

Family Resource Network

Helping Families Meet the Challenge

Volume 24, Issue 2, Spring 2016 Edition

Lawsuit Affects Release of Student Data-- "Opt Out" Available

A recent lawsuit against the California Department of Education (CDE) is impacting all school districts across the state. We want to make you aware of this and provide you with the available **Objection to Disclosure form** and other important information regarding this case.

In April 2012, two organizations, the Morgan Hill Concerned Parents Association and the Concerned Parent Association, filed a lawsuit against the CDE alleging widespread, systemic non-compliance by local education agencies with special education laws.

As part of the lawsuit, CDE has been ordered by the US District Court to release all data it has collected on K-12 general education and special education students since January 1, 2008.

Deadline to turn in this form is APRIL 1, 2016.

Parents/Guardians may complete and mail in the form **OBJECTION TO DISCLOSURE OF STUDENT INFORMATION AND RECORDS:** <http://www.cde.ca.gov/re/di/ws/documents/form2016jan26.pdf>

For more information visit: <http://www.cde.ca.gov/re/di/ws/morganhillcase.asp> or contact the California Department of Education at 916-319-0800.



IHSS Alert: IHSS parent providers of minor children

If you are told by the County that you cannot be a provider for your child unless you previously had a job, this is incorrect.

You can be the IHSS provider for your child if you are prevented from obtaining full-time employment right now because no other suitable provider is available. You can also be the IHSS provider for your child if you left full-time employment because no other suitable provider is available. However, state law and regulations do not require that you left full-time employment at a particular time or for a particular reason or even that you have ever been employed full-time at all. You can be the IHSS provider even if you have never worked. The only requirement is that you are prevented from obtaining full-time employment because of the care your child needs now.

According to state regulations, a parent can be an IHSS provider if "The parent has left full-time employment or is prevented from obtaining full-time employment because no other suitable provider is available and the inability of the parent to perform supportive services may result in inappropriate placement or inadequate care." (Manual of Policies and Procedures (MPP) 30-763.451.) Full-time employment means 40 hours per week or more. (MPP 30-763.451(a).)

This is DRC's toll-free number: [\(800\) 776-5746](tel:8007765746).

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EDITOR: Ann Cirimele

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Family Resource Network Phone: 209-472-3674
5250 Claremont Ave., Suite 148 Fax: 209-472-3673
Stockton, CA 95207
Email: FRNfamilies@aol.com website: www.frcn.org



Sibshop is the recreational support group
for **non-disabled siblings of children
with special needs,**
ages 7 through 13.

Meet other siblings who have the same kinds of issues. There are games, crafts, discussion activities, food and lots of fun! There is no cost to attend.

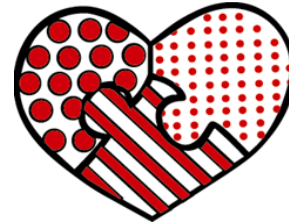
**Saturday, April 23, 2016
1:00 to 4:00 p.m.
Stockton Covenant Church,
1720 Oxford Way, Stockton, 95204**

Registration is required and must be submitted at least one week prior to event. Call 472-3674 or 800-847-3030 to request a registration packet.



Family Resource Network has a Facebook page!

You'll find FRN listed as Family Resource Network – Stockton. You'll know it's FRN when you see the heart logo. FRN will post information on upcoming events and topics of interest. We hope you'll friend us.



FRN Parent Scholarships Available

Family Resource Network has received an unrestricted grant of \$2,500 from the Stuart Foundation. FRN is using the funds to assist parents of special needs children within FRN's 5 county service area with registration fees to attend non-FRN conferences or workshops on topics related to children with special needs and their families.

This is a reimbursement scholarship which means that FRN reimburses the parent after the parent has attended the event. Parents wishing to access these scholarship funds should contact FRN **prior** to attending the event. FRN reserves the right to limit the number of scholarships for any specific event. Restrictions apply. For more information contact FRN staff.

Tikes and Tunes...Times 2!

Due to popular demand FRN will now offer its **Tikes and Tunes** music play group twice a month. Tikes and Tunes is for children ages birth to 36 months who are served through the Early Start program. Parents learn how they can use music to enhance their child's development. Both groups are led by Karen Sanchez, MBA MT-BC, Music Therapist. We'd love to have you join us, but space is limited so **be sure to register!** Registration forms are on FRN's website or you can email or call FRN to register. Tikes and Tunes meets at FRN's office, Sherwood Executive Center, 5250 Claremont Ave., Suite 148, Stockton.



Tikes and Tunes

A Musical Play Group for Infants and Toddlers in Early Start

When: The **first and third Tuesdays** of the month from 9:30 to 10:30 a.m.

No Musical Talent Required.



Don't forget to register!

