



WE ALL BELONG! INCLUSION WORKS!

**4th Annual Arts Contest
Receives Nearly 250 Entries!**

The 4th Annual Arts Contest Awards Ceremony was held on June 6th at the Philadelphia School District administration building. The atrium was filled with smiling faces and award-winning art works created by many Philadelphia school students from kindergarten through the 12th grade. All public school students, after school programs, day care centers, charter and private school students were invited to submit arts and literature entries.

The ceremony was festive and fun, with a few surprises. Nearly 250 people enjoyed the proceedings – students from many schools, their families, friends, and teachers. Lots of people came to support the students who created the winning entries. The Creative and Performing Arts (CAPA) High School Jazz Ensemble, conducted by Kevin Rodgers, entertained the crowd with spirited musical selections performed by the young, talented musicians, Simone Brown, Chandra Holloway, John Vizzachero, and Nathan Wade.



In a welcome surprise, Dr. Arlene Ackerman, the new CEO of the School District of Philadelphia, participated in the Ceremony. Here she reads Carlos Lanier's award-winning literature entry as he looks on. See Page 12 for more.

The Contest is a collaborative effort of Mental Retardation Services (MRS) Public Awareness Committee, the School District of Philadelphia, the Home and School Council, and the Archdiocese, Office of Catholic Education. It is an opportunity for students to express themselves through the arts how inclusion of someone with a disability has been a positive experience in their

[Continued on Page 12](#)

Practice Year Update from MRS



Fiscal Year Plans

Individual Support Plans (ISPs) approved and authorized by Mental Retardation Services (MRS) will be mailed to individuals after July 1. The plans will remain in effect until your next Annual ISP meeting.

Annual ISP meetings will be held throughout the year. Going forward, you can expect your plan will be available approximately 60 days after the meeting. In the past, it may have taken much longer.

All meetings must take place so that your ISP is updated every 365 days. The ISP meeting must be scheduled by your Supports Coordinator at least 90 days

before your due date, and take place no later than 60 days before your due date.

To use a date as an example, if your ISP must be approved, authorized, and available to all parties by October 29, 2008, your Annual ISP meeting with your Supports Coordinator must be scheduled at least by August 1, 2008 (90 days prior) and take place no later than August 31 (60 days before the ISP goes into effect). Remember that all services must be included in your ISP in order for the services to be provided and paid for.

The P/FDSW cap is \$23,200. While we hope the Governor's Budget will increase the FY09 cap to \$26,000, Supports Coordinators cannot submit plans at the higher amount until the increase is approved by the Centers for Medicaid and Medicare Services (CMS), and we receive notification from the DPW Office of Developmental Programs.

**Call for New Registrations &
Customer Service
215-685-4MRS (4677)**

What's In This Issue

We All Belong! Inclusion Works!	1
Practice Year Update	2
Spotlight on Voting	3, 4, 6
My Employment Success Story	5
CHIP	6
Readers' Exchange	7
Stretching Hearts and Hands ... to Costa Rica	8
Federal Waiver to Serve Adults with Autism Announced	8
Did You Know? ¿Sabes tu Que?	9
JCHAI Expands Home & Community Based Services	11
Social Security Announces Improvements to the Ticket to Work Program	11
Are You a Sibling of an Adult with a Developmental Disability?	14
PFCS' Annual Outreach Event	14
Find a Low-Cost Loan for AT Needs	15
A Message from the PA Waiting List Campaign	15
Summertime Fun	16
ODP Forum for Everyday Living	17
Repeatable Dates & Calendar	17, 18, 19

Let's hear from you!

Please submit articles to: Editor, Family Forum, Mental Retardation Services, Suite 5200, 701 Market St., Philadelphia, PA 19106-1532

The Family Forum is a publication of Mental Retardation Services and is mailed from PDDC. Note that when more than one person lives at the same address, one addressee has been randomly selected. To receive The Family Forum, contact the Editor.

All copy is subject to editorial approval and may be edited. Publication in this newsletter does not necessarily represent the position of Philadelphia Mental Retardation Services.

Family Forum Editor Contact - Jeffrey Orlin

Voice: 215-685-5911 Fax: 215-685-5959
Email: Jeffrey.Orlin@Phila.gov

Recent issues of The Family Forum are archived on <www.philly.networkofcare.org> and <www.phila.gov/dbhmrs>

Newsletter Committee: N. Baker, D. Bouclier, I. Carey, L. Falotico, C. Haley, J. Kresloff, B. Lennon, J. Nieves, J. Orlin, E. Pacheco, R. Proodian, M. Roche

Contributors to this Issue: B. McHale, J. Fenton, R. Gaudiosi, JCHAI, S. Kosmin, PATF, PFCS, R. Slack, Vision for Equality

Feel free to reprint articles from *The Family Forum* Just give us credit. Thanks!



Spotlight On VOTING



Enhancing Social Capital: SPIN's Voting Initiative

*By: Bernice McHale
Director of Community Affairs*

There are many ways to develop meaningful relationships and valued social roles. At Special People In Northeast, Inc. (SPIN), one of the areas selected to create relevance is a Voting Initiative.

This initiative began three years ago with the goal of educating 100% of all SPIN stakeholders – the individuals the agency supports, its staff, management, and the SPIN Board of Directors. The Voting Initiative is a comprehensive program to encourage good citizenship by responsibly exercising the right to vote. The Initiative includes education, both of the process and the candidates, the role of the electorate, and the individual's actions within the constituency.

SPIN's Voting Initiative has provided the opportunity to advance a variety of social roles for people with disabilities that include constituent, volunteer, and advocate. Being an active member within the constituency



Jackie Saidel (standing second from right), a Committee of Seventy SPIN election observer, talks with other election volunteers at a polling place.

[Continued on Page 4](#)

Alan's Day on the Voting Circuit Battleground

By Jennifer Fenton

After many weeks of intense campaigning in Pennsylvania the Battleground of Election Day was finally here. Armed with Committee of 70 blue lanyard volunteer tags, Alan Sherman and I were ready to go out to meet the troops. Our field map navigated us through Ward 55 territory (an area between Roosevelt Boulevard and Frankford Avenue, Tyson Street and Cottman Avenue). We had a limited time to

[Continued on Page 4](#)

**Vote for the
Next President
of The United
States!**

This year we get to choose our next President, so it is an important day to vote. This article lists several resources to help you get ready to vote.

Election day is November 4. In order to vote, you must be registered by October 6, but don't wait until the last minute! The deadline for a civilian absentee ballot to be received by the County Board of Elections is October 31.

[Continued on Page 6](#)

Enhancing Social Capital

Continued from Page 3

and having your voice heard is an important part of living a full life in the community. As a strategy to learn more about political leaders and in order to make informed choices, SPIN has hosted many educational opportunities, including a Mayoral Forum in October of 2007.

