

**Today's Quotes:** *"Never let your head hang down. Never give up and sit down and grieve. Find another way. And don't pray when it rains if you don't pray when the sun shines."*

Leroy "Satchel" Paige 1906?-1982, American Baseball Player

## New DHS Website Provides More Organized Information

The Department of Human Services (DHS) launched its new website in June, including new pages regarding the Division of Developmental Disabilities (DDD). The Division's new pages offer much more information on a wide range of topics; this information is organized under succinct category headings such as *Services and Supports, Major Programs and Initiatives, Information for Providers and Stakeholders: Contracts, and Legal Notices*. The DDD site also gives you direct access to *Important Resources and Important Alerts*, including many ways to access the **DDD Today** newsletter. We encourage you to take some time to explore all DDD pages on the new website.

Feel free to share your thoughts and comments with us by emailing: [dddnewsletter@dhs.state.nj.us](mailto:dddnewsletter@dhs.state.nj.us).

DHS Home Page - <http://www.state.nj.us/humanservices/>

DDD Home Page - <http://www.state.nj.us/humanservices/ddd/home/>

Also posted on DDD's website: **Important Alerts** - <http://www.state.nj.us/humanservices/ddd/alerts/>

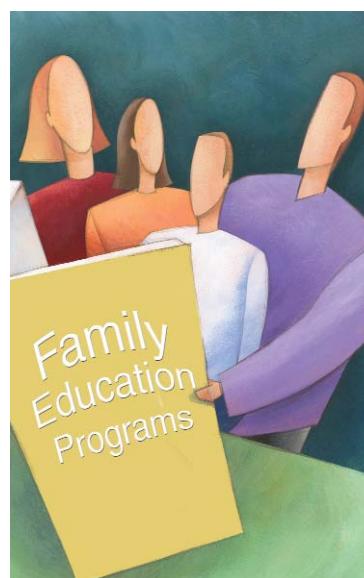
- New Choking Bulletin
- H1N1 Flu Virus Alert in English and Spanish
- Kidde Recalls Dual Sensor Smoke Alarms; Can Fail to Warn of a Fire

## DDD: Providing Education for Families

In the last issue of **DDD Today**, we shared important information regarding the Family Education Project (FEP), including efforts to provide education and information for families of individuals living in the state's seven residential developmental centers, as they explore all the possibilities for community living. This source of family education is a significant component of the Division's Olmstead Plan, "Path to Progress."

We want to make sure families have access to this information. Hence, we are sharing it again! For additional information, please contact the Family Education Project (FEP) by calling toll free 1-800-500-0448 or by e-mail: [johnsoas@umdj.edu](mailto:johnsoas@umdj.edu). We also plan to have a link on the DDD website.

Family education programs are held throughout the state and around the year, including:



- **New Beginnings Family Meetings**, which give families an opportunity to discuss community living and the support coordination community transition process.

- **Pictures of Community Living Learning Events**, which bring families together with representatives of

community provider agencies to talk about services and supports in the community.

continued next page

- *Family visits to community living settings*, which FEP arranges upon request.
- *New Beginnings in Community Living Quarterly Newsletter*, which is distributed to about 2400 family contacts of individuals living in the developmental centers.
- *FEP website*, [www.umdny.edu/linkweb](http://www.umdny.edu/linkweb), which provides access to all project publications and links to community information and resources related to Olmstead.
- *New Beginnings Family Guide Services*, which is a series of guides written for families of individuals living in the developmental centers that correspond to different phases of the transition process.
- *FEP Family to Family Advisory Group*, which comes together to brainstorm and share ideas with the FEP on issues of concern to families and ways to increase informed decision making.
- *FEP Telephone Number for Family Inquiries*, which is 1-800-500-0448.



## ***How many people have moved to the community from developmental centers?***

Year One: July 2007 - June 2008 = 121

Year Two: July 2008 - June 2009 = 112

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

### **DDD Presents County-Based Forums**

DDD is inviting individuals who are in Real Life Choices, Self-Determination or at the top of the priority and priority-deferred categories of the Waiting List for Waiver Services (WLWS) – formerly known as the Community Services waiting List (CSWL) or Residential Waiting List – to attend a county-based family forum.

These forums are geared toward the family's need to plan and prepare for the well-being of their adult child/children with developmental disabilities. Forums are being held in each of the state's 21 counties. For information, contact Janice Delorenzo at 609-689-1794 or [janice.delorenzo@dhs.state.nj.us](mailto:janice.delorenzo@dhs.state.nj.us).

The Ocean County Family forum is scheduled for **Tuesday, August 4, 2009** from 6:30 – 9:00 PM.

***Please note a correction in the address of event:*** It will be held at the Arc of NJ **Ocean County Chapter, 815 Cedar Bridge Ave., Lakewood, NJ 08701.**