



Medina County Parent Mentor

March 2023

**Medina County Parent Mentor
Cheryl Mendel**



Direct: (330) 421-1475

cmendel@medinaesc.org

Facebook @parentmentormedina

<https://sites.google.com/medinaesc.org/parentmentor>

Literacy Corner

Medina County Library Early Literacy Resources

<https://mcdl.info/earlyliteracy>

Mar 18th 10:30am @ Brunswick Library
Adaptive Story Time

Mar 27th 6:30pm @ Wadsworth Library
Sensory Friendly Story Time (all ages)

Please join Amy Mordaunt from the Arc of Ohio and me to learn more about "IEPS," on **Tuesday March 7th at 6:30pm on Zoom.**

See Flyer below. To Register:

<https://zoom.us/join/zoom/register/tJlvcurpzlpG9GJ5mlUk9OKrZZg6ErI9H3m>

Learning Opportunities

Mar 20th at Noon: *Extended School Year (ESY)* by Disability Rights Ohio. For more information: <https://lawyers4students.com/legalclinic>

See Attitude Magazine for a lot of great ADHD webinars

<https://www.additudemag.com/adhd-expert-webinars-index/>

See Flyers in the newsletter for more information/opportunities!

Surrogate Parent Training available (Virtual, Free) This is a great free online training for parents to learn more about the special education process

<https://ohiosurrogateparent.org/>

Milestones for Autism Conference Registration is now open!

<https://www.milestones.org/events/2023/06/14/2023-milestones-national-autism-conference>

March is Developmental Disabilities Awareness Month

March 21st is World Down syndrome Day. The 21st day of March was selected to signify the uniqueness of the triplication of the 21st chromosome which causes Down syndrome. For more information and resources for Down Syndrome visit the Down Syndrome Association of Northeast Ohio

<https://www.dsaneo.org/>



R2C

REC2CONNECT THERAPY

Outdoor Adventure

Intro to Maple Sugaring

Tuesday, March 14th
Rocky River Nature Center
5 - 7 p.m.

- Join Rec2Connect for a collaborative program with the Cleveland Metroparks
- Program designed for individuals ages 8+
- Each month will feature a variety of adapted outdoor activities
- Cost for this program is \$15
- Reach out to amber@rec2connect.org with any questions!

SIGN UP AT:
REC2CONNECT.PIKE13.COM

Special Education

What are Present Levels of Performance?

In Section 6 of the IEP before the section with the goal you will have Present Levels of Performance.

The statement of present levels should be written in language understandable to all, including the parent, and contain sufficient information to establish a baseline from which each annual goal is developed. It must indicate the child's current academic and functional levels compared to expected grade level standards in order to provide a frame of reference. OAC Rule 3301-51-07(H)(1)(b)

For more information:

<https://adayinourshoes.com/present-levels-iep/>

<https://www.wrightslaw.com/howey/iep.present.levels.htm>

<https://www.understood.org/en/articles/setting-an-iep-baseline-plop-plaafp-and-plp>

Register in advance for this meeting:

<https://zoom.us/meeting/register/tJlvcurpzlpG9GJ5mlUk9OKrZZg6ErI9H3m>

After registering, you will receive a confirmation containing link to join the meeting.



MEDINA FAMILY SUPPORT GROUP

Monthly support group providing information to families of adults & children with disabilities in Medina County

"INTRODUCTION TO IEP'S"

Presented by Cheryl Mendel, Parent Mentor

REGISTER



<https://zoom.us/meeting/register/tJlvcurpzlpG9GJ5mlUk9OKrZZg6ErI9H3m>

CONTACT US  

Amy Mordaunt, The Arc of Ohio
amy.mordaunt@thearcofohio.org
216-513-1557

Cheryl Mendel, Parent Mentor
cmendel@medinaesc.org
330-421-1475

**TUES MARCH 7
6:30 PM**

To register:

https://us06web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZclcOqvqzwwGtzt9j8O_J8PiQMyKH Tp3m7i?fbclid=IwAR0_tG-bU9SuHhuR3WuuvT8fJRC6kDJZtUtVS4eaoVdeMCehSgGWtU6PCbk

20
23



Monthly Zoom Call

Arc Update!

Thursday, March 2nd
10:00am

Zoom:

This is a Zoom only event and requires registration. The link for this call should be in the information with this flyer. If you cannot locate the Zoom registration link, please email joshua.cook@thearcofohio.org

Event Details:

Updates on federal, state, and local changes that impact your family.

Events, trainings, and resources will also be presented.

First Thursday of Every Month
10:00am Via Zoom

This is an opportunity to hear from ALL of the regional directors of The Arc of Ohio!

This panel of advocates take resources and help to families in all areas of Ohio.

Hear the stories, be informed of the updates, and be empowered by the resources!

