



Family Resource Network

Helping Families Meet the Challenge

Volume 20, Issue 4, Fall 2012 Edition

18th Annual Early Start Symposium

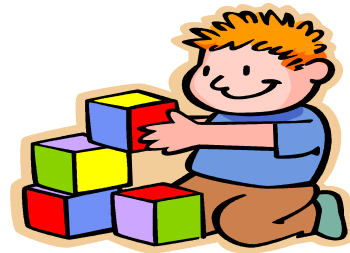


“Extraordinary Children: Head, Heart, Knees and Toes”

Tuesday, October 16th marks the date for the 18th Annual Early Start Symposium. The event will take place in Stockton at San Joaquin County Office of Education from 8:45 a.m. to 3 p.m. Our keynote speaker will be Dr. Ann Corwin, Ph.D., M.Ed. Dr. Corwin, “The Parenting Doctor”, is a nationally known speaker and consultant. Her address will focus on “Extraordinary Children...Unique Solutions”. Parents and professionals alike will benefit from her presentation. Additionally there will be breakout sessions on language development, motor skills issues, child development, oral motor development and smart phone apps that can be used when working with young children.

Scholarships are available to parents living in Amador, Calaveras, San Joaquin, Stanislaus or Tuolumne Counties whose children are receiving PRRS or Early Start services. There are a limited number of scholarships for parents of preschoolers receiving special education services. Registration fee for individuals from the 5 county service area is \$35; \$50 for out of area. There are a limited number of registrations at \$25 available for full-time undergraduate college students. For more information on the Early Start Symposium call Family Resource Network.

Registration forms are available from your child's Service Coordinator and at www.frcn.org and click on calendar.



Let's Play!!

Family Resource Network is excited to announce the opening of its Toy Lending Library. FRN's Toy Lending Library contains toys to enhance the development of children ages birth to 36 months. Families whose children are in Early Start or Prevention Resource and Referral Services (PRRS) are welcome to borrow toys from the library. There is no cost to use the library, and two toys may be borrowed for up to two weeks. Additionally FRN has handouts for parents on how to use toys to help promote your child's development.

The library is filled with lots of fun toys just right for little ones. Come check it out!

FRN's Toy Lending Library:

Hours of Operation: Tuesdays through Fridays, 9 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Location: Sherwood Executive Center, 5250 Claremont Ave., Suite 148, Stockton, CA 95207



Check It Out!

FRN has added some cool pictures to its website! www.frcn.org

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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



Has a New Home!

The recreational support group for non-disabled siblings, ages 7 through 13 now has a **new location:**

**Friday, September 21st,
6:00 to 8:00 p.m.
Stockton Covenant Church,
1720 Oxford Way, Stockton, 95204**

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.

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

Workshop Regarding Supports and Services for Infants and Toddlers with Hearing Loss

Family Resource Network is cosponsoring with the CA Department of Education and Parent Links two workshops that are occurring concurrently. One workshop is for parents and one is for professionals. The workshops are free. They take place **Tuesday, September 11, 2012** from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. at San Joaquin County Office of Education, 2707 Transworld Drive, Stockton. For more information or to register contact Darla at 559-229-2000 x 208 or email dschwehr@exceptionalparents.org.

**Mark Your Calendars!!
FRN's Holiday Open House is
Saturday, December 8th from
11 a.m. to 1 p.m.**



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

Hilda Ongoco

I like a teacher who gives you something to take home to think about besides homework.
~Lily Tomlin as "Edith Ann"

What's Happening At FRN!!



Precious Premies

A Discussion Group for Families Raising Premature Infants and Infants with Medical Concerns.

Come talk about the joys and challenges parents face. Bring your questions and concerns. The discussions are facilitated by Barbara Patton and Ann Cirimele.

When: The second Tuesday of the month from 9:30 to 10:30 a.m.

Where: Family Resource Network, Sherwood Executive Center, 5250 Claremont Ave., Suite 148, Stockton, CA 95207



Tikes and Tunes

A Musical Play Group for Infants and Toddlers

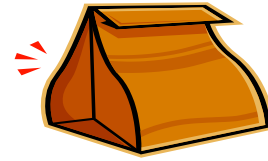
Come learn how you can use music to enhance your infant/toddler's development. Our Play Group Leader is Karen Sanchez, MBA MT-BC, Music Therapist.

