

## OUR MISSION

The Arc of Spokane Advocacy & Family Support Team provides information, education, resources, support, and advocacy to people with developmental disabilities and their families. Our goal is to help people become more informed and to empower people to become better equipped to access the services and supports they need. We promote independence and choice and respect the values and perspectives of families. We strive to be responsive to the needs of families and provide the understanding and support that families need.

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## Employment, Is it for everyone?

This is a question that many families struggle with as their son/daughter with developmental disabilities reaches their teenage years and is preparing to transition from school to adult life. As I have shared many times before, the challenges that families face during this time frame are many and it seems like the day that "the school bus quits coming" sneaks up and clobbers us over the head before we are prepared.

In our advocacy, we have struggled with the question "Is employment for all people with developmental disabilities?" There are as many perspectives on this issue as there are people with developmental disabilities and families. Many of us do believe that the expectation for a person to have a meaningful job is for everyone. Let me explain...

In addition to the financial reasons for a person to work, there are also some other very important considerations. For example, I have met most of the people who I know through my job. If I was not working, I would not know as many people as I do now and I might be lonely and isolated. This is a huge concern of parents for our sons/daughters when they are young and especially challenging after they leave school. Another reason the expectation to work is important is the self-esteem that comes from a job well done. Also, the recognition and positive feedback from co-workers and others is very valuable.

*Continued on page 2*



"Employment, Is it for everyone?" Continued from page 1

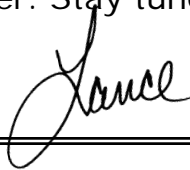
A couple years ago DDD introduced a policy stating that all people with developmental disabilities of working age have an expectation to work. Last Legislative session a group of advocates introduced fairly controversial legislation that would have provided other services to adults without an employment goal. I have talked to many families over the past several years and some felt the policy from DDD raised expectations for their son/daughter and among those who didn't think employment was an appropriate goal, most were willing to give it a try.

While I understand the concerns of both perspectives, I still cannot think of a more natural and meaningful activity for adults with developmental disabilities than employment. If a person does not have the opportunity for employment, it forces people to find other activities for them and many of those end up being segregated and not typical activities.

Some of you who are reading this might think that I am standing on a soapbox spouting my view of the world that may or may not be reality. Even with the significant disabilities that my son had, we focused our efforts on meaningful employment for him. The reality is that I had my doubts about employment for him and we saw what was possible by exploring employment and he made money doing something he enjoyed.

I have heard of a study that shows if a young adult with developmental disabilities does not use job skills within 6 weeks of leaving school that those skills start to deteriorate. We also know that according to Employment Security data we have 5,610 people with developmental disabilities in this state earning wages totaling \$37,890,180.00. We also know that the amount of funding that our state provides for employment supports to people with developmental disabilities is balanced by the amount that people earn in wages and spend in our local economy so it is a good investment.

So after reading this article, do you think employment is for everyone? If you would like to explore this issue further, we are planning an evening discussion on this topic for late October. Stay tuned for a date and time in the near future.



### **Our Readers**

**Advocacy & Family Support** is produced monthly and provides information to parents, grandparents, guardians, other family members, professionals and other adults who have a person with special needs in their life. We encourage you to copy and share this information. Please credit **The Arc of Spokane Advocacy & Family Support** and, where possible, the author.

### **Submissions**

Please send submissions for our next issue by September 20 to:

Deanna Noland  
The Arc of Spokane  
127 W. Boone Ave.  
Spokane, WA 99201  
(509) 328-6326  
dnoland@arc-spokane.org

### **Mailing List**

If you would like to be added to, or removed from our mailing list, please call Deanna Noland at (509) 328- 6326.

### **E-mail List**

To receive this newsletter in PDF format via email, visit [www.arcsokane.org/maillinglist.htm](http://www.arcsokane.org/maillinglist.htm) and click on the link for **Advocacy & Family Support**. At that location you may also subscribe to lists for Local Events, Statewide Events, Legislative Advocacy and The Arc-Lite newsletter.

### **Disclaimer**

The inclusion of any article or resource in this newsletter does not imply endorsement. Contents are intended for informational purposes only.

## Cathie's Notes

Summer this year hasn't always been what we anticipated...with the fires in and around Spokane, & weather that was very hot, then very chilly.....BUT the good news is that it is almost fall.

