintended pregnancy. Morgan Taliaferro, an educator and community advocate from Planned Parenthood of Kentucky, will be sharing with you the information and instruction she uses to teach her clients with developmental disabilities about human sexuality.

We hope you will join us!

Wednesday, April 14 *For families, caregivers of children under 21 years*
7pm to 8:30pm

Wednesday, April 28 *For families, caregivers of adults*
7pm to 8:30

Both sessions will be held at:

The Council
1151 So 4th St
Louisville, KY 40203

To RSVP: Call Susan at
584-1239 or email at:
slawrence@councilondd.org



1151 South 4th Street
Louisville, Kentucky 40203

Return Service Requested

Non-Profit Org.
U.S. Postage
PAID
Louisville, KY
Permit No. 1150

Our Mission:

To initiate positive change on behalf of individuals with developmental disabilities by voicing their needs to the community; creating new choices for living, learning, and participation; and, ensuring the highest quality of life possible.

Our Vision:

A society that includes, values, and empowers children, youth, and adults with devel-



THE IPHONE AND THE IEP

Great news for tech savvy parents! The Parent Educational Advocacy Training Center has announced the development of an Individualized Education Program (IEP) Checklist iPhone application. The new IEP app helps parents become better informed by making IEP information easier to access. This tool is for parents and teachers to consider as they develop an IEP. For more information about the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) and IEPs visit the Department of Education's IDEA Web site.