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[www.aboutspecialkids.org](http://www.aboutspecialkids.org)



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ASK E-Newsletter | March 2014



## **Contact Us**

### **About Special Kids (ASK)**

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## **Disability Awareness Month**

Each March, Disability Awareness Month is celebrated throughout Indiana. And given that adults and children with disabilities represent slightly more than 19 percent of Indiana's population, disability awareness is important for all of us. Led by the Indiana Governor's Council for People with Disabilities, the goal of Disability Awareness Month is to increase awareness and promote independence, integration and inclusion of all people with disabilities.

The 2014 campaign theme is "Dream to Dare." The poster art features a simple, meaningful poem to frame our attitudes toward what we all want to achieve—



## **2014 Trainings**

### **My Child Has Special Needs:**

#### **Now What?**

March 13th - Kokomo

March 13th - Schererville

### **Roadmap to Special Education:**

#### **Laws and Process**

March 20th - Ft. Wayne

April 22nd - Ligonier

April 26th - Merrillville

April 28th - Columbus

April 30th - Bloomington

### **It's Not WHAT You Say . . . It's HOW**

#### **You Say It: Effective Communication**

April 9th - Indianapolis

To view the calendar or register for a training, visit our website at [www.aboutspecialkids.org](http://www.aboutspecialkids.org).



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## **Become an ASK Champion**

An ASK Champion has compassion for families of kids with special needs and understands the value of the support ASK provides these families. 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.

#### **An ASK Champion is someone who:**

- Understands our mission and how we are relevant to families and the community.
- Is willing to help the outreach and support efforts of ASK in their community.

Champions can choose how they would like to give their time based on personal skills, interests and time availability.



communities that are sustainable, accessible, economically viable and encourage civic and social engagement for all. The text at the bottom of the poster challenges us to "be a force in our community" by learning more about smart growth as we rethink and revitalize our communities.



## **Let's Go For A Walk**

Join us May 18<sup>th</sup> for the **Annual Family and Pet Walking for Dreams**. Go to <http://walkingfordreams.org/> to register – make sure to select About Special Kids to receive your team's pledges.

In addition, for the walk we are having a T-Shirt design contest. We are looking for Kindergarten to 6<sup>th</sup> Graders to participate in our inaugural t-shirt design contest. Winning design will be on our About Special Kids' *Walking for Dreams t-shirts* at our annual walk May 18, 2014. Contest participants, parents and siblings will receive a complimentary entry to the walk. To enter the design contest print the form located on our website at [www.aboutspecialkids.org](http://www.aboutspecialkids.org)

For walk details - <http://walkingfordreams.org/>

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## **A Message to Parents of Children with Autism Spectrum Disorder Targeted for the Family Supports Medicaid Waiver**

Families who have a child with an autism spectrum disorder who receive an Applied Behavior Analysis (ABA) benefit from a **Medicaid HMO or Managed Care Plan**, such as MDWise or Hoosier Healthwise, need to be aware how this benefit could be affected if your child is approved to receive services through the Family Supports (FS) Medicaid Waiver.

When an individual is approved for the Family Supports



## Upcoming ASK Webinar

ASK and the Riley Safety Store will be holding a webinar on child safety. / ASK y Riley Safety Store (tienda de seguridad Riley) presentaran un seminario en línea sobre seguridad infantil.

This webinar will include information on safety around the home and in the community. Information on safety for children with disabilities will also be presented. / Este seminario Web incluirá información sobre la seguridad en el hogar y en la comunidad. También se presentará información sobre seguridad para niños con discapacidades

This webinar will be presented in Spanish. / ¡Este seminario será presentado en español!

When: March 18, 2014 /  
Martes 18 de Marzo, 2014  
11:00 am – 12:00 pm EST

Presented by/ Presentado Por:  
Patty Reed– ASK Bilingual Parent Liason  
Rosy Hyre – Riley Safety Store

To participate in the webinar:

1. Go to <http://www.ustream.com>
2. Search "Seguridad Del Niño"
3. Click on the ASK Webinar.

Waiver he or she will be moved to a traditional **Medicaid Disability** plan, which does not offer ABA benefits, resulting in the loss of coverage for ABA.

If you have a **private commercial policy** through your employer, a policy that you have purchased on your own, or a policy purchased through the healthcare.gov website (an Affordable Care Act marketplace plan) **your child can keep his or her private plan when they get the waiver**. The private plan will be their "primary" insurance, and Medicaid will be their "secondary" insurance.

It is very important for families to understand their full range of options and make an informed decision about whether or not to accept a Medicaid Waiver spot. Before making this decision, please contact one of the advocacy organizations listed below to receive an explanation of Medicaid Waiver benefits, the possible consequences of turning down a waiver spot, Medicaid options, and other resources that may benefit you and your family.

### **About Special Kids**

317-257-8683 800-964-4746  
[familynetw@abousspecialkids.org](mailto:familynetw@abousspecialkids.org)

### **Autism Society of Indiana**

800-669-8449  
[info@inautism.org](mailto:info@inautism.org)

### **Family Voices Indiana**

317-944-8982  
[info@fvindiana.org](mailto:info@fvindiana.org)

### **The Arc of Indiana**

317-977-2375 / 800-382-9100  
[thearc@arcind.org](mailto:thearc@arcind.org)

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## 2014 ASK Golf Tournament

**Mark your calendar** for the 2014 ASK Golf Tournament. The event will be held at Hickory Stick Golf Club in Greenwood on May 30, 2014. [Registration](#) is now open.

[About Special Kids | 800-964-4746](#)

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