In fall, all the children go back to school and mothers regain time to be by themselves again. For many of you it is refreshing to have that time from 8:30am to 2:30 p.m. when school is in session to run errands, have coffee with friends, or just take an uninterrupted bath or shower without hearing "Mommy, Johnny hit me .....!!!!".

My kids would rather be in school all year than have summer vacation. I'm not sure what I will do when Lacey is no longer in school every year! Usually, I work hard to keep her busy with educational activities during the summer. Then in August, she automatically starts to create her wish list of school supplies.

Whew! Last week I noticed that all the stores are heavily marketing paper, pencils and other supplies that will be needed for students returning to school in September. The store flyers should keep her busy making a list of supplies she thinks are important to have for school ....at least another week.

As if preparing for the return of school classes wasn't enough, some of you are actively looking for a new home. So, I decided to spend some time this month talking about how you will know the right home when you see it.

To avoid making a costly mistake, I hope that you have thought seriously about what you **want** and **need** and know the difference between the two. Hopefully, you have made a list of the features you need in your home that you can refer back to if you loose focus.

Every home requires compromises. I know it is difficult to know how you'll need to compromise until you look at houses available locally. For example, after looking at houses in your favorite neighborhood, you discover that the homes were built in the 1920's without family rooms. So you'll have to compromise. You could decide to do without a family room, look in a newer neighborhood for a home with a family room, or pick a home with room to build on a family room that is located in your favorite neighborhood.

The more you look at homes, the easier it will be to fine-tune your expectations of what your own home will be like. You need to be realistic in terms of the marketplace in your housing priorities. Then when you see a home that looks promising, weigh it against your list to see how closely it comes to fulfilling your housing needs.

If you can't decide on which house to make an offer why not use the Ben Franklin method to help your decision making process. When Ben Franklin had a difficult decision to make, he took out a sheet of paper and drew a line down the middle. On one side, he wrote all the reasons in favor of the decision. On the other side, he listed all the reasons against the decision. Then, if there were more reasons in favor than against, he'd go ahead.

The HomeOwnership Opportunities program has about four families who expect to close on new homes by the end of September. And a few more families are still looking at properties in hopes of finding their perfect home.

Where are you in the process??? If you haven't started the process but have decided to purchase give me a call.

Have a great beginning to fall!!!

## HomeOwnership Opportunities



### Tips to Decrease Spending

- Carry only small amounts of cash in your wallet so you won't spend it.
- Use direct deposit. You will be less likely to spend money if it goes straight into your account.
- Control your use of credit cards.
- Don't go shopping just for fun.
- Take your written savings goals with you as a reminder.
- Buy only what you need—don't buy things just because they are on sale.
- Use coupons to save money.
- Use a grocery-shopping list to prevent impulse buying.
- Take your lunch to work instead of eating out.
- Shop around to get the best deal for big-ticket items like cars, and appliances.
- Pay your bills on time to avoid late fees, extra finance charges, utilities being turned off, eviction, repossessions, and the costs of a bad credit rating.

Cathie.

# The Partnership

Hello All!

School is about to start and it's a good time to talk about relationship education. For those parents on the fence regarding the appropriateness of this information for their children, let me share some observations with you.

The rates of sexual abuse and exploitation for children with developmental disabilities are significantly higher than for non-disabled children. One of the frequently cited risk factors for children with disabilities is lack of accurate information about anatomy, sexual development and sexuality.

This lack of information allows others to fill in the informational blanks. Without social or familial value context for sexuality, others are able to dictate these contexts for children creating opportunities for abusers. Those with an agenda to abuse look for opportunities to frame physical contact with their victims of choice in ways that benefit the abuser.

Knowledge is indeed power. Knowledge of human development that encompasses relationship and family moral values reduces the potential power abusers have over their victims.

An excellent paper on this subject is [Human Sexuality for Students with Special Needs](http://www.ejhs.org/volume10/MarshMedia%20White%20Paper.pdf) by Liz Sweeney which can be found at <http://www.ejhs.org/volume10/MarshMedia%20White%20Paper.pdf>.

Let's all work together to keep children, and the adults they will someday grow into, safe from sexual assault and exploitation!



