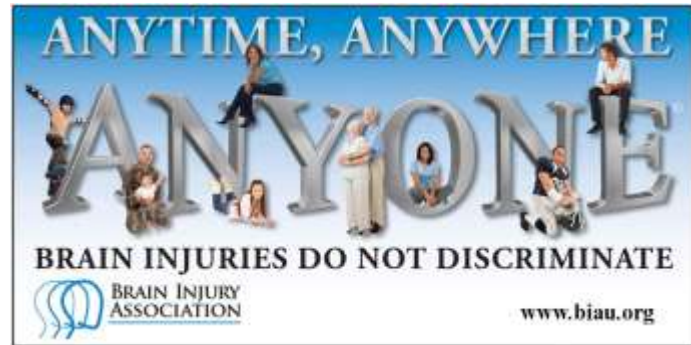


MARCH IS BRAIN INJURY AWARENESS MONTH

A brain injury can happen anytime, anywhere to anyone.

Brain injuries do not discriminate. Did you know?

- 1.7 million people, including 475,000 children, sustain a TBI in the US each year. 3.1 million individuals live with life-long disability as a result of TBI.
- 52,000 people will die. 275,000 people will be hospitalized. 1.365 million people will be treated and released from an emergency department.
- Just as no two people are exactly alike, no two brain injuries are exactly alike.



An injury that happens in an instant can bring a lifetime of physical, cognitive and behavior challenges and early, equal and adequate access to care will greatly increase overall quality of life. This is the goal of Brain Injury Association. Go to www.biaa.org for more information.

Join the Brain Injury Association of Utah for an open house at their new location.

Thursday, March 15, 2012 4:00-7:00 p.m.

5280 South Commerce, E-190, Murray, Utah

For more information, please call 801-716-4993 or 1-800-827-8442.

UPC VOLUNTEER AND IEP COACH SPOTLIGHT



Aleis Merrill, Utah Parent Center Volunteer and IEP Coach, recently received the Volunteer Recognition Certificate provided by the Utah Commission on Volunteers. This Certificate recognizes volunteers that make Utah a better state. Aleis is one of our dedicated IEP Coaches who serves parents primarily in the Canyons School District. She is a wonderful mother to her daughter, Alexa, who has learning disabilities. Aleis also spends 2 to 3 hours a week at the Utah Parent Center helping parents who call the Center find resources, understand their roles and responsibilities in the IEP process and providing them with the knowledge they need to help their children with disabilities achieve success in life. Thanks Aleis for all you do to serve parents!

CONGRATS TO JAYCEE VOORHEES, KSL AND ZIONS BANK TEACHER FEATURE WINNER!

Nomination submitted by: *Vanessa Nelson*

From KSL.com

'Teaching is a very demanding, but rewarding job! It takes more than mere knowledge to inspire and lead students. I have taught school for 50 years and I recognize good teaching when I see it. I have observed the **dedication and hard work of Jaycie Voorhees of the Jordan Valley School...** Jordan Valley is a special needs school, with an incredible staff. Jaycie is a dedicated, board certified music specialist. This very talented woman has chosen to center her life around the education of special needs children. This is only her 5th year of teaching, but she shows the insight of one who has had many years in the classroom.' [Click here to read the full story](http://www.ksl.com/?nid=191&sid=467810) or visit <http://www.ksl.com/?nid=191&sid=467810>



PRE-REGISTER FOR THESE UPCOMING UTAH PARENT CENTER EVENTS!

GET ON TARGET WITH TRANSITION IN 2012!

MAY 2012

MAY 2012 TRANSITION MINI-CONFERENCE - A CONFERENCE FOR PARENTS OF YOUTH AND YOUNG ADULTS WITH DISABILITIES JOIN US THURSDAY, MAY 3 AND FRIDAY, MAY 4, 2012 FROM 8:30 A.M. - 4:00 P.M. AT THE UTAH PARENT CENTER Pre-Registration is Required. There is no cost to attend, but space is limited so please register early! Parents will be given priority registration for this event.

