

Winter 2012

NJ Parent to Parent Newsletter

1-800-372-6510



Message from Program Coordinator, Malia Corde

Do you have a child/youth with special health care needs? Do they have a *Medical Home*? The Statewide Parent Advocacy Network (SPAN) in partnership with the NJ Departments of Health & Senior Services, Human Services, & Children & Families, and the American Academy of Pediatrics NJ are working in different regions of the state on the NJ Medical Home Initiative for Children and Youth with Special Health Care Needs. If you are interested in finding out more about this initiative or you are interested in how to create a medical home for your child/youth, go to www.spannj.org/cyshcn/medicalhome or contact me at 908-208-4040 or maliac@comcast.net. For more information on medical home go to www.medicalhomeinfo.org.

What's New In NJ!

The NJ Early Hearing Detection and Intervention (EHDI) program has a new link to the NJ Pediatric Hearing Health Care Directory. The Directory is arranged by specialty (audiology and hearing aid services, then otolaryngology services), then by county and then alphabetically by facility name.

www.hearinghelp4kids.nj.gov



Father's Corner

New Support Groups!

The Family Support Organization of Hunterdon/Somerset/Warren Counties offers monthly county-based support groups for fathers. The groups are for fathers of children with emotional, behavioral and/or mental health challenges. For more information go to www.fso-hsw.org

Parents Anonymous of NJ is a statewide non-profit organization whose mission is to protect children by strengthening families. Call 1-800-843-5437 or visit www.pa-of-nj.org

Monmouth County Father Time weekly meetings are attended by fathers only. For more information on the Monmouth County program, call Jeff Johnson, Counselor, at 732 787-2007 ext 5833, or visit

www.keansburg.k12.nj.us/Community/FatherTime/

Upcoming Events

“In My Father’s Hands” a meeting where you will meet men just like yourself who are going through the same or similar situation and are raising a child with a disability or special health care needs.

January 18, 2012

Location 357 New Brunswick Ave (YMCA)

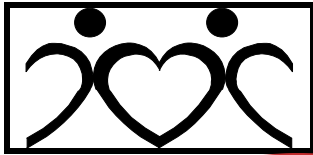
Perth Amboy, New Jersey

Time 6:30 – 8:00pm

R.S.V.P.

Alianza Office: 732-442-8393

“To the world you may be one person, but to one person you may be the world.” - Heather Cortez



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**Sensory Friendly
Movie Showings at
AMC Theaters for
children with
disabilities.**

AMC Theatres (AMC) and the Autism Society have teamed up to bring families affected by autism and other disabilities a special opportunity to enjoy their favorite films in a safe and accepting environment on a monthly basis with the "Sensory Friendly Films" program. Tickets are \$4-6 depending on location and can be purchased on the day of the event. In order to provide a more accepting and comfortable setting for this unique audience, the movie auditoriums will have their lights brought up and the sound turned down, families will be able to bring in their own gluten-free, casein-free snacks, and no previews or advertisements will be shown before the movie.

February 25 - The Secret World of Arrietty-10:00 am
March 10 - Dr. Seuss' The Lorax -10:00 am
April 7 - Pirates! Band of Misfits -10:00 am
www.amctheatres.com/Contact_Us/Find_a_Theatre/

**“Excellence can be attained if you:
Care more than others think is
wise. Risk more than others think
is safe. Dream more than others
think practical. is Expect more
than others think possible.”**

-Mike Mayer



Support Groups for Teens!

The Brain Injury Association of NJ is pleased to announce two new support groups for individuals with brain injury and their family members. Both groups are run by professional facilitators with expertise in brain injury. These two groups join 18 other affiliated support groups with locations throughout the state.

Dawn Center for Independent Living-
30 Broad St, Suite 5 in Denville, begins on September 19th. The contact person is Peter Gimbel at 973-625-1940.

Community Skills Program-
Mountain Blvd, Suite 102 in Watchung, begins September 8th. The contact person is Nina Geier at 908-753-1595.

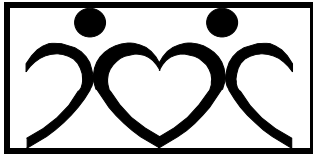
**New Jersey
Accessible
Playgrounds**



- Edgemont Park Playground-Monclair
- Memorial Park-Westfield
- Morris-Union Jointure Playground-New Providence
- Phil Rizzuto Park-Union
- Rainbow Land-North Branch
- Van Saun Park-Paramus
- Votee Park-Teaneck

For more detailed information about playgrounds throughout New Jersey including photographs, visit www.njplaygrounds.com.

See general listings under Outdoors-Parks & Playgrounds for additional universal playgrounds.



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RESOURCES

"United Special Sportsman Alliance, Inc. (USSA) is a 501(c) (3) non-profit "dream wish" granting charity that specializes in sending critically-ill and youth with disabilities and veterans with disabilities on the outdoor adventure of their dreams!" For more info, go to <http://www.childswish.com/index.php>

New Jersey Parent Link is the Early Childhood, Parent and Professional Resource Center. This website highlights NJ state services and resources.

www.njparentlink.nj.gov

If you would like your event listed in our newsletter please contact Malia Corde at maliac@comcast.net



Medicaid HMO Enrollment

Major changes in the New Jersey Medicaid system have taken place, which are impacting everyone who receives Medicaid, including recipients with intellectual and developmental disabilities. For a summary of the changes go to www.arcnj.org

You can also get information by visiting NJHelps.org, where you can self-screen for eligibility for NJ FamilyCare/ Medicaid, as well as for many other social service programs.



Upcoming Events

1-18-12 - SPAN workshop "SPAN Positive Behavior Supports" 7pm-9pm, Dover-Morris County. To register www.spannj.org/trainings

1-18-2 -Jumpnasium has a Special Needs Jump, 4:30pm - 5:40p, 204 Passaic Avenue, Fairfield, NJ, 973-898-1700.

1-24-12 -SPAN workshop "Basic Rights in Education in Spanish" 10am-12pm, Newark-Essex County.

1-25-12- POAC workshop "Hidden Dangers and How to Keep Children and Adults with Autism Safe in the Community School, and Home" 7pm-9pm, Matthew Jago School, Glen Cove Avenue, Sewaren, NJ. To register go to www.poac.net

2-11-12- POAC Technology and Autism Conference, 8:30am-4pm, Georgian Court University North Dining Hall 900 Lakewood Avenue, Lakewood, NJ. To register go to www.poac.net

2-25-12 - SPAN workshop "Health Advocacy" 12pm-2pm, Clementon-Camden County.

3-6-12 - SPAN workshop "Transition From School to Adulthood" 6pm-8pm, Egg Harbor Township-Atlantic County

3-7-12- SPAN workshop "IEP and Measureable Goals" 6:30pm-8pm, Maywood-Bergen County

3-12/13-12- Jersey Association for Children (JAAC) – Autism Conference, Circa, 415 Cedar Bridge Road, Lakewood, NJ 08701. For more info call 732-534-5342 or www.jaacfoundation.com