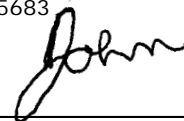
# Self-Advocacy/AmeriCorps

Wow summer sure went by fast. I have been hard at work this month getting myself ready for the next AmeriCorps Year. This year I will be launching a support group for all youth with disabilities, and a support group for older adults who have disabilities. I will publish more information soon.

Also, this year I would like to form an advisory board to help guide my advocacy efforts and with my projects here at The Arc. I have a few folks in mind and will be calling them in the next couple of weeks. If you wish to serve on this advisory board please contact me. I'm looking for 10 energetic folks to be on this advisory board.

In other news the People First convention is well on its way. Please check out [pf-wa.org](http://pf-wa.org) for more information. I would encourage everyone that can to attend. Thanks to everyone who came out to the educational rally's that we held because of the movie Tropic Thunder. Your work has truly made a difference. More to come on the support group next

Office Phone (509) 328-6326  
Mobile (509) 998-5683



# Washington State Department of Health

## ***Public Hearing Notice***

Subject: ***Mandated Benefit Sunrise Review***

**Autism Spectrum Disorders**

Location: Department of Health

310 Israel Road SE, Room 152/153

Tumwater, Washington 98501

Time: Friday, September 5, 2008

Begins at 1:00 PM

**Must sign in by 2:00 PM to testify**

The purpose of the Sunrise Review is to determine whether the diagnosis and treatment of autism spectrum disorders should be added as a mandated health benefit in Washington State. The proposal and draft legislation are available online at: [washingtonautismadvocacy.org/](http://washingtonautismadvocacy.org/)

Comments on the proposal are due September 5, 2008 before the close of the hearing. You may send comments to the above email address or mail them to: Sherry Thomas, Department of Health, P.O. Box 47850, Olympia, WA 98504-7850. There will be additional comment periods following the hearing and after the draft recommendations have been shared.

### **The Architectural Barriers Act: 40 Years of Ensuring Accessibility**

In 1968, Lyndon Johnson was president, gas averaged about 30 cents a gallon, and facilities nationwide, including government buildings, were inaccessible to most people with disabilities. It was also the year that Congress unanimously passed the Architectural Barriers Act (ABA), the first law on the books addressing accessibility. It was the idea of Hugh Gallagher, a Senate aide who was frustrated by barriers to access at many government buildings, including landmark museums along the Mall. The ABA made accessibility a condition of Federal funding in construction, alterations, and leasing. President Johnson, who signed the ABA into law on August 13th, characterized barriers to access as a failure on the part of government that perpetuated "needless and cruel discrimination."



### **SCPC Family Scholarship Fund**



The SCPC Family Scholarship Fund was established in 1999. The purpose of this fund is to assist parents, foster parents, guardians, siblings, or other family members of children with developmental disabilities in Spokane County to attend workshops, conferences, seminars, or other trainings specific to the disability of their family member. Funding can be used for registration fees, respite care, travel expenses, fuel expenses, and/or lodging involved with attending an approved event.

**For more information contact Lance Morehouse at (509) 328-6326. Or mail your applications to: Arc of Spokane, 127 W. Boone, Spokane, WA 99201**

## Mead family joins protest of 'Tropic Thunder'

Alison Boggs  
Staff writer

Spokesman-Review; August 14, 2008

Helen Black's family is accustomed to fighting back when people use the word "retard" to depict people with developmental disabilities in an unflattering way.

One daughter successfully lobbied her Mead School District middle school to ban the word; now demerits are issued to students who use it. Another daughter lobbied legislators in Olympia in support of people with disabilities. And when the movie "Tropic Thunder" opened Wednesday, two of the girls made up fliers calling for a boycott due largely to the satiric portrayal of a character called "Simple Jack" by actor Ben Stiller.

Their motivation? Their 5-year-old brother, Anthony, has Down syndrome.

"Ever since my brother was born, I've seen all of this in a different light than I would have," said 18-year-old Kiersten Black, who said her brother always greets people with a smile.

"I've been willing to tell people 'You shouldn't do that.' Some understand and will listen. Some have become active in speaking out about jokes that put people down."

In protesting the movie, the Black family joins national and local groups calling for a boycott of the film. Included among them are the American Association of People with Disabilities, the Special Olympics and the National Down Syndrome Congress.

The Arc of Spokane, which advocates for people with developmental disabilities, joined that effort Wednesday by organizing protests of the movie at Spokane-area theaters. Protests are planned at theaters at River Park Square and Spokane Valley and NorthTown malls through Saturday.

