



Informed & EMPOWERED



transition | autism | planning | special education

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A Disability Conference for Families in the Brazos Valley

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SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 20, 2008

8:00 AM – 3:30 PM

COLLEGE STATION CONFERENCE CENTER

1300 George Bush Drive

{ DISABILITY RESOURCE FAIR
(free and open to public)
2:30–3:30 PM }

sponsored by...



family support
NETWORK

Conference Schedule

	Transition Room 102	Autism Room 106	Planning Room 105	Special Education Room 101
8–8:30 am	Registration			
8:30–9:45 am	T1 Transition Basics <i>Cheryl Grenwelge</i>	A1 Commissioner’s Rules Regarding Autism: The Autism Supplement <i>Monte Parker</i>	P1 Medicaid Waivers <i>Jeanine Pinner</i>	S1 Special Education 101 <i>Mary Jane Williams</i>
10–11:15 am	T2 Graduation Options and Post-Secondary Educational Options <i>Jeanne Patrick</i>	A2 In-Home Training <i>Monte Parker</i>	P2 Creating a Long-Term Vision for Your Child <i>Jeanine Pinner</i>	S2 How to Write a Good IEP Goal <i>Mary Jane Williams</i>
11:30 am–1 pm	Lunch with presentations: The Master Pooled Trust, <i>Chris Oglesby</i> and Directory of Community Resources, <i>Amy Sharp</i>			
1:15–2:30 pm	T3 Post-Secondary Possibilities: Self-Determination and Independence for Students with High Functioning Autism and Asperger’s Syndrome <i>James Williams</i>	A3 Social Thinking <i>Monte Parker</i>	P3 Private Insurance Issues and Healthcare Transition Process: Pediatric to Adult <i>Jeanine Pinner</i>	S3 Cross-Battery Assessments <i>Anita Sohn McCormick</i>
2:30–3:30 pm	Disability Resource Fair and Ice Cream Social (free and open to public)			

Presentation Topics

TRANSITION

- T1 Transition Basics** | What a transition plan from high school to adulthood looks like, when to start planning, and how to support your child.
- T2 Graduation Options & Post-Secondary Educational Options** | Exploring options for students with disabilities.
- T3 Post-Secondary Possibilities: Self-Determination and Independence for Students with High Functioning Autism and Asperger’s Syndrome** | Which strategies and resources have been successful in one student’s life and how families and schools can prepare for the challenge ahead.

AUTISM

- A1 Commissioner’s Rules Regarding Autism: The Autism Supplement** | Recent rules regarding autism in Texas.
- A2 In-Home Training** | Principles and concepts.
- A3 Social Thinking** | How you can use it to support your child.

PLANNING

- P1 Medicaid Waivers** | Various Medicaid waivers.
- P2 Creating a Long-Term Vision for Your Child** | How to create it for your child and how to achieve it!
- P3 Private Insurance Issues & Healthcare Transition Process: Pediatric to Adult** | Transitioning healthcare from childhood to adulthood.

SPECIAL EDUCATION

- S1 Special Education 101** | Back to the basics—your rights and responsibilities.
- S2 How to Write a GOOD IEP Goal** | Steps to writing a good and measurable IEP goal.
- S3 Cross-Battery Assessments** | Concepts of cross-battery assessments and how and why schools should use them.

Presenter Bios

CHERYL GRENWELGE is the project coordinator for the Texas Statewide Youth Leadership Forum and the Brazos Valley Employment Project. As co-coordinator for the Texas Transition Conference, Cheryl is responsible for collaboration of all conference stakeholders. Cheryl acted as lead teacher at a large transition center at the secondary level. She is also a doctoral student fellow at the Center on Disability and Development at Texas A&M University. Cheryl has a B.S. in Special Education and a M.Ed. in Education with an emphasis on Educational Diagnostics and Texas Licensure.

ANITA SOHN MCCORMICK is a faculty member in the School Psychology program at Texas A&M. Anita has served as a Mental Health consultant for Bryan Head Start and worked at Cypress Fairbanks ISD as a school psychologist intern. She specializes in Clinical-Child Psychology and Special Populations and is bilingual in English/Spanish. She has been involved in many research projects including substance abuse prevention, interventions for culturally and linguistically diverse populations, and child perception of family after divorce. As a Licensed Specialist in School Psychology, Anita has served as a counselor in a high school and focuses her main interests on assessments for special populations and bilingual issues.

CHRIS OGLESBY is an attorney with a background in administrative law. He has been serving people with disabilities at The Arc of Texas since 1999 and has been the Manager of The Arc of Texas Master Pooled Trust since July 2000. Chris works with attorneys to set up new sub-accounts, approves disbursements for goods and services to improve beneficiaries' lives, and speaks with families and professional groups about The Master Pooled Trust.

