



WEST VIRGINIA PARENT
TRAINING & INFORMATION

Summer Issue

Summer 2017

'Bits & Pieces'



Upcoming Events

I.E.P. Process Training

Stephanie Ludle
Conference Room @
99 Edmiston Way
Buckhannon, WV
June 20, 2017
11:30- 1:30 pm

Effective Voice for Your Child or Student

Pat Elliott
Glendale Child Develop-
ment Center
June 22, 2017
6:00- 8:00 pm

Parents Strong Meeting Gilmer County Support Group Meeting

Cedar Creek State Park
June 27, 2017
5:00- 6:00 pm
Contact: Stephanie Ludle
Phone: 304-373-9119



As summer is here, you and your family are probably ready for the long, lazy days. Yet, summer vacations often pose a challenge for a family with special needs children. It is never too early to start thinking what kinds of activities would your child like and what options are available.

When choosing a summer program, it's important to think of your child's age, interests, and personality. What skills are your child is developing? Does your child have difficulty with new situations? Start early to search.

Options available for you:

Local park or community-center recreation programs. An example would be Stepping Stones in Morgantown, WV who provide year round recreation for children and adults with disabilities.

There is a summer camp which runs for 10 weeks during the day. You find them at 400 Mylan Park Ln in Morgantown.

Another option would be activity programs and workshops in your area. Some organizations like 4-H or programs like Energy Express offer short-term events to focus upon a certain area.

The Early Summer Special Needs Camps Website offers the latest information about day camps or workshops which might fit your child's needs. Some of the events listed are:

Outdoor Adventure Camp for ages 9-14 during the day for 3 days in Harper's Ferry. They work with the Special Needs Campers on a case-by-case basis.

Camp Gizmo is a five-day hands-on camp where parents, professionals, and students learn how assistive technology can help young children (birth - eight years old) with significant and multiple developmental needs.

It is usually held in July on the campus of the West Virginia Schools for the Deaf and Blind in Romney, WV.

Once you have found some programs which you think might work for your child with special needs, check them out. You need to look closely at any program/camp for its goals, how much training and experience the staff has, what is ratio of staff to number of children, sleeping/bathing arrangements and the medical facilities or professionals on-site?



Asking questions about the activity/workshop/camp will make experience successful for your child and you. (Cont. Page 2)

Cited: PTIC at Federation for Children @ Ceridian Corp.



Welcome to our newsletter from WVPTI!

I am happy that families are making contacts with us. We are here to make a positive difference in the lives of toddlers, children and young adults with disabilities and their families. Our head quarters is located in Buckhannon. We invite you to visit us and provide you with timely information or resources. This newsletter is another way we continue to serve you. Please check out of Facebook page for other resources: <https://www.facebook.com/Wvpti/>

Brenda Lamkin,
Executive Director of WVPTI

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Pat Elliott, WV PTI
Trainer for Region 1

Pat Elliott, WVPTI for Region 1

One of our new trainers, Pat Elliott, has been traveling and providing information in Region One. She is combining the trainings to make it more informative for her parents. Recently, she was having a session in Fairmont. The parents were very pleased to have their questions and concerns addressed in the meeting. One parent, Erin Brunty, took the time to write and tell Pat about the meeting:

"Thank you so much for all your help and taking the time to an-

swer the million questions I had. ...I have never enjoyed a training near as much as I have enjoyed yours!...I feel more equipped for this journey than I felt coming in. I always second guess myself as a mother of a child (with special needs)."

Pat and WV PTI want to be there to help families with their concerns. Her next training is at the Glendale Child Development Center on June 22 from 6:00 to 8:00 pm.



Pat Elliot (WV PTI Trainer) and
Erin Brunty (Parent)



Kelly Miller, Region 2

News from Kelly Miller,

Kelly Miller has been quite active and willing to talk to parents about their needs with children who have special needs. Also, WVPTI is looking for volunteers who would like to help distribute materials in their area. Please let us know if you would like to volunteer.

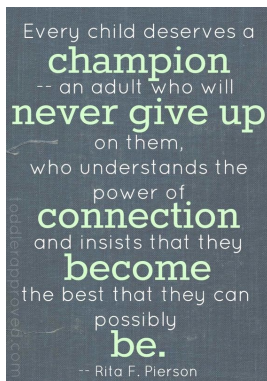
Her contact information is:

Kellymiller.wvpti@gmail.com or call 1-304-524-7873 if you need assistance or requesting information. She is willing to help you with your concerns.