"We want to encourage acceptance and discourage abusive behavior, and this kind of movie encourages abusive behavior," said Brian Holloway, a spokesman for Arc of Spokane.

DreamWorks executives and actor Stiller, who also directed the movie, said in a New York Times article that the film was a movie-industry spoof satirizing not the disabled but actors who portray them in order to win awards. A DreamWorks spokesman also was quoted as saying the movie "makes its point by featuring inappropriate and over-the-top characters in ridiculous situations."

"Tropic Thunder" is a movie-within-a-movie, in which the actors portray actors shooting a Vietnam War film. In one of the movie's most talked-about scenes, actor Robert Downey Jr.'s character chastises Stiller's character for "going full retard" in depicting the character Simple Jack in a previous movie. In the movie, Downey Jr.'s Oscar-winning character is renowned for his efforts to get into character, including having his skin dyed black to play an African-American man.

The explanations are little comfort for Helen Black, who dreads her children returning to school and hearing other kids laughing as they repeat catch phrases from the movie containing the word "retard." Or seeing T-shirts with the expression depicted on it. Black said her 15-year-old daughter Katrina persuaded her principal to ban the word from her middle school when she told him students were playing a game called "punch a retard."

"My goal is to teach people that my son and many people like him are absolutely amazing," Helen Black said. "As a parent, I'm taking this to the next level. It's time for the disability population to wake up and get out there. We need to get out there and teach the public."



Kiersten Black walks with her brother Anthony on Wednesday. They were enjoying the sunny day after his physical therapy appointment in Spokane. (CHRISTOPHER ANDERSON The Spokesman-Review)

Contact Alison Boggs at [alisonb@spokesman.com](mailto:alisonb@spokesman.com), or (509) 459-5484.

## Tropic Thunder Update

The Arc of Spokane organized three "informational Rally's" in Spokane at Riverpark Square last week and had about 30 people participate each night holding signs and handing out information about our concerns with the movie. We have already heard a story of a man with developmental disabilities who wanted to see the movie for himself and make his own judgment. About 2/3 of the way through the movie he was getting uncomfortable and upset, and asked the person he was with "I don't understand, why do they have to do this?" A fellow movie goer sitting in front of him turned around and made a comment "what is the matter with you, are you some kind of stupid ass?" At this point the person with developmental disabilities got up and walked out of the movie. Unfortunately this is a concrete example of the concerns we have with this movie and the repercussions that we expected.

I believe we are definitely making an impact with our efforts both locally and across the nation. We have heard that ticket sales for Tropic Thunder are less than expected. According to an article that I just read Tropic Thunder grossed \$26 M in its opening weekend compared to "Iron Man" which grossed \$99 M in its opening weekend in May. DreamWorks took down a website about "Simple Jack" and the movie trailer that uses the "R" word repeatedly has been taken off the internet. I read another article today that said the President of Worldwide Marketing for Paramount Studios who oversaw the marketing campaign for "Tropic Thunder" has left his position. The Arc of the United States has also requested a meeting with Ben Stiller and people with developmental disabilities.

I would like to personally thank all those who participated in these efforts so far. Our next steps are to encourage people to write letters to the editor sharing their perspective and concerns and also a letter writing campaign to DreamWorks. Stay tuned!

Below are the links to the KXLY news story and the handout that we developed to explain our concerns. We definitely raised awareness locally and responded with a positive message about people with developmental disabilities and their families.

<http://www.kxly.com/Global/story.asp?S=8844791> KXLY news story

[http://arc-spokane.org/Tropic\\_Thunder\\_FAQs.php](http://arc-spokane.org/Tropic_Thunder_FAQs.php) FAQs about our concerns about the movie

**How can individuals/organizations sign on to the campaign on the Tropic Thunder/"r" word controversy. Here are some options:**

<http://r-word.org/> is the Special Olympics site where you sign on to the campaign.

Stop saying Retard has a site on this issue at <http://stopsayingretard.wordpress.com/>

Facebook has a campaign to ban the "R" word at <http://apps.facebook.com/causes/causes/5725>

Check out <http://feeds.feedburner.com/TherWordCampaign> for an RSS feed with lots more articles on this topic.





