



The Capital Area Quarterly

OCTOBER – DECEMBER 2009

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



Check out our website!
www.fhfgbr.org

In This Issue:

FHFGBR Staff & Directors	2
AAT & RCASD	3
Education Station	4
Baton Rouge Autism Speaker Series	5
EBR Library & EBR Agency Fair	6
Epilepsy Awareness Month & GOLD Awards	7
LaCAN & Inclusive Schools Art Contest	8
Assistive Technology Center	9
Symphonic Winds	10
Dates to Remember	11
CAHSD	12

Friends and families of Families Helping Families of Greater Baton Rouge are invited to our 3rd Annual

Thanksgiving Celebration

Wednesday, November 18, 2009
From 11:00 a.m.—2:00 p.m.
Families Helping Families of GBR
778 Chevelle Drive
Baton Rouge, LA 70806
225-216-7474

Please call to let us know if you will be joining us for our traditional Thanksgiving Dinner.



"REAL *Abundance* IS FOUND
WHEN WE JOIN HANDS
WITH THOSE WE *Love*."

Our Staff

Jamie S. Tindle
Executive Director
jamietindle@fhfgbr.org

Cindy Ardoin
ECSS Coordinator
Resource, Referral, & Information Specialist
SDE Transition Parent Facilitator
cardoin@fhfgbr.org

Kimberly Brown
Resource, Referral, & Information Specialist
kbrown@fhfgbr.org

Tonya Cambre
Family to Family Health Information Specialist
tcambre@fhfgbr.org

Cynthia Chesterfield
Lead IEP Facilitator for Inclusive Ed
Inclusive Recreation Resource Specialist
cchesterfield@fhfgbr.org

Carly Dickson
Special Projects Coordinator
cdickson@fhfgbr.org

Rose Garrett
Resource & Self-Advocate Specialist
rgarrett@fhfgbr.org

Doris Glass-Heckert
Community Outreach Specialist
dheckert@fhfgbr.org

Kay Lewis
CSHS Parent Liaison
Ability Awareness Coordinator
klewis@fhfgbr.org

Summer Mizell-Babin
LaPTIC
SDE Transition Parent Facilitator
smbabin@laptic.org

Toni Peters
WBR Parent Family Liaison
Autism Resource Specialist
tpeters@fhfgbr.org

Jarrelyn Ruiz
Resource, Referral & Information Specialist
jarrelyn1@aol.com

Johanna Schroth
Desktop Publisher
jschroth@fhfgbr.org

Kara Shupe
IEP Facilitator
kshupe@fhfgbr.org

Kayley Williams
Bookkeeper
kwilliams@fhfgbr.org



Board of Directors

Chairperson Belynda Gauthier

Vice Chairperson Jim Levelle, Ph. D

Treasurer Roy Hebert

Directors John Samaha

Alvin Mack

Thomas Sellars

Cherri E. Penton, Ph. D.

Richard Born

Katrina Coots

Robin Clark

John Balfantz

**BOARD MEETING WILL BE HELD ON
NOVEMBER 19
FROM 11:30 A.M. UNTIL 1:00 P.M.
AT OUR CENTER**

**TO CONTACT OUR BOARD OF DIRECTORS, SEND AN
EMAIL TO boardofdirectors@fhfgbr.org**



With the holidays around the corner, everyone loves a Honey Baked Ham. Now you can have your favorite Honey Baked Ham while helping FHFGBR with no additional cost. Honey Baked Ham will donate 20 % to FHFGBR when you purchase a Honey Baked Ham gift card through FHFGBR. It only takes a few days to receive your gift card and then you can head up to Honey Baked Ham to pick up your favorite holiday meat. Gift cards can be used for all items at Honey Baked Ham, so they also make great gifts. Can't you just taste it?

Call 216-7474 to request a gift card.

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.

Ability Awareness Training

*A program of Families Helping Families
of Greater Baton Rouge*

Many people are uncomfortable communicating with people with disabilities. Consequently many individuals with disabilities do not contribute to their community through employment and volunteerism. Ability Awareness Training (AAT) aims to break down barriers dividing individuals with and without disabilities so people with disabilities can become self-sufficient and productive contributors to the community.

