

THE PARENT MENTOR

MINUTE

APRIL 2024

A MONTHLY NEWSLETTER OF THE ESC LORAIN COUNTY PARENT MENTOR PROGRAM



UNDERSTANDING EDUCATIONAL IDENTIFICATION OF AUTISM

We get asked about the difference between a clinical diagnosis and an educational identification of autism. [Here](#) is an article from OCALI Autism Center to help explain the difference (see page 7). As always, if you need further assistance, reach out to your parent mentor!



LEARNERS WITH COMPLEX NEEDS

HOW ASSISTIVE TECHNOLOGY CAN HELP YOUR STUDENT

Assistive technology is a tool that can help students work around challenges related to their disability. The technology can be low or high-tech and includes devices and services installed on the devices. Various assistive technology methods include communication devices for nonverbal students, speech-to-text for writing struggles, and text-to-speech for students with reading challenges. Join our special guest, Sophia Loferski Baskin of Helianthus Technologies, LLC, to discuss assistive technology.

DATE: April 16th
LOCATION: 6:30 PM
TIME: Zoom
REGISTRATION: [Register here.](#)



PRESCHOOL

Caregiving is hard work. We wanted to share this [website](#) we came across that provides help and resources for mental health to those searching for child care.

ELEMENTARY

Some students struggle with getting their homework done - especially students with ADHD. This article from [ADDitudemag](#) shares shortcuts for kids who hate homework (and the parents who support them).

HIGH SCHOOL TRANSITION AGE 14+

How are your student's independence skills? [This](#) checklist can give you some insight (and maybe even some things to add to their transition plan). Are they ready for work? Use [this](#) checklist to find out if there are any other skills they need to be working on!

READING

The University of Florida Literacy Institute (UFLI) is a helpful resource for parents who want to help their students read at home. [This](#) Parent Resource Hub includes reading resources from birth through high school.

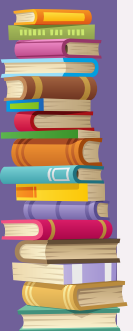
IEP TIP CORNER

Have you checked in Section 4 for your student's IEP? This is the section on ESY or Extended School Year Services. We wanted to share an [article](#) to help explain what it is and how it is determined. If you have more questions on ESY, please reach out to your student's case manager for clarification.



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Erie, Huron and Sandusky Counties: Bellevue, Norwalk and Monroeville



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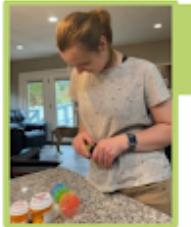
Moving to Adult Health Care

New Online Resources for Youth, Young Adults with Disabilities, Families, and Professionals



Accessing Adult Health Care Transition Resources

- Are you a teenager or adult with a disability who is ready to move into adult health care?
- Do you need help learning how to get started moving to adult health care?
- Are you a family member, teacher, transition coordinator or other professional who is interested in helping youth and young adults make the move to adult health care?

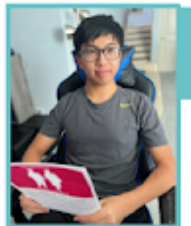


Join Us to Learn About:

- Locating the website and new materials
- How to use the information
- Different formats to use at your own speed
- Activities to assist youth and adults

Training Dates & Times:

- **Virtual**
Tuesday, April 23, 2024 @ 10am-11:30am
Registration is required:
ip.constantcontactpages.com/evreg/mv5u6jq
- **Cleveland Area "in-person":**
Monday, April 29, 2024 @ 6:30pm – 8pm
Independence Library, 6361 Selig Dr.,
Independence, OH 44131
Registration is required:
<https://ip.constantcontactpages.com/evreg/taq9o34>



Additional in-person training will be offered in Columbus and Cincinnati areas – stay tuned!

Training is free of charge, but registration is required.

Questions? Contact: Amy.Clawson@cchmc.org 513-803-2419

These training sessions are provided by Ohio Family to Family Health Information Center (Ohio F2F) in collaboration with the Ohio Department of Developmental Disabilities (DODD).



SENSATION STATIONS

Engage your child's senses in this all-inclusive program by scooping, pouring, and sorting a variety of fun materials. For children of all ages and needs. Registration begins March 30.

DATE: April 13th

TIME: 10:00 AM

LOCATION: Avon Lake Public Library

REGISTRATION: [Click to register.](#)



BUILD CONNECTIONS AND INCLUSION

Telling New Social Stories About Our Families and Communities
with Carol Combs and Tim Vogt from Starfire

Thursday, April 25th from 10:00 – 11:30 a.m.

Join Ohio families who are working on building personal social networks for themselves through creative community action. You'll hear examples and lessons, practice tools and strategies for your family. This is a family and caregiver-focused session. [Register now!](#) #StarfireStories

LESS SCREAMING AND MORE TALKING WORKSHOP: DISCIPLINE IN 2024- FOR BLACK AMERICAN CAREGIVERS

Join Anna Jones, LISW-S, of Cleveland State University and Up the Steps, on the generational differences that make discipline difficult, the history of discipline in the Black community and how to know what types of discipline may work for your child. Caregivers will learn calming strategies for the whole family, and participants will have the chance to share and connect with other parents in their community.



DATE: April 26th

TIME: 6:30 PM - 8:00 PM

LOCATION: Zoom

REGISTRATION: [Click to register.](#)

UNDERSTANDING AUTISM: MENTAL HEALTH CONSIDERATIONS AND SUPPORT STRATEGIES

Autism spectrum disorder (ASD) is a developmental condition that affects a person's ability to socialize and communicate with others. People with ASD can also present with restricted and/or repetitive patterns of behavior, interests, or activities. Some people are mildly impaired by their symptoms, while others are severely disabled.

This presentation will provide a clinical overview of the mental health considerations associated with autism spectrum disorder and related developmental disabilities. The program will also outline coping skills, support strategies, and community resources for parents, caregivers, and other loved ones of individuals with autism.

DATE: April 24th

TIME: Noon

LOCATION: Zoom

REGISTRATION: [Click to register.](#)