# Seniors! Veterans! People with Disabilities! Have you heard?

**You Can Get an Economic Stimulus Payment from the Government  
Worth \$300, or \$600 for Married Couples!**

## To get your payment:

- ⑤ **File a tax form (Form 1040A) with the IRS by October 15.**  
The IRS may already have sent you Form 1040A and special instructions.
- ⑤ **You must file the form *even if you do not usually file taxes.***

## You can qualify for a payment:

- ⑤ **If you had \$3,000 or more in income in 2007 from Social Security benefits; Social Security Disability Insurance (SSDI); veterans disability benefits; Railroad Retirement benefits; earnings from work; OR a combination of any of these benefits and pay.**
- ⑤ **The payment should not affect other benefits you may get, like SSI, Food Stamps or Medicaid.**

## Have Questions?

Call the IRS at **1-866-234-2942** or visit [www.irs.gov](http://www.irs.gov).  
Click on "Stimulus Payment Rebate Questions" for help.

**You have until October 15 to file!**

## 5th Annual Making the Case for Justice Conference

September 10-11

5th Annual Making the Case for Justice Conference: Investigation and Prevention of Crimes Against Elder & Vulnerable Adults sponsored by the King County Prosecutor's Office.

For more information contact: 206-296-8797 or [cyndee.cavanah@kingcounty.gov](mailto:cyndee.cavanah@kingcounty.gov)

## 2008 People First of Washington Convention

September 12 - September 14, 2008

Holiday Inn Hotel in  
Downtown Everett  
3105 Pine Street,  
Everett, WA 98201

<http://www.pf-wa.org/Convention2008.html>



[www.spokaneparentcoalition.org](http://www.spokaneparentcoalition.org)



The  
**Arc**  
OF SPOKANE

[www.arc-spokane.org](http://www.arc-spokane.org)

## Legislative Reception

*Hosted by The Arc of Spokane and  
the Spokane County Parent Coalition*

*You are invited to participate in this important event. This is your opportunity to talk directly to the people who are representing you in our state government. We have invited legislators and candidates from the 3rd, 4th, 6th, 7th and 9th Legislative Districts. We have commitments from Governor Gregoire and Dino Rossi to attend. We will address issues facing people with developmental disabilities and their families.*

~Please be our Guest~

Monday, September 15, 2008

6:00 to 8:00 PM

Spokane Community College Lair

1810 N. Greene Street

Spokane, Washington

Let us know if you will attend: call Deanna @ 328-6326

## Employment Opportunity at The Arc of Spokane!

**Parent to Parent Specialist:** Successful non-profit agency serving persons w/ developmental disabilities and their families seeks organized, motivated person with strong follow through to coordinate activities of our parent to parent program including providing emotional support, information and resources to families. Requires strong interpersonal and writing skills, proficiency with computer/MS Office, and ability to travel occasionally. Knowledge about resources and supports for people with developmental disabilities and special education a plus. Per contract must be a parent/family member of a child with developmental disabilities. PT, 16 hours per week, flexible schedule, \$10.00/hr. Send cover letter, resume and completed application to The Arc of Spokane, 127 W. Boone, Spokane, WA 99201 [www.arc-spokane.org](http://www.arc-spokane.org).

### QUICK-LOOK CALENDAR

#### SEPTEMBER 2008

- 10-11 Elder Abuse Conference
- 15-16 Affordable Housing Conference
- 15 Legislative Reception
- 16 Relationship Teleconference
- 22-21 Special Education & the Law Conference
- 24 Mead High School Open House
- 24-26 Valued Lives Conference
- 29-30 Co-Occurring Disorders Conference

#### OCTOBER 2008

- 2 Fall Resource Fair @ Mukugowa
- 9-10 Autism Conference
- 14 IEP Workshop



### Relationships and Sexuality Teleconference

September 16<sup>th</sup>

5pm PST

This Teleconference is especially directed towards youth.

Youth can find out more about the NYLN by visiting the NYLN website [www.nyln.org](http://www.nyln.org) where youth can register for the teleconference.

Youth can also register by calling the NYLN youth hotline at 1-866-480-6565.