When: The first Thursday of the month from 9:30 to 10:30 a.m.

Where: Family Resource Network, Sherwood Executive Center, 5250 Claremont Ave., Suite 148, Stockton, CA 95207



No Musical Talent Required.



Brown Bag Parent Discussion Group

When: The last Tuesday of the month from 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

Where: Family Resource Network, Sherwood Executive Center, 5250 Claremont Ave., Suite 148, Stockton, CA 95207

Come meet other parents and join the conversation. Attendees are to provide their own brown bag lunch and FRN will provide beverages.



Buscando Sonrisas

Un grupo de apoyo en español para las familias con hijos con necesidades especiales.

(This is a support group for Spanish speaking families raising children with special needs. It is conducted entirely in Spanish.)

Nos reunimos el último viernes de cada mes de 6pm a 8pm en: Family Resource Network, Sherwood Executive Center, 5250 Claremont Ave., Suite 148, Stockton, CA 95207

Se requiere registrasion

Para más información o para registrarse, póngase en contacto con Rita en el 209-472-3674 o por correo electrónico FRNfamilies@aol.com



Don't forget to register!

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.

FRN Library Resources

FRN has added numerous new resources to the lending library. Here are just some of them:

Books:

- **Active Baby, Healthy Brain – 135 Activities**
- **Bipolar Kids – Healing Your child Find Calm in the Mood Storm**
- **Bloom – Finding Beauty in the Unexpected**
- **Down Syndrome Parenting 101**
- **Down Syndrome, the First 18 Months**
- **Early Communication Skills for Children with Down Syndrome**
- **Early Sign Language**
- **Easy to Love But Hard to Raise**
- **Feeding Challenges in Young Children**
- **First Aid for Tantrums**
- **Focusing and Calming Games for Children**
- **Getting into the Game – Sports Programs for Kids with Autism**
- **Girls' Guide to Growing Up**
- **Gluten –Free Food for Kids**
- **How to Talk to an Autistic Kid**
- **I Feel, Feel, Feel about My Parents' Divorce**
- **IEP from A to Z**
- **Making Toys (one book for infant, one for toddler, one for school age children)**
- **Parenting Girls on the Autism Spectrum**
- **Party Planning for Children and Teen on the Autism Spectrum**
- **Taking Visual Impairment to School**

FRN Events!

Please note that these events take place at a variety of sites. Be sure to check the location of the workshop you are interested in. Flyers for these workshops are available at www.frcn.org and click on calendar. For more information call FRN at 209-472-3674 or 800-847-3030.

Sept. 20 – Writing An Effective IEP for Your Child with Special Needs • Presenters: Area 6 Board and Family Resource Network • **Tracy Civic Center Conference Room 203**, 333 Civic Center Drive, Tracy, 6 – 8:30 p.m. FREE, reservations are required.

Sept. 27- 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.

Oct. 18 – Writing An Effective IEP for Your Child with Special Needs • Presenters: Area 6 Board and Family Resource Network • **Mark Twain Hospital, San Andreas**, 768 Mountain Ranch Road, San Andreas, 6 – 8:30 p.m. FREE, reservations are required.

Oct. 24– That Loving Touch – Infant Massage • Presenter: Jayne Bush, San Joaquin County Office of Education, **Stockton**, 6:30 to 7:30 p.m., FREE.

Nov. 13 – Let's Get Talking! Tools for Parents to Help Develop Speech in Children Ages birth to 3 Years• Presenter: Lisa Drake, M.A., CCC-SP; San Joaquin County Office of Education, **Stockton**, 6:30 to 8 p.m., FREE, registration is required.

Nov. 14- 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 is required.

Nov. 28 – Writing An Effective IEP for Your Child with Special Needs • Presenters: Area 6 Board and Family Resource Network • **Doctors Medical Center, Modesto**, 1441 Florida Ave., Modesto, 6 – 8:30 p.m. FREE, reservations are required.

SATURDAY WORKSHOP!!

