



# JUNE 2021

#### SUMMER & SENSORY PROCESSING SIGNS, TIPS & RESOURCES



Summertime can be full of fun and excitement, but for some, it can be a challenging experience. Children with sensory processing issues often have difficulties with organizing and responding to information that comes through their senses. Common Summer activities like fireworks, new playgrounds, and going to the beach, can often be triggers for children with sensory processing issues. Keeping our kids on track with a schedule and tuning into your child's behavior this summer will help lessen meltdowns due to sensory challenges. Learn how to recognize and respond to your child's sensory needs by clicking on these links.

Summer & Sensory Processing

Video: Understand Sensory Processing

Sensory Processing Issues

Tantrum vs. Meltdown

Sensory Toys & Tools

PARENT CONSULTANT SERVING DAVIS SCHOOL DISTRICT FAMILIES MEET ROZ WELCH



Roz was born into a military family at Clark AFB in the Philippine Islands and spent her childhood years traveling the world until her father's last assignment to Hill AFB. With their family settling in Layton, this is where she met and married her high school love, Mike. Currently they reside in Clearfield and have grown a family of 4 children-Jenifer, Mike, Cortney and Josh to now 10 grandchildren and a new great grandson. Their world of disabilities began when Josh, their youngest, introduced them to Down Syndrome.

In 2001, Roz joined the Utah Parent Center family and currently serves as a parent consultant for families with children with disabilities enrolled in Davis School District. She enjoys teaching families about the special education process and supporting services and programs that benefit our children with disabilities. On April 10, 2017, Roz lost her son Josh and shares that "Our hearts join many of our families that have lost someone so special. His presence in my life changed my path forever... family, friends, neighbors and career. All of our children with disabilities are so influential and impact many lives they are a part of. This path is not always easy or what we may have planned, but there is no greater reward than seeing our children be included and loved."

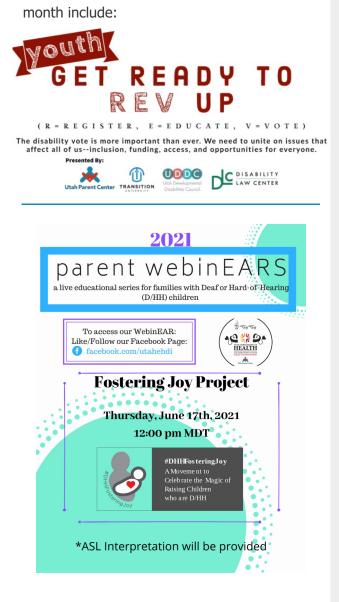
When Roz is not working, she enjoys going to lunch with family and friends, frequenting craft shows and binging on romance novels and movies. She really dislikes cleaning and will find any excuse to get out of it!

If you are a family within Davis School District and need support, please contact Roz *here*.

# JUNE UPC WORKSHOPS QR CODE ACCESS

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





#### HELEN KELLER DEAF/BLIND AWARENESS WEEK OBSERVED SINCE 1984



Helen Keller's life was influential in advocating for improvements in job training, availability of braille books and books on tape, along with advocating for better educational outcomes for millions of people. Today, her legacy lives on and her example is celebrated during the week of June 27 - July 3rd. The theme this year is *TrailBlazer, BigThinker, GoGetter, DeafBlind.* The message being that *DeafBlind Employees Can Help Businesses Grow with Unique Insights and Perspectives.* Helen Keller once said, "*One can never content to creep when one feels an impulse to soar."* Learn how this community is soaring and

improving their places of work by clicking on the link below.

HELEN KELLER NATIONAL CENTER

#### THE IMPORTANCE OF FRIENDSHIPS: ACTIVITIES SUPPORTING SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT



We may remember our childhood with fond memories of special childhood friends. Friends that we could do fun things with and as we got older, friends that we could confide in. For some of our children, friendships may not come easily and as school winds down for the summer our child's social circle may grow smaller. Friendships provide many benefits such as avoiding isolation, reducing stress and providing a sense of belonging. Widen your child's social circle by...

- Asking your child's teachers if there are students your child connects well with.
- Connecting with parents to set up playdates and maintain friendships.
- Thinking about inviting more than one child for a play date.

This summer can be a great time to practice social skills and help our children make new friends. As our children grow into Teens and Young adults, the challenges to friendships may look different. Help your child focus on the friendships they can make this summer. Learn how you can support your child's connection to friends by clicking on the links below.