And Don't Forget that FRN has **Toy Lending Libraries** for children in the Early Start program at FRN in **Stockton**, Valley Mountain Regional Center in **Modesto** and Tuolumne County Office of Education in **Sonora**. Each library has different hours of operation. For info on the library near you contact:

Stockton: 209-472-3674

Modesto: 209-557-2144

Sonora: 209-536-2040



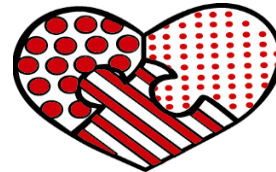
FRN Library Resources

FRN has almost two thousand library resources for parents and professionals to borrow. There are books, videos, dvds, cds, and audio tapes.

Visit www.frcn.org and click on Library to see a complete listing of all of FRN's library resources and to find out how to borrow resources from the library. If you don't have access to the internet you can contact FRN at 209-472-3674 or 800-847-3030.

You don't need to come in to FRN's office in order to use the library. We are happy to mail resources to you. We just ask that you be responsible for returning the items to FRN. You can mail them to FRN, swing by the office or drop them off with the building receptionist. You may check out up to two resources for a period of 3 weeks.

Family Resource Network



FRN Board Member Openings

Passionate about issues facing parents raising children with special needs? Looking for a way to give back to the community?

FRN is accepting applications for Board members. For more information contact FRN staff at 209-472-3674 or FRNfamilies@aol.com.

Check FRN's website, www.frcn.org and click on "calendar" for updated information on trainings and events. Registration forms for FRN events are on the website.

Save the Date

Info on upcoming event:

Family Resource Network is working on a variety of workshops in the coming months. Registration is required for many of the events and registration forms are posted on FRN's website, www.frcn.org and click on Calendar or you can contact FRN staff at 209-472-3674 or 800-847-3030.

- **March 22, 2016 - Financial and Estate Planning for Families of Children with Special Needs** presented by Frank Quacinella, Merrill-Lynch and Mark Drobny, Attorney at Law, offered in collaboration with San Joaquin County Office of Education, SELPA, **Stockton**, Registration required.
- **May 10, 2016 – Social Security for Adults with Disabilities**, presented by Melinda Baughman, CaPROMISE, offered in collaboration with San Joaquin County Office of Education, SELPA, **Stockton**, Registration required.
- **June 23, 2016: Conservatorship for Your Adult Child with Special Needs** presented by Mark Drobny, Attorney at Law, offered in collaboration with San Joaquin County Office of Education.

Related Resource

Disability Rights CA has a fact sheet entitled: **Limited Conservatorships & Alternatives** . It contains important information for anyone who is interested in learning more about what conservatorship is and isn't, and possible alternatives. This fact sheet is DRC Publication #5578.01 and is posted online at <http://www.disabilityrightsca.org/pubs/557801.pdf>

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“A bad attitude is like a flat tire. If you don't change it, you'll never go anywhere.”

Anonymous



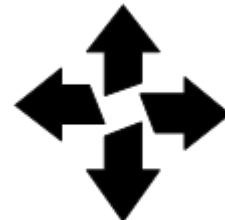
FRN is proud to cosponsor with other local agencies:

15th Annual Autism Forum

- **Tuesday, April 5, 2016**
- **San Joaquin County Office of Education, Stockton**

Keynote Speaker: Patty Schetter, Coordinator of ASD Education Initiatives, UCEDD at the MIND Institute.

There will be breakout sessions on the application of Evidence-Based Practices. For registration information call 209-468-4925.



29th Annual CHOICES Institute Moving from "I can't to I Can!"

- **Friday, April 8, 2016**
- **San Joaquin County Office of Education, Stockton**

For registration information call 209-473-6950.

**Congrats to the WINNERS
of FRN's latest drawing:**

- ♥ **Bianca Flores**
 - ♥ **Rosalie Hernandez**
-



FRN has received donations from:

- ♥ Sue Allyn
- ♥ Cara Davis *in memory of Kathy Werner*
- ♥ Jennifer Patterson
- ♥ PEDS
- ♥ Efrain Rosas
- ♥ Nadine Simms
- ♥ *And Anonymous Donors*



Family Resource Network extends its thanks to the following for their support of the 18th Annual Mothers Retreat:

- ❖ Canepa's Car Wash
- ❖ Costco Wholesale-Lodi
- ❖ Costco Wholesale-Stockton
- ❖ Department of Developmental Services
- ❖ Professional Evaluation & Developmental Services (PEDS)
- ❖ San Joaquin County Office of Education
- ❖ Valley Mountain Regional Center

WE 
VOLUNTEERS

FRN thanks the following for their volunteer efforts:

- Teresa Gutierrez
- Gwenda Simms



More News from DRC

Disability Rights California (DRC) has several new publications that are of interest to families raising children with special needs. These publications are available at the Publications tab on DRC's website:

<http://www.disabilityrightsca.org/pubs/PublicationsIndex.htm>

- Bullying & Disability Harassment of Students with Disabilities, (Publication #5512.01, February 2016)
- Obtaining Assistive Technology through Medi-Cal (Pub #5583.01, February 2016)
- Obtaining Assistive Technology Through Your Child's School (Pub #5577.01, September 2015)
- Obtaining Assistive Technology through Your Employer (Pub #5580.01, October 2015)
- Obtaining Assistive Technology through the Department of Rehabilitation (Pub #5584.01, February 2016)



Please note the FRN workshops take place at a variety of sites throughout the 5 county service area. Registration forms for all these events are posted on the calendar tab at www.frcn.org.