Presenters:



Jen Powers Alge



Lindsey Althaus



Joshua Cook



Amy Mordaunt



Kara Erwin

614-487-4720

www.TheArcOfOhio.org

Information and Application go to:

<https://www.mcbdd.org/service-funding/>



2023 Adult and Student Summer Camperships Now Available

Summer is just around the corner! The Medina County Board of Developmental Disabilities (MCBDD) has a rich tradition of encouraging summer recreational experiences for adults and students with developmental disabilities. We know summer camps offer the opportunity to learn, grow, develop friendships, and gain confidence through many different experiences.

This year we are happy to again be able to provide camperships for students and adults with developmental disabilities to attend the summer camp of their choice. You choose the camp that best meets your needs; we help by providing financial support for you to attend.

[Information and Application](#)

Camperships must be used by August 12, 2023

To Register: <https://tinyurl.com/fvtbs7pw>

Understanding Self-Direction & Participant Directed Goods and Services (PDGS)



A Free, Virtual Training Session

For families and individuals with disabilities who have Level One, IO, and SELF Waivers

And, for professionals who serve individuals with disabilities

We will cover:



- What is Self-Direction?
- How can it benefit people with disabilities and their families?
- Explanation of terms, such as:
 - Participant Directed Goods and Services (PDGS),
 - Participant Directed Homemaker Personal Care (PDHPC),
 - Employer of Record, and Financial Management Services
- How does it work for people in Ohio's Developmental Disabilities System?
- What are the steps for getting the items I need and my services started?



Speakers:

Joelyn Karlson, Policy Manager, Medicaid Development & Administration, Ohio Department of Developmental Disabilities (DODD)

Sarah Davies, Director of Relationships, GT Independence

Date: Tuesday, March 8, 2023

Time: 6:30pm – 8:00 pm via Zoom

Register Here: <https://tinyurl.com/fvtbs7pw>

Questions? Contact: Amy Clawson, Northern Ohio Family Support Specialist at Ohio Family to Family, Email: Amy.Clawson@cchmc.org or Phone: 513-803-2419

Connect with Us: www.ohioF2F.org or www.facebook.com/OhioFamily2Family

This project is supported by the Maternal and Child Health Bureau (MCHB) of the Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) of the U.S. Dept of Health and Human Services (HHS) under grant #H84MC28443.



To Register: <https://tinyurl.com/z3f9bejs>



Working in the Community: The Benefits of Employment for Individuals with Disabilities

Are you interested in helping someone with a disability find a job? Do you think your child can work but you don't know where to start? Do you work with people who need support to help them have a successful work experience? Join us to learn about:

1. The benefits of employment.
2. How to access employment services like job coaching and job development.
3. What is the Employment Collaborative of Cuyahoga County and how do they help find jobs for individuals with disabilities?

Speakers: Jared Daly, Regional Coordinator of Workforce Development, Cuyahoga County Department of Developmental Disabilities

Date: Thursday, March 16, 2023

Time: 6:30-8pm

Location: Zoom

Register here: <https://tinyurl.com/z3f9bejs>

Questions? Contact:

Amy.Clawson@cchmc.org 513-803-2419

Booster sessions provide information on the transition to adult life for youth with disabilities. Families, individuals with disabilities, educators, and other professionals are invited to attend at no cost.

** Additional 2023 Booster Sessions will be announced at a later date. **





R2C
REC2CONNECT THERAPY



Join us at the Thornton Park Ice Arena for a fun family afternoon on the ice!

This is a **FREE** and inclusive event. All attendees who are skating **MUST** be registered in Pike13.



Register Here!



Email
sarah@rec2connect.org
with questions!

**SUNDAY,
MARCH 19TH**
2:00 PM - 4:00 PM

Included. Always.


To Register: <https://www.dsaneo.org/>

Down Syndrome Association OF NORTHEAST OHIO



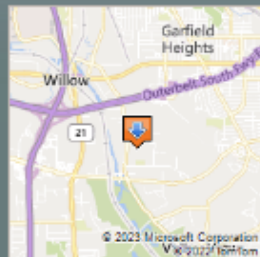
When

Tuesday, March 21, 2023 from 6:00 PM to 8:00 PM EDT

 [Add to Calendar](#)

Where

Cinemark Valley View
6001 Canal Road
Valley View, OH 44125



[Driving Directions](#)

Contact

Rich Tamulewicz
The Down Syndrome Association of Northeast Ohio
216-447-8763
rich@dsaneo.org

World Down Syndrome Day Celebration 2023



Join us as we celebrate World Down Syndrome Day at the Cinemark Theater in Valley View with a FREE screening of "Champions" starring Woody Harrelson. This event is for families in the NEO Down syndrome community is for IMMEDIATE FAMILY + GRANDPARENTS ONLY. Please note: This film is rated PG-13. Questions? Contact rich@dsaneo.org

[Register Now!](#)

About the Film

Woody Harrelson stars in the hilarious & heartwarming story of a former minor-league basketball coach that is ordered by the court to manage a team of players with intellectual disabilities. He soon realizes that despite his doubts, together, this team can go further than they ever imagined, and works with them to compete in the Special Olympics. This movie is rated PG-13.



