

Issue: Jan. 2010

## About Special Kids



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



**HAPPY  
NEW YEAR**

### 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)

### 2010 ASK Trainings

Roadmap to Special  
Education: Laws and Process

Jan. 28th - Indianapolis  
Jan. 29th - Ft. Wayne  
Feb. 26th - Kokomo

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

Feb. 19th - New Albany

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

### New Funding

### Now Hiring

About Special Kids (ASK) is currently hiring a Parent Liaison to serve Blackford, Jay, Madison, Delaware, Randolph, Henry, and Wayne counties. The candidate must reside in one of these counties.

The Parent Liaison will help families of children with special needs identify and navigate through available resources and programs to meet their child's physical, mental, emotional, and educational needs.

This position will be 20 hours per week, with the possibility of more hours added at a later date, at a pay rate of \$13-\$15 per hour, dependent upon experience.

Parents of children with special needs (physical disabilities, mental health diagnoses, chronic health conditions, developmental disabilities, etc) are encouraged to apply for this position that will provide parent to parent support in the counties identified.

Please send a cover letter and resume to Jane Scott, Director of Family Support at [jane@aboutspecialkids.org](mailto:jane@aboutspecialkids.org) or fax to 317-251-7488.

Visit our website at [www.aboutspecialkids.org](http://www.aboutspecialkids.org) to learn more about this and other positions available.

### 2010 One Day Sibshop Awareness Session And Two Day Sibshop Facilitator Training

Presented by: Riley Hospital for Children

The Goal of this Training: To build capacity within the Clarian Health statewide network, the Indiana University School of Medicine statewide network, and community partner statewide networks to be able to offer Sibshops statewide for families of children with disabilities or health care needs.

ASK has been awarded two grants to reach out and serve minorities and Spanish-speaking families:  
A \$3,000 grant from Autism Advocates of Indiana

A \$4,500 grant from the Rotary Foundation of Indianapolis, Inc.

We would like to thank these organizations for helping us in our mission.

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### Someone to Listen

Do you feel alone? Like no one understands what you are going through? Is your child in First Steps? What you may need is someone you can talk to who has been where you are . . . what you need is a **Parent Mentor**.

Parent Mentors are volunteer parents that offer peer support with another parent. These Parent Mentors have encountered the same obstacles, and experienced similar milestones, and will help you feel less isolated and more confident in the day-to-day journey of raising a child with special needs. If you would like to be matched up with a parent mentor, contact your local ASK Parent Liaison.

If you do not know your local ASK Parent Liaison, please call 800-964-4746.

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### Don't Pity Me

By: Joanne Green

Don't pity me  
because my child was not born "perfect", for in his imperfection I have learned to see beauty that is deeper than the flesh.

Don't pity me  
because my child and I have faced challenges that have served to forge a bond much deeper than love.

Don't pity me,  
because you could not have done this, for I thought that too

### Training Overview:

**Sibshop Awareness Session, February 26, 2010 (9 am to 3:30 pm):** Awareness Session about Sibshops and the importance of brother and sister relationships in families of children with disabilities or health care needs.

**Sibshop Facilitator Training, February 26 (9 am to 3:30 pm) and February 27, 2010 (9 am to 3:00 pm):** Sibshop Facilitator Training includes participation in Awareness Session on February 26 and in a demonstration Sibshop Workshop on February 27.

For questions regarding this Sibshop Awareness and Facilitator training please call toll free 1-888-365-2022.

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### Your Opinion Counts CSHCN Survey

The Maternal and Children's Special Health Care Services (CSHCS) is asking for input to help prioritize needs for the MCH/CSHCS 5 Year Needs Assessment. A Public Input Survey has been created and is available online at <http://www.in.gov/isdh/19575.htm>.

Please take a moment to look at the Survey and the Survey Instructions. Save the Survey and Instructions to your computer, then follow the instructions to fill it out and e-mail it back.

Your opinion is very important and will help decide what topics will try and be addressed first in the Maternal and Child Health and Children's Special Health Care Services programs over the next several years.

Thank you again for your help in this important effort!

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### NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING AND COMMENT PERIOD

### **INDIVIDUALS WITH DISABILITIES** **EDUCATION ACT, PART C** **OMB NO. 1820-0550**

The State of Indiana is accepting public comment on proposed revisions to the Individuals with Disabilities Act, Part C Cost Participation Procedures, to allow the option to suspend services for families with a past due amount of 60 days or more.

Notice is hereby given that, on January 20, 2010, a public hearing will be held. Oral testimony will begin at 10:00am, and will be limited to 10 minutes per person, to allow sufficient time for all interested parties to speak. Please bring a written copy of comments. If an accommodation is required to allow an individual with a disability to participate in this hearing, please contact Cathy Robinson at (317) 233-6094 in advance if possible.

The hearing will be held at:  
Indiana Government Center South (IGCS) Auditorium

once, before I learned that  
through love you can do  
a great many things you once  
couldn't do.

Don't pity me,  
my child is the greatest blessing  
to ever touch my life  
I am rich to have him, and richer  
still for the experience of  
knowing him. And if you are  
truly my friend, then you will  
understand.

And please,  
Don't Pity Me.

402 W. Washington St.  
Indianapolis, IN 46204

Proposed revisions are on file with the Bureau of Child Development Services (BCDS). Interested persons may download copies via the "What's New" section at [www.firststeps.in.gov](http://www.firststeps.in.gov), or review them at First Steps System Point of Entry (SPOE) offices.

If interested parties cannot attend the hearing, written comments will be accepted beginning immediately and until January 27, 2010 (postmark or email date). They should include the name, title, and address of commenter, specific concerns, and recommended actions to be taken.

Mailing address is: First Steps Early Intervention System, Bureau of Child Development Services, 402 W. Washington St., Room W-364, MS-51, Indianapolis, IN 46204, Attn: FS Cost Participation. Email submissions can be sent to the [firststepsweb@fssa.in.gov](mailto:firststepsweb@fssa.in.gov).

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If you prefer not to receive  
future e-mails of this type,  
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