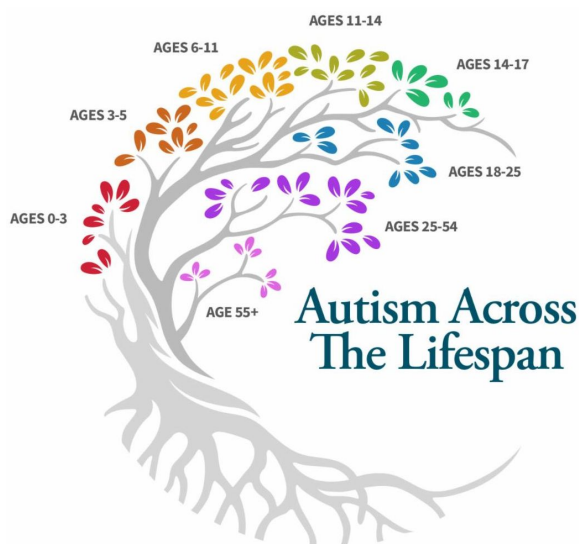




APRIL 2021

## WORLD AUTISM DAY ANNOUNCING *NEW* AUTISM WEBSITE LAUNCH!!



April is Autism Awareness month. The Autism Society states that the prevalence of autism in the United States has risen from 1 in 125 children in 2010 to 1 in 59 in 2020. With this in mind, the Utah Parent Center is excited to announce the soft launch of our new [\*Autism Across the Lifespan Website\*](#) to celebrate World Autism Day on April 2. We have gathered resources, information, and tools for every age and stage of your child's life. Videos, developmental monitoring, support, tips, special education resources, therapeutic interventions, and more are all just a click away. We currently have age 0-3 available for viewing with more ages coming throughout 2021.

As always, our resources are available at no cost to families and include resources across your child's lifespan.

We're grateful to our community funding partners; Dominion Energy, Vivint Gives Back, and the Autism Council of Utah who helped to make this website possible. If you would like to make a gift to the UPC in the name of your favorite Autistic person, please do so on our [\*GIVE NOW\*](#) page. All gifts go to support additional programming.

## TALKING TO KIDS ABOUT DISABILITIES "YA, I HAVE A DISABILITY BUT I LIKE CARS TOO"

You may have a child or a student who has openly asked about a person's disability.



These conversations can be great teachable moments, but we shouldn't wait for those questions to be brought up. There are many ways to teach children about disability diversity and inclusion. Aiden Belnap, a junior in high school, describes how conversations early on helped build a positive experience for his peers.

*I don't remember a specific moment that I learned about my disabilities, but we talk openly and a lot about it as a family. I am glad that I know about my disabilities and that my parents have always taught me that I can do hard things and be like everyone else. When in 5th grade I was having a hard time connecting with classmates and I felt really misunderstood. My teacher gave me permission to share a powerpoint presentation that I put together explaining some of my differences with peers such as my prosthetic eye and facial ticks, but how I also had many things in common with them. I talked about my disabilities but shared my common interests too; I love cars, playing video games and want to do well in school.*

To learn more about this expert backed guidance for discussing disabilities with children, click [here](#).

## DENTAL CARE FREE & LOW COST OPTIONS



Your oral health can paint a picture of your overall health. Protect your health by getting regular dental check ups. There are clinics in Utah that provide low cost or no cost dental care. To find one near you, click the link below. If you are looking for a list of providers experienced in treating higher needs patients, call and speak to our Utah Family Voices Consultants at 801-272-1068.

**FREE & Low Cost Dental Care**

## JUVENILE CORRECTION & FREE APPROPRIATE EDUCATION



In the United States, roughly 54,000 youth reside in juvenile corrections facilities on any given day. *US Dept of Education* A study conducted by the National Council on Disabilities shows that up to 85 percent of youth in juvenile detention facilities have disabilities that make them eligible for special education services, yet only 37 percent are receiving these services while in school.

Students who are incarcerated are still entitled to a Free and Appropriate Education (FAPE). However, Educators face many challenges in this setting as they try to offer the academic rigor necessary for incarcerated youth to make meaningful educational progress. To learn more about the programs and efforts to break the "School-to-Prison Pipeline" for incarcerated students with disabilities by clicking on the links below.

[Breaking School to Prison Pipeline for Students](#)

[LEA's and Correctional Facilities Requirements](#)

[Special Ed in Correctional Facilities](#)

[Correctional Education in Juvenile Justice Facilities](#)

[Community Transition Resources](#)

Monthly Tidbits from...



a project  
of the



The House of Representatives passed the "American Rescue Plan Act of 2021" ([H.R. 1319](#)). The bill includes temporary health-related and other provisions that will help families. Some of these include:

- \$1400 stimulus payments to individuals, including adult dependents;
- Medicaid funding dedicated to home and community-based services;
- A state option to provide 12-month-postpartum Medicaid eligibility (for 5 years);
- Medicaid coverage for vaccines and COVID treatment;
- Incentives for states to take up the ACA Medicaid expansion;
- An increase in the child tax credit;

FAMILY VOICES®  
Washington DC Update



Washington DC Update: March 3, 2021

National CYSHCN Policy News and Resources Having trouble viewing this email? Click here Washington DC Update 3/3/2021 Greetings. The main topics covered in this Update are: The COVID-relief bill Info