March 9- Building Bridges – Transitioning Your Child from the Early Start Program • Presenter: FRN, Sherwood Executive Center, 5250 Claremont Ave., Stockton, 9:15 to 11:30 a.m., FREE, registration required.

March 30 – Writing An Effective IEP for Your Child with Special Needs • Presenters: SCDD, NVHO and Family Resource Network • **Lodi Public Library, 201 W. Locust Street, Lodi, 6 – 8:30 p.m.** FREE, reservations are required, for reservations call 800-847-3030.

Thursday, April 14, 2016 – Writing An Effective IEP for Your Child with Special Needs • Presenters: SCDD North Valley Hills Office and Family Resource Network • **Jamestown Community Hall, 18250 Main Street, Jamestown, 6:00 to 8:30 p.m.**, FREE, reservations are required.

Wednesday, April 27, 2016 – Writing An Effective IEP for Your Child with Special Needs • Presenters: SCDD North Valley Hills Office and Family Resource Network • **Family Resource Network, Sherwood Executive Center, 5250 Claremont Ave., Suite 148, 6:00 to 8:30 p.m.**, FREE, reservations are required.



The following information was provided by San Joaquin County Public Health Services:

Kaitlyn's law

Kaitlyn's Law (VC 15620) Unattended Children in Vehicles: • No person may leave a child age 6 or younger in a vehicle (unless supervised by someone at least age 12) if the health or safety of the child is at risk, the engine is running, or the keys are in the ignition. The citation is a minimum \$100 fine.

Car Seat Law

Children must be properly buckled in a safety seat or booster, in the back seat of a vehicle, until they are at least 8 years old or 4 feet 9 inches tall. • If a child is not in a car seat, the driver or parent can get a citation with a minimum \$475 fine and a point added to their driving record.



Want to be In The Know?

The email list is a great way to receive up-to-the minute information on topics of interest to parents of children with special needs. For example, the article on the front page regarding students' confidential data was emailed out to families on FRN's email list in February. Send your email address to FRNfamilies@aol.com to receive email updates. There is no fee to be on the email list and FRN does not share your email address with anyone, ever.



***A note from FRN's
Executive Director,
Ann Cirimele***

After 20 years at Family Resource Network, 18 of them as Executive Director, the time has come for me to retire. I will be retiring from FRN at the end of July. My time at FRN has been extremely fulfilling both professionally and personally. I am so grateful to the thousands of families who have shared their lives and their stories with me. Your strength, courage and most importantly, your love for your children, have been a constant source of inspiration to me.

I am excited for Family Resource Network as it enters a new chapter. I know that the new director will bring ideas and creativity to move FRN forward. In anticipation of my retirement FRN's Board of Directors has issued the following job posting. Feel free to share it with any interested parties.

Family Resource Network – Executive Director
Family Resource Network, a long standing 501(c) 3 is seeking a full-time Executive Director. FRN provides support, information, resources and referrals to families raising children with special needs and agencies. The incumbent will be responsible for fiscal management, program oversight, grant writing, and personnel administration. The Executive advises and is responsible to the Board of Directors.

Candidates should hold a minimum of a Bachelor's Degree in Public Administration, Social Work or a related field. However, any combination of education and successful experience providing the required skill and knowledge for success will be considered. The candidate should have successful

experience writing grants, excellent organization and management skills and be computer literate. Previous community involvement in the field of special needs is a plus, as well as previous experience working with a non-profit and collaborative experience working with other agencies.

This is a full time, Exempt position which requires some travel in San Joaquin and surrounding counties. The monthly salary is subject to education, past work experience and knowledge in the field of special needs. Benefits include sick and vacation pay. A stipend to help defray the cost of health insurance will be offered. The applicant will be subject to background checks including Live Scan Fingerprinting, Child Abuse Index Check, Credit Check and Reference Checking and drug testing. Proof of ability to work in the United States required.

Interested candidates may apply by submitting a cover letter, resume and letter of reference(s) to Family Resource Network, 5250 Claremont Avenue, Suite 148, Stockton, CA. 95207, Attn: Beverly Klunk. You may also email your application to FRNfamilies@aol.com with the words "search committee" in the subject line and follow with a hard copy by mail.



Another Job Opportunity at FRN

Family Resource Network has an opening for a Bilingual Office Assistant. The person must read and write English and Spanish fluently. The person must be knowledgeable about IEP issues and have basic office experience such as knowing how to read and respond to emails and use word processing. The person would work 9 to 12 hours per week in FRN's office in Stockton with occasional night or Saturday hours. The job pays \$12 per hour. If you are interested in learning more about this position, please send an email to FRNfamilies@aol.com requesting the job description.