

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

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Join the  
**CAPITAL AREA HUMAN SERVICES DISTRICT**  
and  
**Families Helping Families of Greater Baton Rouge**  
for the  
**TENTH ANNUAL FAMILY FORUM**  
*"Proud of the Last Decade"*

*(Let the Good Times Continue to Roll)*

*Monday, January 29, 2007*

*7:30 a.m.—3:30 p.m.*

*Holiday Inn Select (formerly Radisson)*

*4728 Constitution Avenue*

*Baton Rouge, LA*

Registration fee is \$50.00 for professionals

and \$35.00 for parents, self-advocates and DSP's.

Registration deadline is January 9, 2007, for professionals.

**FOR CONFERENCE INFORMATION:**

LINDA BOURGEOIS

225-664-4532

If you are interested in receiving a parent/consumer  
stipend, please contact:

Linda Bourgeois

30448 North Walker Road

Walker, LA 70785 (Professionals)

Fax Stipend requests to 225-664-3456



**We want to hear from you!!!**

Check out our website at

*www.fhfgbr.org*

We want our website accessible

for everyone!

Give us your comments by emailing

us at: *info@fhfgbr.org*



Learn to recognize the early signs of

**"CAREGIVER BURNOUT"**

as well as some skills and strategies that can help you cope.

A Workshop presented by Children Special Health Services (CSHS)

Wednesday, March 14, 2007, from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

BREC Theater Building, 7800 Independence Boulevard

Baton Rouge, LA 70806

Speaker:

**ESTER MCGEE**

CSHS State Parent Training Coordinator

For more information or to register, contact

Kay Lewis at FHFGBR—225-216-7474

# Our Staff

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LaTEACH Area 6 Coordinator  
ECSS Coordinator  
[tpeters@fhfgbr.org](mailto:tpeters@fhfgbr.org)

**Community Outreach Specialist**  
Now Accepting Resumes

# FHFGBR Board of Directors

John Samaha, Chairperson

Roy Hebert, Vice Chair

Barry Meyer, Treasurer

Stacey Atkins, Secretary

Alvin Mack

Thomas Sellars

Everett Cunningham

Belynda Gauthier

Cheri Penton

Richard Born

**Board Meetings will be held the 2nd Thursday of January, March, May, July, September and November of 2007 from 11:30 am - 1:00 pm at our center.**

**THE PUBLIC IS INVITED TO ATTEND**

## FAMILIES HELPING FAMILIES OF GREATER BATON ROUGE

*welcomes new staff member,*

**ANDREA DUCOTE**

*we are glad to have you join our family!*

## **FHFGBR Now Accepting Applications For: Early Steps Community Outreach Specialist (COS)**

Permanent/Part Time (25 Hours Per Week)

The Early Steps Community Outreach Specialist will be responsible for providing information and training about Early Steps services, Families Helping Families resources and other community supports & services to families of young children, hospitals, clinics, daycares, preschools, other state programs & agencies, and anywhere children and families may be. The Early Steps COS assists to ensure the active and meaningful parent participation in regional interagency activities.

### **Qualifications Include:**

High School Diploma/GED. Must be a parent of a child age 10 or younger with special needs. Minimum of one year experience in organized volunteer work related to parent activities. Must have ability to communicate effectively, have good organizational skills, public speaking experience, and computer skills.

**Send Resumes to: Jamie Tindle, Executive Director or  
Email to [jamietindle@fhfgbr.org](mailto:jamietindle@fhfgbr.org) or Fax to 225-216-7977**

