



New York Parent Association for Deaf-Blind

NYPADB e-news

Self Expression and Self Determination Workshop

Our Fall Workshop, sponsored by NYPADB, in Collaboration with NYDBC & HKNC at HKNC. A full day workshop with information, food & friends.

Sunday, October 4, 2015 at HKNC

2015-16 Interdisciplinary Transition Team Initiative (ITTI)

Do you have a child who is between the ages of 14-21 with hearing & vision loss? The New York Deaf-Blind Collaborative (NYDBC) is kicking off the 2015-2016 Interdisciplinary Transition Team Initiative (ITTI) very soon! Learn more about ITTI by viewing the video:

https://www.dropbox.com/s/a7mcjnueybocnni/ITTI%20Final%20rev%2001_06022015.mp4?dl=0

Questions? Email: susanne.morrow@qc.cuny.edu

HKNC Professional Training Seminar: Preparing for Unified English Braille

Facilitated by Frances Mary D'Andrea Ph.D., renowned leader in the field of braille education.

Aug 26, 2015 9:00am to 3:00pm EST

This daylong, practical workshop will focus on the Unified English Braille (UEB) code, which will be implemented in the United States on January 4, 2016. An explanation of the changes between UEB and the current code will be provided and discussed. Participants need to bring a Perkins Brailier so they can practice the new UEB code with discussion to follow. Sample documents transcribed in UEB will also be reviewed.

One-day workshop with 6 CE Credits Available!

https://91372e5fba0d1fb26b72-13cee80c2bfb23b1a8fcedea15638c1f.ssl.cf1.rackcdn.com/cms/UEB_worskshop_522.pdf

Accessible Educational Materials: Just in Time Basics for Families and Educators (Webinar)

Aug 18, 2015 2:00pm Eastern

From the National Center on Accessible Educational Materials:

This webinar is for families and educators new to accessible educational materials. The first half of the session will include an overview of legal issues, the changing language of AEM, and a decision-making process for determining which students need for AEM, and steps to take to address their needs. The second half of the session will be devoted to addressing questions and comments from participants. Follow-up resources will be shared.

Presenters: Joy Zabala, Diana Carl

If you have any questions about the event, please contact us at aem@cast.org or 781-245-2212. Register at:

<https://events.r20.constantcontact.com/register/eventReg?oeidk=a07eb5ny0um69fa05fa&oseq=&c=4e7015d0-1f75-11e3-a2d4-d4ae5292b9a6&ch=4ead6cf0-1f75-11e3-a320-d4ae5292b9a6>

Acquiring Accessible Formats of Printed Materials Just in Time (Webinar)

From the National Center on Accessible Educational Materials:

Aug 25, 2015 2:00pm Eastern

When disability makes it difficult or impossible for students to read or use printed educational materials, they may need one or more specialized formats of the content-braille, large print, audio and/or digital text. This first half of this session will provide a brief overview of four specialized formats, five sources of specialized formats and the criteria that must be met to obtain materials from each source. The second half of the session will be devoted to addressing questions. Follow-up resources will be shared. Presenters: Joy Zabala, Diana Carl

Prerequisite: Completion of AEM Basics (see above). Register at:

<https://events.r20.constantcontact.com/register/eventReg?oeidk=a07eb5o56sy3663f3e7&oseq=&c=4e7015d0-1f75-11e3-a2d4-d4ae5292b9a6&ch=4ead6cf0-1f75-11e3-a320-d4ae5292b9a6>

Addressing Problem Behaviors Motivated by Both Escape and Attention

Sponsored by Down Syndrome Advocacy Foundation www.dsafonline.org

An interactive, hands-on workshop designed to teach participants how to address common functions of problem behaviors in children with Down syndrome. Presenter: Kathleen Feeley, PhD., BCBA

Thursday, August 20, 2015, 7:00 PM - 9:00 PM

At the Ronkonkoma Fire District Building

<http://files.ctctcdn.com/d5931cd6201/26c6521c-f9a8-4683-8ebf-aa2739bb0ed0.pdf>

Please email dsaf03@gmail.com or call 516-983-7008 to register to attend

She Owes Her Activism To A Brave Mom, The ADA And Chocolate Cake

An NPR article about Haben Girma, who was born deaf and blind, is a graduate of Harvard Law School and works as a civil rights attorney. Girma told the story last week at the White House, when she introduced President Obama during a ceremony to mark the 25th anniversary of the [Americans with Disabilities Act](#).

