

*It's who we are.
It's what we do.*

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We want to hear from you! Check out our website at

www.fhfgbr.org



FAMILIES HELPING FAMILIES OF GREATER BATON ROUGE

presents

A SPECIAL NEEDS TRUST WORKSHOP

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 4, 2007

FROM 9:00 a.m. UNTIL
11:00 a.m.

BREC Theatre Building
7800 Independence Park
Boulevard
Baton Rouge, LA 70806

featuring

ATTORNEY LEO BERGGREEN

Baton Rouge Attorney and
Former President of the ARC of the United
States

and

MS. SUSAN SIMONEAUX

Public Affairs Specialist with the
Social Security Administration

Please Register by calling 225-216-7474

FAMILIES HELPING FAMILIES OF GREATER BATON ROUGE

and

PEOPLE FIRST OF LOUISIANA

Proudly Present

MS. CHARITY DRUMMOND

*Project Coordinator for the
Self-Advocacy Leadership Skills
Project "My Voice, My Choice"*

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 19, 2007

FROM 9:00 a.m. UNTIL 11:00 a.m.

In the Activity Room at the
BREC Theatre Building

7800 Independence Park Boulevard
Baton Rouge, LA 70806

**For more information contact
Rose Garrett at 225-216-7474**

*Call 216-7474
To
register*

*Friends and families of Families Helping Families
of Greater Baton Rouge*

are Invited to our 2nd Annual

Thanksgiving Celebration

*Enjoy a time of celebration and thanksgiving for the blessings
we have received and given
during the past year*

Friday, November 9, 2007
From 11:00 a.m.—2:00 p.m.
Families Helping Families of GBR
778 Chevelle Drive, B.R., LA 70726
225-216-7474



The Staff

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FHFGBR Board of Directors

JOHN SAMAHA, CHAIRPERSON

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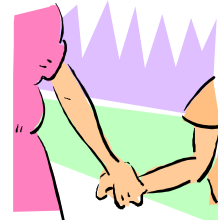
JIM LEVELLE, Ph. D.

*BOARD MEETINGS WILL BE HELD ON THE
2ND THURSDAY OF
OCTOBER, NOVEMBER, DECEMBER 2007
FROM 11:30 a.m. UNTIL 1:00 p.m..
AT THE CENTER*

Our Mission

To provide the individualized services, information, resources and support needed to positively enhance the independence, productivity and integration of persons with disabilities into the community.

*Tell me and I may forget,
show me and I may not remember,
involve me and I'll understand"...*



*The only children we cannot reach
are those children we refuse to teach!*



Wrightslaw

Education Station



Inclusion

“ By learning we teach, by teaching we

CYNTHIA CHESTERFIELD– IEP FACILITATOR FOR INCLUSIVE EDUCATION AND INCLUSIVE RECREATION RESOURCE SPECIALIST



I believe that inclusion is critically important in our schools today. Children that learn together work and live together.

Inclusive education means that all students in a school, regardless of their strengths or weaknesses in any area, become part of the school community. They are included in the feeling of belonging among other students, teachers, and support staff. The Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) and its 1997 amendments make it clear that schools have a duty to educate children with disabilities in general education classrooms.

I have provided you with a website below that's designed for general education teachers, special education teachers, parents, and school staff to help provide some answers about how inclusive education can be accomplished. Resources for making accommodations are included as well as links to other websites and resource lists to learn more about inclusive education.

Please feel free to call me at our center to discuss issues that you as a parent or family member may be dealing with or if you simply need direction or support in any way of your child's educational needs.

For more information on Inclusive Education visit the following website: <http://www.uni.edu/coe/inclusion/>

SUMMER MIZELL—FAMILY AND STUDENT ADVOCATE (PROJECT PROMPT)

Did you know that as a parent of a student with disabilities you have certain rights and responsibilities outlined by State and Federal laws? As an Advocate for students with disabilities it is my job to know the law. As a parent I know the importance of having those laws available as a resource for everyone. Parents should educate themselves on the State and Federal laws that protect children with disabilities and children who have a suspected disability.

