

Parent Leadership Hub Weekly E-mail for April 16, 2009

The attached "Parent Leadership Hub" Weekly Email Update is sent to you from WSPEI and WI FACETS. The Parent Leadership Hub supports parents/family members, educators and other community partners to build capacity regarding meaningful family involvement. The Hub serves three primary purposes:

- (1) To support parents of children with disabilities between birth and 26 years of age to participate as partners in the professional development activities of each of the other Statewide Initiatives as they design, deliver and support professional development experiences; and
- (2) To facilitate opportunities for parents/family members to build leadership skills; and
- (3) To provide Content Focused technical assistance concerning family involvement.

Parent/Personnel Development Opportunities

1. Madison Forum on Employment & Intentional Hiring of People With Disabilities

May 5, 2009 from 10:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. at the Hilton Madison Monona Terrace, 9 East Wilson Street, Madison, WI. Special Guest Erin Riehle, Co-Founder of Project SEARCH and Director of Disability Services at Cincinnati Children's Hospital Medical Center.

Space is limited. RSVP by April 27 to Molly Michels at 608-261-7816 or Molly.Michels@wisconsin.gov. Please indicate any needs for reasonable accommodations (large print, interpreters, etc.) or dietary restrictions.

2. Infant Mental Health Summer Institute in Stevens Point

Wednesday, June 17, 2009 at the Ramada Hotel, 1501 North Point Drive, Stevens Point, WI. Back by popular demand, Gerard Costa, PhD, and staff from the Center on the Social and Emotional Foundations for Early Learning Institute for more intensive full day sessions. For more information and to register for the conference, visit www.wiaimh.org or call 608-442-0360

Trainings on the Web

1. RTI Webinar

Dr. Dave Heistad, the Executive Director of Research, Evaluation and Assessment for the Minneapolis Public Schools, joined the National Center on Response to Intervention to present a Webinar on "*RTI and Universal Screening: Establishing District Benchmarks.*" Learn more at www.rti4success.org

Family Involvement Resources

1. New 2009 Poverty Levels Will Affect Eligibility for Many Federal Health Programs

New federal poverty level guidelines published January 23, 2009 will affect eligibility levels for many public benefits, including health benefits for older people and people with disabilities. For more information go to:

http://www.pascenter.org/news/news_home.php?id=179

The Parent Leadership Hub Weekly E-mail is archived at <http://www.wispdg.org/pl/e-news.html>

Inclusion of information in this e-mail does not constitute an endorsement by the Wisconsin Statewide Parent-Educator Initiative, Wisconsin FACETS, the Department of Public Instruction, the U.S. Department of Education, or the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services.

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2. **Finding Help for Children with Mental Health Needs**

This guide to systems of care for families, from the National Federation of Families for Children's Mental Health, provides information on how to seek care for children with mental health needs. The content and format was determined by families across the country.

<http://mentalhealth.samhsa.gov/publications/allpubs/Ca-0029/default.asp>

3. **Web Accessibility for Users with Intellectual Disabilities**

"Cognitive Disabilities and the Web: Where Accessibility and Usability Meet" is now available on the Web site of the National Center on Disability and Access to Education (NCDAE). The article notes that the diversity of ability and experience of users with cognitive disabilities complicates attempts to develop web accessibility guidelines for this population. To design Web sites that are easier for users with cognitive disabilities to use, the author offers suggestions based on usability principles; many of these recommendations make the web easier for everyone to use.

<http://www.ncdae.org/tools/cognitive/>

4. **Transition Resources**

Children's Hospital of Wisconsin has added a section to their Internet page with information about transitioning to adult care. Several transition topics are addressed as well as a Family Resource section with links to several helpful tools and resources. The direct link to the Transition to Adult Care page is:

<http://www.chw.org/display/PPF/DocID/43541/router.asp>.

5. **New guidance documents on compulsory school attendance, suspension and expulsion**

DPI offers four new documents interpreting the law and offering guidance on school attendance, suspension, expulsion and alternatives to expulsion.

<http://dpi.wi.gov/sspw/compulattnd.html>.

6. **Mandatory Reporting of Child Maltreatment webcast**

This webcast is designed to ensure that educators understand their responsibilities under the law to report suspected abuse or neglect of children. Topics covered include the definitions of the different kinds of child maltreatment, warning signs, how to make a report of suspected child maltreatment, guidelines for talking to students, cooperating with a Child Protective Services investigation, possible outcomes of a report, and available resources. 47 minutes. Link:

<http://media2.wi.gov/DPI/Viewer/?peid=4a3e62a9-374e-488b-92bf-316c810642c8>.

7. **Latest edition of Birth to 6 EVENTS**

This is a newsletter published 2-3 times a year by the Waisman Center, focusing on Birth to 3 and Early Childhood Special Education related topics. Included is an extensive

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article about the Early Childhood Indicators and the SPP. The full issue of the Birth to 6 EVENTS Spring 2009 is now available at:

http://www.waisman.wisc.edu/birthto3/Spring_2009.pdf

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