MONTE PARKER has experience as a speech therapist in the public and private schools provides a unique perspective for students with autism as well as students with severe, multiple disabilities. Having first located in a public school co-op, he moved to the Education Service Center at Region 8 before he administered day school and residential programs at the Autistic Treatment Center in San Antonio. Many years were spent in classrooms in the Northeast ISD in San Antonio working directly with students with autism. As a private consultant, he has worked with many regional service centers developing programs and training teachers that work with students from pre-school to adult. In his current position as an educational specialist at ESC Region XIII, he has expertise regarding the autism spectrum and low-incidence disabilities including deaf blind, severe cognitive disability and medically fragile. He is now heading the State Leadership Function for Autism for Texas at Region 13.

JEANNE PATRICK serves as the ESC Region 6 Transition Specialist. Her passion is helping young people with disabilities become productive citizens who are able to achieve their goals. Jeanne is currently the State ESC Liaison to the Texas Association of Vocational Adjustment Coordinators Board and President of the Texas Division on Career Development and Transition, a division of the Council for Exceptional Children. Jeanne also collaborates on the Texas Transition Conference.

JEANINE PINNER is the Training & Outreach Coordinator for Texas Parent to Parent (TxP2P) and is a Partner in Policymaking Graduate (2000). She provides training across Texas to parent groups, service providers and educators working with children with disabilities, chronic illnesses and other special health care needs. For the seven years prior to working for TxP2P, Jeanine worked as Family Liaison for Hays CISD. She has been married for 35 years and is the mother of two. Her 17-year-old son, Jake, often travels with Jeanine as a co-presenter.

JAMES WILLIAMS is an undergraduate at Sam Houston State University (SHSU), pursuing a degree in Special Education. His leadership as the President of the CEC Student Chapter at SHSU has been instrumental in the chapter's revival and continued success. While overcoming his challenges with Asperger's Syndrome, James is a veteran keynote speaker on special education and Asperger's Syndrome due to his unique perspective and upbeat style. James has placed on the Dean's List at SHSU since he started college, is a member of the national education honor society Kappa Delta Pi, and the recipient of the 2007 Council for Exceptional Children International Outstanding Undergraduate Student of the Year Award. He is also on the Board of Directors of the Asperger's Syndrome Parent-Professional Exchange Support Group, a member of the SHSU Chapter of the Texas State Teachers Association, and the Association of Texas Professional Educators.

MARY JANE WILLIAMS is the Executive Director of Family to Family Network, a Houston area organization committed to making a difference in the lives of children with disabilities. She started with the organization in 1997 as a volunteer helping families, served as Assistant Coordinator for the Partners in Policymaking program (2001–2006) and Director of Administration & Finance (2002–2007). She currently represents families on several TEA statewide committees and has been instrumental in the creation of the Texas Project FIRST website (www.texasprojectfirst.org), a collaborative project of Family to Family Network, Texas Education Agency, and Region 9 Education Service Center. Mary Jane and her husband are the parents of two children with disabilities.

Collaborators

The Arc of Bryan-College Station, 979-693-5770

The Arc of Texas, 800-252-9279

The Bipolar Support Group, 979-229-2667

Bryan-College Station Mayor's Committee on Employment of People with Disabilities, 979-272-3403

Department of Assistive and Rehabilitative Services, Division for Blind Services,
Alice Thomas at 979-680-5290 or 800-687-7014

The Down Syndrome Support Group of Bryan-College Station, 979-778-7010

FACETS of Bryan-College Station (autism support group), 979-574-4845

Texas Transition Conference and Texas Statewide Youth Leadership Forum, 979-458-1593

Special Thanks



For providing deli lunches and drinks.

Eva Benavides and Matthew Burhus

For donating as door prizes eight sets of tickets to The Theatre Company's performance of "Cinderella."

Bryan ISD

For providing the Ice Cream Social at the Disability Resource Fair.

Project Sunshine

For volunteering with childcare during the conference.

Details

The Disability Resource Fair will be held immediately following the conference. Vendors from local and state organizations will be present to share information about their supports and products. Please plan to stay for the fair and enjoy an Ice Cream Social.

Boxed lunches provided (special requests based on dietary needs must be made by **Saturday, September 6**).

Free child care provided for first 30 children with RSVP. All child care requests must be made by **Saturday, September 6**.

Door prizes will be given away!

For more information, contact Dr. Amy Sharp, Director of the Family Support Network, at 979-845-4612 or sharp@tamu.edu.

Conference Registration 2008

Name (s) _____

Address _____

Phone _____

Email _____

Which sessions do you plan to attend?

NOTE: Only choose one session per time block.

8:30 – 9:45 am T1 A1 F1 S1 *(check only one)*

10:00 – 11:15 am T2 A2 F2 S2 *(check only one)*

1:15 – 2:30 pm T3 A3 F3 S3 *(check only one)*

Do you have any dietary needs or require any accommodations?

Yes No If yes, please explain: _____

Do you need child care? Yes (provided for first 30 children w/ RSVP) No

If yes, please indicate how many children, their ages, and their support needs: _____

Mail this form and check (made payable to Family Support Network) to:

Family Support Network | Center on Disability and Development
MS 4225 Texas A&M University | College Station, TX 77843-4225

Rates

\$25 individual / \$30 family

Pre-Registration (postmarked by **Saturday, September 6**)

\$30 individual / \$35 family

Regular Registration (on site)