

## FRIDAY, MARCH 19, 2010

**Friday Opening - 8:45 - 10:00 - Celebrate Achievements!**

Celebrating Achievements of Family Connection over 20 years. Celebrate the Achievements of the child with special needs. Each achievement. All achievements. Presenters: \*Karen Anzola, MEd; \*Jackie Richards, LMSW

**SESSION A - 10:30 - 11:45****FA01 Medical Care: Transitioning from Pediatric to Adult Health Care**

Moving from pediatric medical care to adult service brings many adjustments and challenges. This workshop will examine these and offer assistance in how to make the transition with minimal upset. Presenters: William F Schmidt, MD, PhD; \*Sherry Fields

**Presented in partnership with the South Carolina Chapter of the American Academy of Pediatrics**

**FA02 How to be your child's advocate without ticking off the school!**

The IEP Experience - a parent / teacher panel will share experiences and helpful approaches, expectations, and behaviors that have been found helpful in the negotiation of the IEP. The workshop will examine what parents can do help their child in school and how to best communicate with the school. Presenters: Robert Compton, MEd, NBCT; \*Geneva Adams; \*Cheryl Powell, BA, LMSW

**SESSION B - 1:00 - 2:15****FB01 Medical Options for Treatment of Behavior**

Difficult behavior can be modified with the use of medication. This workshop will examine some of the more effective medications used to treat behavior including expected benefits, side effects and shortfalls. Presenters: Debbie Greenhouse, MD, FAAP; \*Stephanie Bridgers  
**Presented in partnership with the South Carolina Chapter of the American Academy of Pediatrics**

**FB02 IEP Facilitation**

IEP facilitation is a helpful tool to overcome roadblocks in the IEP process. There will be an overview of the facilitated IEP process used for resolving special education disagreements. Topics to be covered include the role of an IEP facilitator; tools a facilitator uses to assist the IEP team to reach consensus; the benefits of utilizing IEP facilitation; and when and how to use the facilitated IEP process. Presenters: Tim Conroy, MEd; \*Mary Eaddy, AA (Business); Dana Reed, JD, MAT

**FB03 Relationship Development Intervention**

The RDI Program for ASD is family centered intervention tailored to target core deficits of individuals with Autism Spectrum Disorder for re-building the Guided Participation Relationship as the cornerstone for neural development. Presenter: Rebecca Doolittle McFalls, MHS, OTR/L

**SESSION C - 2:45 - 4:00****FC01 Genetics**

This workshop will help understand the importance of genetic evaluation in anticipating the needs of the child with special needs. Presenter: Curtis Rogers, MD

**Presented in partnership with the South Carolina Chapter of the American Academy of Pediatrics**

**FC02 Self-Directed Support Corporations**

'Microboards' - consumer and family ownership of services and supports for the individual with special needs. Presenter: Ronald Dozier, MS, MEd

**FC03 AAC - Augmentative/Alternative Communication**

AAC devices empower people with impaired communication ability, including those with Down Syndrome, to converse with people in every day life. Presenters: \*Ronald Kuebler, CCC-SLP, ABDA; \*Scott Kuebler

**FC04 What's in your Child's Therapist's Bag of Tricks?**

Current Physical and Occupational Therapy Approaches Used with Autism and Cerebral Palsy. This session will educate parents, family members, teachers and other clinicians on how to help kids who are challenged by their internal and external environments with occupational and physical

**FA03 Medical Services for the Medically Involved Child**

Where do you find Medical Services and in home care for your medically involved child? What can the various agencies provide? How do you hire and retain good caregivers in your home for your child? Presenters: \*WC Hoecke, MEd; \*Crystal Ray

**FA04 Seizures**

Learn about the assessment, diagnosis and treatment of Epilepsy. Examine areas of living that epilepsy can affect. Explore the current 'best practices' in the caring for the child with Epilepsy. Learn ways of coping with Epilepsy in school and family settings. Presenter: Harley Morgan, MD

**FA05 Positive Behavior Supports in the School and Home**

Presenters: Mike Paget, MEd in Special Education; \*Diane Flashnick, AA

**FA06 Living on Your Own: The American Dream! Young Adults and Supported Housing Options**

The Supported Community Living Initiative provides people with disabilities the opportunity to live independently, using a circle of support. This session will focus on personal stories by people who have moved out of group or family homes into their own apartments/houses. Presenters: Meghan Trowbridge, LMSW, CBIST; Kristi Hartwell, MSW