SPIN has partnered with the Committee of Seventy serving as non-partisan election observers. The observers are comprised of teams of two people. The teams are not assigned, rather they are self-selected, and because of the cultivation of friendships, they are usually the same for each election. This year SPIN had eight teams of volunteers for the 2008 primary elections.

With each election, the teams have become more informed and, therefore, more helpful to voters at the polling locations that they visit. Teams have an important responsibility to the Committee of Seventy to report problems and assist where possible. Each team completes a field report at every polling location visited and then submits these reports to team leaders. The Committee of Seventy uses this information to assist in implementing corrective measures for the next election. Voters receive the support of informed volunteers and have the opportunity to understand that a person with a disability can perform a valued and needed social role in the community. At the end of the day-long experience the teams have reported a feeling of satisfaction in performing an integral role in the Election Day process.

On the pathway toward relevant and meaningful lives, SPIN works diligently to enhance social roles for people with disabilities so that the opportunity to participate fully in community life can be achieved. If you are interested in learning more about SPIN's Voting Initiative, or if you would like to be an election day volunteer, contact Bernice McHale at 215-612-7507.

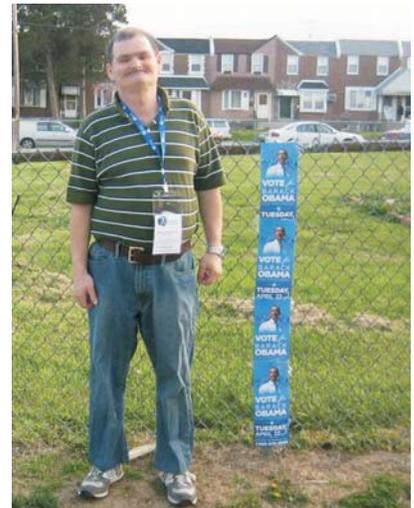
Alan's Day ...

Continued from Page 3

complete our mission of visiting over forty polling sites! At each site, we were well received. Alan was like the "Bob Hope of the Battleground Ballot." He must have greeted and shook hands with more people than Clinton and Obama combined. It was as if he were running for office. Of course, to maintain our stamina, Alan and I stopped for some grub and to rest our weary feet.

Once we refueled, we carried on to our next destination. As we approached, we were recognized by fellow citizens who wanted to file a complaint with the Committee of 70. All of the sudden we felt as if we should go AWOL to get out of the crossfire. We had the sides call a truce until we could find a solution. We called our team leader who then gave us direction on how to handle this new assignment. Alan and I relayed the message to the disgruntled troops. Once there was a complete understanding from both sides, there was then peace.

As the sun went down and our tour of duty was ending, Alan turned to me and said, "I had a good time today meeting nice people – can we do this again in November?" My response was, "Absolutely, but I would not be surprised if your name was on the ballot in November from all the people you met today." Alan then gave his little giggle with his big smile. This day was truly social capital at its BEST!



Alan stands by an Obama campaign poster at a polling location.

MY EMPLOYMENT SUCCESS STORY

Sudent Cafeteria a Big Challenge

*By Robert Slack, Associate Director,
Administration, PDDC*

Three nights a week, Ericka Orr travels to the University of Pennsylvania where she helps keep a bustling student cafeteria neat and clean. At any one time, hundreds of university students are eating in the multi-story cafeteria, swarming in and out with the typical haste of college students. Supported by job coaches from Employment Partners at PDDC, Ericka moves methodically from table to table, getting each one spick and span for the next batch of students. In her three months on the job, Ericka has acquired a reputation as a hard worker who tackles this big challenge without complaining. Her supervisors praise her. “Ericka is very consistent and responsible,” says Leticia Lynch, Assistant Food Service Director at Aramark Corp., which manages the cafeteria. “She’s done everything we’ve asked her to do.”

For Ericka the best part of her job is the people she meets. Living at home with her grandmother, Ericka says she rarely ventures out of her house because of crime in the neighborhood. “I really love my job!” says Ericka, her trademark smile creasing across her face. “I am comfortable here. When I wasn’t working, I was so bored. I had nothing to do,

and I didn’t have a lot of people to talk to. Now I have a girlfriend to talk to. People look out for me.”

Ericka’s relationship with Employment Partners, stretching back to the 1990s, has helped her find several jobs. Each job, she says, taught her new skills, giving her a breadth of personal and work experience that she brings to her current job.



Ericka tackles a big challenge at the U of P student cafeteria.

As she scans the room for signs of disorder, cleaning kit in hand, she takes evident satisfaction in keeping her area clean. To make sure that she fully adjusts to her new position, Employment Partners job coaches work closely with her. “Chester comes and sees me all the time,” says Ericka of her primary job coach. “He checks up on me. If there are problems, Chester just tells me, ‘You’re a good worker.’”

Skilled job coaches like Chester are trained to help workers gain the skills and confidence they need. With time, Chester says he will increasingly step back, allowing Ericka more and more

independence. “I think this job gives Ericka a chance to have some structure to her life,” says Chester. He says he has seen a difference in her – her attitude is brighter, she is more outgoing.

According to PDDC Chief Operating Officer, Laura Princiotta, the key to assuring that workers succeed in the workplace is to offer extensive pre-job training. “Employment Partners believes that the best way to ensure success of our clients is to offer the best evaluation and training possible,” says Laura. “The first thing we do when new people come in is to give them an extensive vocational

[Continued on Page 6](#)

My Employment Success Story

Continued from Page 5

evaluation. This process helps them discover their skills and abilities. With the help of their vocational team, individuals are then offered one of seven vocational training areas: home health care, clerical support, materials handling, childcare, environmental services, food services, and shipping and handling.” Employment Partners also offers job club, literacy, and math classes.

“The training really helped,” says Ericka. “It made me feel more comfortable.” She says that, in addition to her vocational training, the weekly “job club” was especially valuable. This hour-long facilitated discussion models how to act during interviews, how to relate to a supervisor, and how to handle problems in the workplace. Job club, she said, taught her the value of being respectful in the workplace.

Talking about the job-seeking process, Ericka said the hardest part was waiting for the call back after her interview. When the call finally came, she said it was a “great day.” Three months later, Ericka’s face still lights up when she talks about her challenging job. “This is a really good job!” she says.

CHIP for Kids' Health Insurance



Pennsylvania's Children's Health Insurance Program is growing. CHIP is expanding to cover all uninsured children and teens, regardless of family income. Every uninsured child and teen (up to age 19) who is not eligible for medical assistance will now have access to comprehensive health insurance. Visit the CHIP website at <www.chipcoverspakids.com>, or call 800-986-KIDS for information.

Vote for the Next President ...

Continued from Page 3

For Philadelphia voters how to register and answers to lots of questions can be obtained by contacting the Philadelphia County Board of Elections office at 215-686-1500, or 1505. The office is at 520 N. Delaware Avenue, 5th floor. For absentee ballot information, call 215-686-3469.