The primary goal of AAT is helping people become more comfortable communicating with individuals with disabilities in the workplace, schools and community. AAT attendees experience firsthand how to communicate effectively with persons with disabilities.

Families Helping Families of Greater Baton Rouge offers Ability Awareness Training to businesses, organizations, public service professionals, education classes and other interested groups. AAT teaches businesses how to better serve individuals with disabilities as customers. AAT teaches public service professionals how to better serve individuals with disabilities as citizens. AAT teaches students how to better communicate with individuals with disabilities as peers. AAT teaches everyone about the abilities of individuals with disabilities.

AAT is a great professional development opportunity. For more information or to schedule an Ability Awareness Training, contact Kay Lewis at 216-7474 or klewis@fhfgr.org



AAT is partially funded by the Huey and Angelina Wilson Foundation

FHFGBR is currently in the process of developing a new component of FHFGBR: The Resource Center for Autism Spectrum Disorders (RCASD). The number of children diagnosed with autism is increasing. The Autism Society of America reported that 1 in every 150 children will be diagnosed with autism. Sixty children are diagnosed with autism every day. RCASD will serve families by guiding them through the complicated maze of raising a child with autism. Knowledge truly is power and the Center will empower families by providing the support and guidance needed to make informed decisions regarding treatment, education, development and healthcare.

Currently, there is not a one-stop-shop for families to receive comprehensive information on all autism topics. Autism is a very complex disability and although some information is available through various entities, this information is often clinical and difficult to understand. Also, this information tends to be conflicting. Families that seek advice from only professionals may not become aware of all options. Different strategies work for different people and families need a source of unbiased and factual information so they can make an educated decision about the treatment plan that is most suitable for their loved one.

Through the autism contacts FHFGBR currently serves, FHFGBR has found that families do not have an autism resource center where they can receive factual and unbiased information on an array of autism issues. RCASD can be that place.

If you or your organization is interested in helping FHFGBR develop RCASD, please contact us at 225-216-7474 or send an email to tpeters@fhfgr.org



A program of Families Helping Families of Greater Baton Rouge



Wrightslaw

Education Station

“By learning we teach, by teaching we learn.”



Inclusion

Positive Behavior Support: From the classroom to the dinner table.

By: Summer Mizell-Babin

Over the years I have had the opportunity to participate in countless Positive Behavior Support trainings. From the first time I attended a PBS training I found it an easy concept to embrace. Seeing it implemented in the classroom, and better yet, on a school-wide basis was exciting. The best part was watching the outcome of PBS not only with the children I work with, but with my own children as well. The first positive outcome that I saw was that PBS is a strategy that benefits “all children,” not only children with Individual Education Plans and Behavior Intervention Plans. So my wheels started turning...how could I incorporate this concept at home?

We know that the bridge between families and behavior interventions is important. Families play a critical role in their children’s social and educational development. So the concept of not only “educating” but “parenting” with Positive Behavior Supports should be an obvious choice. Many parents approach discipline in a traditional manner involving consequences or punishment. However, PBS has sparked a wave of ideas that involve new ways of approaching challenging behavior.

While punishment may stop a behavior immediately, it does not teach the appropriate behavior. By observing the “function” of the behavior you must become a parent detective. Behavior is a child’s way of communicating their feelings, wants, needs and physical status. You must observe if there are any home or community routines that consistently prompt the challenging behavior. Many times challenging behaviors occur for two reasons. To “obtain” or “escape” something. If we can pinpoint what it is the child is trying to obtain or escape from we have a much better chance of finding a positive solution. So let’s look at some simple strategies we can incorporate at home to promote PBS.