The Individuals with Disabilities Education Act, Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1975 and The Family Education Rights and Privacy Act are the three Federal laws that are most important to students with special needs. These laws can be found online at www.wrightslaw.com or www.ed.gov. “Wrightslaw” is a wonderful website for parents, educators, advocates and attorneys

to locate accurate and reliable education law and resources for students with disabilities.

Of equal importance is your ability to locate State laws as well. Parents often tell me that during their child's Evaluation or IEP meeting services are denied that would have greatly benefited their child. There are two very important State laws that will explain in detail your rights and responsibilities. These laws are known as “Bulletin 1508, Public Appraisal Handbook” and “Bulletin 1706, Regulations for Students with Disabilities.” They can be found on the Louisiana Department of Education website (www.doe.state.la.us). Click the “publications” tab and enter the search terms 1508 or 1706. I highly encourage every parent to read through these laws thoroughly. By studying these State laws you will better understand how to ensure they have been implemented for your child.



KATIE LEBLANC



Katie, a 10-year-old fourth-grade student at Broadmoor Elementary School in Baton Rouge, auditioned for and was accepted into the 2007-08 Mid City Dance Project, Inc. Junior Company in Baton Rouge. As part of the Junior Company, she will be participating in the following performances in 2007-2008:

Giraffes Can't Dance

At the Louisiana Book Festival
November 3, 2007

The Inner City Nutcracker

December 6-8

The Fading Line: A Commemoration of the 1953

Baton Rouge Bus Boycott

February 15-16

Transformations

April 4-5

DOWN SYNDROME AWARENESS GROUP (DSAG) ...

will be holding its 7th Annual **Buddy Walk** on Saturday, October 27, 2007 at Ochsner Hospital beginning at 9:00 a.m. DSAG is an affiliate of the National Down Syndrome Society (NDSS). This event is a day of family fun, games, food and entertainment. It is a 1/2 mile fun walk around the lake on the hospital grounds to promote awareness of and give support to people with Down Syndrome. This walk helps DSAG to raise funds to support educational and advocacy efforts.



Registration is \$5/person. T-shirts, jambalaya dinners, hot dogs and Buddy Walk items will be sold to help raise funds for the group. If you are interested in volunteering or need more information, please call Paulette Roberts, DSAG President at 225-664-6546.

PEOPLE FIRST MEETINGS

BREC Independence Park
7505 Independence Boulevard, Room 111
Baton Rouge, LA 70806

October 8 November 12 December 10
5:30 pm—7:00 pm

For more information contact Rose Garrett @ 225-216-7474



Help your children achieve their best while helping your family function better!

Girls and Boys Town of Louisiana Would like to help you and your Child build stronger skills in Academic motivation, social skills, family support, relationships, behavior, and more.

Family Centered Services provide FREE services right in your Home at times that are convenient for your family

For more information contact Colleen Hurst, Family Based Coordinator, Girls and Boys Town of Louisiana at (225) 706-0048 (phone) or (225) 706-0071 (fax)

**October 23, 2007
9:00 am - 12:00 pm
American Legion Hall**

151 South Wooddale Boulevard, Baton Rouge, LA 70806



**Job Fair
for
People
with
DisAbilities**



Ascension Parish Residents



Ascension Parish Inclusive League (APIL), are offering non-competitive inclusive recreation activities for boys and girls with and without disabilities between the ages of 13-17. The children will be placed on the same team and will play with other teams that are made up the same way.

Participation is FREE

For more information or to obtain an application please contact:

Parish of Ascension Recreation and Culture (PARC)
@ 225-621-9661

DEVELOPING OPTIONS FOR ADULTS WITH AUTISM IN THE GREATER BATON ROUGE AREA

DECEMBER 1, 2007 AT 10:00 a.m.
FHFGBR CONFERENCE ROOM
778 CHEVELLE DRIVE
BATON ROUGE, LA 70806

Families interested in living arrangements and other services for your adult family member with autism should plan to attend. For more information or to confirm your attendance, you may contact:

Ms. Pat Giamanco
(800) 955-3760



IBERVILLE CAREER FAIR

November 30, 2007

9:00 a.m.—11:00 a.m.