To Register: <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/building-personal-networks-for-families-tickets-549591612307>

Building Personal Networks

A Two-part Workshop for Families Who Care for Someone with a Disability or Special Health Care Need



Ohio Family to Family presents:

Building Personal Networks - Creating a Community for Your Loved One

This workshop will help you form a group of caring people as a circle of support on behalf of your child. Together, they help you and your child have social opportunities, assist with decision-making, and reduce isolation. The goal is that this group continues long term when you are no longer around.

Join Us!

To learn more about personal networks, the benefits of creating your own network, who to invite into your network, how to ask them to join, and preparing for your first network meeting.

Participants should plan to attend both workshop dates

Dates: Tuesday, March 21st **AND** Tuesday, April 4th, 2023

Time: 6:30 – 8:00 p.m. both nights

Registration: <https://tinyurl.com/5n8pju6e>

Location: Online, zoom link received upon registration

Cost: Free

Questions? Please contact Marion Cosgrove Rauch at marion.cosgroverauch@cchmc.org or (513) 803-5557

This project is/was supported by the Maternal and Child Health Bureau (MCHB) of the Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) under grant #H84MC25443.



Participants should plan to attend both workshop dates

Register Online: <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/building-personal-networks-for-families-tickets-549591612307>

Sessions will be held virtually via Zoom. Sessions are free however registration is required to be sent a link to access the Zoom training.

Questions?

Contact Marion Cosgrove Rauch at marion.cosgroverauch@cchmc.org or (513) 803-5557

Questions, email Heather Davis @ hdavis@windfallindustries.org



Sponsored by: Windfall Industries

When: Friday, March 24, 2023

Where: MCBDD – 4691 Windfall Rd, Medina

Time: 6:00p-8:30p

Snack & Drink provided

Note: Any individual needing supervision will need to be accompanied by a provider/family member to this event.

To help us ensure we have enough snacks, please fill out & return this slip to Heather or Angel. Or, you can email us at hdavis@windfallindustries.org to let us know who is coming. Please do so by March 17th, 2023.

Forgot to turn in the slip? Don't worry, you can still join us – we will see you there.

Questions? Please email Heather Davis @ hdavis@windfallindustries.org

_____ will be attending the Sweetheart Dance!

(Print name of individual)

The number of people attending with the individual _____

Emergency Contact and Phone # _____

SAVE THE DATE

2023 Transition EXPO!



SATURDAY, APRIL 29, 2023

9:00AM - NOON

Audience: families, transition-aged youth with disabilities, caregivers and professionals in Northeast Ohio!

Join us to learn about transition to adulthood!

Location:

Independence Civic Center
6363 Selig Drive
Independence, OH 44131

Questions:

Wendy Spitz at
216-509-5015 or
wendy@livespecial.com

Registration is **NOT** required

SPONSORED BY:



MEET EXHIBITORS WHO FOCUS ON:

Employment

Recreation

Technology & Independence

Housing

Transition Resources

Family Support

And more!

Medina County Parent Mentor Cheryl Mendel



J.D., DePaul University, College of Law
B.A., University of Michigan

My experiences as a parent of children with special needs, my training as a Parent Mentor, and my involvement with the schools and community as a volunteer, substitute teacher and paraprofessional enable me to provide quality and knowledgeable support to families and serve as a liaison and partner between families, school staff and the community.

I look forward to being a resource for you. I am always happy to help!

Cheryl Mendel, Parent Mentor
ESC Medina County
Direct: (330) 421-1475
cmendel@medinaesc.org

For More Information

Rachel Krauss, Director
ESC Medina County
Student Services
330.723.6393 ext. 137
rkrauss@medinaesc.org

Office of Exceptional Children
Ohio Department of Education
ParentMentors@education.ohio.gov

To Find a Parent Mentor Near You:
<https://parentmentor.osu.edu>



Ohio's Parent Mentor Project

Parent Mentors are trained to help
We are guides, collaborators, and we are peers.

Ohio Parent Mentors are parents of children with disabilities. We provide support to families using our firsthand experiences, training and knowledge of special education laws and practices.

Parent Mentors are a resource and liaison between families, school staff and the community.

The Parent Mentor Program is funded through a grant with the Ohio Department of Education (ODE). All Parent Mentor services are free of charge to families.

Finding Solutions that work best for families

Ohio Parent Mentors provide families, students and schools to assist with the following:

- Provide information, support and resources on education laws, district programs and services, and community resources.
- Help parents understand their rights and responsibilities related to Special Education.
- Guide parents through the Special Education process.
- Attend meetings as requested by parent/school.
- Provide individual support to families.
- Provide resources to assist parents and professionals
- Host Parent to Parent Support Groups
- Provide on-demand resources: Website & Facebook page

<https://sites.google.com/medinaesc.org/parentmentor>

 @parentmentormedina

Medina County Parent Mentor serves families with home school districts of: Medina City Schools, Buckeye Local Schools, Cloverleaf Local Schools, Wadsworth City Schools, Highland Local Schools, Black River Local Schools.

