



**Welcome!**

**MAKING CONNECTIONS CENTRAL TARRANT**

**DISABILITY RESOURCES FOR ALL AGES**

**2023 Making Connections  
Central Tarrant Disability Resource Fair**

**Schedule:**

- 8:30 A.M. .... Exhibitor Hall check-in/set up**
- 9:45 A.M. .... Exhibitor Hall opens  
Kids Activity Room opens**
- 10:00 A.M. – 10:45 A.M. ... Breakout Sessions #1**
- 11:15 A.M. -12:00 P.M. .... Breakout Sessions #2**
- 12:30 P.M. .... Kids Activity Room Closes**
- 1:00 P.M. .... Exhibitor Hall Closes**

*Complete and Return Survey before leaving to receive door prize entry*



**Scan to access digital copy  
of Directory**

***The IDD Council of Tarrant County is proud to partner with Fort Worth ISD to host  
"MAKING CONNECTIONS" CENTRAL TARRANT DISABILITY RESOURCE FAIR***



The IDD Council’s Making Connections Disability Resource Fairs bring together the disability resources in our community to one, easily accessed location for families and caregivers to collect information and learn about benefits and services each provide. Making Connections Disability Resource Fairs are held each year in various locations throughout Tarrant County.

# BREAKOUT SESSIONS

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## 10:00 - 10:45 a.m.

### **Guardianship: Rush to the Courthouse or Last Resort? (Most useful for families with children over 14)**

An overview of the laws applicable to guardianship in Texas, the evidence and standard of proof needed to obtain guardianship and the many alternatives to guardianship. *By Judge Brooke Allen, Tarrant County Probate 2 Court.*

### **Life Planning Nuts and Bolts**

Caregivers have many concerns and responsibilities in the care for their loved one. How does one plan for their finances, daily physical care, emotional support, medical and education needs, housing and transportation needs, or attendants for legal matters? Learn the many steps in preparing for your child's future. *By TJ Kroehle, Texas Life Planning*

## 11:15 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

### **Understanding the ABLE Account: Saving for Your Child's Future**

An ABLE Account is a tax-advantaged savings account to help individuals with disabilities save money. Learn how Texans with disabilities can save and utilize an ABLE account for disability-related expenses without losing eligibility under SSI, SSDI, Medicaid and other means-tested public benefits. *By Heidi Angel, Kelly Hart*

### **Accessing Services through My Health My Resources (MHMR)**

As the State's Local IDD Authority (LIDDA), MHMR is the first point of contact for families looking for services. Learn about Texas' interest lists, options and benefits, and the criteria for services. *By My Health My Resources of Tarrant County.*

### **Basic Behavioral Management Techniques**

Many families with children with disabilities encounter behavior concerns in the home and community, such as not following directions and aggression. Parents and caregivers will obtain information and the understanding of why children engage in behaviors of concern and how to respond to these behaviors. Problem solving examples and strategies that can be implemented in the home will be discussed. *By Megan Thompson, Keller ISD.*

*The IDD Council:*

*To transform the region into an inclusive community where persons with intellectual & developmental disabilities (IDD) thrive.*

# WE WELCOME THE FOLLOWING ORGANIZATIONS TO THE MAKING CONNECTIONS CENTRAL TARRANT DISABILITY RESOURCES FAIR

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*We appreciate the sponsorship contributions from organizations marked with a star (★) who are underwriters for today's event. Please stop by their table and say thank you!*

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## **ACUMEN FISCAL AGENT**

**469-421-2605**

Acumen Fiscal Agent is an FMSA for families who choose self-direction rather than an agency option. Acumen serves the entire State of Texas. [www.acumenfiscalag.wpengine.com/state/texas/](http://www.acumenfiscalag.wpengine.com/state/texas/)

## **AETNA BETTER HEALTH OF TX - STAR KIDS, STAR AND CHIP MEDICAID**

**817-707-5460**

Star Kids, Star and Chip Medicaid for children and pregnant women [www.AetnaBetterHealthofTX.com](http://www.AetnaBetterHealthofTX.com)

## **AGING AND DISABILITY RESOURCE CENTERS (ADRC)**

**855-937-2372**

Provide options for long term services and supports through state and local non profits.