### Wenatchee Washington Autism Conference

October 9-10, 2008

Wenatchee Red Lion Hotel  
Conference Center  
1225 North Wenatchee Avenue,  
Wenatchee

For more information, call (509) 888-2377 or email [tcardwell@co.douglas.wa.us](mailto:tcardwell@co.douglas.wa.us)

**WA State Co-Occurring Disorders Conference**  
**September 29-30, 2008.**  
**Yakima Convention Center**

**Online registration** (credit card only) and a printable registration form is **available NOW** on the conference web page. <http://casat.unr.edu/dasa/>

The cost to attend is \$130 (early bird \$110).  
Register soon to ensure your spot at the Conference.!

Please feel free to share this information with your colleagues, providers and partners.  
**15.00 Contact Hours for Continuing Education**

Please contact CASAT (contact information on web page) if you have any questions about the Conference.

Rori Parker Douros, Training Coordinator  
CASAT  
410 Chipeta Way, Ste 280  
Salt Lake City, UT 84108

Work - 801.581.8967  
Cell - 801.558.4769  
SLC Fax - 801.587-7858  
Email - [rparker@casat.org](mailto:rparker@casat.org)

## **The Foundation For the Challenged**

The Foundation For the Challenged (Foundation); The Foundation envisions people with intellectual or developmental disabilities having a role in their communities and society as family members, friends and neighbors. A vision measurably applied through mission driven initiatives.

Our charitable purpose is applied through a grant making program we call the Community Living Fund. Qualified individuals through family, case workers or guardians apply to the Community Living Fund to receive up to \$1,000 to purchase lifestyle necessities. Grants made to individuals have been used to cover the cost of specialized mobility devices, home-related expenses that occur with moving into a new community such as rent and utility deposits, and basic home furnishings not covered under government programs.

In addition, grants have been made to maintain an individual's ability to live more Independently by covering the cost of home modifications such as wheelchair ramps and hand rails. Grants are provided four times a year to applicants that meet funding criteria and submit a grant application which can be found on our website, [www.ffcoho.org](http://www.ffcoho.org).

To generate awareness about the program, I have been contacting the Arc's in the states in which we operate. We think that The Arc of Washington newsletter or other chapter communications would be a great resource to provide information about the program to individuals with disabilities in Washington. Any assistance your organization can provide in raising awareness about the Community Living Fund program would be greatly appreciated.

**Alison Feamster**  
Foundation For the Challenged  
5970 Wilcox Place, Suite E  
Dublin, OH 43016-6808  
[afeamster@ffchousing.org](mailto:afeamster@ffchousing.org)

Community Living Fund Administrator  
614.923.6020  
614.923.3096 fax  
[www.ffcoho.org](http://www.ffcoho.org)

## **Spokane County chosen as a pilot location for Washington's new Office of Public Guardianship**

Completing a major milestone in establishing the availability of public guardianship services for citizens in Washington, the new Office of Public Guardianship (OPG) has announced the five counties chosen as pilot program sites to begin offering these critically needed services.

Effective June 12, Clallam, Grays Harbor, Okanogan, Pierce and Spokane counties became the first counties to establish public guardianship services for incapacitated persons in Washington.

Each site will initiate measures to protect the individual rights of low-income incapacitated persons, provide the least restrictive living alternative, provide services based on community collaboration, and comply with all mandates in an effort to improve the quality of life for program clients.

A guardian is a surrogate decision-maker appointed by the court to make personal and/or financial decisions for a person the court has determined to be at significant risk of personal or financial harm because of inability to adequately provide for nutrition, health, physical safety or management of financial affairs. Though many incapacitated persons have family members who can volunteer to serve as guardians, or have resources to hire professional guardians, a large number of incapacitated persons have neither.

"We are so pleased that Spokane County has been selected as one of the first pilot sites," said Spokane County Superior Court Judge Kathleen M. O'Connor, upon learning of the selection. "This is a much needed program that will make a world of difference in the lives of the most vulnerable members of this community."

The program was created by the 2007 Legislature with the passage of Senate Bill (SB) 5320. The bill established the Office of Public Guardianship within the Administrative **Office of the Courts (AOC)**. The Legislature appropriated \$1.483 million to develop and implement pilot programs in a minimum of two areas, one urban and one rural.

Public guardians are expected to help incapacitated persons enjoy self-determination by providing individuals with adequate opportunities to direct their own lives, make choices and learn self-determination skills, enabling them to participate in their lives and communities.

With pilot sites and the public guardians selected, the OPG and the public guardians will work together to develop effective programs and compile and communicate best practices in each community.

