



WEST VIRGINIA PARENT TRAINING & INFORMATION

'Bits & Pieces'



Upcoming Training

Kelly Miller
Trainer and Engagement
Specialist Region 2

May 15, 2018
Basic Rights Training
Time: 10 am—2 pm
Chapmanville Public Lib.
Everyone Welcome!

May 17, 2017
Basic Rights Training
Time: 10 am—2pm
Boone-Madison Public
Library
Everyone Welcome!

May 22, 2018
Basic Rights Training
Time: 11 am—3 pm
Clay County Public Lib.
Everyone Welcome!

Please contact:

Kelly Miller at 304-972-1873 for more information or if you need the training in alternate format. Hope to see you at the trainings!

Summer Activities for Special Needs' Children

As the students are approaching the estimated 80 days of summer, parents are looking for a stable and fun routine for their special needs children. You might be thinking of summer camps but your special needs' child needs a steady routine. An idea from somewhatsimple.com:

Summer Schedule for Kids

Each day of the week has a topic where you complete or do items off a list. The first day of the week is "Safety Sunday" where the parent might:

- 1) Teach your child his/her full name.
- 2) Have your child memorize your home address and show where is house number is located outside.
- 3) Start swimming lessons.
- 4) Practice asking for help with things which are hot, sharp, dangerous or too high to reach.

The next day is "Make Something Monday." You could arrange 5 or 6 photos to make a page in the scrapbook, plant seedlings outdoors, do Bubble Snakes or build a "fairy house" outdoors with sticks, pebbles, pine cores and natural materials outdoors.

"Time to Read" Tuesday is a regular day to visit your local library and check out a book with simple experiments, or illustrate a story, make a home video of your child reading, or read about a topic and then, do an activity with it.

"What's Cooking?" Wednesday is a fun time to do things such as fruit smoothies, No-bake cookies, banana muffins, and food fun.

"Thoughtful Thursday" is a day to do things for others such as call someone to say hello, pick some flowers (dandelions and clovers are ok) to give to a person, donate clothing, teach your child to do one chore, or hug someone who needs a hug.

"Somewhere Fun Friday" is a day to visit places such petting farm, a playground, an art museum or visit a friend. You could go to a waterpark or visit a local playground. This day gives your child to become familiar with his/her community.

The last day of the week will be "Social Skills Saturday" where you and your child may practice listening skills by responding to only with nonverbal communication for 1 minute and build up to 5 minutes. Then, switch the roles. It might making emotional facial expressions on cue with your child. You could play 'Follow the Leader' where you match a leader's actions for as long as possible; then, a new leader is selected. It is a perfect time to develop and build family traditions. You and your child with your entire family will enjoy the summer fun. If you would like to find more activities, visit: <http://www.friendshipcircle.org>



Cited: www.friendshipcircle.org, 2012



Brenda Lamkin,
Executive Director of WVPTI

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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/WVParentTrainingandInformationCenter/>

Pat Elliott, WVPTI for Region 1



Pat Elliott, WV PTI
Trainer for Region 1
Cell: 304-238-3985



Pat Kelly, Trainer and Engagement Specialist in Region 1 and Julie Dial, Trainer and Engagement Specialist in Region 3, presented the 'Parents As Leaders' Workshop at Celebrating Connections in Charleston at the Charleston Civic Center. We hope that you will connect with us to have this workshop in your area.

Parents As Leaders is a workshop for parents, guardians, or anyone who wants to develop the ability to advocate for your child and take part in the role of making a difference in the programs, families, and communities. This intensive training program is developing parents' leadership skills through dialogue, role-playing, and discovering the leadership role may obtain positive outcomes for everyone. Please contact Pat or Julie for opportunity to bring this workshop to your area.

News from Kelly Miller



Kelly Miller, Region 2
Cell: 304-972-1873

Kelly Miller has been quite active and willing to talk to parents about their concerns who have children with special needs. Here she is with parents in Hamlin!



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

News from Julie Dial, Region 3

Julie Dial has been busy traveling and helping parents with children who have special needs. Here is a picture of the tablecloth the children created at the Autism Awareness Family Night at the Clay Center in Charleston, WV. The Autism Night was a great hit with all the children as an awareness activity with the global health priority and celebrating World Autism Day here in WV.



Julie Dial, Region 3
Cell: 304-972-8101

“There is no greater disability in society, than the inability to see a person as more.”

-Robert M. Hensel

Cited from Quotes.gram

The State of WV Children Issue Brief

West Virginians for Affordable Health Care and West Virginia Kids Count mentioned in their latest newsletter about a children’s health insurance brief entitled “The State of Our Children: Covering West Virginia’s Kids” which explains the process that WV has made over the past twenty years of achieving health insurance for almost 98% of our children according to the brief.

“Improvement in children’s coverage is a result of more children enrolled in Medicaid and the Children’s Health Insurance Program (CHIP). Both nationally and in WV, Medicaid is the largest insurance according to the brief. At any one time, WV has 21,000 children enrolled and covered by CHIP.

“During this time of transition and fluctuations in our nation’s health care system, it is more important than ever for West Virginia to continue to build on its historic success of and commitment to insuring its children,” said Kelli Caseman, Director of Child Health, WVAHC.

To read the full brief go to:
<http://wvkidscount.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/03/KC-ISSUE-BRIEF-1-REVISED-CREDIT.pdf>



Schedule A Workshop

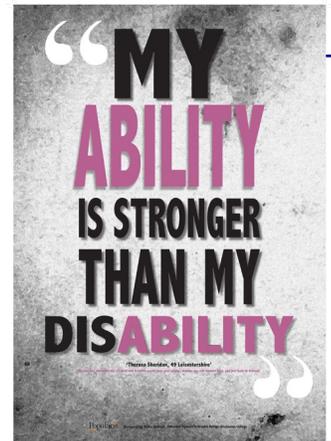
Please connect with us to schedule a meeting or workshop in your area. We are available to help any parents, guardians, or foster parents who have children with special needs about your concerns or questions. There are workshops about IEP, 504, Leadership, Self-Advocacy, Leading by Convening (Groups), Transition, Collaborative Communication, Overview of Special Education, ADHD, ESSA– It’s the Law!, and many others. Call and connect with us. Phone: 1-304-472-5697

West Virginia Assistive Technology System

The West Virginia Assistive Technology System (WVATS) is the designated lead agency that works to enhance the lives of all West Virginia residents with disabilities, including older West Virginians and the families of people with disabilities. You can borrow a device from them at no cost if you need to actually handle



the device to see what it could do for you. There assistive technology devices range from simple to complex such as battery heated gloves, ice grippers for canes and walker or Go Talk 20+ (communication device with 25 cells). For more information, call WVATS toll free 800-841-8436 or check out the website at www.wvats.cedwvu.org. The WVATS devices will help you to improve your access to employment, education, telecommunications and community living.



Cited: Theresa Sheridan

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.
99 Edmiston Way
Suite 101– 102
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.



**WEST VIRGINIA PARENT
TRAINING & INFORMATION**

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[https://
www.pinterest.com/](https://www.pinterest.com/)

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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