January 19, 2013 – Writing An Effective IEP for Your Child with Special Needs • Presenters: Area 6 Board and Family Resource Network • **Area 6 Board Office, Stockton**, 2529 March Lane, Suite 105, Stockton, 9:30 a.m. to noon, FREE, reservations are required.

Don't forget to register!

To view FRN's entire library list or to check out a library resource, visit www.frcn.org and click on Library. For more information call FRN at 800-847-3030 or email FRN at FRNfamilies@aol.com.



FRN has received donations from:

Sue Allyn
 Emily Bauch
 Tom and Sue Chinchio
In memory of Colleen June Erz
 Thea Etheridge
 Rhonda Martinez
 Leslie Michel
 Todd Nord
 Pedro Pintel
 Efrain Rosas
 Pam Thompson
 Christi Torres-Rogers
 Tammy Trinnaman
 Stacy Valdez
 The Whiteside Family
In memory of Ramond Sanguinetti
 And Anonymous Donors

Thank You Volunteers!

**FRN thanks the following
 for their volunteer efforts:**

Joe Cirimele
 Katey Clark



Healing Hearts Society

Many, many thanks go to those who so generously donated to **FRN's Healing Hearts Society**. Funds from these donations are given to families to assist with burial expenses upon the death of their child with special needs. To date, FRN has provided Healing Hearts Society funds to **47** families.

**NOW
 HEAR
 THIS!**



MORE FRN Workshops

Registration is required for all these workshops. Forms are available at www.frcn.org and click on calendar or call FRN at 209-472-3674 or 800-847-3030

Moving Forward: Helping Your Child Transition to Adult Services

This workshop will focus on IDEA transition requirements ,agencies' responsibilities/timelines, the role of the family in the transition process and transition resources.

Tuesday, September 18th, 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. San Joaquin County Office of Education

Parenting Your Special Needs Child

Ann Cirimele, FRN Executive Director, and Guest Speaker Barbara Patton will share information on the 5 critical needs children have. Barbara is a parent and grandparent of special needs children and foster parent to over 150 foster children. She will share tips that have proven successful. **Tuesday, October 9th, 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. at San Joaquin County Office of Education.**

The Birds, The Bees and Your Special Needs Child

This workshop is back by popular demand!! David Demetral, Ph.D., LCSW will share info you can use to help your child understand issues related to sexuality. Topics will include what to tell your child and when, and how to redirect behaviors. **Tuesday, December 4th, 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. at San Joaquin County Office of Education.**

Financial and Estate Planning

Frank Quacinella, First Vice President and National Spokesperson for Families with Special Needs Planning Network for Merrill Lynch, and Mark Drobny, Attorney at Law, will present info on understanding the importance of financial planning, protecting government benefits through proper estate planning, information on special needs trusts and conservatorships, and more.

Tuesday, February 12th, 6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m., San Joaquin County Office of Education.

Children's Pre-Existing Conditions

Under the Affordable Care Act, health plans cannot limit or deny benefits or deny coverage for a child younger than age 19 simply because the child has a “pre-existing condition” — that is, a health problem that developed before the child applied to join the plan.

Until now, plans could refuse to accept anyone because of a pre-existing health condition, or they could limit benefits for that condition.

Now, under the health care law, plans that cover children can no longer exclude, limit, or deny coverage to your child under age 19 solely based on a health problem or disability that your child developed before you applied for coverage. This rule applies to all job-related health plans as well as individual health insurance policies issued after March 23, 2010. The rule will affect your plan as soon as it begins a plan year or policy year on or after September 23, 2010.

- This rule applies whether or not your child’s health problem or disability was discovered or treated before you applied for coverage.
- The new rule doesn’t apply to “grandfathered” individual health insurance policies. A grandfathered individual health insurance policy is a policy that you bought for yourself or your family (and is not a job-related health plan) on or before March 23, 2010.
- Starting in 2014, these protections will be extended to Americans of all ages.