<http://www.npr.org/sections/goatsandsoda/2015/07/31/428075935/she-owes-her-activism-to-a-brave-mom-the-ada-and-chocolate-cake>

Developmental Duffle Giveaway!

What if you could request a bag full of developmental toys appropriate for your child and hand-picked by educational professionals, like a school psychologist an OT or SLP?

And also choose your bag based on your child's needs? Like maybe a **newborn bag**, **fine motor skills bag** or **feeding tools bag**?

Developmental Duffle does just this. You can choose bags based on developmental age or needs and all the toys in the bag are chosen specifically to be appropriate for the focus of the bag, they are currently working on a bag for visually impaired kids too.

In the **Taking Care of Senses Duffle Bag**, for example, you'll find toys that stimulate all the senses, from a Sands Alive molding kit (touch) to a Monkey Balance Board (vestibular) and Ocean Drum (hearing)... and a lot more! Enter the Give-away by August 11th.

<http://www.wonderbaby.org/articles/developmental-duffle-giveaway>

Parenting Children with Multiple Disabilities

Hadley School for the Blind Online Course

This course is for family members of children with visual impairment and one or more other disabilities. It offers ways to promote learning at home, in school and in the community and explains how to take an active role in educational planning. Throughout the course, three fictional young people with multiple disabilities model how various concepts and skills can be learned.

COURSE: PMD-111, MEDIA: LP or OL, LESSONS: 7

<http://www.hadley.edu/FE-Admissions.asp?content=app>

MAYOR'S OFFICE DISABILITY EMPLOYMENT SERIES JULY 9TH - AUGUST 6TH

A series of career information events on CUNY campuses in each borough linking college students with disabilities to leaders in key industries where they will learn about various careers, employment trends and opportunities within the companies.

HOSPITALITY INDUSTRY, AUGUST 6TH, 9:00 AM – 11:00 AM

Panelists from the hospitality industry will discuss the various career opportunities in this field. Participants will learn about opportunities, recruitment, advancement and trends within the industry.

City Tech Brooklyn 300 Jay Street, Brooklyn, NY Namm 119

<http://cuny.edu/about/administration/offices/sa/services/disabilities/ADAeventcalendar/disabilityemploymentseries.html>

Accessible Instructional Materials in the Digital Classroom

In this webcast, Yue Ting Siu provides us with an introduction to current technologies employed to facilitate access to instructional materials. In addition, she engages us in exploration of new and emerging technologies for the digital classroom, including image and video description, and multimodal data displays. Finally, Yue Ting talks about the focus on braille and tactile literacy in the digital age and the issues related to reconciling these priorities with technology. www.perkinselearning.org/videos/webcast/accessible-instructional-materials-in-the-digital-classroom?utm_campaign=accessible%20instructional%20materials&utm_source=webcast%20announcement&utm_medium=email

Multimedia in the Modern Classroom: Assistive Technology for Students with Visual Impairments

Professionals can learn more in Siu's online class starting on **August 3, 2015!**

In this 8-week online course, participants will learn how to find and use available resources for device-specific training, and implement technology into students' daily learning tasks. Register at:

https://secure2.convio.net/psb/site/Ticketing;jsessionid=564BC3FB4BA22625F953ADF45F1DF681.app273b?view=Tickets&id=107143&utm_campaign=accessible%20instructional%20materials&utm_source=webcast%20announcement&utm_medium=email

CONNECT!

The Helen Keller National Center (HKNC) is pleased to announce the Summer 2015 issue of *CONNECT!*, an online publication that keeps you informed about HKNC's many activities.

This issue contains articles about:

- HKNC *alumni activities around the country*
- *Vocational Services Work Experiences*
- *The NDBEDP – how HKNC regional offices are involved and a success story*
- *A very special art show held at HKNC headquarters*
- **AND MORE!**

TO READ *CONNECT!* SIMPLY FOLLOW THIS LINK:

http://www.hknc.org/CONNECT/2015_7/CONNECT15.htm or go to www.hknc.org and click on the *CONNECT!* link.