- Model appropriate behavior. This is the first and most important strategy to encourage good behavior.
- Use a “Peacemaking Journal.” Creating private journals for children to express their feelings through writing or drawing is a widely used strategy. However, by offering your child the option to share their entries, you may open the door to great conversation! **Hint**-Participate in this activity with your child. Keep a peacemaking journal of your own and share your entries as well. Occasionally suggest a topic such as “Write about what a peaceful home means to you.”
- Give your children “PBS Tickets” when they display appropriate behaviors. They can exchange their tickets for a special treat such as extra t.v. time or computer time.
- Don’t re-invent the wheel! Do not rule out strategies that already work. PBS is not about dismissing consequences for negative behavior. It is about preventing problem behavior with early interventions!
- Remember...DON’T GIVE UP! PBS is a process. Keep up the good work!

For more information on Positive Behavior Supports, go to www.pbis.org



Cynthia Chesterfield—
Sr. IEP Facilitator for Inclusive
Education and Therapeutic
Recreation Resource
Specialist

Summer Mizell-Babin—
Education Advocate
Transition Parent Facilitator





The Baton Rouge Autism Speaker Series

Where The Pieces Come Together

Parents, caregivers, families, and professionals affected by Autism Spectrum Disorders (ASD) are invited to the first annual Baton Rouge Autism Academy. The Academy is the result of a collaborative effort of the Baton Rouge Speech and Hearing Foundation, Families Helping Families of Greater Baton Rouge, Junior League of Baton Rouge, Inc., and Our Lady of the Lake Pediatric Residency Program. The 2009/2010 Baton Rouge Autism Academy will provide a series of three, three-hour educational sessions delivered by national experts on ASD. The first training is scheduled for November 7, 2009.

“Taking Effective Strategies Home for Children with Autism Spectrum Disorder”

November 7, 2009

Presented by:

Denise Sawan Caruso

Speech-Language Pathologist

Ohio Center for Autism and Low Incidence Board Member

- Information on how to identify the strengths and challenges of children with autism
 - Provide basic information on ‘why’ behavior
- Provide strategies to implement in the home environment

TIME: All sessions will be held on Saturday mornings from 9 a.m.—Noon. Check-in and registration begins at 8:15 a.m. Early arrival is recommended. Sessions will begin promptly at 9 a.m.

LOCATION: St. James Episcopal Church in Bishop’s Hall, 204 North 4th Street, Baton Rouge, LA 70801

COST: FREE: Families, Caregivers, Students & Professionals
 Not Seeking Continuing Education

\$60: Professionals Seeking Continuing Education Credits

You must register to attend this training. To register, visit http://www.brshf.org/br_autism_academy.php



Louisiana State Autism Conference

“Blueprints for a Brighter Future”

Friday, November 6, 2009, 7 AM — 4:30 PM

&

Saturday, November 7, 2009, 7:30 AM — 3:30 PM

Holiday Inn Central Holidome

2032 NE Evangeline Thruway., Lafayette, LA 7050

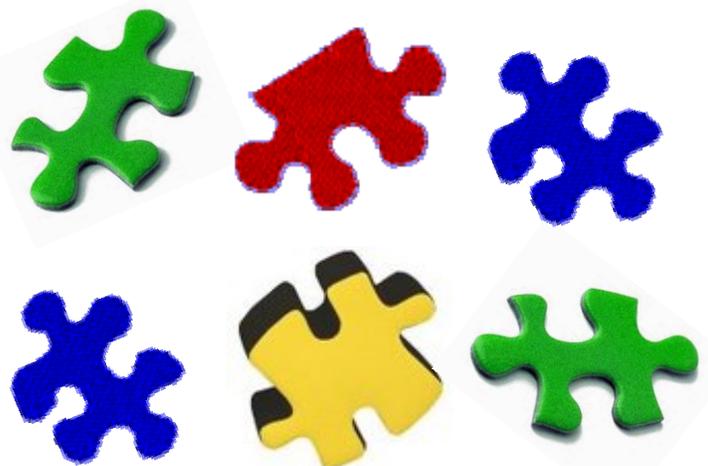
MUST REGISTER

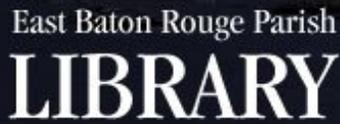
Visit LSAC website for registration form:

www.lastateautism.org

Contact Pat Giamanco: (800) 955-3760

pjmanco@cox.net






Special Interest to Families Helping Families:

- Special computer workstations at each branch include *Zoomtext* and *Open Book* software, which allow a visually disabled “reader” to listen to the text, read along or follow the text of printed material or material displayed on the computer screen,
- Special AWE Early Literacy Computer Stations at each branch
- Community Service Directory, containing information on local and regional community service agencies and non-profit organizations, is available online at the Library’s website, www.ebr.lib.la.us
- Outreach visits to schools or organizations, to showcase library materials and demonstrate research techniques
- New Pre-school Outreach program will begin in 2010, and will include 3 mobile units designed to make regular visits to area pre-schools and day care centers
- Career Center located at River Center Branch Library
- Foundation Center Cooperating Grants Collection—accessed only at the River Center Branch Library, this collection of print and online grants information can help grant seekers identify potential funders and assist in grant research

Free Library Programs:

Regular programs, workshops, classes, demonstrations, lectures, and discussion series for each age group

****Please call two weeks in advance to arrange for ASL interpreter for a library program****

- Computer training classes (daily at the Main Library, less frequently at the branches)
- Ask-a-Lawyer* each month
- Storytime for all ages, including Lapsits, Toddler Time, Pre-school Storytime, Spanish Storytime, Family Storytime, and even Storytimes for older children
- Author visits, such as James Ransome’s visit during the 32nd *Annual Author Illustrator Program* scheduled for October 29 and 30
- Performances by local and regional artists, such as our *LIVE @ Chelsea’s Jazz* series starting October 21
- Monthly Bookclubs for adults, teens and youth
- Annual Summer Reading Programs for Children, Teens and Adults
- Annual *Attic Treasures & Collectibles Program* on October 31
- Big Read: One Book / One Community* community-wide reading program each spring, followed by *One Book / One Community Summer Selection*

Visit the EBR Library website for more information at www.ebr.lib.la.us

“The Sky is the Limit”

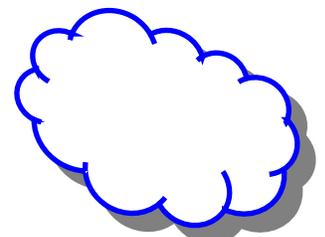
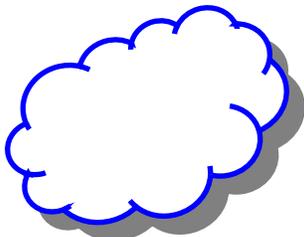
The EBR Agency Fair

October 20, 2009

6 PM to 8 PM

Instructional Resource Center

1022 S. Foster Drive, Baton Rouge, LA 70806





The LA Family to Family Health Information Center recognizes National Epilepsy Awareness Month in November with information on seizure first aid for all individuals touched by someone with epilepsy. If you or your child has epilepsy or a seizure disorder, print this page for seizure first aid and facts and ask family, friends and teachers to read it and become more aware.

For more resources and information about epilepsy or seizure disorders, please contact the Louisiana Family to Family Health Information Center at 1-800-331-5570.

Seizure First Aid



Above anything else, if you see a person having a seizure you should remain calm. Getting excited will not help you, nor will it help the person having a seizure. Otherwise, there are only a few things to remember:

1. Check for medical identification, such as a necklace or bracelet. If none is present, and no one can affirm that the person has a seizure disorder, call for medical attention.
2. For tonic clonic seizures: loosen constrictive clothing such as neckties or scarves, and cushion the person's head with a pillow, blanket, jacket, towel, or any other soft object. Turn the person on one side to allow for excessive salivation to drain sufficiently, and for the tongue to remain clear of the person's airway. (Note: a person **CANNOT** swallow his/her tongue; please do **NOT** put anything in the person's mouth). Time the seizure, and if the seizure goes beyond five minutes, consciousness does not return soon afterward, or if further seizures follow, call for medical attention. The person may need to rest after the seizure. Do not allow food or drink until full consciousness has returned.
3. For complex partial seizures: do not yell or shout at the person having the seizure, nor should you expect verbal commands to be obeyed. Stay with the person, removing harmful object out of the way, gently guiding him/her away from hazards if the person becomes ambulatory. Do not restrain; the person may flail or lash out if you are perceived as a threat. Provide reassurance and support after the seizure.
4. If the person is pregnant, has diabetes, has the seizure in water, or has obviously sustained an injury, call for medical attention at once.

