

Issue: April 2008

## About Special Kids



Visit our website, [www.aboutspecialkids.org](http://www.aboutspecialkids.org).



### Contact Us

About Special Kids (ASK)

Central Office  
7275 Shadeland Avenue  
Suite 1  
Indianapolis, IN 46250  
317.257.8683  
1.800.964.4746 (toll-free)  
[familynetw@aboutspecialkids.org](mailto:familynetw@aboutspecialkids.org)

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## NOW AVAILABLE !!

### 2008 Support Group Directory

The updated 2008 Support Group Directory is now available. This directory lists over 150 support groups throughout the state of Indiana. If you would like to purchase a copy, please send \$5.00 to: About Special Kids, 7275 Shadeland Ave., Indianapolis, IN 46250, Attn: Information Specialist.

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### Online Resource Directory

## WANTED:

### Public / Private Insurance Trainers



[Do You Understand The Crazy Maze of Public or Private Health Insurance and Want to Share That Knowledge with Others?](#)

ASK is currently looking for trainers who are knowledgeable about Indiana's public health insurance programs, especially as they relate to children with special needs. Extensive knowledge of Medicaid, Medicaid Waivers, Medicaid Disability, Children's Special Health Care Services and other state assistance programs is essential. Additionally, we are looking for individuals who are knowledgeable about private health insurance who could provide training to families on an as needed basis across the state. All trainers must have reliable transportation and have the time to travel approximately one to two days per month (at a maximum). An hourly training rate will be negotiated with each trainer based on his/her experience and ASK's budget. Parents of children with special needs and individuals with personal or family experience with disability are encouraged to apply. Apply with a letter outlining your experience in either or both of these areas via email to [Rebecca@aboutspecialkids.org](mailto:Rebecca@aboutspecialkids.org).

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## We Need Your Help

ASK is currently at the very beginning stages of putting together an event planning committee for a summer family event. If you are feeling creative and have some time that you would like to donate to our efforts, please contact Rebecca Kirby at [Rebecca@aboutspecialkids.org](mailto:Rebecca@aboutspecialkids.org). We will be developing a strong planning committee before committing to any one type of event. So, if you have ideas and leadership skills, we'd love to have you!

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## Seeking Board Members

ASK's Online Resource Directory is now accepting applications from for profit companies. These for profit companies must provide services or products for children with special needs and their families. This change benefits our families by providing more resources, information, and options and is also a wonderful opportunity for companies to get more exposure for their products and services. Visit our online Resource Directory today at [www.aboutspecialkids.org](http://www.aboutspecialkids.org).

### **Public Hearings and Comments on Article 7**

Public hearings have been scheduled to discuss the major issues / changes taking place with Article 7. This law will affect education for children and young adults with disabilities. These hearings are your chance to affect change and have your voice heard. Listed below are the scheduled hearings, or you can comment online by clicking [here](#).

ALL HEARINGS WILL TAKE PLACE FROM 5:30 P.M. TO 8:00 P.M.

April 15, 2008 - Evansville  
Southern Indiana Career and Technical Center  
Assembly Hall  
1901 Lynch Road  
Evansville, IN 47711

April 16, 2008 – New Albany  
New Albany Educational Support Center  
2801 Grant Line Road  
New Albany, IN 47150

April 22, 2008 – Merrillville  
Merrillville High School Arena  
276 East 68th Street  
Merrillville, IN 46410

April 23, 2008 – South Bend  
South Bend Administration Building  
215 South Saint Joseph  
South Bend, IN 46601

April 24, 2008 – Fort Wayne  
Homestead High School

ASK is currently seeking volunteer board members who have a desire to help us help families of children with special needs. We are specifically seeking board members from areas of the state outside of Indianapolis and are looking for board members with expertise in human resources, fundraising and development, marketing, strategic planning, and general business management. The board is currently meeting every other month and some meetings may be attended by conference call or video conference to alleviate gas expenditures. To be considered for the screening process, please send an email outlining your qualifications to Cheryl Crisp at [ccrisp@iupui.edu](mailto:ccrisp@iupui.edu). Parents of children with special needs are also encouraged to apply.

### **Brothers and Sisters of People with Disabilities: Too Important to Ignore !!**

On April 25th and 26th Riley Hospital for Children, Easter Seals Crossroads, About Special Kids and Damar Services will sponsor workshops conducted by Don Meyer, Director of the Sibling Support Project and creator of the Sibshop model.

You will learn:

- What to do about the concerns often experienced by brothers and sisters: peer issues, resentment, loss, and concerns about the future (just to name a few!)
- How to increase the unique opportunities often experienced by siblings, including compassion, advocacy, insight, and tolerance
- Strategies to decrease siblings' concerns and increase their opportunities
- How to help your agency or organization provide "sibling-friendly" services
- How to plan and run Sibshops, the award-winning, kid-friendly mix of peer support and recreation

This event is for two audiences:

**First Audience:** Those who wish to become Sibshop facilitators. These individuals will attend *both* days. Registration is limited to 25 trainees. Cost: \$50.00

**Second Audience:** Parents, adult sibs, grandparents, service providers and others who wish to learn more about brothers' and sisters' unique concerns and opportunities. These individuals will attend on Friday, April 25th only. Registration is limited to 75 participants. Cost: \$35.00  
For more information contact:  
Christina Rogers at 317-278-7621  
or 1-888-356-2022.

**Dates:** April 25 & 26, 9am - 3pm

**Location:**  
IU Cancer Center  
Cancer Research Institute  
1044 W. Walnut Street  
Indianapolis, IN 46202

Transportation Building  
4814 Homestead Road  
Fort Wayne, IN 46814

May 7, 2008 – Indianapolis  
H. Dean Evans Community and  
Education Center  
MSD of Washington Township  
8550 Woodfield Crossing Blvd.  
Indianapolis, IN 46240

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If you need additional assistance,  
please contact Family Voices at  
[fv.indiana@gmail.com](mailto:fv.indiana@gmail.com)

\* Information obtained from Family Voices

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If you prefer not to receive  
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