National Survey to Collect Information about Transition Age Young Adults with Deaf-Blindness

Jul 28, 2015 to Nov 30, 2015

Dr. Jerry Petroff and Dr. Nadya Pancsofar from the Center for Sensory and Complex Disabilities at the College of New Jersey, are conducting a research project to capture descriptive information regarding the characteristics and experiences of youth with deaf-blindness who are out of school and between the ages of 18-25. It is the hope that this information will assist in national efforts to better support young people with deaf-blindness. They are reaching out to deaf-blind youth, their parents, teachers and friends and inviting them to please take this 20 minute survey. If you would like to participate in the survey, [click here](#):

https://tcnj.co1.qualtrics.com/SE/?SID=SV_00HIGcJE4EddwLb

"Understanding Your Child's Vision Report"

bit.ly/NYDBC-Vision-Webinar

Recorded NYDBC Webinar by Christopher Russell

"Understanding Changes Regarding Youth Services"

Recorded archive of the LEAD Center webinar

*****The LEAD Center, funded by the U.S. Department of Labor's Office on Disability Policy, is hosting a four-part webinar series titled "WIOA From a Disability Perspective." This webinar was the 3rd in the series. *****

The Workforce Innovation and Opportunities Act (WIOA) places expanded

emphasis on funding activities for out-of-school youth, including youth with disabilities. WIOA also amends the Rehabilitation Act that requires VR agencies to collaborate with local education agencies to improve coordination of pre-employment transition services to students with disabilities.

View this archive to learn more about cross-system collaboration and WIOA opportunities to support career counseling, skills training, job exploration, leadership development, and financial literacy education for youth with and without disabilities.

www.leadcenter.org/webinars/understanding-changes-regarding-youth-services-part-3-4-part-series-wioa

Leisure Through Technology

Recorded Perkins Webinar

In this presentation, Lindsey Lush and Jessica Erlich, of Perkins School for the Blind, focuses on the Recreation and Leisure area of the Expanded Core Curriculum through the use of common technology and assistive devices.

http://www.perkinselearning.org/videos/webinar/leisure-through-technology-students-visual-impairments-and-additional-disabilities?utm_campaign=leisure%20through%20technology&utm_source=webinar%20thank%20you&utm_medium=email

The Latest on Medicare Coverage of SGDs

Recent changes in speech-generating device policies leave SLPs wondering: What, exactly, is covered?

Lisa Satterfield, MS, CCC-A *The ASHA Leader*, July 2015, Vol. 20, 28-29.
doi:10.1044/leader.BML.20072015.28

This article describes coverage of speech-generating devices (SGDs) for Medicare patients in recent years. In 2014, strict enforcement of the Medicare policy requiring a device to be “dedicated” only to speech-generation forced manufacturers to remove Internet, email and other non-speech features.

<http://leader.pubs.asha.org/article.aspx?articleid=2389203>

THE HEARING AID COVERAGE ACT of 2015

There is a new Bill in Congress: THE HEARING AID COVERAGE ACT of 2015. The legal title is HR 1653. This Bill will change the Medicare rules. If this Bill becomes law, then MEDICARE will pay for HEARING AIDS for anyone under MEDICARE. This law will save people thousands of dollars.

Please contact your U.S. Representative in Congress. Go to

<http://www.house.gov/http://www.house.gov/> to find your Representative and

address. Ask your Representative to vote for HR 1653. Explain that this Bill is VERY important to you and hearing impaired people.

RAISE Family Caregiver Act Introduced in House & Senate

The Recognize, Assist, Include, Support, and Engage (RAISE) Family Caregivers Act (S. 1719) was introduced in the Senate on July 8, by Senators Susan Collins (R-ME) and Tammy Baldwin (D-WI). It's companion bill, (H.R. 3099) was introduced in the House the following week by Representatives Gregg Harper (R-MS) and Kathy Castor (D-FL). The bipartisan RAISE Family Caregivers Act would require Congress to develop a national strategy to support family caregivers. It would also create an advisory panel that would bring together federal agencies, as well as public and private organizations that would advise and make recommendations on issues around how to recognize and support family caregivers. [Learn more about the RAISE Family Caregiver Act. http://www.baldwin.senate.gov/press-releases/senators-baldwin-and-collins-introduce-raise-family-caregivers-act](http://www.baldwin.senate.gov/press-releases/senators-baldwin-and-collins-introduce-raise-family-caregivers-act)