2009 Gold Awards



The Governor's Office of Disability Affairs is proud to celebrate all Louisiana citizens who have inspired positive change in the disability community. With your help, the 2009 GOLD Awards will celebrate the devotion and talents of those who have worked diligently to make Louisiana a better place for all citizens. There are 11

awards honoring various achievements. Please feel free to contact FHFGBR to obtain a nomination packet and nominate as many individuals and organizations as you'd like. Deadline for submissions for the GOLD Awards is November 2, 2009.

For more information in the 2009 GOLD Awards, visit <http://goda.louisiana.gov/>

Region 2 New Opportunities Waiver (NOW) Informational Meetings

MUST REGISTER
Call 225-925-6286 to register and for location information



October 10, November 14 & December 12 @ 10 AM

October 14, November 18 & December 16 @ 2 PM

October 20, November 10 & December 8 @ 5 PM



ANNOUNCING

2009
Inclusive Schools
Art Contest

Theme
Inclusion = Everyone

What is Inclusion?

Inclusion means everyone can participate no matter what.



Inclusion allows persons with disabilities to be educated, to work and to live like everyone else.



Inclusion gives persons with disabilities the chance to do their best, to be their best and to reach their goals.

ATTENTION:

Art Teachers & Artists

Add the art contest to your schedule for the 2009-2010 year and showcase your talent by submitting art entries that promote inclusion of people with disabilities.

Entries due:

October 5, 2009

For more details visit www.laddc.org
(go to Council Initiatives)
or contact
Robbie Gray
800-450-8108
robbie.gray@la.gov

News from LaCAN Region 2
www.lacanadvocates.org
Spring 2009 Louisiana legislative session brought disappointing news to individuals with developmental disabilities wishing for services in their community to continue and grow. No new NOW waivers were approved and funds to service providers were cut.

The positive outcome of this session was that through the work of LaCAN and the members contacting their legislators, showing support on “yellow shirt” days at the capitol and attending the 2009 Rally, legislators became educated about the needs of people in our state with developmental challenges. Because of our work, legislators made a valiant effort to prevent service providers from getting cuts to their funding that would have a devastating impact. Their efforts however were vetoed by Governor Jindal.

WHAT YOU CAN DO

By attending 2010 legislative sessions, “yellow shirt days,” when possible, responding to action alerts, attending Rally 2010, emailing, calling and visiting your legislator when called upon by LaCAN, you will make the difference this year. We will have the best chance possible to develop and sustain services if we continue working together.

EVERY ACTION COUNTS

Each time a constituent of a legislator contacts them, it makes a difference. When you receive an “Action Alert” from LaCAN asking that you email or call your legislator, please respond and send me a note stating “DONE.” Let me know you’ve responded. How affective the action alerts are is based on your response. Knowing you responded will help determine the best plan of action for the best outcome with legislators.

Remember a WAITING LIST IS NOT A SERVICE

If you are on a waiting list or if you are receiving services that are being cut, please contact me. Your help is greatly appreciated.

CHECK OUT THE WEBSITE

Keep up-to-date on current “fact sheets” and legislative actions: www.lacanadvocates.org

I look forward to our work together to improve community services. Contact me for more information. I look forward to hearing from you

Pat Giamanco
LaCAN Region II Leader
pjmanco@cox.net
(225) 757-8890 Direct

2010 Legislative Roundtable

You are cordially invited to attend the

2010 Legislative Roundtable

Thursday, January 07, 2010

10:00 am — 1:30 pm

Louisiana Municipal Association

700 North 10th Street

Baton Rouge, LA 70802

Topic: Building Relationships with Legislators and affecting change in Community Services

Complementary Lunch will be served

RSVP: Pat Giamanco, LaCAN Region 2 Leader
pjmanco@cox.net or (225) 757-8890



58060 Plaquemine Street
Plaquemine, LA 70764
225-687-5400 ext.183

Hours of Operation
8:00 until 3:30 (Monday – Friday)

Located on the 1st floor
of the Iberville Optional Educational Center.

