



# Family Resource Network

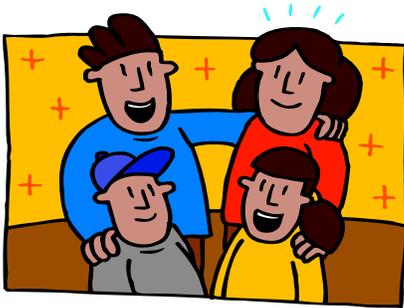
## Helping Families Meet the Challenge

Volume 18, Issue 3, Special Summer 2010 Edition

### Coming to Modesto!

### Positive Empowering Parenting

### Project PEP



Family Resource Network is excited to once again have the opportunity to offer this series of parenting workshops for parents of children, age 14 or younger, are receiving services through Valley Mountain Regional Center. For the first time ever, **Project PEP will be offered in Modesto.** Project PEP has been designed by, and for, parents of children with special needs. In addition to being a parent of a special needs child, one of the creators of Project PEP has over 30 years experience in the field of early childhood development.

Project PEP is a fun, informative way for parents to learn ways to enhance their parenting skills. There is no cost to attend Project PEP and space is limited. There are 6 workshops in the series and parents are asked to commit to attending all sessions. **Sessions will be starting on Tuesday, August 24<sup>th</sup> and will be conducted on Tuesday nights through September 28<sup>th</sup>, from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. at VMRC's Modesto office.**

Space is limited so you are encouraged to register soon for this popular workshop series.

You can get the registration form for Project PEP at [www.frcn.org](http://www.frcn.org) and click on calendar, or by contacting FRN or your child's VMRC Service Coordinator.

### Job Opportunity at

### Family Resource Network

Work with Families Raising Children with Special Needs. It's Inspiring, It's Challenging, and No Two Days Are Ever the Same.

Family Resource Network is accepting applications for the position of Program Coordinator. This is a part time position and work hours are 25 to 30 per week. There is occasional night or Saturday work. The pay rate is \$12 per hour.

Under the direction of the Executive Director, the Program Coordinator performs a variety of coordination, outreach, clerical, administrative, and family support duties and related activities. The Program Coordinator works at FRN's Stockton office, but performs duties throughout FRN's 5-county catchment area.

The Program Coordinator must have knowledge and awareness of the Special Needs population and related family issues. Additionally, this person must be familiar with business practices, and must have computer skills. The person must have strong communication skills, both oral and written, and must be able to work independently. Additionally, the ability to speak and write Spanish is preferred, but not a necessity.

This position is a wonderful way for a family member of a special needs child to share the information they have learned over the years, and to learn so much more.

Please submit resumes to Family Resource Network, 5250 Claremont Ave., Suite 239, Stockton, CA 95207. FRN is an equal opportunity employer.

Questions? Call FRN at 209-472-3674 or 800-847-3030

Family Resource Network Newsletter  
Special Summer 2010 edition  
Printing 6,000 copies

EDITOR: Ann Cirimele

Production costs for Family Resource Network Newsletter are underwritten by grants from California's Early Start Program – Department of Developmental Services, Parents Helping Parents and private donations. *FRN Newsletter* is distributed at no cost to families raising children with special needs in Amador, Calaveras, San Joaquin, Stanislaus and Tuolumne Counties. Families outside of that region may subscribe to the newsletter for a small fee. The newsletter is posted on FRN's website. Scholarships identified in this publication are available only to families in FRN's service area. Scholarships may be limited to the specifications of the granting agency. Family Resource Network, Inc., is a parent directed 501 ©(3) non-profit corporation committed to providing information and support to families raising children with special needs in Amador, Calaveras, San Joaquin, Stanislaus, and Tuolumne Counties. Items printed in the *FRN Newsletter* are for information purposes only and may not necessarily reflect the opinion or endorsement by Family Resource Network or its underwriters. Direct questions or comments to:

Family Resource Network Phone: 209-472-3674  
5250 Claremont Ave., Suite 239 Fax: 209-472-3673  
Stockton, CA 95207  
Email: [FRNfamilies@aol.com](mailto:FRNfamilies@aol.com) website: [www.frcn.org](http://www.frcn.org)

Congrats to the WINNERS of FRN's  
latest drawing:  
**Lenora Garrett**  
**Lidia Lopez**  
**Oralia Tostado**

.....  
***Info on Local Support Groups***

Local support groups are encouraged to email or mail flyers and information on their groups to FRN. FRN will have the information on display in the office and will share information as appropriate with families who call FRN asking for info on specific disabilities or support groups.