An excellent local resource is The Committee of Seventy, 215-557-3600. They have an informative website at <www.seventy.org>, which includes a download of a voter registration form. They also have a 20-page “2008 Citizen’s Guide,” that is chock full of voting and legislative information. From their website, you can use their “Citizen Access Center” to locate your polling place.

Another general voting and legislative resource is the PA League of Women Voters. Their website is <www.palwv.org>, and their Citizen Information Center number is 800-692-7281.

Some General Information

Alternative ballot – Voters with disabilities, as well as seniors 65 and older, who are assigned to inaccessible polling places are eligible to cast an Alternative Ballot. Call your County Board of Elections (number above) to find out whether the polling place is accessible and/or how to obtain an Alternative Ballot.

ID requirements – Two groups of voters will be required to show specific ID to vote: all first-time voters and all voters who are voting for the first time at a specific polling place.

Voting Assistance – Voters with disabilities have a right to receive assistance in voting from the person of their choice. The voter can choose anyone; there is nothing in the law that restricts the voter’s choice to a guardian or attendant. The person who needs assistance must have this need indicated on his or her voter’s card.

Reports about Youth with Disabilities in the Foster Care System

A report by the National Council on Disability (NCD) examines the unique issues faced by young people with disabilities in the foster care system. "Youth with Disabilities in the Foster Care System: Barriers to Success and Proposed Policy Solutions" looks at the many educational challenges faced by foster youth, noting that "... 30 to 40 percent of foster youth are in the special education system. Similar to youth with disabilities, students in foster care have lower rates of high school graduation, at 50 percent versus approximately 70 percent for the general population." The report is at < www.ncd.gov/newsroom/publications/2008/FosterCareSystem_Report.html > .

Web-Captioned Telephone



A free web-captioned telephone service for people with hearing loss is now available through Hamilton Web CapTel. The service works with any type of telephone and any type of Internet access device. Individuals can listen to the caller and read written captions of everything the caller says. For information, or to register, go to <www.hamiltoncaptel.com> and select Pennsylvania, or call 800-618-4781.



Get a Job with the Feds

The Equal Employment Opportunity

Commission has issued a report, "Improving the Participation Rate of People with Targeted Disabilities in the Federal Workforce." The report is at < www.eeoc.gov/federal/report/pwtd.html > . Source: A Slice of Pie e-newsletter.

Parenting Resources about Grieving

Loved ones are lost to families in many ways: violence, sickness, imprisonment, military duty. At the <www.cap4kids.org> website, there are resources for grieving children and families. On the "Parenting Resources Handout," there is a section on Grieving Resources that includes: the PA Prison Society, the Center for Grieving Children, Teens, Families; the Grief Assistance Program, and Daddy's Spirit. Under the "Helpful Links" tab, there is "Operation Homefront," for those with loved ones in the military.



Michelle Welch, supported by CATCH, makes working at the Family Dollar Store an important priority in her life.

R
E
A
D
E
R
S'

E
X
C
H
A
N
G
E

Stretching Hearts and Hands Across the Miles to Costa Rica

Submitted by Vision for EQuality

Several months ago Susan Tachau, Executive Director of the Pennsylvania Assistive Technology Foundation, asked Vision for EQuality to help sponsor the trip to America of Connie, a young Costa Rican special education teacher. We were pleased to help.

Connie arrived in March full of enthusiasm and anxious to learn more about services for people with disabilities and parent supports in the United States, the nature of our philosophy on independent living, and our use of assistive technology. Much of the two weeks Connie spent in Philadelphia was with Vision's staff. Thanks to Maureen Devaney, Ana and Emilio Pacheco, and Sharon Harper-Young, she was able to learn a lot about people with disabilities in our fair City.

Connie was taken to Temple, a charter school, and a Spanish church, among other trips. She had dinner with the Pachecos and learned more about what life is like in America, especially for a child with a disability. She was escorted by the Pachecos on a tour of St. Christopher's Hospital, where she met with staff, watched a hearing screening, and learned about other medical services. The Pachecos generously offered a wheelchair their son no longer needed, and it was shipped to Costa Rica.

Sharon Harper-Young took Connie to visit her son's school, the First Philadelphia Charter School for Literacy, where children with disabilities are fully included. The students and teachers learned from Connie about the dire circumstances of children with disabilities in Costa Rica, where Connie is one of only five special education teachers in the whole country. After hearing Connie's story, the school decided that day to adopt Connie's class and to send help in the year ahead so they can have things like books and other school supplies.

Connie returned to Costa Rica full of inspiration, richer for the experience, and with a message of hope to the families, children, and teachers in her small country. By sharing the wealth of information she found here in America, Connie can offer a vision of what they can do to effect change for the future of people with disabilities in Costa Rica.

Governor Rendell Says PA Receives First-In-Nation Federal Waiver to Serve Adults with Autism

Governor Edward G. Rendell announced on May 22nd that Pennsylvania has been approved for a first-of-its-kind federal waiver program to provide home and community based services specifically for adults with autism.

The \$20 million-a-year waiver program, which is expected to serve up to 200 individuals 21 years of age and older with autism, was approved by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Center for Medicare and Medicaid Services.

"This landmark program marks the first time that the federal government has approved the use of federal Medicaid funds to provide individual and family-based services specific to adults with autism," Governor Rendell said.

The waiver program will give eligible adults with autism and their families the opportunity to choose a variety of available services designed to address their unique needs and maximize opportunities for independence and community inclusion. Two documents are available -- "Autism Waiver Initial Enrollment Process" and "PA Autism Waiver Provider FAQ." The documents can be found at <www.autism.inpa.org>, or call toll-free 866-539-7689.

*Source: Governor's Press Office
and DPW press releases*

DID YOU



KNOW?

▶ **Asthma Medications Update** – Asthma is a chronic, life-threatening disease that causes the airways to become inflamed or swollen. When people with asthma react to various triggers, such as upper respiratory infections, dust, pollen, or smoke, their airways become narrow. This can cause difficulty breathing, wheezing, chest tightness, or coughing. The two main types of asthma drugs are quick-relief medications that immediately treat sudden symptoms and long-term control medications that are taken regularly to prevent symptoms. The Food and Drug Administration (FDA) has an update on recent safety issues with asthma available in PDF format at <www.fda.gov/consumer/updates/asthmameds051308.html>.

▶ **Actualización de Medicamentos para el Asma** – el Asma es una enfermedad crónica y riesgosa para la vida, que causa inflamación o hinchazón en las vías respiratorias. Cuando las personas con asma reaccionan a los diversos factores provocantes, como infecciones respiratorias superiores, polvo, polen o humo, sus vías respiratorias se vuelven estrechas. Esto puede causar dificultad para respirar, pecho apretado o tos. Los dos tipos principales de medicamentos para el asma son aquellos de alivio rápido que inmediatamente tratan los síntomas repentinos y aquellos medicamentos de control de duración prolongada que son utilizados regularmente para prevenir los síntomas. La Administración de Drogas y Alimentos (FDA, siglas en inglés) mantiene al corriente la información sobre los asuntos recientes de seguridad sobre el asma, esto esta disponible en el formato PDF en <www.fda.gov/consumer/updates/asthmameds051308.html>.