May 3rd topics include: Developing the IEP and Transition Plan, Laws Impacting Transition; Information about state adult agencies and how to access services; a Panel of Experts on adult living arrangements, guardianship, and community living.

May 4th topics include: Getting and Keeping That First Job; The Journey to Adulthood - how to help your child learn about puberty and sexuality; Skills for Effective Parent Advocacy – how to be a great advocate for your child and how to teach your child to become a self-advocate; Healthy Transition – transitioning from pediatric to adult health care; and a Panel of State Service Providers including Utah State Office of Education, Division of Services for People with Disabilities, Utah State Office of Rehabilitation, Social Security; and Disability Resource Centers at state colleges and universities.

REGISTER TODAY!

PARENTS CLICK HERE TO REGISTER ONLINE!

QUESTIONS?

PHONE: 801-272-1051 or 1-800-468-1160

EMAIL: info@utahparentcenter.org

FREE IN-DEPTH IEP TRAINING AND SURROGATE PARENT CERTIFICATION

Does your child currently have an IEP? Is your child being evaluated for special education services? If so, then this IEP training is for you! Topics that will be covered include: Parents as Partners in the IEP Process, Section 504 Services in Schools, Positive Behavioral Interventions and the IEP, Transition to Adult Life Overview and Tools for Constructive Communication!

JOIN US: TUESDAY, MARCH 27, 2012 FROM 9:00 A.M. – 3:00 P.M. AT THE UTAH PARENT CENTER Pre-Registration is Required. There is no cost to attend, but space is limited so please register early!

REGISTER TODAY!

CLICK HERE TO REGISTER!

QUESTIONS?

PHONE: 801-272-1051 or 1-800-468-1160

ABC'S OF AUTISM – FOR FAMILIES DEALING WITH THE DIAGNOSIS OF AUTISM

If you are a parent or caregiver of a child with Autism- this workshop is for you! Lunch is provided.

Topics Covered Include:

- Coping Skills
- Being a Wise Consumer of Services
- Basic Behavior Strategies
- Communication Issues
- Overview of Sensory Integration
- Basics of Applied Behavior Analysis
- Facts on Alternative Treatments
- Getting Organized

SATURDAY, MARCH 10, 2012 FROM 9:00 A.M. – 3:00 P.M. IN OGDEN – CLICK HERE TO REGISTER!

SATURDAY, MARCH 10, 2012 FROM 9:00 A.M. – 4:00 P.M. IN LOGAN - CALL 435-797-7080 TO REGISTER

SATURDAY, MARCH 31, 2012 FROM 9:00 A.M. – 3:00 P.M. IN OREM - CLICK HERE TO REGISTER!

THERE IS STILL TIME TO REGISTER FOR THE 2012 LDAU CONFERENCE

Cultural Diversity and Learning Disabilities:

Meeting the Needs of Students with Learning Disabilities from Diverse Backgrounds

FRIDAY, MARCH 9, 2012. REGISTRATION AND CONTINENTAL BREAKFAST BEGINS AT 7:00 A.M.

Location: Weber State University, Shepherd Union Building, 3848 Harrison Blvd., Ogden, Utah

Click here for [Conference Schedule](#)

Click here for [Online Registration](#)

Further conference details at www.ldau.org/newsevents/2012-conference/

AYSO VIP SOCCER – WHERE EVERYONE PLAYS®

THE AYSO Very Important Players (VIP) Program provides a quality soccer experience for children and adults with physical or mental disabilities which make it difficult to successfully participate on mainstream teams. VIP Buddies ensure that every player has a great AYSO experience. VIP teams may include individuals who are:

- Blind or visually impaired
- Amputees or impaired mobility
- Mentally or emotionally challenged
- On the Autism Spectrum
- Have Down Syndrome, or like disabilities
- Or have Cerebral Palsy or like disabilities.