**Developing Meaningful Friendships** 

**Tips for Teens & Young Adults** 

**Inclusive Martial Arts** 

**Special Olympics Utah** 

Special Needs Tumbling/HipHop

**Boys & Girls Club** 



#### WHAT IS THE FAMILY TO FAMILY NETWORK ALL ABOUT? BECOME AN AREA LEADER TODAY

The Family to Family Network (FtoFN) is a unique project of the UPC. This project is run by volunteers as a statewide parent support network, whose mission is to educate, strengthen, and support families of persons with disabilities. The focus of this project is for those getting services or on the waitlist with the Division of Services for People with Disabilities (DSPD). However, all disability types are welcomed and supported.

Network leaders are parents of individuals with special needs and work to link families to local resources, services, and disability-friendly events by providing inperson or online supports through:

- Local meetings
- Information and referrals,
- Family to family supports,
- Teaching advocacy tips for your family,
- Helping families who qualify or may be eligible for services from DSPD understand programs and services and work with service providers and support coordinators,
- Training on choosing or changing your support coordinator.



Visit our site today at <u>https://utahparentcenter.org/projects/family-to-family/</u>

For leadership opportunities in your area, download our flier <u>here</u>.





### WHAT IS A SCHOOL HEALTH PLAN EXAMPLE PLAN, PRACTISES & MORE

The number of students with special health care needs in the education setting is increasing due to advances in medicine and increased access to public education as authorized by federal and state laws. Standardized IHPs are available for the most frequent chronic health issues that occur in school-age children. Prioritization of students and their needs is essential by focusing on health issues that affect safety and the student's ability to learn. Examples of plans for students include:

- Medically fragile with multiple needs
- Requires lengthy health care or multiple health care contacts with the nurse or unlicensed assistive personnel during the school day
- Has health needs that are addressed on a daily basis
- Has health needs addressed as part of the IEP or 504 plan



Example IHP

Medical Home Portal Description

Nursing & the IHP







# CUSTOMIZED EMPLOYMENT WITH VOCATIONAL REHABILITATION SERVICES

Customized employment offers hope to those who may have been considered "unemployable" in the past and is designed to provide an outcome of integrated, competitive employment for the individual with a disability. There are times when an individual faces multiple or complex barriers to obtain meaningful work. This is when customized employment becomes an ideal option. With a customized approach of "one individual matched with one employer," this employment philosophy allows for a more in depth and extended discovery process to ensure that the individual's needs and strengths are fully determined.

Customized employment is appropriate for individuals who:

- Are classified by VR as having Most Significant Disabilities (MSD)
- Require more support or a different approach than provided through traditional Supported Job Based Training/ Supported employment models
- Can benefit from extended support services through the employer, natural supports, or a provider (i.e. job coach)
- Have access to a CRP Employment Specialist trained in Customized Employment

If you have thought that employment was not an option for you or the individual you support, ask your local *VR representative* about the possibility of Customized Employment.

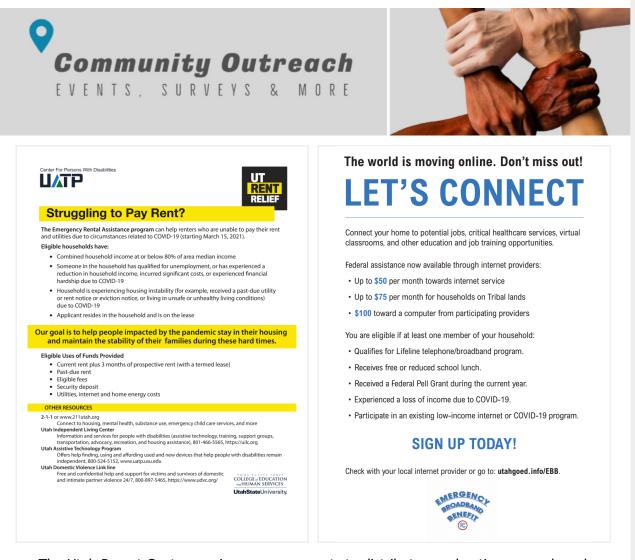


**Essential Elements of CE** 

DSPD & Customized Employment

Job Accommodation Network

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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 <u>here</u> to be re-directed to the site page.

# Advocacy Corner

In Utah, there are two types of legislative sessions: general and special. Our state's general legislative session is held for 45 days beginning in January. Sometimes a special session is called by the Governor or by Legislature to address important issues that surface during the time in between sessions. During the month of May the Legislature met in a special session to discuss face covering requirements and other COVID-19 related issues for schools. House Bill # 1007 passed and is now awaiting a signature from the Governor. Find out how this bill may affect your child next school

year by clicking *here*.



Visit our website