**FB04 Interventions for Socialization**

Children with special needs often struggle in the area of socialization. Families ask, "How do I help my child relate to others?", "What do I do with my teen who has no friends?" This will target common concerns and provide strategies that can help to assess and address deficits in social and communication skills. Presenter: Elizabeth Wilkinson, LMSW

**FB05 Tricks of the Trade: Practical Advice on Behavior Problems in Preschool Children**

This workshop will give parents and professionals practical tips for handling a range of behavioral difficulties including over-activity, aggression, and opposition. Tricks will include the use of observation, rewards, positive reinforcement systems, timeout, setting rules, ignoring, and hand signals. Presenter: Emily Powell, MA

**FB06 It's never too early! Planning for transition from School to Adult Life**

This workshop will help parents of adolescents with special needs prepare for the transition from high school to adult life. Presentation will discuss issues related to legal rights and responsibilities, post secondary options and resources, and opportunities and planning ideas related to housing, health, employment, and education. Methods for proactive parent preparation for the process will be discussed. Presenters: Laura Antinoro, SSP; experienced parents

therapy. Presenters will discuss methods of handling situations that present as arousal issues in areas of change, daily living, social, self-help, and motor control. Presenters: \*Irene Ingram, OTR/L, BCP; Nicole Kennedy, PT

**FC05 Emergency Preparedness**

Principles for care-givers of children and adults with special needs to prepare for their loved one's safety in the event of a fire, accident, natural disaster, or other emergencies. This workshop will address planning and making preparations in case the unthinkable occurs. Presenters: Kim Conant, LPN; \*Sherry Larson

**FC06 Sexuality Is a Part of Growing Up And It's No Different For Individuals With Special Needs**

Adult bodies with young minds: This panel discussion will focus on ways to address the various sexual issues of children and young adults with special needs. Discussion in this workshop will include typical human sexual development, the impact of developmental disabilities, ways to encourage the development of discernment and good judgment, how to assist individuals to make informed choices and strategies for addressing inappropriate behavior. Presenters: Marie Aimone, BA; Debbie Greenhouse, MD; Susan Luberoff, MD, FAAP; Heather Smith, MRC, LPC

**FA07 Oral Health for Families with Special Health Care Needs**

Oral health problems can affect all children. These problems can be more troublesome for children and teens with special health care needs. This presentation will help parents take an active role in establishing and maintaining good oral health for their child. Presenter: Mary Kenyon Jones, MEd

**FA08 Medications**

Understanding the medications prescribed for your child is important. Discussion will include how to discover and understand what do they do, side effects, and how to weigh benefits and hazards. It will include tips on how to recognize side effects, a discussion on the effect of timing on medications and problems with withdrawals. Suggestions will be made on how to deal with a child or adult who can't speak for themselves. Presenter: Davis Hook, BS

**FA09 Typical and Atypical Child Development, Birth to Three years**

Learn to identify typical and atypical motor and cognitive development in children birth to three years, together with ways to promote skill acquisition by everyday activities. Learn how to apply the knowledge that you have of development to identify possible needs for children with delays and their families. Presenter: Kathryn Grogan, LMSW

**FB07 Communication Strategies for Non-Verbal Children**

Effective communication strategies for children with disabilities who do not communicate with language. A discussion on understanding non-verbal behavior and examples of communication tools. The workshop will provide suggestions on how to cope with feeling when parents can't understand or help their child.. Presenters: Tracy Makison, MSP, CCC-SLP; \*Steve and Frieda Ritter  
**Sponsored by Women's & Children's Services, Spartanburg Regional Health System**

**FB08 Crisis Management**

Working with individuals with special needs to decrease aggressive and self-injurious behavior and to increase positive behavior through use of crisis management strategies. Presenter: Debbie Wardell, MEd, BCBA

**FB09 Making Respite Work in the Faith Community**

Respite programs in faith communities are possible. This will outline nine innovative respite programs which have been started in faith-based facilities highlighting Family Connection's Respite Cooperative and The Respite Voucher toolbox. Presenters: \*WC Hoecke, MEd; \*Jackie Richards, LMSW

**FC07 Tackling the Problem of Childhood Obesity**

Nutritional Strategies for Families and Providers Struggling to Manage Weight Issues in Children and Adolescents - This session will provide information on the basic principles of general, healthful nutrition for children as well as strategies and tools for families and health care professionals to utilize in their efforts to implement lasting positive behavior changes. Presenter: Alison Hanna, RD, LD