# Special Olympics!



Capital Area Special Olympics is gearing up for a great 2007 athletic year. We are encouraging all to get involved; parents, coaches, teachers, new/current/past athletes! The Special Olympics is also looking for energetic, good hearted persons who would be interested in becoming certified coaches to help

support our many athletes. We are encouraging school A.P.E. Teachers and Regular/Special Education Teachers/Coaches to get involved, but also parents can become certified as coaches to coach their own children and open opportunities for other athletes to get involved. The more coaches that Capital Area has enrolled, the more athletes that will be able to compete in Special Olympic competitions. Special Olympics always encourages volunteers. 2007 Special Olympics competitions are set for State Indoor Games—March 9-11 which includes bowling at Don Carter's Bowling Lanes, basketball, badminton, and gymnastics at the LSU field house. Spectators are always welcome! Capital Area Track and Field Games competition will be held in Baton Rouge (usually held on a Friday) either during March/April, and Special Olympics Track and Field competition will be held on the weekend of March 18-20 at Southeastern Louisiana University in Hammond. The next coaches training session is set for January 12, 2007, for anyone interested in getting Special Olympics certification. Time and place will depend on the number of people who sign up. For more information contact Jennifer Whittington at 225-621-2521, ext. 238 at Ascension Parish School Board, LeBlanc Special Services Center or email [whittinj@apsb.org](mailto:whittinj@apsb.org) or Amy Gross, Special Olympics Capital Area Director at 225-771-8471.



Membership in People First of Louisiana is open to all persons interested in supporting the goals of People First of Louisiana. To promote the values and vision of People First, all inclusive community participation is encouraged.

Membership runs February 1 through January 31 of each year. For an application or more information contact:

People First of Louisiana  
8336 Kelwood Drive  
Baton Rouge, LA 70806

or Rose Garrett  
FHFGBR—225-216-7474

## LIVING WITH ADHD IN YOUR HOUSE?

Need a program designed to educate families about ADHD?

Help is available by registering for:

Parent to Parent:

Family Training on ADHD

an interactive and educational program for adult family members of children and adolescents with ADHD

Saturday & Sunday

January 13-14 and February 10-11, 2007

Registration Deadline is: January 5, 2007

Location: LA Resource Center for Educators  
Baton Rouge, Louisiana

Time: 10:00 a.m.—5:00 p.m. (Lunch on your own)

Cost: \$100/couple (Handbook included)

Contact: Dayle Malen, CHADD Certified Teacher  
Family Counseling Associates  
(225) 769-2770  
[DGM219@aol.com](mailto:DGM219@aol.com)

## Point Coupee Parish

will host its annual  
**OPEN HOUSE**

On Tuesday,  
**February 27, 2007**  
9:00 am—11:30 a.m.

At the  
**Scott Civic Center**  
1200 Major Parkway  
New Roads, LA

Join Ritchie Bryant for the  
“ASPIES MEET-UP” SUPPORT GROUP

On December 20, 2006, from 6:30 p.m. until 8:00 p.m.

Other dates for the Support Group Meetings are

January 18, February 22, and March 22

Families Helping Families of GBR

778 Chevelle Drive

Baton Rouge, LA

You may register through FHFGBR

For more information you may contact Mr. Bryant by  
E-mail at [rbryant58@hotmail.com](mailto:rbryant58@hotmail.com)



## Families Helping Families of Greater Baton Rouge and BREC

Invites you to join us for a Self Advocacy Workshop on

### **JOBS FOR Persons with Disabilities**

Friday, January 12, 2007

5:00 p.m.—7:30 p.m.

With Guest Speaker  
**JONATHON SHAW**

Friday, February 16, 2007

5:00 p.m.—7:30 p.m.

With Guest Speaker  
**ANGELA MORRIS**

Friday, March 16, 2007

5:00 p.m.—7:30 p.m.

With Guest Speaker  
**CHRIS KNIPPENBERG**



All Workshops will be held at  
**BREC Independence Park**  
7575 Independence Park Boulevard  
Baton Rouge, LA 70806

**NO AGE LIMIT**

**Robert Savage, Disc Jockey**  
Refreshments and Dance after  
**Workshop**

For more information or to register, please contact  
Rose Garrett at rgarrett@fhfgbr.org or call Rose at  
225-216-7474