Example: On October 1, 2010, Sally purchased a new individual health policy for herself and her 13-year-old child, Miranda, who has been treated for asthma in the past. The new health policy excludes coverage for treatment of pre-existing conditions for all enrollees. On November 1, 2010 — one month after coverage began for Sally and Miranda—Miranda is hospitalized for an asthma attack. Her insurance company denies payment for the hospitalization, because under the policy Miranda’s asthma is considered a pre-existing condition.

Under the new law, the insurer can’t deny payment for the hospitalization based on Miranda’s pre-existing asthma condition. Miranda is under the age of 19. Sally’s policy is new and therefore subject to the pre-existing condition rules of the new health care law. Sally’s policy year began after September 23, 2010, when the law’s rules on pre-existing conditions took effect.

For more information go to the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Center for Consumer Information and Insurance Oversight at <http://cciio.cms.gov/>

Residential Care Issues

Valley Mountain Regional Center’s Consumer Services Subcommittee will be discussing issues related to residential care homes at its meeting on September 10th. The meeting will take place at VMRC, 702 North Aurora, Stockton. The meeting starts promptly at 4:30 p.m. and will conclude at approximately 5:30 p.m. There will be a presentation by VMRC staff on the topic and attendees will have the opportunity to ask questions.

If you are unable to attend but would like to submit input to the meeting, you can email your comments or concerns to FRNfamilies@aol.com and FRN staff will bring your email to the meeting. If you wish to have your name shared with your comments, please give your name in your email. For any email related to this topic please put “Residential Care Issues” in the subject line of your email, and the email must be received by FRN no later than 9 a.m. on 9/10.



“If your actions inspire others to dream more, learn more, do more and become more, you are a leader.”

John Quincy Adams

United Healthcare Children's Foundation has grants that provide financial relief for families who have children with medical needs not covered or fully covered by their commercial health benefit plan. The Foundation aims to fill the gap between what medical services/items your child needs and what your commercial health benefit plan will pay for.

If a grant is approved by the Regional Board of Directors for your child, the grant will help pay for approved medical services/items after your commercial health benefit plan submits payment, if any. The grant funds are not paid to you or the child outright – you work with the Foundation on submitting invoices/bills for approved medical services/items after your commercial health benefit plan submits initial payment (if any) to the health care provider. For more information on this program go to http://uhccf.org/apply_applicant.html

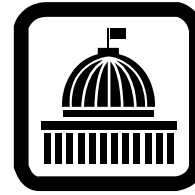


Is there an app for.....?

BridgingApps.org has created a website to bridge the gap between technology and people with disabilities. On their website you can read reviews of apps and how the apps could be used by people with special needs. BridgingApp.org is volunteer community of parents, therapists, doctors and teachers who share information on how to use the iPad, iPhone, iPod Touch and Android devices with people who have special needs. It provides a funding sources directory for help in paying for an iPad or other mobile device.

There is also a free online newsletter with weekly updates re new apps. For more information go to BridgingApps.org

News from Sacramento



The Assembly Human Services Committee has approved the following autism-related legislation:

SB 764 by Senator Steinberg establishes a telehealth demonstration program by regional centers that will focus on autism services. A companion legislative proposal, **SB 1050** by Senator Alquist and sponsored by the Children's Network, launches an Autism Telehealth Advisory Taskforce within the Department of Developmental Services to provide technical assistance and supports for the implementation of autism telehealth services. To learn more about these bills and the Human Services Hearing, go to <http://autism.senate.ca.gov/legislation>

The following is a notice that Family Resource Network received for the U.S. Department of Education, Office of Special Education Programs (OSEP).

The Office of Special Education Programs (OSEP) is currently rethinking its accountability system in order to shift the balance from a system focused primarily on compliance to one that puts more emphasis on results. We believe it is critical that OSEP's resources be aligned to support improved educational results and functional outcomes for children with disabilities and to that end, are designing a system that maximizes all of our resources.

OSEP'S vision for Results-Driven Accountability is that all components of accountability will be aligned in a manner that best supports states in improving results for infants, toddlers, children and youth with disabilities, and their families. We invite you to help us re-conceptualize our accountability system. Over the next several months we will use the OSEP blog (<http://www.ed.gov/blog/2012/07/results-driven-accountability-effort/>) to solicit input from the field regarding key questions as we move forward in developing a new framework for our accountability system.