## **ASSOCIATION FOR INDEPENDENT LIVING (AFIL)**

**214-351-0798**

AFIL is a nonprofit Residential Life Skills Program for Young Adults with Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities. We have 3 levels to our program, each one building on the previous, and we describe our program as a stair step approach to learning independence. Our program is most appropriate for those who can safely live on their own but need the guidance to gradually learn the skills in real time and in a supported environment. AFIL is located in Dallas near Love Field Airport, and we encourage families from all cities and areas to consider our program for their loved one. [www.afildfw.org](http://www.afildfw.org)

## **★ BAYLOR SCOTT & WHITE HEALTH ALL SAINTS MEDICAL CENTER**

**972-824-5366**

Nutrition information and free FLU Vaccines with your insurance card. [www.bswhealth.com/locations/fort-worth-hospital](http://www.bswhealth.com/locations/fort-worth-hospital)

## **★ BE AN ANGEL DFW**

**940-867-3359**

Be An Angel DFW's mission is to improve the quality of life for children with multiple disabilities or profound deafness by providing needed adaptive equipment and select services. BAA DFW buys adaptive equipment, hearing aids, lifts, etc.; pays for up to 12 hours of respite care per month; personally shops for Christmas gifts; pays for van conversions; takes the whole family to weekend barrier-free camps; builds all-inclusive playgrounds; and more for limited income children. [www.beanangel.org/dfw](http://www.beanangel.org/dfw)

## **CITY OF FORT WORTH - PARK & RECREATION**

**817-392-7427**

The City of Fort Worth - Park & Recreation serves families in the DFW with adaptive programming and events year-round. Many of these events and programs are completely free for our participants. Events and Programs include - STEM, 4H, Adapted PE, Art Therapy, Yoga, Unified Dance, Adapted Luau, and more! [www.fortworthtexas.gov/departments/parks](http://www.fortworthtexas.gov/departments/parks)

## **CONCEPT CONNECTIONS**

**972-786-5997**

Our vision is to take a naturalistic, compassion-led approach to ABA therapy by instilling independent skills and improving the lives of our clients and families. We offer clinic and in-home therapy, along with family training. [www.autismtherapyexperts.com](http://www.autismtherapyexperts.com)

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**DOWN SYNDROME PARTNERSHIP OF NORTH TEXAS****1-682-316-3121**

The Down Syndrome Partnership of North Texas supports individuals with Down syndrome, their families and caregivers in achieving the universally desired goals of self-fulfillment, pride in one's achievements, inclusion in the community, and reaching one's fullest potential through social and educational activities. DSPNT has been serving families in North Texas (Tarrant, Johnson, Hood, Parker, and Wise counties) since 1995. Our programs serve families and individuals with Down syndrome through all stages of life - from diagnosis through adulthood. Our mission is to provide support to individuals with Down syndrome and their families through awareness and engagement, advocacy and outreach, education, and the exchange of ideas and experiences. [www.dsnt.org](http://www.dsnt.org)

**FAMILY OF FAITH SERVICE PROVIDERS****972-861-2884**

We are an HCS Provider serving those with IDD. We provide Nursing, Behavioral Support, ISS, Supervised Living, PT, OT, Speech Therapy, and Host Homes. [www.familyoffaithserviceproviders.com](http://www.familyoffaithserviceproviders.com)

**FOR FAMILIES OF SPECIAL NEEDS****972-964-3444 EXT. 127**

For Families of Special Needs, Inc. is an organization specializing in assisting individuals with disabilities and their families in understanding the United States social systems and benefits which may be available to them. For Families of Special Needs also assists families in developing long-range care, communication, and estate plans through structured workshops. [www.txlifeplanning.com](http://www.txlifeplanning.com)