Contact:

Danna Bouey, AT Facilitator
dannabouey@ipsb.net

Anita Lee, AT Facilitator
anitalee@ipsb.net

Training

- Training workshops on UDL, and assistive technology (AT) software and devices at the center's lab or at satellite locations.
- On-site training
- By specific needs, individualized training for school districts.
- Training and information resource for parents using AT devices and/or software with their child.

AT Support

- Training for consideration of AT during the IEP process.
- General training (or student referral based) for assessment strategies and procedures with district AT facilitator/s or team.
- Assistance with setting up procedures, guidelines and developing forms for AT evaluation and assessment to assist with AT determinations.
- Purchasing or other resource information for assistive technology devices and software.
- Assistance with evaluation of implementation data to track the usage and success of AT in school districts.
- Assistance to local universities and colleges to include AT in the curriculum for future educators.

AT Center

- Experimental AT lab setting to try software and/or devices before purchasing.
- Devices and/or software check-out for limited time tryout with student(s).

An AT Continuum

Low-tech

- Pencil grips
- Manual communication boards
- Magnifiers
- Picture schedule
- Color filters Reading guides
- Specialized Papers & Pens

Mid-tech

- Portable word processor
- Simple voice output communication device
- Talking electronic dictionary
- Talking calculator
- Tape recorder

High Tech

- Adapted computer
- Text-to-speech
- Voice recognition soft
- Dynamic-display communication device



Visit the website
www.region2at.org

Training Available

Visit our lab
on
AT-2-U
days!
Check our
website
calendar.

Adult Support Group Meetings

7 PM at the Jones Creek Library
6222 Jones Creek Rd.
Baton Rouge, LA 70817

October 19
November 16
December 14

*email lacachadd@hotmail.com
for more information*





College of Music & Dramatic Arts

presents in concert the

Symphonic Winds

Dr. Linda R. Moorhouse, Conductor

“A Special Concert for Special Friends”

Thursday, October 22, 2009

7:00-8:00 p.m.

First Baptist Church, 529 Convention Street, downtown Baton Rouge

Admission is free!

Dear Parents and Friends:

We hope this will be the first of an annual series of concerts of this kind in our community. This special one-hour program is specifically designed for children, adults and families who live and deal with special needs issues such as autism and similar disabilities.

The music will be fun and lighthearted, and will even feature a few LSU school songs. Experience the thrill and energy of a live concert with musicians who want to share a part of their lives with you.

Audience participation will be encouraged!