▶ **United Way's First Call for Help** – 215-568-3750 – Provides phone numbers for a wide array of assistance including food, clothing, housing, etc. The website is <www.uwsepa.org>.

▶ **Fondos Unidos** – La línea de ayuda “Primera Llamada para Ayuda” de Fondos Unidos -215-568-3750 – provee los números de teléfono para una amplia selección de asistencia

incluyendo alimentos, ropa, vivienda, etcétera. El sitio Web es <www.uwsepa.org>.

▶ **Family Support & Strengthening Programs** – On the <www.cap4kids.org/Philadelphia> website, under the “Parenting” handout, you will find various family support and strengthening programs, individualized case management programs, benefits information, free transportation services, support for families with incarcerated family members, or for grieving children. Also listed is support for families affected by asthma, sickle cell disease, and listings of children’s dental programs.

▶ **Programas para apoyo y fortalecimiento familiar** - En el sitio Web <www.cap4kids.org/Philadelphia>, bajo la categoría de “Parenting”, usted encontrará diversos programas para apoyo y fortalecimiento familiar, programas para manejo de casos individualizado, información sobre beneficios, servicios de transportación gratuita, apoyo para familias con miembros familiares encarcelados o niños afligidos por el sufrimiento debido a la pérdida de un ser querido. Además, encontrará apoyo para familias afectadas por el asma, la condición “sickle cell” y un listado de los programas dentales para niños.

▶ **Free Publications from the Department of Education** – The Department of Education’s website at <<http://edpubs.ed.gov>> allows the general public to order publications at no cost. Many of the publications available are of interest to parents of children with disabilities, as well as special educators. Examples of resources available include “Tool Kit On Teaching and Assessing Students with Disabilities: Parents’ Materials” and “Transition of Students with Disabilities to Postsecondary Education: A Guide For High School Educators.” To order these and other informative materials, you can also call 877-4ED-PUBS, or for Español, 877-433-7827.

▶ **Publicaciones gratuitas del Departamento de Educación** – El sitio Web del Departamento de Educación, <<http://edpubs.ed.gov>> le permite al público en general ordenar publicaciones libre de costos. Muchas de las

Did You Know?

Continued from Page 9

publicaciones disponibles son de interés para los padres con niños con discapacidades así como para educadores en educación especial. Ejemplos de los recursos disponibles son “Enseñanzas Básicas para Educar y Evaluar estudiantes con Discapacidades: Material para Padres” y “La Transición de estudiantes con discapacidades a la educación post secundaria: Una Guía para los Educadores en la Escuela Secundaria.” Para ordenar estos y otros materiales informativos, usted puede llamar al 877-4ED-PUBS, o para Español 877-433-7827.

▶ **Transitioning from School to Work Free Publications** – For information on school-based preparatory experiences, visit the Office of Disability Employment Policy (ODEP) website at <www.dol.gov/odep/categories/youth/school.htm>. For additional resources for parents, see the Education section of DisabilityInfo.gov at <www.disabilityinfo.gov/digov-public/public/DisplayPage.do?parentFolderId=61>. Contact by telephone is 866-633-7365.

▶ **Publicaciones gratuitas sobre la Transición de la Escuela al Trabajo**- Para información sobre experiencias preparatorias basadas en la escuela, visite el sitio Web de la Oficina de Políticas para Empleo con Discapacidades (ODEP, siglas en inglés), <www.dol.gov/odep/categories/youth/school.htm>. Para recursos adicionales para los padres, vea la sección de Educación de DisabilityInfo.gov en <www.disabilityinfo.gov/digov-public/DisplayPage.do?parentFolderId=61>. Para contacto por teléfono, 866-633-7365.

▶ **Do Not Call List Extended** – The National Do Not Call Registry is now permanent, according to an article in AARP May & June 08 magazine. The first of 150 million phone numbers consumers have shielded since 2003 were about to fall back into tele-marketers’ clutches. Now, they’re safe from pesky sales calls forever. To add yours, call 888-382-1222, or go to <www.donotcall.gov>. Cell phones do not have to be on the list since telemarketing to them is illegal.

▶ **Extendida la lista de “NO LLAME”**- De acuerdo a un artículo en la revista de AARP de Mayo y Junio de 2008, el registro nacional de “NO LLAME” es ahora permanente. Los

números telefónicos de los primeros 150 millones de consumidores que estaban protegidos desde 2003 estuvieron cerca de ser expuestos al uso o control de los telemarketeos. Ahora, estos están a salvo de las llamadas molestosas de vendedores para siempre. Para incluirse en la lista, llame al 888-382-1222 o visite <www.donotcall.gov>. Los teléfonos celulares no tienen que estar en la lista debido a que el telemarketeo en ellos es ilegal.

▶ **PCHC Health Publications** – Philadelphia Coordinated Health Care has informative publications available via their website. This takes two steps: go to <www.pchc.org>. This takes you to the parent organization, PMHCC. On that page, scroll to the bottom, and there is a link to PCHC. When you get to that page, on the left there is a link to Publications. Well worth the “trip,” as one of their publications is detailed contact information for the Special Needs Units.

▶ **Publicaciones de Salud de PCHC**- “Philadelphia Coordinated Health Care” tiene publicaciones informativas disponibles a través de su sitio Web. Esto le tomará dos pasos: vaya a <www.pchc.org>. Esto por alguna razón lo lleva a la organización de padres, PMHCC. En esa página, vaya al fondo y encontrará un enlace a PCHC. Cuando usted se encuentre en la página, vaya a la izquierda y encontrará el enlace a las Publicaciones. Llegar a este enlace vale el esfuerzo ya que una de las publicaciones es información de contacto detallada sobre Las Unidades de Necesidades Especiales.

▶ **PCHC Helplines** – These are from the publication of Philadelphia Coordinated Health Care listed above. AmeriChoice Member Helpline: 800-321-4462. Health Partners is 215-849-9600. Keystone Mercy is 800-521-6860. Keystone 65 Complete is 800-645-3965.

▶ **Líneas de Ayuda PCHC**- Estas son parte de las publicaciones mencionadas arriba de “Philadelphia Coordinated Health Care”. Línea de Ayuda a miembros de AmeriChoice 800-321-4462. Health Partners 215-849-9600. Keystone Mercy 800-521-6860. Keystone 65 Complete 800-645-3965.

Thanks to Emilio Pacheco for the Spanish translation.

JCHAI Expands Home & Community Based Services!