One Social Security Act Introduced in the House of Representatives

Last week, Representative Xavier Becerra (D-CA) introduced the One Social Security Act (H.R. 3150). The bill would avert a 19 percent across-the-board cut to Social Security Disability Insurance (SSDI) benefits at the end of 2016 through merging the Social Security Old-Age and Survivors Insurance (OASI) and Disability Insurance (DI) Trust Funds into a single Trust Fund. [Learn more about the One Social Security Act by viewing a summary of the bill. http://becerra.house.gov/one-social-security/](http://becerra.house.gov/one-social-security/)

U.S. Departments of Labor and Health and Human Services Issue New Guidance on Health Care and Job Training for Youth with Disabilities

The U.S. Department of Labor (DOL), in conjunction with the U.S Department of Health and Human Services (HHS), released a "Dear Colleague" letter aimed at youth service providers, state and local agencies and policymakers. The letter offers guidance to ensure that young people with disabilities or chronic health conditions receive [health care transition](#) and job training services under the [Affordable Care Act](#) and [Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act](#) (WIOA). [Get more information and view the letter by visiting DOL.gov. www.dol.gov/odep/pdf/ExpandingAccessToHealthCareServicesAndWork-BasedExperiencesForYouthWithChronicHealthConditionsAndDisabilities.pdf](http://www.dol.gov/odep/pdf/ExpandingAccessToHealthCareServicesAndWork-BasedExperiencesForYouthWithChronicHealthConditionsAndDisabilities.pdf)

Mobility Management Resource Guide

Accessible transportation guide for people with disabilities in NYC

[NYC.gov](http://www.nyc.gov/html/dot/downloads/pdf/mobility-mgmt-resource-guide-2015.pdf)

<http://www.nyc.gov/html/dot/downloads/pdf/mobility-mgmt-resource-guide-2015.pdf>

U.S. Access Board Releases New Guidance on Accessibility Standards

The U.S. Access Board released a new installment of its online guide to accessibility standards under the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) and the Architectural Barriers Act (ABA). The material features a series of technical bulletins covering requirements for accessible routes in Chapter 4 of the ADA and ABA Standards, including doors and gates, ramps and curb ramps, and elevators and platform lifts. [View the updated guide to ADA and ABA standards here. http://www.access-board.gov/news/1764-board-releases-next-installment-of-the-online-guide-to-the-ada-and-aba-standards](http://www.access-board.gov/news/1764-board-releases-next-installment-of-the-online-guide-to-the-ada-and-aba-standards)

New Tactile Braille Tablet on PC Platform

From Path to Literacy

Insidevision is a French company developing a new generation of braille note taker with its tactile braille tablet. This video (without sound) provides an introduction to the product. The tablet includes many features such as a LED light source, multiple USB ports, HDMI hook up, microphone, and a camera. The tablet runs on the Microsoft Windows platform and has several common apps including notes, word processing, contacts, maps, mail, and cloud storage to support communication and access to information.

The tablet uses commands in different languages, including UEB (Unified English Braille). The device uses a specific finger print on gorilla glass to access the braille notetaker on a flat screen.

The product is scheduled to be released in October 2015 and will sell for 6000 Euros. Orders can be placed through the website beginning in September.

<http://www.pathstoliteracy.org/technology/new-tactile-braille-tablet-pc-platform>

Parent to Parent NYS Webinars

Autism Insurance Reform Webinar

August 26, 2015, 6:30PM - 7:30PM

Contact: Tanja Peters Phone: (716)-517-3448

Please register for Autism Insurance Reform at:

<https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/7884779669955864833> Please join Lin Perry, Project Director, Family to Family Healthcare Information Center, as she presents a webinar on the Autism Insurance Reform. Autism Insurance Reform legislation became effective in 2013, however aspects of the bill, related to Applied Behavioral Analysis, are still being worked on within the NYS government. This webinar will address the overall legislation, who it assists and how and will also give an update on the current status of the ABA portion of the legislation.

Please be advised that only the first 100 participants who log on will be able to attend.

After registering, you will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the webinar.

Summer Reading: El Deafo

A 2015 Newbery Honor Book Going to school and making new friends can be tough. But going to school and making new friends while wearing a bulky hearing aid strapped to your chest? That requires superpowers! In this funny, poignant graphic novel memoir, author/illustrator Cece Bell chronicles her hearing loss at a young age and her subsequent experiences with the Phonic Ear, a very powerful—and very awkward—hearing aid.