Summer Fun Programs' Tips:

- 1) Start early to search for programs and check the prices if they cost.
- 2) Find out what extended programs the school system is providing with federal funds.
- 3) Look at the YMCS who offer financial aid to families in need. Be sure to ask if you need it.
- 4) Ask around. Other parents will be open to tell you what is available.
- 5) Check newspapers for listing of camps or programs. Don't let June roll around without a plan!

Source: Lisa Rudy



Cited from Quotes.gram

News from Stephanie Ludle, Region 3

Our person in Region 3, Stephanie Ludle, has a training on June 20th in Buckhannon which she would to invite parents to come and hear information about the IEP Process. It is located at 99 Edmiston Way in the Conference Room from 11:30 to 1:30 pm.

The Gilmer County Support Group, Parent Strong, will be meeting at Cedar Creek State Park from 5:00 to 6:00 pm on June 27th. The Parent Strong Support Group hopes that you will join them for a time to relax and talk with other parents who understand and willing to share ideas with you. They hope that you will come and join their session at Cedar Creek State Park.

Please contact Stephanie at 1-304-373-9119 if you are interested in these events.



Stephanie Ludle, Region 3

New Website Opening for WV PTI's Internet Site



WV PTI is happy to announce our new website is coming to the internet for families with special needs' children to have resources and a place to contact us on the web.

The link to our site will be: www.wvpti-inc.org

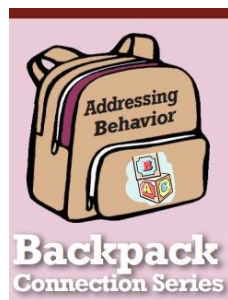
There will be history about the beginning of WVPTI, Support and Training section to tell you how to contact us for information and help, Family to Family tab for news about the health information center to help families to locate help in the complex health care system, and the News, Events & Resource page where you might locate a site to help with finding information about a specific topic or need.

WV PTI can always be reached by using the last tab entitled, 'Contact.' There is an email link to send information or questions directly to us via the internet. We are happy to hear from you and assist you with your concerns.

Backpack Connection Series by TACSEI

The *Backpack Connection Series* was created by TACSEI to provide parents and caregivers a way to work with the educational professionals to help young children develop social emotional skills and reduce challenging behavior. It is a leaflet with new strategies or skills to help parents learn the new strategies or

skills at home. It is based upon the Pyramid Model framework



to promote the healthy balance in the emotional and social competencies of young children. The website with online copies of the information such as clear directions, positive language, or understanding anger is found at: Challengingbehavior.org. The information is provided by the Technical Assistance Center on Social Emotional Intervention (TACSEI).



A Very Special Needs Resource

Cited Pinterest

Did You Know?

Parent Training and Information Centers are found in every state. In fact, they are mandated in IDEA - Part D - Section 671. Family to Family Health Information Centers are also found in every state through the Health Resources Services Administration.

***We are your trusted source for information, resources, and supports when navigating complex systems in raising a child or youth with a disability or special health care \ health care need in West Virginia. ***



**WV Parent Training
Information, Inc.**
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Buckhannon, WV
26201

Ph: 1-304-472-5697

West Virginia Parent Training and Information, Inc. (WVPTI) is a non-profit agency that operates the statewide federally funded Parent Training and Information Center, [Family to Family \(F2F\) Health Information Center](#) and is the [Family Voices](#) State Affiliate Organization for West Virginia.

The programs and services of WVPTI, Inc. are based on the concept of parents helping parents. Our mission is to empower parents of children and youth with disabilities in their roles as parents, decision makers, and advocates for their children and to promote partnerships among parents and professionals.



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Self— Advocacy is our strength!

- Speaking up for yourself,
- Asking for what you need,
- Negotiating for yourself (working with others to reach an agreement that will meet your needs),
- Knowing your rights and responsibilities,
- Using the resources that are available to you,
- Being able to explain your disability either by the use of written words, pictures,
- Being able to explain your disability either by the use of written words, pic-

tures or gestures.

For the full article; <http://>

[www.autismspeaks.org/family-services/tool-kits/
transition-tool-kit/self-advocacy](http://www.autismspeaks.org/family-services/tool-kits/transition-tool-kit/self-advocacy)



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