Submitted by JCHAI

Jewish Community Homes for Adult Independence (commonly known as JCHAI) is a non-sectarian, non-profit organization founded in 1987 by a group of concerned parents worried about the welfare of their loved ones with intellectual disabilities. Since that time, JCHAI has opened three community homes, an apartment program, and, most recently, expanded their home and community supports through their Independent Supportive Living (ISL) Program.

As more individuals with disabilities opt for natural housing options such as Lifesharing, or living in their own apartments, the need for increased in-home supports services continues to grow. In response to this need, JCHAI now offers the comprehensive Independent Supportive Living Program. ISL services, designed to meet each individual's unique needs, may range from a few hours per month to several hours per week. They include a range of activities of daily living, such as linkage to medical appointments, community events and resources, cooking lessons, meal planning, grocery shopping, budgeting assistance, development of healthy lifestyle habits, and more.

The ISL Program of JCHAI is directed by Candy Wiater, a licensed clinical social worker with more than ten years of experience in behavioral health and intellectual disabilities. For information, contact Ms. Wiater at 610-667-7875. JCHAI is contracted as a provider in Philadelphia, Montgomery and Delaware counties. Services can be waiver-funded or private pay. You can visit our website at <www.jchai.org> for more information on the mission and full services of JCHAI.

After many years working at other jobs, Christine Melton, who has been associated with PEP's employment services for 13 years, began her dream job in February 2004. She works at a dental office as a Dental Assistant. Way to go, Christine!

Social Security Announces Improvements to the Ticket to Work Program

The Ticket to Work and Work Incentives Improvement Act of 1999 established the Ticket to Work and Self-Sufficiency Program. The purpose of the Ticket to Work program is to expand the universe of service providers available to beneficiaries with disabilities who are seeking employment, vocational rehabilitation, and related support services. These service providers are available to assist beneficiaries in obtaining and maintaining self-supporting employment.

The Social Security Administration has recently improved the Ticket to Work program. The changes will improve the effectiveness of the Ticket program in assisting beneficiaries with disabilities who want to work. For individuals, eligibility is expanded, and there is available a more effective combination of services from both State Vocational Rehabilitation agencies and Employment Networks.

For more information about The Ticket to Work, contact the Disability Rights Network of PA at 800-692-7743, or the Office of Vocational Rehabilitation at 215-560-1900.

To read the entire document, go to the Federal Register online at <www.regulations.gov>. Source: Richard Gaudiosi, SSA in Upper Darby.



We All Belong!

Continued from Page 1

life. We All Belong! Inclusion Works! helps to raise the awareness of the abilities of people with mental retardation in our communities and the contributions they make as friends, family members, classmates, teammates, and

neighbors. The committee, who are Tessie Varthas, Joan Hecht, Norman Baker, Greg Wade, Sister Laretta Linsalata, Cathi Silvasi, and Judy Kresloff, received nearly 250 entries. The prize winners were chosen by our esteemed judges: in Art, Emilee Taylor, Richard Kunin and Joan Hecht; and in Literature, Carrie Wise, Kevin Aleem, and Bonnie Squires.

Tim Furlong, News Anchor from NBC-10 TV, was the gracious Master of Ceremonies for the second year in a row. He did a great job engaging the audience and sharing his thoughts about all children belonging together, posing for pictures, and keeping the program on track!

Kathy L. Sykes, Director of MRS, welcomed everyone and thanked the teachers and children for participating in the Contest. She also thanked the judges and the members of the We All Belong! committee for their fine efforts. Dr. Arlene Ackerman, CEO, School District of Philadelphia, in only her fifth day on the job, surprised the audience by congratulating the awardees. She called upon one of the first prize winners in literature, Carlos Lanier, a sixth grader from the J.H. Taggart School in South Philadelphia. She read aloud his poem, "We All Belong," and encouraged him to write more. In tongue and cheek, she gave all students a gift of July and August off.



Top, from left, Tim Furlong, NBC-10TV News Anchor, Honorable Mention award winner Tyonna Thomas, with her teacher, Elijah Kaufman, holding her artwork. Miss PA, Rachel Marie Brooks, in both photos, gave the keynote address. Holding three awards from the Lingelbach Elementary School are (far left) Jalesa Gaines and (right) Miya Anderson.

Miss Pennsylvania, the beautiful and accomplished Rachel Marie Brooks, provided thrilled listeners with a keynote address. She spoke about her brother who was diagnosed with autism, and her advocacy work with autism awareness.

Freedom Credit Union, represented by Shawn Murphy, Marketing Representative, provided the financial awards to the teachers of the students with the winning entries. The Philadelphia Home and School Council, represented by Greg Wade, President, provided the certificates and financial awards to the winning students. The generosity of our two awards sponsors is most appreciated, and the Committee thanks them for their participation in the 2008 We All Belong! Inclusion Works! Arts Contest.

And, as they have done for the last two years, we give a special thank you to the Philadelphia Daily News for dedicating an entire page to the contest winners during the week of the Awards Ceremony. An additional thank you

Continued on Page 13



Tim Furlong and Miss PA with "First Prize Teacher" Dina Pierce, and her award-winning students from Grades K-3 of the Joseph Greenberg School, (from left) Brian Donohue, Lawrence Callopy, Connor Ruppe, and Armend Shehu.

We All Belong!

Continued from Page 12



to Arc/PDDC for donating bottled water and soft pretzels.

“Let the children teach us,” said Judy Kresloff, MRS Public Awareness Coordinator. “Their stories tell how lives are enriched by being with others who

may be different from them. Children know that building relationships nourishes us and builds the self-confidence we need to move towards our dreams ... no matter what our challenges are.”

The We All Belong! Inclusion Works! Arts Contest had another successful year and plans are underway for 2009. Please encourage students to participate by entering their art works and creative writing. The MRS Public Awareness Committee wants to show how children and young adults can teach all of us more about community and building relationships.

Finally, a huge thank you to all the students who participated in the contest, proving that we all do belong and inclusion does work!. Not everyone can win a prize, but this is definitely one event where it is the thought that counts the most!

Jeanne Monteith, who expressed pride about all of her students' works, is Carlos Lanier's (in cover picture) 6th Grade teacher. Here are some of his words:

We all want to belong, for if we don't
the world is lonely and divided.

Many feel as if they don't belong.

We are all human, just with different
forms, abilities, talents, and gifts.

No matter our skin color, smartness,
strengths, and wit ...

Help each other be strong,
make a world of winners,

A world where We All Belong!



**Students from all schools are invited
to participate in We All Belong! Inclusion Works!**

**For information about participation in We All Belong!,
or the MRS Public Awareness Committee,
contact Judy Kresloff at 215-685-5923, or judy.kresloff@phila.gov.**

Are You a Sibling of an Adult with a Developmental Disability?

Have you ever wanted to talk with other people who share your experience? Have you thought about exploring the meaning of growing up with a brother or sister who has a developmental disability? Do you have concerns related to your sibling whom you would like support?