Iberville Career Center
58060 Plaquemine Street
Plaquemine, LA 70764

Contact: Diana Jones 225-687-0626



Participants wanted for Sibshop Support Group!

Brothers and sisters of children with disabilities now have a chance to meet and talk with other kids whose brothers and sisters have special needs. They will have an opportunity to talk about the good and not so good parts of having a sibling with a disability. They will also have fun.

Sometimes brothers and sisters may have feelings that are difficult to express, even to a friend: sadness that a sister can't learn things that others take for granted, anger when a brother's behavior problems prevent the family from doing things other families do, or the special pride when a sibling with a disability learns a basic but important life skill after months or years of practice. At Sibshops, Siblings ages 7-12 will share these feelings with others who truly understand!

DATE: Saturday, November 3, 2007

TIME: 10:00 a.m. until 2:00 p.m.

PLACE: North Sherwood BREC Park and Recreation Center
3140 North Sherwood Forest Boulevard
Baton Rouge, LA 70814

Must Register to Attend by Calling:
Cindy Ardoin @ 225-216-7474

WHOSE CHILD IS THIS?

Author Unknown

"Whose child is this?" I asked one day
Seeing a little one out at play
"Mine", said the parent with a tender smile
"Mine to keep a little while
To bathe his hands and comb his hair
To tell him what he is to wear
To prepare him that he may always be good
And each day do the things he should"

"Whose child is this?" I asked again
As the door opened and someone came in
"Mine", said the teacher
with the same tender smile
"Mine, to keep just for a little while
To teach him how to be gentle and kind
To train and direct his dear little mind
To help him live by every rule
And get the best he can from school"

EXCEPTIONAL MOTHERS BIBLE STUDY

Tuesday Evenings from 7:00 p.m.—8:00 p.m.
In Room 129



ISTROUMA BAPTIST CHURCH
10500 Sam Rushing Road
Baton Rouge, LA 70816

“ Whatever is good to know
Is difficult to learn ”
A Greek Proverb

Parent's Night Out
St. Jean Vianney

16166 S Harrell's Ferry Rd
 Baton Rouge, LA 70816

Are you the parent of a child with a disability and are looking for a few hours for your children to have fun while you have some time to yourself? Then you'll want to call

Kristen Thompson at
225-756-9231 for more details of this very beneficial activity.

Siblings also invited!!!!

Suggested Donation of \$5/per child



Fridays

6:30 p.m.—9:30 p.m.

- October 12, 2007**
- November 9, 2007**
- December 14, 2007**
- January 11, 2008**
- February 8, 2008**
- March 7, 2008**
- April 4, 2008**

Remember to call and register!!!

**Merry
 Christmas**

*The Staff and Board of
 Directors at Families
 Helping Families of
 Greater Baton Rouge
 would like to wish you and
 your family a very Merry
 Christmas and a Happy
 New Year.*