But we all know many who don't fall under these categories, and of course we want to reach ANYONE who wants to play soccer. Hilary Johnson, the new Utah AYSO VIP Soccer League Coordinator is excited to begin organizing this VIP Soccer League. The league is open to anyone ages 4 and up with any ability. If playing soccer is something you are interested in please contact Hilary Johnson at 801-518-3123 or by email at sunlip98@yahoo.com. There will be a parent meeting/registration held on March 6, 2012 at 7:00 p.m. at Rhoades Bake-N-Serve, 5121 South Murray Blvd, Murray Utah. This will be an opportunity for you to hear more about the program, ask questions and determine if this is a good fit for your family! The VIP program makes sure Everyone Plays® in AYSO!

BOOK TALK AND SIGNING AND PANEL DISCUSSION

Following Ezra – What One Father Learned About Gumby, Otters, Autism, and Love from His Extraordinary Son by Tom Fields-Meyer

This book celebrates the evolution of Fields-Meyer's on from a remote toddler to an extraordinary man, connecting his own remarkable ways to the world around him. Tom will talk about his book and there will be a panel discussion with Sam Goldstein, Ph.D., Editor-in-Chief of Journal of Attention Disorders, Doug Goldsmith, Ph.D., Executive Director The Children's Center and Pete Nicholas, Ph.D., Director for Carmen B. Pingree, Center for Children with Autism.

THURSDAY, MARCH 22, 2012 AT 7:00 – 9:00 P.M. AT THE IJ AND JEANNÉ WAGNER JEWISH COMMUNITY CENTER 2 North Medical Drive, Salt Lake City. If you need more information, call Michelle at 801-581-0098 ext 119.

AUTISM: COMING OF AGE FILM SCREENING AND DISCUSSION

Brought to you by Utah Education Network, Autism Council of Utah, Families of Autism and Asperger's Standing Together (FAAST) and Weber State University. This documentary was produced by public television station WGBY (Springfield, MA) to help raise awareness of the challenges faced by individuals with autism and their families. This event is free but space is limited, please pre-register!

Tuesday, March 27, 2012 6:00-8:00 p.m. at Marriott Health Building, Room 101, Weber State University
Register at: <http://saweb.weber.edu/saxtra/AutismComingOfAge/Default.aspx>



LEGISLATIVE ACTION REQUESTED

As the Legislative Session draws to a close, the Legislative Coalition for People with Disabilities (LCPD) is requesting families in need of services that require legislative funding, such as DSPD, to speak to the members of the Social Services Appropriation Subcommittee about the importance of these services for their family. The Division of Services for People with Disabilities (DSPD) provides long term support to individuals with significant disabilities and their families. You can email your comments to committee members by going to <http://le.utah.gov/asp/interim/standing.asp?house=a>, scroll down the page to find the Social Services Appropriations Subcommittee. Click on members' names and you will be taken to their legislative profile page with contact information. It's important that parents understand the difference they can make by sharing their personal stories and experiences with their legislators. As the legislative session continues, our representatives need to hear both the successes and failures of the systems that support children and adults with disabilities. For more information about LCPD, visit www.lcpdut.org

PARENTING FOR SUCCESS CLASSES OFFERED IN DAVIS COUNTY

CHADD of Utah, Utah Youth Village – Families First, and Davis Behavioral Health are teaming up to bring you Parenting for Success. This will be a 6 week workshop that will focus on parenting skills for children of all ages, elementary through high school. The class covers the following concepts:

- Effective communication skills
- Understanding children's behaviors
- Motivating children with praise and rewards
- Social skills that increase children's success
- Correcting children's problem behaviors with teaching and consequences
- Avoiding power struggles Problems solving

WHEN: Tuesdays, March 6 through April 17. (We will not meet April 3rd.)

WHERE: Davis Behavioral Health, 934 So Main, Layton. "Cloud" room in the Children and Youth Clinic.

TIME: 7:00 - 8:30 p.m.

COST: \$35.00 per couple or individual. Make checks payable to Utah Youth Village.