The Phonic Ear gives Cece the ability to hear—sometimes things she shouldn't—but also isolates her from her classmates. She really just wants to fit in and find a true friend, someone who appreciates her as she is. After some trouble, she is finally able to harness the power of the Phonic Ear and become “El Deafo, Listener for All.” And more importantly, declare a place for herself in the world and find the friend she’s longed for. Paperback (\$6.84) or Kindle (\$5.95)

<http://www.amazon.com/gp/product/1419712179?ref%5F=sr%5F1%5F1&qid=1436737775&sr=8-1&keywords=El%20Deafo%20by%20Cece%20Bell&pldnSite=1>

Lincoln Center's Passport to the Arts Program

Sponsored by Let All The Children Play Foundation, www.latcp.org

Lincoln Center's Passport to the Arts program invites children with disabilities and their families to attend programs at Lincoln Center. The performances are designed for family audiences and are inclusive programs. The Passport Program offers tickets at no cost, supports families by sending visual schedules, music samples and activities ahead of time and facilitates seating requests and accommodations. This fall, their programs will include the New

York City Ballet's Family Saturday performance, the New York Philharmonic's Very Young People's Concert and Young People's Concert, the Chamber Music Society's Meet the Music program, Jazz at Lincoln Center's Jazz for Young People, the Big Apple Circus and an adapted movement Nutcracker class with the New York City Ballet.

If you are interested in these programs, please email MillieG@LATCP.org and she will send you the forms to register.

Norrie NDA Conference – Boston 2015

August 13-15, 2015

Massachusetts General Hospital (MGH) Simches Research Building

*Genetics, disability, and resultant ethical/rights issues

*Advances in eye and ear research for persons with Norrie, including hearing aids, cochlear implants, and retinal surgeries

*O&M coping strategies for individuals who are deaf/blind

*Behavioral modification strategies to aid people with autism and/or other developmental delays

<http://norriedisease.org/boston-2015>

OPWDD Survey

OPWDD is going to be conducting a telephone survey of those on the Residential Request List during the months of August and September. Important information about this survey process, including a list of anticipated questions, can be found on the Parent to Parent of NYS website. Click the link for more information:

http://parenttoparentnys.org/news/headline-news/opwdd_to_conduct_survey_of_those_on_the_residential_request_list/

Parent to Parent of NYS would be interested in your feedback regarding this survey process. Please contact your regional office if you have information to share. You can find the phone number for your regional office here:

<http://parenttoparentnys.org/offices/maps/>

NYSARC Annual Recreation Conference

Registration is now open for the NYSARC Annual Recreation Conference, occurring Sept. 23-25 at the Beaver Hollow Conference Center in Java Center, NY. This year's conference, "Recreation 2015: Making Connections through Recreation," is your opportunity to get new ideas, re-energize, and network with other professionals who are committed to providing quality recreation services for people who have developmental disabilities.

Thanks to the generosity of the Trustees of the NYSARC Trust, NYSARC, Inc. Chapter staff are eligible for a stipend to cover food and lodging expenses!! For more information or to register, please [click here](#).

http://events.r20.constantcontact.com/register/event?utm_medium=email&oeidk=a07eb0yy1gl240a93a0&llr=memnpdeab&utm_campaign=OVT+2015+%2314&utm_source=Our+Voice+Today+%28OVT%29%2C+Issue+14+%7C+NYSARC+launches+%22It+Matters+to+Me%22+campaign

NYSARC News

Get ready to advocate with Congress this August

Medicaid, Social Security Disability Insurance (SSDI), and other lifeline programs for people with I/DD are under attack. The Arc is calling on advocates to visit their Members of Congress during the August recess.

The August recess is fast approaching, so now is the time to review the materials, ask questions, and make your plans for visits. Here are the dates they will be back in New York State:

House of Representatives:

August Recess July 31 - September 7

<http://www.house.gov>

Senate:

August Recess August 10 - September 7

<http://www.senate.gov>

Engage with your Members of Congress - now is the time to act, whether you already have a relationship with your Members of Congress or this is your first time engaging at this level. The Arc needs YOU to show Members of Congress why the lifeline programs are so vital to the lives and independence of people with I/DD.