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**ASK E-Newsletter | April 2010**



## Contact Us

About Special Kids (ASK)

Central Office  
7275 Shadeland Avenue  
Suite 1  
Indianapolis, IN 46250

## Thank you to our donors!

On behalf of the families we serve, we'd like to acknowledge and thank the following donors for their contributions:

### **Sertoma Club of Broad Ripple**

Sertoma supports selected charitable organizations by raising funds through Las Vegas style casino parties. The donations support programs for persons needing medical care, training or some other form of assistance.

### **Speedway 500 Moose Lodge**

Moose is a family fraternity; an international organization of men and women dedicated to caring for young and old, bringing communities closer together and celebrating life.

Pictured below are Tommy Moose and Lynda Peterson, marketing and outreach coordinator for ASK.

317.257.8683

1.800.964.4746 (toll-free)

[familynetw@abousspecialkids.org](mailto:familynetw@abousspecialkids.org)

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## **2010 ASK Trainings**

### **Public Health Insurance: What You Don't Know Can Cost You**

May 17th - Ft. Wayne

Additional trainings are added to our calendar as they are scheduled. To register for a training, visit our website at [www.abousspecialkids.org](http://www.abousspecialkids.org)

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### **Looking for Something To Do?**

ASK is currently looking for a volunteer who can come into the central office for a few hours once a week to help with general clerical items. The volunteer would mainly be helping to copy and put together information and training packets.

If you are interested, please call ASK and speak to Gina.

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### **Partners in Policymaking**

Are you a person with a disability, or a parent of a child with a disability? Do you want to make a difference in your community? Consider applying for this year's Partners in Policymaking (PIP) Academy!

PIP will teach you leadership skills and how to form relationships with the people who make the policy that affect the services you and your family use. Learn to work with elected officials, school personnel, and others to make a difference.



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### **Welcome Aboard!!**

ASK would like to welcome three new parent liaisons to our staff.

**Valerie Potchka** has an Associate's Degree in Organizational Leadership and Supervision and a Bachelor's Degree in General Studies and was on the committee that planned Fort Wayne's "Walk Now for Autism Speaks." Valerie and her husband Tim, have two children, T.J. age eleven and Jack age five. She is honored to have the opportunity to use her first-hand experience to aid other families of kids with special needs.

**Jennifer Elliott Meadows** attended Purdue University and earned a B.S. degree in child development and family studies and a M.S. in Early Childhood Studies, Parent Education and Special Education. Jennifer and her husband David adopted their son, Kaleb. Jennifer and Dave also have three grown children. Jennifer is eager to use her personal, educational and work experiences to be able to support, guide and empower Indiana families.

**Melissa McCaffrey** has previously served as a First Steps Service Coordinator in Monroe county and as Vice Chair for the Monroe County LPCC. Melissa and her husband Steve have 5 children ranging in age from 10 to 19 years old.

Melissa is a graduate of Partners in Policymaking and has testified before numerous legislative and administrative committees.

If you are selected, you will attend 8 monthly sessions in the Indianapolis area.

Generally, sessions run October through May, and are Friday from noon to 8:30 pm, and Saturday from 9 am to 4:00 pm. You will also complete a personal community project. Your hotel, travel, childcare, and other related expenses will be covered.

**For more information and to apply**, visit the PIP Web site: <http://2.gp/mhf> . Your application must be postmarked by Friday, June 4. (If clicking the link does not work, copy and paste the link into your browser's address bar.) You can also call (317) 232-7770, or e-mail [PIP@gpcpd.org](mailto:PIP@gpcpd.org) .

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### **Save the Date**

Wednesday, June 23<sup>rd</sup>

Join us for ASK Appreciation Day at an Indians game at Victory Field

To learn more about these new staff members, visit our staff page on our website.

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### **CSHCS Family Travel Claims**

As a result of the current state of the economy, the CSHCS Program, along with other programs throughout state government is facing reductions in available funding. As you may know, the CSHCS Program Travel Reimbursement expenses are totally supported by state monies. Therefore, they had had to make some tough decisions in an effort to curb costs while maintaining the broadest positive child health outcomes in the state.

Effective July 1, 2010, The Children's Special Health Care Services program will discontinue travel reimbursement for participants dually enrolled in CSHCS and Medicaid. Dually enrolled participants will need to contact their Hoosier Healthwise (HHW) assigned Healthplan to arrange transportation for future medical needs beginning July 1, 2010.

Please contact your Healthplan today to inquire about their travel arrangement process and timeframe requirements to ensure your travel needs are met.

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### **Your Input is Needed**

Julia Richards is a physician resident at Indiana University who is completing a service learning project with ASK this month. She is interested in putting together a project about how parents can discuss their child's disability with them. Before she begins the project, she is collecting some information from parents. Please help ASK and Julia by filling out this very brief survey! The link to the survey is:

<http://www.surveymonkey.com/s/KRBS5MP>

Survey responses are appreciated by April 28th.  
Thanks!

**About Special Kids | 800-964-4746**

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