**Keep Informed This Summer**

Want up to the minute info on issues affecting children with special needs? You can have your email address added to FRN's email list. FRN's newsletter is published only a few times per year so email is a great way to keep up on important information. If you would like to be added to FRN's email list, email the following info to [FRNfamilies@aol.com](mailto:FRNfamilies@aol.com):

- Your name
- The county you reside in
- Please indicate if you are a parent of a child with special needs or a professional working with special needs children

## SAVE THE DATE

16<sup>th</sup> Annual Early Start Symposium

### What Makes You Smile?

Tuesday, November 2, 2010 marks the date for the 16<sup>th</sup> Annual Early Start Symposium. Paul Glassman, DDS, M.A., MBA, from the University of the Pacific's School of Dentistry will be a keynote presenter on a topic the Symposium has not presented before - "How Good Oral Health Affects A Child's Development." Additionally, Kris Faith and Katie Faith Lingo will share their story of being twins - one of whom has Down syndrome. There will be breakout sessions in the afternoon on dental care associated with syndromes, bringing structure to home and social environments, using sign language to foster language development, addressing behavior issues, and ideas to help children with motor issues gain stability and move towards mobility.

Registration materials will be available in September. Scholarships will be available to parents living in Amador, Calaveras, San Joaquin, Stanislaus or Tuolumne Counties whose children are receiving Prevention Program or Early Start services. Registration fee for individuals from those counties is \$40; \$55 for out of area.

For more information call Family Resource Network at 209-472-3674.



## Transitioning To Adult Service

Parents whose children have been receiving special education services for several years typically find that they get to a point where they feel comfortable with their knowledge of the special education process. Some parents have expressed that their comfort turns to anxiety as they begin to learn about adult services for individuals with special needs. Here's some info that might help parents regain that comfort level.

As of this writing (June, 2010) special education code states the following regarding the California High School Exit Exam (CAHSEE)

- Commencing with the 2009-10 school year, an eligible pupil with a disability (IEP or 504 plan) is not required to pass the high school exit examination as a condition of receiving a diploma of graduation or as a condition of graduation from high school. This exempts eligible pupils with disabilities from the requirement to pass the exit exam in order to receive a high school diploma.
- An eligible pupil with a disability is a pupil with an individualized education program or a plan adopted pursuant to Section 504 that indicates the pupil is scheduled to receive a high school diploma, and that the pupil has satisfied or will satisfy all other state and local requirements for the receipt of a high school diploma, on or after July 1, 2009.

State requirements include that the student must pass algebra, and local requirements might include such items as passing a specific number of English, History, Math or Physical Education classes. Your local school district has information on its graduation requirements.

For a checklist of items related to transition, check out the Resource tab on FRN's website to see "Transition from Special Education to Adult Services Checklist."

### Parents of VMRC Consumers

Parents of children who are Valley Mountain Regional Center consumers will also want to check out "Suggested Steps for Investigation of Adult Service Options" which is also accessible by clicking on the Resources tab on FRN's website.

If you think that your adult child might want to attend a day program, you should contact your child's VMRC Service Coordinator about a year before your child exits special education. Parents will want to learn about the different day programs throughout VMRC's service area. Additionally, the Area VI Board has information on some of the local adult day programs, including a matrix of services. You can access this information at [www.areaboard6.ca.gov/DayProgram.htm](http://www.areaboard6.ca.gov/DayProgram.htm)

The laws that address adult services are very different from special education laws. For example, children who qualify for special education services must be served immediately; day programs are allowed to have waiting lists. Therefore, it is possible that a program you are interested in may have a waiting list or not have an opening for some time.

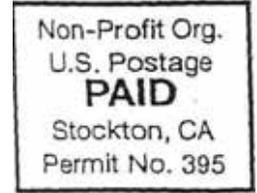
### For All Parents

Family Resource Network will be conducting its "Moving Forward: Helping Transition Your Child to Adult Services" during the upcoming school year. The date and location are to be determined. If you would like to be sent a registration form when this workshop is offered, just phone or email FRN with your contact info and you will receive a registration form as the training draws near.



**Family Resource Network**  
5250 Claremont Ave., Suite 239  
Stockton, CA 95207  
209-472-3674 800-847-3030

Return Service Requested



# Thank YOU!

to all of FRN's generous donors. In these troubled financial times, FRN is exceptionally grateful to all those people who have made donations to FRN. Remember, FRN is a 501 (c) 3 nonprofit, so your donation is tax deductible. All donations are used to support FRN services to families.