[Read more](#)  
[myemail.constantcontact.com](mailto:myemail.constantcontact.com)

APRIL UPC WORKSHOPS  
QR CODE ACCESS



📱 SCAN ME

We have lined up some great *workshops* for April! While some classes may be specific about a regional area, school, or district, everyone is welcome. Some class topics this month include:

- Transition U Series 1, 2 & 3
- SSI & Medicaid
- Transition from School to Adult Life
- Section 504 vs IEP





**COMING SOON MID-APRIL...  
OUR SUMMER RESOURCE LIST**

## SPRING ACTIVITIES FUN WITH FAMILY



This year spring started on March 20th. Spring in Utah can bring unpredictable weather, warm sunny days, rain and even snow! This year, maybe more than any other, spring can symbolize a renewed sense of love, hope and growth. Gardeners, children, and outdoor enthusiasts alike can't wait to get out and enjoy this great season. Find out how you and your family can get out and take advantage of this wonderful time of year by clicking on the link below.

[40 Things to do in Utah in the Spring](#)



**THE COLLEGE BOUND SENIOR**

## SUPPORTS, RESOURCES & MORE

If you have educational supports through a 504 plan or IEP in high school, you may wonder if you can continue to receive supports while attending college. Your protections under IDEA end once you receive your diploma, however, you are still protected and can receive accommodations under Section 504 of the Rehab Act if your college receives federal funding. If your school of choice does not receive federal funding, you are always protected from discrimination and should be afforded equal access under the ADA.

If College is in your future, start getting informed by:

1. Talking to your high school counselor about colleges that might be a good fit for you.
2. Looking for scholarship and financial aid opportunities to help offset the cost of tuition.
3. Checking with the Disability Resource Center at the school you want to attend and ask what accommodations they will help you arrange.

Follow these links for more college specific information and resources.

[College Disability Resource Centers](#)

[Tips for College Life](#)



[Walmart Golden Key Scholarship](#)

[Disability Scholarships](#)

[College Experiences for Students with Intellectual Disabilities](#)

[College Disability Services](#)

The Transition University project is funded by the Utah Development Disabilities Council and is supported, in part by grant number 1901UTSCDD-02, from the U.S. Administration for Community Living, Department of Health and Human Services, Washington, D.C. 20201. Grantees undertaking projects with government sponsorship are encouraged to express freely their findings and conclusions. Points of view or opinions do not, therefore, necessarily represent official ACL policy.



**Community Outreach**  
EVENTS, SURVEYS & MORE





Do you want FREE VIRTUAL classes that will teach your family cooking skills and nutrition information? Then EFNEP classes are right for you. We are experienced in teaching special needs families. Visit [Utah EFNEP](#) for more information, or email [paula.scott@usu.edu](mailto:paula.scott@usu.edu) to have a nutrition educator contact you.

**UTAH STATEWIDE INDEPENDENT LIVING COUNCIL PRESENTS**

The 9th Annual

**\* N.I.N.J.A. \***

Youth Disability Leadership Conference

NINJA is a 3 day virtual conference for youth with disabilities ages 16-24. Come learn about disability leadership, independent living, disability history and pride, and how you can become the best version of you!

Join us:

**June 22nd-24th, 2021**

Find an application @ [USILC.ORG](http://usilc.org)  
<http://usilc.org/youthninja-program>

Calling future disability leaders!




\* Application deadline is April 7th, 2021

## Advocacy Corner

Utah's 64th Legislative Session ended March 5th. During this time, the session looked different than in previous years. Because of the Covid-19 pandemic, public participation was largely virtual. Lawmakers passed a \$23.5 billion dollar budget and passed 502 bills, now awaiting the signature of the Governor. How will this new legislation affect you or

### PROTECT YOUR CHILD FROM LEAD POISONING



ARE YOU ABLE TO ANSWER "YES" TO THESE QUESTIONS? IF SO, YOU MAY QUALIFY FOR FREE SERVICE

- Live in a home or rental built before 1978?
- Pregnant or have a child under the age of six living in, or visiting your home?
- Household income at or below qualifying level?

Household Size & Income Level	
1	\$49,250
2	\$56,250
3	\$63,300
4	\$70,300
5	\$75,950
6	\$81,550

**CALL** 385-468-4892  
**TEXT** 385-232-4785

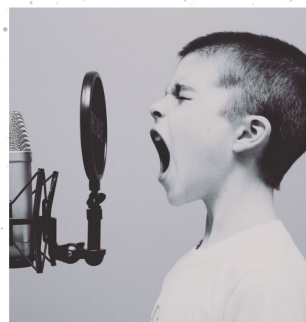
Salt Lake County  
Lead Safe Housing Program

[www.slco.org/lead-safe-housing](http://www.slco.org/lead-safe-housing)



The Salt Lake County Lead Safe Housing Program is offering a free services for eligible families. Review the following flier to see if you are eligible or click [here](#) to be guided to their website.

The Utah Parent Center receives many requests to distribute or advertise research and research surveys to our constituency through our email list. We have set up a web page to provide links to those opportunities for those who may be interested in participating. Click [here](#) to be re-directed to the site page.



ADVOCACY  
CORNER

your loved ones with disabilities? Find out by accessing The Disability Law Center's 2021 Bill Tracker [here](#).



[Visit our website](#)