Funded in part through a grant with  
Capital Area Human Services District

## UP WITH KIDS!



Families Helping Families of Greater Baton Rouge collaborated with Our Lady of the Lake Child Assessment Center, Children's Miracle Network, and The Arc of Baton Rouge to organize the 2006 Up With Kids Fall Festival. The Festival was held on October 28, 2006, at Lamar Dixon Expo Center. It was a great success. Admission was free for individuals with disabilities and their families who reserved tickets in advance from one of the sponsoring agencies. Approximately 1000 participants enjoyed playing accessible games and winning prizes. In addition there were pony rides, tethered hot air balloon rides, train rides, face painting and a visit from Ronald McDonald. Great care was taken to ensure that all the activities were inclusive and accessible to all participants. This event began as a vision of two Families Helping Families employees who wanted to host a



carnival for children with disabilities to enjoy, feel comfortable, and not be judged by their behavior. We approached Dr. Burton with OLOL Child Assessment Center to ask for use of her parking lot to hold the small festival. Dr. Burton was so

enthusiastic about the idea that she agreed to collaborate with us and she spearheaded the planning and organization of the event. As a result of her leadership, the small carnival has grown into a grand annual fall festival.



### **CIRCLE CIVITAN CLUB PRESENTS A MARDI GRAS PARTY**

**Sunday, February 4, 2007**

**from 5:00 PM to 8:00 PM**

**at the Fraternal Order of Police**  
10777 Greenwell Springs Road  
Baton Rouge, Louisiana

**AMBUSH BAND and FREE REFRESHMENTS**

**For more information contact  
Karen McRae at 225-273-6468**

## DONNA YANCEY GOODWILL AMBASSADOR AWARD

The Donna Yancey Goodwill Award is presented each year to an individual, organization or group who spreads goodwill on behalf of persons who have a disability. The recipient must be an outstanding advocate for persons with disabilities and live in the Capital Area. The Ambassador must foster goodwill, collaboration and cooperation among organizations, agencies and the community at large. The Ambassador makes a real difference in the lives of persons with disabilities by advocating for the expansion and improvement of supports for those persons. The Ambassador's efforts help enhance the quality of life for persons with disabilities. The Goodwill Ambassador believes that people with disabilities have the right to be treated with dignity, respect, goodwill and love and should have all rights and responsibilities afforded in their non-disabled peers. The ambassador gets things done and provides outstanding service to persons with disabilities. Nomination forms are currently being accepted for the "Donna Yancey Goodwill Ambassador Award". This year it will be presented at the "Proud of the Past Decade" event at the Holiday Inn Select Hotel (formerly the Radisson) in Baton Rouge. All nominees must meet the criteria described above. To receive a nomination form, please contact Families Helping Families of Greater Baton Rouge at 225-216-7474 or visit our website at [www.fhfgbr.org](http://www.fhfgbr.org).

## ATTENTION ASCENSION PARISH!!!

Come take part in a workshop and discussion regarding inclusive education practices in the public school system.

Tuesday, January 23, 2007, from 10:30 a.m.—12:30 p.m.

Ascension Parish Library—Galvez Branch

40300 Highway 42 in Prairieville, Louisiana

To register call FHFGBR at 225-216-7474.

# STUDENT SPOTLIGHT

## KEILYN WASHINGTON



*"Keilyn, my son, is truly a Gift from God!"*  
...Ms. LISA WASHINGTON

In the words of Ms. Lisa Washington (Keilyn's Mother) at the age of 18 months, Keilyn Washington was diagnosed as having a speech delay. At two years of age, Keilyn was diagnosed with Autism Spectrum Disorder and Pervasive Development Disorder. I thought my world had ended, but it was just the beginning. Keilyn is now five years of age and is in the Pre-Kindergarten Program at Clinton Elementary School in Ms. Jennifer Page's class. To further the nurturing of my child, I needed information on the Developmental Disabilities laws and Section 504 and I contacted Families Helping Families of Greater Baton Rouge for assistance and spoke with Ms. Chesterfield who is the IEP Facilitator. Ms. Chesterfield helped assist me in becoming familiar with the guidelines and laws of the Developmental Disability Act and Section 504. Ms. Chesterfield also assisted me and my son in receiving much needed assistance. Disabilities are a natural part of life, but can be very overwhelming. By working hand in hand with Ms. Chesterfield, I found out there are many resources available for my son. I

hope that someday I can give back what has been given to me. Keilyn is showing tremendous progress and for that I give special thanks to Families Helping Families of Greater Baton Rouge, Ms. Chesterfield, Ms. Page, and everyone who plays a part in his academic and social life.