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



Greater Baton Rouge Chapter

Dates to Remember

DATE/TIME	EVENT	LOCATION	CONTACT
Oct. 1 2 PM—3 PM Oct 27 10 AM—11 AM	Video Ed-Understanding the stages and progression of Alzheimer's disease	Alzheimer's Services 3772 North Blvd., Baton Rouge, LA 70806	225-334-7494 800-548-1211
Oct. 7, Nov. 4 & Dec. 2 7 PM—9 PM	Baton Rouge Head Injury Support Group	Greenwell Springs Library 11300 Greenwell Springs Rd., Baton Rouge, LA 70814	225-775-2780 wmoakbbiala@aol.com
Oct. 8 10 AM-11:30AM & 1:30 PM-3 PM	Sharing the Journey	Alzheimer's Services 3772 North Blvd., Baton Rouge, LA 70806	334-7494 800-548-1211
Oct. 10, Nov. 14 & Dec. 12 3 PM—5 PM	GBR Autism Society of America	Jones Creek Regional Library 6222 Jones Creek Rd., Baton Rouge, LA 70817	Beryl Herbert 225-273-3984
Oct. 14 11 AM—1 PM	Information and Resource Workshop: School Issues and Autism	Ascension Parish Library-Galvez Branch 40300 Highway 42, Prairieville, LA 70769	Cynthia Chesterfield 225-216-7474 cchesterfield@fhfgbr.org
Oct. 15 9:30 AM- 3 PM	The ABC's of PBS	WBR Pupil Appraisal Office 670 Rosedale Road, Port Allen, LA 70767	Cynthia Chesterfield 225-216-7474 cchesterfield@fhfgbr.org
Oct. 15 10 AM-12:30 PM	Success Through Support: College Transition for Students with Disabilities	Louisiana Municipal Association 700 North 10th St., Baton Rouge, LA 70802	Summer Mizell-Babin 225-215-7474
Oct. 20 6 PM—8 PM	EBR Agency Fair	Instructional Resource Center 1022 S. Foster Drive, Baton Rouge, LA 70806	Renee Fauver 225-226-3439
Oct. 22 7 PM	Symphonic Winds "A Special Concert for Special Friends"	First Baptist Church 529 Convention Street Baton Rouge, LA 70802	225-216-7474
Oct. 25 & Dec. 6 2:30 PM	CHADD Workshops	Jones Creek Regional Library 6222 Jones Creek Rd., Baton Rouge, LA 70817	lacachadd@hotmail.com
Nov. 6 & Nov. 7 7 AM—4:30 PM	Louisiana State Autism Conference	Holiday Inn Central Holidome 2032 NE Evangeline Thruway Lafayette, LA 7050	Pat Giamanco (800) 355-3760
Nov. 7 9 AM—12 PM	Baton Rouge Autism Speaker Series "Taking Effective Strategies Home for Children with Autism Spectrum Disorder"	MUST REGISTER St. James Episcopal Church in Bishop Hall 204 North 4th Street, Baton Rouge, LA 70801	225-343-4232
Nov. 13 9 AM—11 AM	Iberville Parish Transition Family Forum	Iberville Parish Optional Education Center 58060 Plaquemine Street Plaquemine, LA 70710	Diane Jones 225-687-0626
Nov. 14 & 21 12 PM—1 PM	Lunch-N-Learn	Alzheimer's Services 3772 North Blvd., Baton Rouge, LA 70806	225-334-7494 800-548-1211
Nov. 18 11 AM—2 PM	FHFGBR's Thanksgiving Celebration	FHFGBR 778 Chevelle Drive, Baton Rouge, LA 70806	225-216-7474
Dec. 3 9 AM—12 PM	Estate Planning for Individuals with Disabilities	Cabela's 2200 West Cabela's Parkway Gonzales, LA 70737	Summer Mizell-Babin 225-215-7474
Jan. 7 10 AM-1:30 PM	LaCAN Roundtable	Louisiana Municipal Association 700 North 10th St., Baton Rouge, LA 70802	Pat Giamanco 225-757-8890



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

*778 Chevelle Drive
Baton Rouge, LA 70806*

NONPROFIT ORG
US POSTAGE PAID
BATON ROUGE, LA
PERMIT NO. 125



FHFGBR Welcomes Dr. Carole Brunner as the Director of CAHSD's Developmental Disabilities Division

We are very pleased to officially announce the detailing of Dr. Carole Brunner into the position of Director of CAHSD's Developmental Disabilities Division. Dr. Brunner, a clinical psychologist, has served in a clinical role within the division for nearly two years. She came to CAHSD with over a decade of clinical, administrative and supervisory experience in the field of developmental disabilities, gained largely at the Northlake Supports and Services Center. She will officially assume the duties as the Division Director on July 27th.

We anticipate increased visibility and integration of this division within CAHSD, to more broadly serve this community clinically, and also in a greater outreach role, as was initiated by Dr. Jack Johnson, the immediate past director, who has elected to return to his prior role as clinical psychologist within the division.

We are also excited to know that Dr. Brunner comes to this position with visions of service expansion and enthusiasm in expanding the Division's role in solidifying clear approaches for disaster response and evacuation for this population, and furthering her division's role in disease prevention and access to medical and dental providers, consistent with CAHSD's successful behavioral health and primary care initiative.

Please join us in welcoming Dr. Brunner to her new position and supporting her in this new endeavor.

FHFGBR looks forward to working with Dr. Brunner