This therapeutic support group for adult siblings will offer you a place to talk with others who have similar experiences; a chance to explore and express the many aspects of growing up with a sibling who has disabilities; and a source for creative problem-solving and practical ideas.

I am Sandra Kosmin, a Licensed Clinical Social Worker, who has been a practicing psychotherapist for 20 years. I have extensive experience in working with individuals, couples, families and groups. As the sister of a developmentally disabled adult, I take a particular interest in working with adult siblings.

Groups will meet in Jenkintown and are now forming and will run for eight-week sessions. The fee is \$50 for a group session. For more information or to schedule an interview, contact me at 610-832-0627, or at shkosmin@aol.com.



PFCS' Annual Outreach Event

Submitted by PFCS

On February 23, 2008, Partnership for Community Supports hosted their annual Outreach Event in Northeast Philadelphia. Entitled, "What Are You Waiting For? Let's Get to Work," the event focused on employment and living a fulfilling life and was enjoyed by 205 people. PFCS debuted their new video, the development of which was partly funded by Networks for Training and Development. The video presents three parents, Linda Rose, Matt Charlton, and Kathy Costello, who share thoughts about their adult children who have been successful in the world of employment. The video also shows that employment is an important piece of a full life in the community that includes work, activities, and social relationships. In addition to the video, nine employment providers attended and met consumers and families. All those who attended received an employment packet. Each section of the packet was presented by a speaker. Julia Barol spoke about employment and government benefits, Carol Frangicetto spoke about how parents and caregivers can support an individual to maintain a job, and she also spoke about what to expect from Supports Coordination in the process of employment. Rachael Cunningham spoke about employment and the ISP. There were also resource tables that were well attended.

The goal of the event was to show individuals we serve, their parents, and families, that having a job can be very fulfilling especially if they feel that they want more from their everyday life.

"I strive to be one of the best Pathmark associates that I can be," says Charles Potere (left). On his tenth anniversary, Pathmark recognized Charles' outstanding work for being a team player and an all-around flexible Pathmark associate. Charles enjoys working with his coworkers and on-the-job support from Barber National Institute.

Find a Low-Cost Loan for AT Needs

Submitted by PATF

For almost a decade, people have been turning to the Pennsylvania Assistive Technology Foundation (PATF) for assistance to purchase the adaptive equipment and services they need to live more independent lives. PATF, the largest alternative financing program for assistive technology (AT) in the country, allows people with disabilities and older Pennsylvanians the flexibility they often need to find the assistive technology that fits their needs just right.

Cassie James and her husband, both wheelchair users, recently used a PATF loan to remodel their impossible to maneuver-in kitchen. “We tried applying for traditional loans first and just could not get a decent percentage rate,” Cassie said. “But then a friend of mine told me that PATF helped her with her home accommodations. I was just about ready to give up on the entire idea when we contacted the Foundation.”

Craig Powell, who had a spinal cord injury in his mid-30s, needed an accessible van. While most of the conversion costs were paid by the Office of Vocational Rehabilitation, he turned to PATF for a low-interest loan to cover the remainder. “The Van Conversion store in Valley Forge recommended my brother-in-law and me to PATF for their loan rates,” Craig said. “We were very pleased with the application process at PATF. Once the appropriate paperwork was done, the turn-around time for my check was minimal.”

John and Sandra Pagliero, each with cerebral palsy, reside in a high-rise building with coin operated laundry room washing machines located in the basement. This made the laundering of bed linens and clothes a real struggle. The couple found an apartment-size front-loading washer and dryer – for them this was assistive technology! “Because of

the loan, we are far more independent and have less stress,” John said. “We are very happy with PATF.”

The Foundation works with the bank to offer consumers low-interest loans for AT. The process is quick, respects the consumer’s choice of what assistive technology they need, and the staff has been described as friendly and responsive. Check out <www.patf.us>, or call toll-free, 888-744-1938, for more information.

Message from the PA Waiting List Campaign

The PA Waiting List Campaign wants you to stand up and speak out for those whose lives are being held captive on waiting lists. Can you find a few minutes to help others who are waiting for supports and services? We’ve spent the last month visiting legislators who are on Leadership and Appropriations committees. The response to our request to support funding the waiting list, the Autism initiative, and a Cost of Living Adjustment has been positive - but without a firm commitment. Your legislators are waiting to hear from you! Your voice in your district is powerful.

Martin Luther King, Jr., said, “In the end, we will remember not the words of our enemies, but the silence of our friends.” Don’t be a silent friend. Your message to your legislator does not have to be complicated. You want your legislator to fund the emergency waiting list for people with mental retardation, the Autism initiative, and a COLA. Please go to <www.pawaitinglistcampaign.org> for current information on the waiting list and contact information for legislators. You can also contact us for a legislative packet that you can use for a personal visit or drop off at the local office, toll-free 877-372-WAIT.



Summertime Fun

It's Summertime and "the livin' is easy," or it can be entertaining, exciting, educational or just plain relaxing – it's up to you. Check your neighborhood newspapers, the Inquirer, Daily News, and the Metro to see what's going on in and around Philadelphia. From the seashore to the mountains, there are literally hundreds of things to do. If you have access to the Internet, visit <www.phillyfunguide.com>. There are "tons" of listings by dates, categories of interest and locations to help you decide where you want to go, or what you would like to see. Many events are free and most are accessible.

A great way to visit Philadelphia's major attractions and save money is by purchasing Philadelphia CityPass. You can purchase the pass at any of the locations listed here, or call (toll free) 888-330-5008. \$54 adults, \$37 for kids. Philadelphia CityPass saves nearly half the cost of visiting six popular sites. You have nine days from the day of first use to visit each attraction once and will avoid most ticket lines. See <www.citypass.com> (choose Philadelphia).

Daily Organ Recitals at the Wanamaker Building — Enjoy 45-minute daily recitals on the world's largest pipe organ: Monday through Saturday at Noon, Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday at 5:30 pm, Wednesday and Friday at 7:00 pm – free, 13th & Market Sts, <www.wanamakerorgan.com>.

Franklin Square – lots of fun at 6th & Race Sts, open daily to Labor Day, offers fun events and activities ... random acts of "wackitivity" to delight young and old, "Balloons, Bubbles and Broo-Ha-Ha," balloon artists or bubblemakers, you never know who will be strolling through the square to have some fun. "Make N Take" activities are free. Philly Mini Golf, 10 am-9 pm daily. Wind your way through a miniature version of Philadelphia's most beloved sites. Admission \$6-\$8. Philadelphia Park Liberty Carousel, \$3 Adults, \$2 children, Kids 2 and under Free. Two

playgrounds, slides, swings and spinners... and picnic fare. <www.onceuponanation.org>, 215-629-4026.

Love Park Outdoor Lunchtime Concerts — "Summer in Love" Monday through Friday, Noon to 2 pm, Thursday Evenings 5-7 pm at Love Park, JFK Plaza (across from City Hall). Concert series continue until October 31. 215-683-0212.