## ANDREA "ALICE" KUYORO



Andrea is one of the many exceptionally chosen people with a disability who has overcome many obstacles in her lifetime. A spinal cord injury at the age of seventeen months left her with paralyzed physically but not mentally. She has received numerous academic awards and several athletic medals. Now that she is in her senior year at Baton Rouge Magnet High School, she's making plans to attend college at Southeastern Louisiana University where she plans to major in psychology. Andrea is very uplifted and knows no boundaries when it comes to reaching her goals. She has been successful thus far and looks forward to the next chapter of her life.

## LATEACH

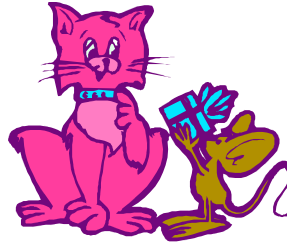
### MISSION STATEMENT



Promotes appropriate, inclusive education for all students. We work to keep parents, educators, the general public, and state leadership informed and support of research based and effective practices used appropriately for each student. If you have questions about LaTEACH or would like to join the LATEACH organisation, please contact:

Toni Peters, LaTEACH Area 6 Coordinator  
Families Helping Families of Greater Baton Rouge  
778 Chevelle Drive  
Baton Rouge, Louisiana 70806  
225-216-7474 or E-mail to [tpeters@fhfgbr.org](mailto:tpeters@fhfgbr.org)

## Emphasize "Giving" Rather Than "Getting" This Holiday Season



To be successful in school, children must learn to share and become less selfish. A little philanthropy — giving to others — will help your child do this. There are many ways parents can promote giving this season and all year long. Here are a few ideas to get you started:

- Introduce the word "philanthropy." It means sharing your time, talent or treasure to help other people.
- Identify volunteers and other people in your community who give. Talk about how special and important these people are.
- Help your child make simple gifts to give to family and friends or to distribute at a shelter. She will discover the joy of giving something she has made.
- Help your child gather clothes and toys she's willing to donate to a local charity. Be sure to take her with you when you drop them off.
- Cook soup or bake something together to take to a sick or elderly neighbor.
- Praise your child when she gives to others. Point out how good it makes her feel to share with other people and to know she has made a difference in someone's life.

Source: "Meeting the School Community Ages 5-8," *Learning to Give*, [www.learningtogive.org/parents/raising/section1/02meeting\\_community.asp](http://www.learningtogive.org/parents/raising/section1/02meeting_community.asp)

## Teen Talk!

A Support Group for teens who have a sibling with a disability

.....  
Come share your thoughts, experiences, and questions with other teens who are dealing with the same issues as you.



WHERE: Families Helping Families of Greater Baton Rouge  
778 Chevelle Drive, Baton Rouge, LA 70806

WHEN: From 5:30 p.m. until 7:00 p.m.  
Thursday, January 11, 2007  
Thursday, February 8, 2007  
Thursday, March 8, 2007

\*PLEASE CALL TO REGISTER AT 216-7474



## DOWN SYNDROME AWARENESS GROUP

Is currently accepting nominations for the  
**SPIRIT OF INCLUSION AWARD 2007**  
Nomination Deadline—March 9, 2007

This award is presented to a regular education student who promotes acceptance, positive attitudes, and high expectations toward classmates with Down Syndrome by showing outstanding compassion and friendship in and/or out of the school setting. DSAG's hope is that this award will help develop more interactions and friendships among classmates. Please nominate a non-special education classmate who has shown these exemplary traits toward your student with Down Syndrome. For more information and/or to receive a Teacher Nomination Form, contact Paulette Roberts at 225-664-6546, Lisa Westerfield at 225-644-0375, or Sundae Holm at:

225-753-9678 or the Down Syndrome Awareness Group at  
P. O. Box 82378, Baton Rouge, LA 70884-2378  
[dsagbrsec@yahoo.com](mailto:dsagbrsec@yahoo.com)