**FC08 State Agency Waiver Programs**

What is reality now. Presenters: Suzie Boykin, RN, BSN; Sandra Jagan, LMSW; Maria Platanis, RN, BSN; \*Crystal Ray; Angela Syphertt, BS

**FC09 PAALS Dogs and Beyond!**

Ever wonder how a working dog could help someone with special needs? PAALS will review the newer applications of assistance dogs throughout the country and demonstrate how they can help locally. Topics will include how to get an assistance dog, where to apply, who might be eligible for this service, what types of roles assistance dogs are playing (and sometimes we really mean playing!), how you can find a safe pet for your child, and how you can get involved with PAALS. Presenter: Jen Rogers, BS (Biology)

## SATURDAY, MARCH 20, 2010

**Saturday Opening - 8:45-10:00 - Celebrate Achievements!**

Celebrating Achievements of Family Connection over 20 years. Celebrate the Achievements of the child with special needs. Each achievement. All achievements. Presenters: \*Karen Anzola, MEd; \*Jackie Richards, LMSW

**SESSION A - 10:30 - 11:45****SA01 Collecting Functional Behavior Assessment Data**

Part 1 of a 2-part workshop on Functional Behavior Assessment and Behavior Intervention Plans. (Participation in both parts is not required, but is strongly encouraged.) Problem behavior often serves a purpose for individuals with significant cognitive and language delays. To develop an effective intervention plan it is important to find the reason why the behavior occurs. This workshop will focus on how to collect data and identify events associated with the problem behavior. Specific topics will include the following: operant learning, function/purpose of problem behavior, ABC data collection, and hypothesis development. Presenter: Mark Solnick, SSP, BCBA, LPES

**SA02 Promoting Self-Esteem**

This workshop will cover the interaction of self-esteem with different special needs areas, such as physical disabilities, learning disabilities, ADHD, and mental retardation. It will show how to increase your child's self-esteem and help your children to grow up feeling good about themselves. Presenter: \*Mark Posey, PhD

**SA03 Internet Safety: "My Space or Yours" - Where are your children hanging out on-line?**

This presentation will help parents understand the benefits and dangers of social networking, gaming and other popular internet sites. Presenter: Traci Bryant-Riches, MEd

**SA04 ER.I.E.N.D.S. - Fostering Relationships In Each New Day Successfully - Social Thinking Skills**

This will take a look at the development of social skills and social thinking skills in our children, and useful strategies to improve these skills. The importance of social thinking skills for social, academic, and vocational success will be stressed. Presenter: \*Ginny Thompson, MS, CCC-SLP

**SA05 Making the Employment Connection**

Assisting parents, caregivers, individuals and professionals in making connections for employment for youth with disabilities is the focus of this workshop. The SC Vocational Rehabilitation Department's role in assisting students make the transition from school to employment in adult life will be highlighted. An overview of SCVRD eligibility requirements and transition programs will be provided as will information about post secondary options and resources, and ideas related to housing, health, employment, education and social/recreation activities. Presenter: Shannon Lindsay, M.S., GCDF

**SA06 Child Care for Children with Special Needs**

Learn the steps in finding daycare or after school care for children with special needs. Discover guidelines for making a good daycare selection. Explore how to get your child into a "typical" daycare. Presenter: \*Gay Clement-Atkinson, PhD

**SA07 Homeschooling children with special needs.**

Presenters: \*Randi St. Denis, BS; \*Carol Kurlowich, BS

**SA08 Guardianship of Adult Disabled Children**

Legal requirements to assist your child who is over 18, the roles of the guardian in health care, living arrangement and continuing educational opportunity decisions. Presenter: Amy Landers May, JD

**SA09 Medicaid - Navigating through Managed Care**

Learn what you need to know to make the best decision for your child in the revised managed care health system in South Carolina. Presenters: \*Pat Head, MSW; \*Crystal Ray

**SA10 Recursos 101 - Presented in Spanish**

Este taller ésta enfocado en los servicios básicos que estan disponibles para las familias con niños que tienen necesidades médicas especiales. Es una compilación general de los recursos disponibles a través de todo el estado y servicios locales. Se enfatizará en las tres categorías que son de mayor interés para los padres: Finanzas; Intervenciones/Educativas y Médicas; Preocupaciones de la familia y otros servicios. Presentadores: \*Maggie Ortiz; \*Johanna Pérez

**SA11 IEP Development & Collaboration Strategies**

How to develop educationally meaningful and legally correct IEPs. Help with monitoring progress. Collaboration - how to work with an IEP team and encourage participation. Presenters: \*Mitch Yell, PhD; Vivian Correa, PhD

**NOTE:** This is a **FULL-DAY** workshop consisting of **3 sessions**. Participants attending this workshop may be eligible for full or part scholarship for this workshop.