Japanese House and Garden (Shofuso), West Fairmount Park, Belmont & Montgomery Ave, is one of the most unusual attractions in Philadelphia. Unique architectural and horticultural site is a regional center for Japanese culture and educational programs. Open from May to October, Tuesday through Friday, 10 – 4pm, Sat & Sun 11-5pm. \$4 Adult, \$3 student or senior with ID. 215-878-5097 <www.shofuso.com>.

Adventure Aquarium — Open daily from 9:30 to 5, Adventure Pass includes all exhibits and live shows. \$22.95 adult, \$19.95 (ages 2-12). Some special events are "Shark Week" July 19-26; Philly Phanatic, August 17 from 1-3 pm; and Creep in the Deep, Sept 18, 19, 26. One Aquarium Drive, Camden, NJ 08103, <www.adventureaquarium.com> 856-365-3300.

Holmesburg Jam — 2020 N. Delaware Avenue at Princeton Avenue, Northeast Philadelphia, the Holmesburg Jam is an open acoustic bluegrass and country music jam playing together informally for over 30 years. All are welcome. No mics. No open stage. Jam every Thursday night starting at 8 pm. <www.holmesburgjam.com>.



The African American Museum of Philadelphia — Adults \$8, Children, seniors and physically challenged \$6. Open Tues through Sat, 10 to 5, Sunday 12 to 5. The first institution built by a major US city to house and interpret the life and work of African Americans. Experience the richness and vibrancy of African American heritage and culture come alive in four exhibition galleries. 701 Arch Street, 215-574-0380, <www.aampmuseum.org>.

REPEATABLES

These activities are marked on the calendar with an asterisk. It is best to call before going.

Mondays

- ☆ 1st Mon 6:30-9p Speaking for Ourselves, Networks, 123 S. Broad, Bill Krebs, 267-257-0109
- ☆ 1st Mon 10:30a-12:30p Quality Progressions, 125 S. 9th, 5th fl, Susan Fellows, 267-765-2000 x110

Tuesdays

- ☆ 2nd Tues Hall-Mercer Parent/Caregivers United, Lynn Youngman, 215-928-0765
- ☆ 2nd Tues Family Support Group NW, Verna Edwards, 215-248-4415
- ☆ 4th Tues Asperger Support Group, 7p, St. Christopher's Hospital, Peggy Blank, 215-698-0217

Wednesdays

- ☆ 1st Wed Consumer/Family Advisory Committee, Partnership for Community Supports, Mary MacAvoy, 267-350-4513
- ☆ 1st Wed 10a Latinos con Familias Excepcionales, COMHAR, Ana Pacheco, 215-923-3349 x120
- ☆ 1st Wed 11a Caregiver Brunch at The Arc- all welcome, 215-229-4550 x126
- ☆ Every Wed free legal advice and representation on general legal problems, Liberty Resources. Call for appt. 215-204-1800
- ☆ 4th Wed West & SW Parent Group, 6:15p, 215-473-8744

Thursdays

- ☆ 2nd Thurs 1:30p SEPTA Advisory Committee on Accessible Transportation, 1234 Market St, 11th fl, 215-580-7145
- ☆ 2nd Thurs School District Parent & Community Roundtable at 2121 Winter St, 1st fl boardroom, 215-299-3634
- ☆ 3rd Thurs 9:30a-12p Phila Right to Education Task Force, The Arc, 2350 W. Westmoreland, Cathy Roccia-Meier, 215-432-3178
- ☆ 4th Thursday There's a Place for Us, Anita Wright, 215-763-0447

Fridays

- ☆ Every Fri. 1-3p, Training on Accessing Public Transportation, Liberty Resources, for appt. call 215-204-1800, Debbie at x255
- ☆ 1st Fri 6-9p First Friday Gotta Dance at PDDC, 2350 W. Westmoreland St, Lisa Savaria, 215-229-4550 x172
- ☆ 1st & 3rd Fri 7-9p Easter Seals Teen Social Club, 3975 Conshohocken Ave, Kendra Brooks 610-565-2353 x 231
- ☆ 3rd Fri 1-3p Consumer Connection, Liberty Resources, 1341 N. Delaware Ave, 215-634-2000 x320

Saturdays

- ☆ Every Sat Special Teens (13 and older) Bowling at Bristol Pike Lanes, Croydon, Ray Zibman, 215-671-0356
- ☆ 2nd Sat 10-2:30p Super Saturdays, PDDC, 215-229-4550

Vision for EQuality Announces ODP Forum for Everyday Living: Understanding Your Options July 21 ~ 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. MRS, 701 Market Street Suite 5200, 5th floor

The Office of Developmental Programs (ODP) Forum offers individuals and families information about an array of in-home supports for waiver-eligible people, such as Lifesharing through family living, supportive living with friends, and services available to those living with their families. A panel discussion includes what life is like for people living in these situations and for people providing services; how to access services; how services are monitored; and where families can go for more information. Limited seating. Registration by July 14 is required. To register, call Audrey Shuey at 800-360-7282.

Upcoming — September 23 & 24

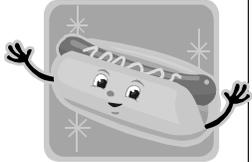
The Joint Committee on Older Persons with Mental Retardation Announces "Building Bridges," 2008 Aging/Mental Retardation Cross-Systems Conference in Hershey, PA

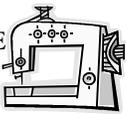
For information, call 717-541-4214 or
email janet@p4a.org.

Contact Info for Networks' Training

For full information about Networks' 2007 courses, call 215-546-4111. Also, the Course Guide and calendars are available at www.networksfortraining.org.

Family Forum always wants to inform its readers about upcoming events. Be sure to get listed! See contact info on Page 2.