# Important Dates to Remember

DATE	EVENT	LOCATION	CONTACT
January 12 	Self Advocacy Workshop on Jobs for Persons with Disabilities <b>***Please call to register 216-7474</b>	BREC Independence Park 7575 Independence Park Blvd Baton Rouge, LA	Rose Garrett 225-216-7474
January 13	Baton Rouge Autism Support Association (BRASA)	Jones Creek Regional Branch EBR Public Library, 6222 Jones Creek Road Baton Rouge, LA	Beryl Hebert, M.Ed. 225-383-0456
January 13, 14	"Living with ADHD in Your House?"	LA Resource Center for Educators Baton Rouge, LA	Dayle Malen 225-769-2770
January 18	"ASPIES Meet-Up"  <b>***Please call to register 216-7474</b>	Families Helping Families of Greater Baton Rouge 778 Chevelle Drive, Baton Rouge, LA	Ritchie Bryant rbryant58@hotmail.com
January 23	Families Focusing on Inclusive Educa- tion	Ascension Parish Library-Galvez Branch, 40300 Hwy 42 Prairieville, Louisiana	To register contact Cynthia or Summer at FHFGBR 225-216-7474
January 29	Capital Area Human Services District's Tenth Annual Family Forum	Holiday Inn Select, (formerly Radisson) 4728 Constitution Avenue	Linda Bourgeois 225-664-4532
February 4	A Mardi Gras Party	Fraternal Order of Police 10777 Greenwell Springs Road Baton Rouge, LA	Karen McRae 225-273-6468
February 10	Baton Rouge Autism Support Association (BRASA)	Jones Creek Regional Branch EBR Public Library, 6222 Jones Creek Road Baton Rouge, LA	Beryl Hebert, M.Ed. 225-383-0456
February 10, 11	Living With ADHD In Your House?	LA Resource Center for Educators 7305 Florida Boulevard	Dayle Malen 225-769-2770 DGM219@aol.com
February 16 	Self Advocacy Workshop on Jobs for Persons with Disabilities <b>***Please call to register 216-7474</b>	BREC Independence Park 7575 Independence Park Blvd Baton Rouge, LA	Rose Garrett 225-216-7474
February 22	"ASPIES Meet-Up"  <b>***Please call to register 216-7474</b>	Families Helping Families of Greater Baton Rouge 778 Chevelle Drive, Baton Rouge, LA	Ritchie Bryant rbryant58@hotmail.com
February 27	Pointe Coupee Open House for Transitioning Students	Scott Civic Center, 1200 Major Parkway New Roads, LA	Cherie Cazayoux 225-635-8674
March 10	Baton Rouge Autism Support Association (BRASA)	Jones Creek Regional Branch EBR Public Library, 6222 Jones Creek Road Baton Rouge, LA	Beryl Hebert, M.Ed. 225-383-0456
March 18-20	Special Olympics	Southeastern Louisiana University Hammond, LA	Amy Gross 225-771-8471
March 22	"ASPIES Meet-Up"  <b>***Please call to register 216-7474</b>	Families Helping Families of Greater Baton Rouge 778 Chevelle Drive, Baton Rouge, LA	Ritchie Bryant rbryant58@hotmail.com

*Some activities sponsored in part by*





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Baton Rouge, LA 70806

## 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. LaCAN members advocate 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; or if you believe it is unfair that thousands of citizens who need individualized community services are unable to get them.

**HOW TO JOIN.** To join the LaCAN Team, visit the website at [www.lacanadvocates.org](http://www.lacanadvocates.org) and fill out the membership form or contact the LaCAN team leader in your district. The LaCAN Team Leader for District 2 is:

Doris M. Douglas  
Families Helping Families of Greater Baton Rouge  
778 Chevelle Court—Baton Rouge, LA 70806  
Phone: 225-216-7474  
Email: [ddouglas@fhfgbr.org](mailto:ddouglas@fhfgbr.org)

**COME JOIN OTHER MEMBERS OF LACAN, MEET YOUR LEGISLATORS AND BE A PART OF THE  
DISABILITY RIGHTS RALLY ON THE STEPS OF THE STATE CAPITOL  
ON TUESDAY, MAY 8, 2007 FROM 2:00 P.M. UNTIL 3:30 P.M.**