Contact Les Barker for details - [LesBarker@FamilyConnectionSC.org](mailto:LesBarker@FamilyConnectionSC.org)

**Presented in partnership with the South Carolina Autism Society.**

**SESSION B - 1:00 - 2:15****SB01 Developing Positive Behavior Supports**

Part 1 of a workshop on Functional Behavior Assessment and Behavior Intervention Plans. (Participation in both parts is not required, but is strongly encouraged.) Problem behavior can have a significant impact on a child's social interactions and skill development. Interventions often use punishment, time out, or working through outbursts, but these are rarely effective. To reduce problem behavior, interventions should focus on using reinforcement and developing a student's skills, consistent with positive behavior supports. This workshop will focus on how to design an intervention program from a behavioral hypothesis. Specific topics will include the following: Selecting an appropriate replacement behavior, determining how the replacement behavior will access reinforcement, and designing changes in the environment that will minimize the occurrence of problem behavior. Presenter: Mark Solnick, SSP, BCBA, LPES

**SB02 Coping/Dealing with a New Diagnosis**

Learning that your child has special needs presents new challenges and a varied range of responses. This workshop will help you gain information to recognize, understand, and deal with your reactions to the detours encountered. Presenter: \*Katie Poindexter

**SB03 Quality Health Information Resources**

This session will explore freely available electronic health resources for South Carolina families. Learn how to locate quality health information on the Internet and how to search authoritative resources like MedlinePlus, Go Local-SC, the brand new InfoAble Portal, and the Center for Disability Resources Library. Presenters: Steve Wilson, MLIS, MA; Roz McConnaughy, MLIS, AHIP

**SB04 Helping Children with Down Syndrome develop speech, language and communication**

Why do children with Down Syndrome have difficulties learning to talk, understand, and communicate with others? What can we do to help them develop these skills? To help, it is important to understand the speech and language needs of children with Down Syndrome. This presentation will include an overview of speech, language, and communication strengths and needs often experienced by infants and toddlers with Down Syndrome, including underlying sensory, physical/motor, and cognitive skills that may affect their speech and language development, expected sequence of learning to talk, understand, and communicate, and ideas for facilitating these skills using vocal and visual strategies including an array of augmentative and alternative communication systems. Presenters: Carol Page, PhD, CCC-SLP, ATP; Lily Nalty, MA, CCC-SLP

**SB05 Going to College - Obstacles and Opportunities, Rights and Resources**

Is high school the end of formal education for those with intellectual & development disabilities? All parents want the same thing for their children - the opportunity for them to be educated, to work, to have friends and to live in the community. Even though research shows that students with intellectual disabilities who have some post-secondary education are much more likely to obtain competitive employment and require fewer supports, there are few viable and meaningful opportunities for them. This workshop is about post-secondary LIFE (Learning is for Everyone) programs for students with intellectual disabilities at two and four year universities in South Carolina. Presenters: \*Donald Bailey; \*Jane Breeden

**SB06 Introduction to the Autism Spectrum**

An estimated one in ninety-one children has an autism spectrum disorder. Understanding the disorder is the first step to being comfortable around someone who deals with it every day. This workshop will give an introduction to autism, its nature, treatment and impact on the family. Presenters: \*Derrick Howle, BA; \*Julie Kellett, MA

**SB07 Does Your Child Understand What He Hears?**

Many ADHD/ADD diagnosed children actually have CAPD (Central Auditory Processing Difficulties) and don't accurately process what they hear. They struggle to learn social skills and behave improperly in noisy places such as restaurants and school. Learn what it feels like to be one of those children and marvel at human resilience and adaptability that transcends early impairments. Presenter: \*Randi St. Denis, BS

**SB08 Financial Planning for Special Needs**

Learn about estate planning, wills, trusts, and guardianship for children with special needs and explore criteria for life insurance coverage for these children. Presenter: Bryant Blakeslee, CLU

**SB10 Medicaid & Seguros Médicos - in Spanish**

Información acerca de Seguros Médicos y Medicaid para las familias que tienen niños con necesidades médicas especiales, incluyendo como navegar a través del sistema de seguros. Aprenda lo que necesita saber para tomar la mejor decisión para su hijo con necesidades médicas especiales en el manejo del sistema de cuidado médico en Carolina del Sur. Presentadores: \*Maggie Ortiz; \*Saritta Vann

LUNCH is provided free on-site as part of the conference.