The OPG in collaboration with the Washington State Institute of Public Policy will conduct a study to evaluate services, benefits, costs and savings demonstrated by the pilot public guardian programs.

**CONTACT:** For more information regarding the Office of Public Guardianship, contact Shirley Bondon at [shirley.bondon@courts.wa.gov](mailto:shirley.bondon@courts.wa.gov) or 360.705.5302 or visit [www.courts.wa.gov](http://www.courts.wa.gov).

### **Washington State Office of Public Guardianship**

#### **2008-2009 Pilot Project Guardians:**

**SPOKANE COUNTY:** *Peggy McIntire* brings to her guardianship practice a wealth of experience in social work. She has worked with many vulnerable populations including hospice patients, homeless veterans, and students with disabilities. Peggy will provide public guardianship services to Spokane County.

o **Contact: Peggy McIntire 509.328.3216**



## Autism Society Of Washington

### MOCHA MEETING

**Wednesday, September 10 7-9pm**

Rocket Market  
726 E. 43rd

Topic: UW Toxicology study

### Monthly Meeting

**Wednesday, September 17 6:30-8pm**

St. Luke's Rehab Institution  
711 S. Cowley, Room 200

Topic: TBA

More info: [spokane@autismsocietyofwa.org](mailto:spokane@autismsocietyofwa.org)

### Teen/Young Adult Social Group

**Sunday, September 21 1-3pm**

Bring a game to play  
Service Station Coffee House  
9317 N. Nevada

### Autism 209

**No Information for July and August**

ESD 101 Video Link  
4202 S. Regal Conference Room

### Adults with Asperger's Social Group

**Saturday, September 13 1-3pm**

Easy hike in Nature area

Contact: [Spokane@autismsocietyofwa.org](mailto:Spokane@autismsocietyofwa.org) to get on our Notification list

### For more information

[Spokane@autismofwa.org](mailto:Spokane@autismofwa.org)

For more information:

[Spokane@autismsocietyofwa.org](mailto:Spokane@autismsocietyofwa.org)

## Parent to Parent Monthly Support Group



Open to any Parent or  
Guardian who has  
a child with special needs.

**Tuesday, September 23**

### The Arc of Spokane

127 W. Boone

Contact: Terry Villalovoz, 328-6326

## Down Syndrome Family Network

### SUPPORT GROUP

This is a terrific opportunity for support and networking.  
Children are always welcome.

**Meets every Wednesday 9:30 - 11:30am**

Garland Alliance Church,

2011 W. Garland Ave., Spokane

Contact: *Carolee Spradley, (509) 499-8792*

### BREAKFAST RENDEZVOUS

**Saturday, October 11th 9:00 a.m.**

This no-host breakfast is a great way to start  
your weekend. Bring the kids!

*Jenny's Restaurant, 9425 E. Sprague Spokane Valley*

Contact: *Carolyn Wright, (509) 455-7439*

For more information or to be added to the  
Down Syndrome Family Network email list..

Contact: Carolyn Wright at 455-7439

## Senior Parent Support Group & Parents For Life Support Group

A support group for parents who have an adult  
son or daughter with a developmental disability.

**September 17, 11:30—1:00**

**Guest Speaker—Lance Morehouse  
Legislative Agenda**

The Arc/IERR Building, 116 W. Indiana Ave.

Contact: Deanna Noland, (509) 328-6326

## Evergreen Spina Bifida Support Group

### Call for meeting time and location.

Come discuss issues that effect persons with  
Spina Bifida and their family and friends.

Contact: Ed Kennedy,  
(509) 326-6355

## Spokane Fathers Network

For fathers of children with special needs.

**Saturday, September 20th 10am**

Frankie Doodle's

30 East 3rd Ave., Spokane

Contact: Gregg Osborne, (509) 768-1383

All new material or changes to existing materials  
**must** be made by the **20th** of the month preceding  
publication for inclusion in newsletter.

## *Fall Resource Fair*

**EVERYONE IS WELCOME! NO RSVP'S NECESSARY.**

**When:** Thursday, October 2, 2008 9:00 A.M. – 11:30 A.M.

**Where:** Mukagawa Fort Wright Institute 4000 W. Randolph Rd

**Who:** People with Developmental Disabilities, Parents, Teachers, Friends,  
and Case Managers

***PRIZES!!!***

Information: **Dala Rice: 477-4511**

Opportunities to meet with representatives from Spokane County Supported Employment Agencies, Parks and Recreation Programs, Housing, Transportation, and other community resources.