Important Dates to Remember

DATE	EVENT	LOCATION	CONTACT
October 4 9am—11am	Special Needs Trust Workshop with Attorney Leo Berggreen and Ms. Susan Simoneaux	BREC Theatre Activity Room 7800 Independence Boulevard	Cindy Ardoin at 225-216-7474
October 8 5:30—7:00pm	People First Meeting	BREC-7505 Independence Park Room 111	Rose Garrett 225-216-7474
October 19 9-11 am	Charity Drummond (Self-Advocate) and Cindy Dittus from the Mississippi Council on Developmental Disabilities	BREC Theatre Activity Room 7800 Independence Boulevard Baton Rouge, LA	Rose Garrett 225-216-7474
October 23 9-12 Noon	Job Fair for People with Disabilities	American Legion Hall 152 South Wooddale Boulevard	1-888-544-7996
October 26 6:00—9:00pm	Self-Advocacy Workshop—Chair Exercises presented by Cynthia Chesterfield Sunshine Social Halloween Dance	BREC—7505 Independence Park Room 126	Rose Garrett 225-216-7474
October 27 9am	Down Syndrome Awareness Group	Ochsner Hosptial	Patricia Roberts 225-664-6546
November 3 10 am-2:00 pm	Sibshops Must Call To Register!!!!!!	North Sherwood BREC Park Baton Rouge 70814	Cindy Ardoin 225-216-7474
November 9 11 a.m.—2 p.m.	Thanksgiving Celebration	FHFGBR Conference Room 778 Chevelle Drive, BR, LA 70806	225-216-7474
November 11 5:30—7:00 pm	People First Meeting	BREC-7505 Independence Park Room 111	Rose Garrett 225-216-7474
November 30 9:00—11:00 a.m.	Iberville Career Fair	Iberville Parish Optional Education Cen- ter 58060 Plaquemine Street Plaquemine, LA 70764	Diana Jones 225-687-0626
December 1 10:00 am	Developing Options for Adults with Autism in the Greater Baton Rouge Area	FHFGBR Conference Room 778 Chevelle Drive, BR, LA 70806	Pat Giamanco 800-955-3760
December 10 5:30—7:00 pm	People First Meeting	BREC-7505 Independence Park Room 11	Rose Garrett 225-216-7474
Every Tues. 7:00-8:00 pm	Exceptional Mother's Bible Study	Istrouma Baptist Church 10500 Sam Rushing Road	225-295-0775
Every 3rd Thurs. 1-3 pm	Parkinson Support Group	Bluebonnet Boulevard Library	225-769-2260
Oct 18th & Dec 21 7pm-8pm	Epilepsy Support Group	Neuromedical Center 10101 Park Rowe Avenue 6th Floor dining room	225-769-2200
Every Other Thursday 5:00pm	Traumatic Brain Injury Support Group	Neuromedical Center 10101 Park Rowe 4th Floor	225-769-2200
Every 3rd Thurs. 7:00-8:00 p.m.	Spinal Cord Injury Support Group	Health South Rehabilitation Hospital 8595 United Plaza	Vanessa @ 944-4961 or Denise @ 241-8205

Some activities sponsored in part by





778 Chevelle Drive
Baton Rouge, LA 70806

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LOUISIANA CITIZENS FOR ACTION NOW

Advocating for Louisiana Citizens with Developmental Disabilities

“Linking lawmakers and families to make a difference for individuals with disabilities”

WHAT IS LaCAN? LaCAN is the statewide grassroots network of the Louisiana Developmental Disabilities Council, and consists of individuals, families and advocates who have worked together since 1988 advocating for a service system that supports individuals with disabilities to live in their own homes rather than having to be segregated from their communities in a facility to receive needed services. Specifically, they have advocated for implementation of Louisiana’s Community and Family Support System Plan. LaCAN members are organized into regional teams and are contacted by email or phone when communication with state policy makers is necessary.

WHO SHOULD JOIN LACAN? You should consider becoming a member of LaCAN if you, a family member, or a friend, have a developmental disability or a mental illness, receive individualized community-based services or continue to wait to receive these services. If you believe it is unfair that thousands of citizens who need individualized community service are unable to get them, then you should consider becoming a member of LaCAN.

HOW TO JOIN: To join the LaCAN Team, visit the website at www.lacanadvocates.org and fill out the membership form or contact the LaCAN team leader in your district. The LaCAN Team Leaders for Region 2 are:

Cindy Ardoin and Kay Lewis
Families Helping Families of Greater Baton Rouge
778 Chevelle Drive—Baton Rouge, LA 70806
Phone: 225-216-7474
Fax: 225-216-7977