\*\* Room temperatures may vary. Please dress accordingly. \*\*

Overall the conference was excellent, especially for a parent/professional like myself. I got the best of both worlds. I learned things that I can use both at work and at home.

Many people who attend this conference have allergic reactions to the scent of perfumes and other lotions. Please consider your neighbor and refrain from using scented materials.

SATURDAY, MARCH 20, 2010

## SESSION C - 2:45 - 4:00

**SC01 Advocacy: Your Voice Does Matter**

Talking to your legislator to effecting Policy Change. Participants will understand the key skills needed to make yourself heard and help pass legislation. Presenter: \*Jeremy Poindexter, JD

**SC02 Resources 101**

This is a broad overview of statewide basic services available to families of children with special needs through state and local services. Emphasis will be placed on: Financial; Interventions / Educational and Medical; Family Concerns and other Resources. Presenter: \*WC Hoecke, MEd

**SC03 Gang Awareness**

Presenter: Corporal Frieda Wyatt, Richland County Sheriffs Department

**SC04 Horse Assisted Therapy**

The movement of a horse, and interaction with the horse, can be therapeutic tools used by physical, occupational, speech, and psycho-therapists to encourage emotional growth and learning, and treat psychological, behavioral, emotional, and communication functions. Individuals of all ages, with a wide range of physical, cognitive, and/or emotional disabilities benefit from therapeutic horseback riding and other equine activities. Representatives from various therapeutic riding facilities will speak about the benefits and opportunities of equine-oriented activities. Presenters: Mike Hollifield, MEd; Julie McCrary; Beth Wood, MS, OTR/L, HPCS

**SC05 Cerebral Palsy**

Learn about the testing, assessment and diagnosis for Cerebral Palsy. Examine symptom management and treatment programs. Explore what are current 'best practices' in the care of the child with Cerebral Palsy. Learn how to deal with Cerebral Palsy in the Education setting and the Family setting. Presenter: Larry Siegel, MD

**SC06 Fragile X Syndrome: Its Relationship to Autism and Practical Implications**

Forty percent of children with Fragile X Syndrome meet diagnostic criteria for Autism Spectrum Disorder. This workshop will provide information about Fragile X Syndrome, including how and when to request and obtain screening for the genetic disorder, and about the relationship between Fragile X and autism. Additionally, participants will gain information on how a diagnosis of Fragile X may alter treatment for autism, as well as implications for family members. Presenter: Julia Englund, BA

**SC07 A Friend Indeed: Parent-to-Parent Support**

Parents and professionals will learn the value of peer support for families that have children with special healthcare needs. Learn about the many programs of Family Connection and how you can access support and information, as well as become involved in the organization. Presenter: \*Jackie Richards, LMSW

**SC08 Estate Planning for Families with Special Needs Children**

This workshop will provide information about estate planning documents, and the special provisions which should be included to provide for and protect family members, particularly those with disabilities and special needs. Presenter: Sarah Clingman, JD, CELA

**SC08 "Speech and Socializing: More Than Words" (Also on Friday - FA10)**

This presentation will address important aspects for speech pathologists and other professionals to consider beyond just "words." Topics will include: preverbal language skills, social interaction behaviors, and sensory-seeking behaviors. Presenter: Leslie M. McKenzie, MSP, CCC-SLP

**SC10 Hablando con Family Connection - Presented in Spanish**

Acompañanos a dialogar. Ahora tienes la oportunidad de compartir con nosotros tus ideas, inquietudes y lo que esperas de nosotros. Tus comentarios nos ayudaran a servirte mejor. Presentadores: \*Maggie Ortiz; \*Johanna Pérez; \*Saritta Vann

SPECIAL THANKS  
TO OUR  
FRIENDS AT...



South Carolina  
Developmental  
Disabilities Council  
FOR THEIR GENEROUS  
SUPPORT  
OF THIS  
CONFERENCE

SPECIAL THANKS  
TO OUR  
FRIENDS AT...



South Carolina Solutions  
FOR THEIR GENEROUS  
SUPPORT  
OF THIS  
CONFERENCE

*You have created a very professional, but down to earth  
conference that seems to fit the needs of so many.*

A SPECIAL THANKS  
TO OUR FRIENDS AT...



Richland School District 2  
Special Services Division  
FOR THEIR GENEROUS SUPPORT  
OF THIS CONFERENCE