REGISTER: Email Tammy at davis-county@chadd.net, or phone 801-292-6233. Please provide names of those who will be attending, address, and phone number. If you have taken this class before you may come back for a refresher for free. Just bring your binder and let me know you would like to come.

SAVE THE DATES!

Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorders FREE Seminar for Parents and Families

Wednesday, May 16, 2012 from 6:30-8:30 p.m. at Davis Behavioral Health, 934 S Main Street, Layton, UT

Light Dinner will be served. To enroll, contact Kellie Butcher at 801-425-9393 or by email at

kelloogs182@yahoo.com

2012 UVU Conference on Autism

Friday, April 20, 2012 from 9:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m. at Utah Valley University, Sorensen Student Center.

Featuring Keynote Speakers: Dr. **Christopher and Jacqueline Gauthier will offer insight on Utah's effort to extend 'Tiny Ripples of Hope' throughout the ASD community.** Please visit www.uvu.edu/chss/autism to view the full conference program. The cost for the conference is \$19, including lunch and parking. CEU credits are available at an additional cost. Respite care is available.

5k Run at Snow College with proceeds going to Autism Information Resources at the Utah Parent Center Saturday, April 21, 2012. Watch for more info to come!



UTAH PARENT CENTER UPCOMING EVENTS CALENDAR

Visit www.utahparentcenter.org/events/ for updated event.

Complete workshop descriptions for the classes listed below are available on page 7 of the newsletter.

Date	Time	Description, Location, and Registration
Mar 6	6:00-8:15 p.m.	CHADD Parent to Parent Family Training on ADHD – 7 Week Course Visit www.chaddofutah.com for more information and to register.
Mar 8	6:30-8:30p.m.	From No Where to KNOW Where Transition to Adult Life Workshop Location: Midvale Middle School, Midvale - Register at http://conta.cc/wrVczb
Mar 8	7:00 –8:00 p.m.	Getting and Keeping the First Job – Preparing Youth for Employment Location: Cyprus High School, Magna – Register at http://conta.cc/wFgFE3
Mar 10	6:30-8:30 p.m.	ABC's of Autism - Ogden At Utah GAP, Ogden – Register at http://conta.cc/ySaVib
Mar 13	6:30-8:30 p.m.	Parents as Partners in the IEP Process Workshop At Davis Professional Development Ctr, Farmington – Register at http://conta.cc/AsvTdk
Mar 15	6:30-8:30 p.m.	Medicaid and Vocational Rehabilitation for the Transition Age Student Location: Midvale Middle School, Midvale – Register at http://conta.cc/A7LLWm
Mar 22	6:30-8:30 p.m.	Parents as Partners in the IEP Process Workshop Location: Midvale Middle School, Midvale - Register at http://conta.cc/AikN4Y
Mar 22	6:30-8:30 p.m.	'Will We Survive?' Alleviating Stress in Your Family with A Child with a Disability Location: Davis Professional Development Ctr – Register at http://conta.cc/Ac0K14
Mar 22	7:00-8:00 p.m.	Guardianship Location: Granite Education Center, Room D-102 Register at http://conta.cc/wMKMxO
Mar 22/23	8:30 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.	Get on Target with Transition in 2012. Transition Mini-Conference. Event Full. Registration for this event is closed. Will be offered again May 3 and 4.
Mar 27	9:00 a.m. – 3:30p.m.	Full Day IEP Training and Surrogate Parent Certification Location: Utah Parent Center, Salt Lake City – Register at http://conta.cc/wbN6H7
Mar 31	9:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.	ABC's of Autism – Orem Location: Kids on the Move, Orem – Register at http://conta.cc/waXi24
Apr 12	7:00-8:00 p.m.	Effective Advocacy Skills Workshop Location: Cyprus High School, Magna – Register at http://conta.cc/yFHPjb
Apr 17	6:30-8:30 p.m.	From No Where to KNOW Where – Transition to Adult Life Workshop Location: Register at http://conta.cc/yH07tR
Apr 19	7:00 -8:30 p.m.	Positive Behavioral Supports Workshop