**PLEASE COME AND MEET:**

THE ARC OF SPOKANE  
ARTISANS  
CAREER PATH SERVICES  
COALITION OF RESPONSIBLE DISABLED (CORD)  
DIVISION OF DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES  
DEPARTMENT OF VOCATIONAL REHABILITATION  
EAST CENTRAL COMMUNITY CENTER  
ENSO *EN*visioning *SO*lutions  
GOODWILL INDUSTRIES  
INCLUSION DAILY EXPRESS  
INLAND EMPIRE RESIDENTIAL SERVICES  
JASON DAVIES/POS. MOTIVATIONAL SPEAKER  
JOB RESOURCE CENTER  
LATAH SERVICES  
THE PARTNERSHIP  
LOGAN MAGAZINE  
CENTER  
NOVA SERVICES

PACE SERVICES  
PARTNERS FOR COMMUNITY LIVING  
PEACEFUL VALLEY COMMUNITY CENTER  
PEOPLE FIRST OF WASHINGTON  
PLAN TO WORK  
SESSIONS AFH  
SKILS'KIN  
SL START  
SL START RESIDENTIAL  
SOCIAL SECURITY  
SPOKANE PARENT COALITION  
SPOKANE PARKS/REC  
SPOKANE TRANSIT AUTHORITY  
SPOKANE TRANSIT MOBILITY TRAINING  
WASHINGTON PAVE  
WEST CENTRAL COMMUNITY

**REFRESHMENTS WILL BE PROVIDED**



- Special Points of Interest:**
- ✓ Prizes
  - ✓ Employment resources
  - ✓ Parents welcome
  - ✓ Housing options
  - ✓ Transportation Issues
  - ✓ Community Resources

# Another IEP Meeting...

(How Do We Know If Our Student's Needs Are Going to Be Met This Year?)

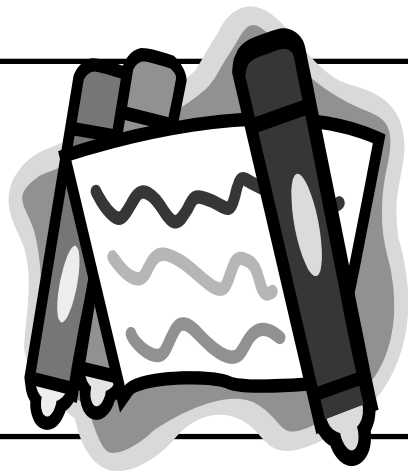


This free workshop is designed to give an overview on Individual Education Plans (IEPs).

Parents, educators, guardians and anyone connected to a child with an IEP are welcome to attend.



**Tuesday, October 14 • 6:00 pm to 8:30 pm**  
**The Arc/IERR Community Building**  
**116 W. Indiana, Spokane, WA 99202**



Presenter **Marion Moore** of Eastern Washington University will focus on evaluating IEPs to make sure there is a clear connection between the student's *current skills levels*, the IEP goals and objectives, and the services provided in the classroom.

**Resource materials and refreshments provided.**  
RSVP to Terry Villalovoz at (509) 328-6326 or [p2p@arc-spokane.org](mailto:p2p@arc-spokane.org)



**Sponsored by:**  
**Spokane Parent to Parent**  
**&**  
**Spokane Parent Coalition**



*"The Home Care Referral Registry was a fast and efficient way to find a provider for my daughter. I am very pleased with the provider that I found through the Registry."*

*Mother and Parent Provider - C. Johnson*



### Looking For a Caregiver? Let Us Help You Find the Right One!

The Home Care Referral Registry (HCRR) matches the needs of Consumer employers (MPC and COPES clients) with pre-qualified, pre-screened individual providers that are ready to work. The HCRR was developed to improve the quality of long term in-home care services for individual receiving services through DSHS.

**CONTACT THE HOME CARE RE-FERRAL REGISTRY OFFICE IN YOUR AREA.**

On the internet: [www.hcqa.wa.gov](http://www.hcqa.wa.gov)  
click on Referral Registry

Get connected with your local Registry office: 1-800-970-5456



Please Join Us!



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