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ASK E-Newsletter / August 2010



2nd Annual ASK Golf Tournament

Contact Us

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Join us for an afternoon of fun and golf on Friday, August 27th. ASK will be holding its 2nd Annual golf tournament fundraiser at Hickory Stick Golf Course located in Greenwood and is currently signing up golfers!

Golf the Day Away!

Cost is \$100 per player or \$400 per team and includes:
Lunch prior to tournament start
Greens and cart fees
Beverages while golfing
Dinner at Louie's after tournament
Placement and other contest prizes

Not a Golfer?

Join us for dinner and the raffle at Louie's (SR 135 and Stone's Crossing) at 6:00pm. Dinner cost is \$25 and online reservations must be made by August 20th

2010 ASK Trainings

Roadmap to Special Education: Laws and Process

Aug. 26 - Indianapolis
Aug. 27 - Kokomo

Additional trainings are added to our calendar as they are scheduled. To register for a

Featured Raffle Items

Raffle Prizes Include: 32" Flat Screen TV, Private Wine Tasting Party, Jewelry, Restaurant gift cards, Sporting goods and tickets, behind the scenes tour and elephant painting at Indy Zoo, and more

All proceeds from this event will go to ASK to help support families of children with special needs. Visit our website for more information or to register.

training, visit our website at www.aboutspecialkids.org

Special Thanks to the Gold and Silver Sponsors of our 2010 Golf Tournament



Be a Champion for ASK

As a volunteer Champion for ASK, you will help us reach the over 260,000 children in Indiana that have been identified with special needs. An ASK Champion's main goal is to heighten awareness for ASK as you reach out to your community and those people who either work with these families or can help us reach those families. Opportunities can be flexible based on your skills, interests and time availability.

We need to spread the word that ASK is available, free of charge, to all families of kids with special needs. We just have to find them... and with your help, we will.

We hope to see you there.

Healthcare Reform Update: Coverage to Age 26

The health care reform has a provision allowing children up to age 26 to get insurance through their parents' family coverage.

Information on the rule/provision -- including a fact sheet, Q&A, and the rule itself can be found at http://www.hhs.gov/ociio/regulations/index.html#dependent_coverage. The Fact Sheet and Q&A both include a list of the insurance companies that have volunteered to make this coverage available before the required 9/23 implementation date.

A highlight from the Fact Sheet is below:

Access to Insurance: What Young Adults & Parents Need to Do:

- **Check for Immediate Options:** Private health insurance companies that cover the majority of Americans have volunteered to provide coverage earlier than the implementation deadline for young adults losing coverage as a result of graduating from college or aging out of dependent coverage on a family policy. This stop-gap coverage, in many cases, is available now. Ask your employer and insurer about this option.
- **Watch for Open Enrollment:** If early coverage is not an option with your employer or insurance company, then young adults will qualify for an open enrollment period to join their parents' family plan or policy beginning on or after September 23, 2010. Insurers and employers are required to provide notice for this special open enrollment period. Watch for it or ask about it.
- **Expect an Offer of Continued Enrollment:** Insurers and employers that sponsor health plans will inform young adults of continued eligibility for coverage until the age of 26. To get the coverage, young adults and their parents need not do anything but sign up and pay for this option.

Parent Survey 2009-2010

All parents of Indiana students receiving special education services should receive a survey sometime between the second week of August 2010 and the end of the week that school starts. This confidential survey will take five minutes to complete and measures parent satisfaction with their experience in working with education staff at their children's school and the special education services their children receive.

Parents will receive a letter in a white business-sized envelope from their children's school containing information about how to complete the survey on-line. Parents without Internet access may complete the paper copy of the survey included in the envelope or call a designated

For more information contact:
media@abouthepecialkids.org

toll-free number. Parents will receive survey letters by mail or in person. Some survey letters may also be sent home with the children receiving special education services.

2010-2011 Central Indiana Sibshops:

Central Indiana Sibshops (ages 8-13), Young Sibshops (ages 4-7), and Teen Sibshops (ages 14-17) for siblings of children with special needs, will be offered this fall and into next summer through a partnership between several Central Indiana organizations.

Visit our website's "Did You Know" section for upcoming dates and locations. You can also search our Resource Directory for a listing of organizations that offer these programs.

If parents do not receive a survey by September 10, they should request one by contacting the person at their children's school responsible for overseeing the special education services their children receive.

Building Pathways to Empowerment

For over fifty years, The Arc of Indiana has been the driving force behind the vision of a brighter future for persons of all abilities. While we are closer than ever to seeing the dream of an inclusive community become reality, there is still a great deal of work to be done. Toward that end, The Arc of Indiana has launched the "Building Pathways to Empowerment" campaign—an initiative to take a fresh look at Indiana's system of programs and services for persons with developmental disabilities and their families. The goal is to redesign and redefine that system into one that provides people with what they want and need in the most sensible way possible. It is not just the state that needs to change, or providers that need to change, but communities, families and advocates need to change as we all respond to the challenges facing us.

To learn more about The Arc, or to join the Building Pathways to Empowerment campaign, visit <http://www.arcind.org/>, or call 800-382-9100.

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