		Held at Granite Education Center, Rm D-102, SLC - Register at http://conta.cc/zfaDSc
Apr 21	8:00–4:00 p.m.	Conexiones Familiares Conferencia en Español
		Para más información llamar a Julie Moreno 801-272-1067
Apr 23	6:30-8:30 p.m.	From No Where to KNOW Where – Transition to Adult Life Workshop
		Location: Utah Parent Center, Salt Lake City - Register at http://conta.cc/zvd1Oc
May 3-4	8:30 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.	Get on Target with Transition in 2012! Transition Mini-Conference
		Held at Utah Parent Center, Salt Lake City - Parents register at http://conta.cc/xvQmnG
May 3	6:30-8:30 p.m.	Getting and Keeping the First Job -
		Location: Eastmont Middle School, Sandy – Register at http://conta.cc/yk7vE9
May 10	6:30-8:30 p.m.	Journey to Adulthood: Preparing Your Child for Puberty
		Location: Eastmont Middle School, Sandy – Register at http://conta.cc/x86JM5
May 10	7:00-8:00 p.m.	Summer Programs for Children with Disabilities
		Location: Cyprus High School, Magna - Register at http://conta.cc/yYzecP

If you have questions about any of the upcoming events listed please call the Utah Parent Center at 801.272.1051 or toll-free in Utah at 1.800.468.1160 or email info@utahparentcenter.org

MONTHLY MEETINGS AND SUPPORT GROUPS

- Big MAKs (Mothers of Autistic Kids) Support Groups and Activities for the whole family!
Visit <http://utahmaks.blogspot.com> for upcoming and monthly events.
- CHADD of Utah (Children and Adults with Attention-Deficit/Hyperactivity Disorder) Meetings and Classes
Visit www.chaddofutah.com for meetings and classes in your area.
- Family to Family Network Monthly Meetings and Classes
Visit www.facebook.com/utahfamilytofamilynetwork
- Learning Disabilities Association of Utah Monthly Meetings
Visit www.ldau.org for information and contacts.
- Legislative Coalition for Disabilities Monthly Meetings and Legislative Updates
Visit www.lcpdut.org for updates and calendar of events.
- Utah Down Syndrome Foundation has chapters across the state.
Visit www.udsf.org to find information about local events.

WORKSHOP DESCRIPTIONS:

Parents as Partners in the IEP Process Workshop

Parents are important members of the IEP team. They can and want to be effective partners with other members of the team in developing and delivering special education programs for their student with disabilities. This workshop will help parents understand their role, rights and responsibilities in the IEP process. They will learn how to effectively prepare for, participate in and follow-up on IEP meetings held on behalf of their student. Information will be presented by trainers who are parents of children with disabilities.

Also available online at: <http://www.utahparentcenter.org/training/videos/iep-training-2009/>

From NO Where to KNOW Where – Transition to Adult Life Workshop

As families of youth and young adults with disabilities, we have learned many things, but most of us admit that we have much more to learn. The transition to adult life can leave you feeling you are "NO Where" -- totally lost! Get to "KNOW Where" by learning about transition planning and related issues. We will also discuss how to prepare your teen to participate in the transition planning process as well.

Also available online at <http://www.utahparentcenter.org/training/videos/transition-training-2009/>

Section 504 Services in Public Schools

What do parents need to know about Section 504? It is important for parents of students with disabilities and special needs to have information and understanding of Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act. This workshop will help parents understand their role and responsibilities in working with school personnel.

Also available online at <http://www.utahparentcenter.org/training/videos/section-504-training-modules/>

Early Transition

This workshop will offer information about transition from early intervention to pre-school and then the move to kindergarten. We will also discuss the basics of the IEP process.

Effective Advocacy Skills

This workshop will teach parents how to be a great advocate for their child. It will also discuss how you can help your child become a self-advocate.