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
NATIONAL HOT DOG MONTH 	Crossroads School in Paoli presents "A Summer of Learning Fun" thru August 1 610-296-6765	1 Philly @ the Movies "Shawshank Redemption" 9-11p Eastern State Penitentiary 	2 *Partnership Family Advisory *Caregiver Brunch at The Arc *Spanish Session Re: Waiver at COMHAR Wed. Night Out 6:30-10:30p Ave of the Arts	3 Fiesta on the Parkway 2-8:30p, 20th & Ben Franklin Parkway Stay Out of the Sun Day 	4 NO JULY DANCE AT PDDC Independence Day Ceremony 10am at Independence Hall 215-683-2060 Ice Cream Festival Penn's Landing 12-8p	5 Taste of Philadelphia 11a-7p Great Plaza at Penn's Landing Blueberry Festival & Pie Easting Contest Linvilla Orchards 9-5 Raindate 7/6, 610-876-7116 
6 Taste of Philadelphia 11a-7p Great Plaza at Penn's Landing Ice Cream Festival Penn's Landing 12-8p Be Nice to New Jersey Week	7 *Quality Progressions-no meeting *Speaking for Ourselves International Chicken Week  	Saturday, July 12—10th Annual Calvary Summerfest 12-5p, 16th & Fairmount off Broad & Ridge, 215-763-1473		10 *SEPTA Adv. Committee *School District Roundtable	11 *Transportation Trng World Congress on Disability Expo and Conference, Greater Reading Expo Center, 10a-5p, 201-722-9233 Ext 110 (also 7/12)	12 * Every Sat. Special Teens Bowling *PDDC Super Sat Celebrates Independence Day Greek Picnic 10a-6p Fairmount Park 267-973-6779
13 The 13th Annual Phila Int'l Gay & Lesbian Film Festival thru July 21, 215-733-0608 X237 29th Hispanic Fiesta at Penn's Landing 12-8p 215-627-3100	14 BASTILLE DAY  	15 UCP Golf & Tennis Classic, Meadowlands Country Club, Blue Bell 215-242-4200 X223 	16 Kahn Park Concert, The Fabulous Shpielkehs, 7:30p, 11th & Pine St. Pennypack Park Music Festival 215-2281-7664 Classic Rock	17 *Phila RTE Task Force-The Arc of Phila 	18 *Transportation Trng *Easter Seals Teen Social Club *Consumer Connection-Liberty Resources	19 Annual Children & Youth Health Festival 11a-3p, Prince Hall Masonic Temple, Broad & Hunting Park 267-847-0028 
20 Southeastern Cherokee Celebration 12-6p Penn's Landing 5th Ann'l Corvettes for a Cure, 10a-4p 1580 Charlestown Rd, Phoenixville 610-409-9047	21 National Council on Independent Living Annual Conf "Time for Change-Use Your Power" Washington DC 877-525-3400	22 *Asperger Support Group July 23 Pennypack Park Music Festival 215-281-7664 Irish Night 	23 *Free legal advice Liberty Resources *West & SW Parents PaTTAN's 7th Annual PA Community on Transition Conf 814-863-5000, (thru July 25)	24 *There's a Place For Us TELL AN OLD JOKE DAY 	25 *Transportation Trng 	26 Fam Jams! 1-5 pm Penn's Landing 215-922-2FUN Sweet Corn Festival Linvilla Orchards 9-5
27 Fam Jams! 1-5 pm Great Plaza at Penn's Landing 215-922-2FUN PARENT'S DAY 	28 "Summer in Love" Lunchtime Concert Series M-F, 12-2pm Love Park Through Oct 31 	29 Blueberries Month 	30 *Free legal advice Liberty Resources	31 Family Reunion Month 	July 2008 *See Repeatables	

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
Children's Eye Health & Safety Month 		NATIONAL CLOWN WEEK 	*Every Wednesday— free legal advice Liberty Resources HAPPINESS HAPPENS MONTH	Saturday, August 2— ACANA African Festival at Penn's Landing 12-8p	1 *Transportation Trng *Easter Seals Teen Social Club *PDDC Dance "Beach Party" 	2 Xerox Phila Triathlon Expo, Lloyd Hall 9a-5p 215-517-4989 Vernon Park Festival at 1 pm (see Sunday for more info)
3 Xerox Phila Triathlon Expo, Martin Luther King Drive, 8am 610-687-3955 Vernon Park Festival 5818 Germantown Ave	4 *Quality Progressions *Speaking for Ourselves 2008 National Autism Conf, The Penn Stater Conf Center, State College PA 800-778-8632	5 2008 National Autism Conf, The Penn Stater Conf Center, State College PA 800-778-8632 thru Aug. 8	6 *Partnership Family Advisory *Caregiver Brunch at The Arc *Spanish Session Re: Waiver at COMHAR	7 "Summer in Love" Lunchtime Concert Series M-F, 12-2pm Love Park, thru Oct 31 	8 *Transportation Trng Aug. 9-Peach Festival Linvilla Orchards 9-5 rain date 8/10	9 * Every Sat. Special Teens Bowling *PDDC Super Sat. Celebrates Summer Pennypack Park Music Festival 215-281-7664
10 S'MORES DAY  ELVIS WEEK	11 Kutztown Fair thru Aug 16—3pm daily, 1pm Sat \$6.00 888-674-6136	12 *Hall Mercer Parents *NW Family Support SEWING MACHINE DAY 	13 *Free legal advice Liberty Resources Kahn Park Concert Zydeco-A-Go-Go, 7:30p, 11th & Pine St. Free	14 *SEPTA Adv. Com *Schl Dist Roundtable V-J Day 	15 *Easter Seals Teen Social Club *Consumer Connection—Liberty Resources 	16 47th Annual Folk Festival, Old Pool Farm Schwenksville PA 215-247-1300 Festival of India 12-7p Penn's Landing
17 47th Annual Folk Festival, Old Pool Farm Schwenksville PA 215-247-1300 Caribbean Festival at Penn's Landing 12-8p	18 	19 NATIONAL AVIATION DAY 	20 *Free legal advice Liberty Resources Pennypack Park Music Festival 215-281-7664 Blues Brothers Tribute	21 * Phila RTE Task Force-The Arc of Phila POETS DAY 	22 *Transportation Trng Aug 23-Tomato & Pear Festival Linvilla Orchards 9-5pm Rain date 8/24	23 * Every Sat. Special Teens Bowling WDAS FMs Unity Weekend 12-7p Great Plaza at Penn's Landing 610-784-5279
24 WDAS FMs Unity Weekend 12-7p Great Plaza at Penn's Landing 610-784-5279	25 National Second-hand Wardrobe Day 	26 *Asperger Support Group 6-8p Epilepsy Foundation Adult Support Group, JFK Cntr. 112 N. Broad 215-629-5003 X103	27 *Free legal advice Liberty Resources *West & SW Parents	28 *There's a Place For Us 	29 *Transportation Trng MORE HERBS, LESS SALT DAY 	30 * Every Sat. Special Teens Bowling New Moon 
31 WAFFLE WEEK 	SAVE THESE DATES! September 9-10—Suicide Prevention Conference—Holiday Inn/Harrisburg-Hershey, 215-831-6946 September 23-24— Aging/Mental Retardation Cross-Systems Conference -Holiday Inn/Harrisburg-Hershey, 717-541-4214 September 24—UCPs "Life Without Limits Gala" Four Seasons Hotel, Washington DC, 202-719-8061				August 2008 *See Repeatables	

PDDC
2350 W. Westmoreland Street
Philadelphia, PA 19140

Nonprofit Org
U.S. Postage
PAID
Philadelphia, PA
Permit No. 05567

It's Coming!
**Have you sent in your nomination
for a Brighter Futures Award?**

**17th Annual My City, My Place
& Brighter Futures Awards
November 7, 2008**



Visit www.PhilaOntheJob.org often!



**Send in your Employment Success Story!
See Family Forum contact info on Page 2.**

