

**Today's Quotes:** *"Let your hopes, not your hurts, shape your future."*

Robert H. Schuller 1926-, American Minister (Crystal Cathedral), Author, Social Leader

## **"Education & Information Sessions for Families" Begin in September**

In mid-September, the Family Support Center of New Jersey (FSCNJ) is set to kick off its fall series of Education and Information Sessions for families. These sessions provide valuable information about systems and organizations that families encounter as their children with developmental disabilities grow to adulthood.

The primary goal of the sessions is to help give families a clear sense of what lies ahead for them and their children. Families learn directly how to find and use resources that will be available to them and their children. These sessions are offered through a collaboration between FSCNJ and DDD, established since 2004.

FSCNJ offers three different sessions, each geared to family members, parents/guardians of children and young people at different stages of childhood. Please also keep an eye on the training calendar available on FSCNJ's website at <http://www.fscnj.org/content/trainings/calendar/view.php>. The dates, times and locations for the fall sessions will be posted on the website once scheduled. Listed below are brief descriptions of the sessions being offered throughout the state this fall.

### **Life Line for the Journey**

*For families of children from birth to age 14*

*Description:* Interactive sessions designed to help families identify organizations and systems they are likely to encounter when beginning to plan for their child's future. A general description of this session can be found on FSCNJ's website at <http://www.fscnj.org/content/trainings/lifeline.html>.

### **Pathways to Adult Life**

*For families of children between the ages of 14 and 19*

*Description:* Sessions designed to provide students and their families with information about the assistance they can receive from the educational system and other agencies/organizations when preparing to transition from school to adult life. Several state agencies, which provide transition and adult services for individuals with developmental disabilities, each send a representative to this session or provide contact information. The agencies involved are the: Department of Education (DOE), Division of Developmental Disabilities (DDD), Division of Disability Services (DDS), Division of Vocational and Rehabilitation Services (DVRS), and the Elizabeth M. Boggs Center on Developmental Disabilities. More general information about this session can be found on the Family Support Center website at <http://www.fscnj.org/content/trainings/pathways.html>.

### **Life After 21**

*For families of young adults between the ages of 19 and 21 (Presented in two parts)*

*Description:* Two-part session designed for families of young people reaching the end of their educational entitlement. Part 1 (offered in the fall) provides information about eligibility criteria for adult services and identifies resources that are available once an individual leaves school. Part 2 (offered in the spring) provides in-depth information about day services and self-directed service options for individuals with developmental disabilities. During a "Provider Marketplace," representatives from local day service provider agencies are available to talk about their programs and answer questions. A general description of this session can be found on the Family Support Center website at [http://www.fscnj.org/content/trainings/life\\_after\\_21.html](http://www.fscnj.org/content/trainings/life_after_21.html).

NOTE: Information about past sessions can be found at <http://www.fscnj.org/docs/pdf/FSCNJ%20Annual%20Training%20Report.pdf>.



# ANNOUNCEMENTS

## The Arc of United States

From July 21 through September 1, 2010, The Arc of the United States is conducting an anonymous, confidential survey entitled the [Family and Individual Needs for Disability Supports Survey](#)..... click [here](#) for more details.

## Alliance for the Betterment of Citizens with Disabilities (ABCD)

The **Alliance for the Betterment of Citizens with Disabilities (ABCD)** is pleased to announce that it has developed a training workshop and curriculum on Aging and Developmental Disabilities, which addresses multiple areas of how to provide supports and services to aging individuals with developmental disabilities. Additional information about these **September and October** workshops, including a workshop description and instructions for registration, can be found on the ABCD website at [www.abcdnj.org](http://www.abcdnj.org). Please note that there is no cost for attendance.

## Autism New Jersey (ANJ)

ANJ Workshops - Healthcare Resources: Access and Funding for Autism. Click [here](#) for details....

## MONMOUTH COUNTY ACCESSIBLE BEACH GUIDE

The Monmouth County Office on Disabilities is pleased to present the 2010 Accessible Beach Guide.

## Parent Link

The New Jersey Department of Health and Senior Services has launched a new website for parents called **Parent Link**, the *Early Childhood, Parenting and Professional Resource Center*. <http://www.njparentlink.nj.gov/>. **NJ Parent Link** is the new "central station" for receiving early childhood updates, events and networking opportunities.

## DDD Presents County-Based Forums

DDD invites 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 (formerly known as 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 state county.

## Morris County Family Meeting

**Date:** *Future* meetings are scheduled for Sept. 15, 2010; Nov. 10, 2010; Jan. 12, 2011; March 9, 2011 and May 11, 2011.

**Time:** 6:30 - 8:45 PM

**Location:** Morris County Library, 30 East Hanover Ave., Whippany, NJ 07981

For information, contact Janice Delorenzo at 609-689-1794 or [janice.delorenzo@dhs.state.nj.us](mailto:janice.delorenzo@dhs.state.nj.us).

"The Family Support Center of New Jersey ([www.fscnj.org](http://www.fscnj.org))" has re-established "The Training Calendar," an online resource for information about training opportunities; lectures; activities for caregivers; and activities for receiving support and care. Please visit [www.thetrainingcalendar.org](http://www.thetrainingcalendar.org) for more information.