Getting and Keeping the First Job

This workshop will offer information about preparing for employment for your youth or young adult with disabilities.

Guardianship

Come learn all about the process of gaining guardianship of your young adult child with disabilities. You will learn about the different options and what to expect during the process. Guardianship Associates of Utah will be presenting this workshop.

Positive Behavioral Supports

The purpose of this workshop is to introduce families to a new way of thinking about their child's behaviors and about the need to advocate for behavioral instruction. The workshop introduces and provides an overview of the concepts of functional assessment and positive interventions. It is not designed to teach how-to skills in these areas.



e-Connections

March 2, 2012

230 West 200 South, Suite 1101
Salt Lake City, UT 84101

Phone: 801-272-1051
Toll-Free in Utah: 1-800-468-1160
Spanish: 801-272-1067
www.utahparentcenter.org

SEARCH THE INTERNET AND SHOP ONLINE AND YOU CAN HELP THE UTAH PARENT CENTER!

What if the Utah Parent Center earned a penny every time you searched the Internet or earned a percentage of your online purchase at hundreds of different online vendors? Well, now we can!



GoodSearch.com is a search engine that donates half of its revenue – approximately a penny per search – to the charities its users designate. You use it just as you would any other search engine – **and it's powered by Yahoo!**, so you get great results! Just visit www.goodsearch.com to start searching and download their toolbar. Be sure to **enter "Utah Parent Center" as the charity you want to support!** Just 500 of us searching four times a day will raise about \$7,300 in a year without anyone spending a dime!

GoodSearch.com also has a feature called "GoodShop". If you visit www.goodsearch.com and enter "Utah Parent Center" as your charity and then click the link to one of the GoodShop vendors, they will donate up to 37% of your purchase to the Utah Parent Center. Some of the vendors include: Amazon.com, Dell, eBay, Target, Nike, Staples, PetSmart, HP, Wal-Mart, Apple, Expedia, and Overstock. There are hundreds of other stores that participate in this program – check it out today!

SHOP AND HELP THE UTAH PARENT CENTER



GiveBackAmerica is America's online charity mall. It was created to raise money for charities and nonprofits at no additional costs to their supporters and volunteers. The website and concept was created to make a difference in people's lives. 100% of listed commission is donated directly to the Utah Parent Center. Shop vendors including Amazon.com, Target, The Home Depot, JetBlue and more! [Shop and support us today!](#)

Utah Parent Center Information Disclaimer

Utah Parent Center • Celebrating OVER 26 years of service!!!

Projects of the Utah Parent Center:

Utah Family Voices - Family to Family Health Information Center

Autism Information Resources at the Utah Parent Center

Family to Family Network – Serving families eligible for services from DSPD and more!

Phone: (801)272.1051 • Toll Free Utah: (800)468.1160 • Fax: (801)272.8907

Email: info@utahparentcenter.org • Website: www.utahparentcenter.org

Our Mission: To help parents help their children with disabilities to live included, productive lives as members of the community. We accomplish this through the provision of information, training, and peer support.

The Utah Parent Center is a non-profit organization federally funded by the Office of Special Education Programs under grant #H328M020032. The Utah Parent Center (UPC) does not represent or endorse any particular point of view, unless expressly stated. Every effort is made to provide accurate and complete information. The content of this message is provided as an informational resource ONLY. For items from other individuals or organizations, we encourage readers to contact the original source with questions or concerns. Only approved items will be posted. The UPC is not responsible for content contained on, distributed through, or linked, downloaded, or accessed through this message. This newsletter is NOT a discussion group and you will only receive official email newsletters from the Utah Parent Center. We do not trade nor sell the email addresses of our subscribers. Permission to forward and reprint the information herein is granted with complete attribution. Please forward this information to your friends and colleagues that may be interested in subscribing to this newsletter. You have received this message because you are on the Utah Parent Center listserv. To be removed, please contact the Utah Parent Center at info@utahparentcenter.org