**FWISD SPECIAL EDUCATION PTA****910-528-2549**

The FWISD Special Education PTA was formed in 2018 by a group of parents and teachers wanting to make sure that children receiving Special Education services have the best experience possible. The SEPTA is unique in that it is the first district-wide PTA at FWISD. Our bylaws were approved by the Texas PTA on June 15, 2018. We share the mission of PTA to make every child's potential a reality by engaging and empowering families and communities to advocate for ALL children. FWISD is driven by their mission to prepare ALL students for success in college, career, and community leadership. Our challenge is to assure that pursuit of that mission truly includes ALL students. Our organization's mission has grown into a Vision centered around five core areas: Safety & Security, Accessibility & Mobility, Education, Inclusion, Advocacy. This vision will guide our work as we collaborate with the schools and community to improve the outcomes for our children. We hope you will join us as we make this organization and FWISD the best it can be.

**GREEN OAKS EDUCATION AND SUPPORT, INC.****817.861.5000**

Green Oaks Education and Support, Inc. is a unique Christian educational program for children and adults with intellectual disabilities in the North Texas area. Green Oaks Education and Support, Inc. consists of three programs, Green Oaks School, Green Oaks Adult Learning, and Green Oaks Life Prep (a three-year college-like program on the campus of Arlington Baptist University). Our classes are determined using age, developmental level, and social considerations. We also offer summer programs open to students who attend other programs during the school year. Green Oaks School is accredited by Cognia. [www.greenoaksinc.org](http://www.greenoaksinc.org)

**THE INTELLECTUAL AND DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES COUNCIL OF TARRANT COUNTY****817-725-7258**

The Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities Council of Tarrant County (IDD Council) is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization whose purpose is to transform the region into an inclusive community where persons with intellectual and developmental disabilities (IDD) thrive. We bring stakeholders, agencies providing services to people with IDD, self-advocates, and families together, to create an environment for an efficient and accessible system of support for people with IDD. The IDD Council hosts numerous educational events, family fun activities, and Making Connections Disability Resources Fairs throughout Tarrant County. Open for all to attend, the IDD Council meets the first Thursday of each month from 9 – 10:30 a.m. Join us and help to advocate and spread awareness of IDD!

Visit [www.IDDCouncil.org/partners](http://www.IDDCouncil.org/partners) for more information about activities, events, volunteer opportunities, membership, sponsorship, and resources. 📍 “Follow” and “Like” us on social media. [www.facebook.com/IDDCouncil](https://www.facebook.com/IDDCouncil)

📍 [www.twitter.com/IDDCouncil](https://www.twitter.com/IDDCouncil)

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**★ LITERACY UNITED**

**817-924-2000**

The mission of Literacy United is to reach economically disadvantaged individuals who struggle in reading, one child at a time. In addition to the individual, small group, and afterschool programs we provide to partnering private/non-profit schools, we provide reading therapy services to IDD adults and children through our Reading for All (adults) and Reading for Life (children) programs. [www.literacyunited.org/](http://www.literacyunited.org/)

**MAXIMUS: ENROLLMENT BROKER/STAR+PLUS-STAR KIDS OUTREACH AND INFORMING 1-800-964-2777**

We represent Texas Health Steps Outreach & Informing, Texas STAR, STAR+PLUS, STAR Kids programs serving Medicaid children and families. We educate clients on how to use the programs, assist in choosing a medical/ dental health plan and a Primary Care Physician, and do plan changes if necessary. We are also available to do group presentations for your staff meetings or any parent meetings that your agency coordinates.

**MOLINA HEALTHCARE OF TEXAS 1-866-449-6849**

Molina believes every person, family and community deserves access to high-quality health care regardless of their situation. Molina Healthcare's mission is to improve the health and lives of our members by delivering high-quality health care. Our mission is to deliver effective, reliable and affordable health care to those who need it most. [www.molinahealthcare.com](http://www.molinahealthcare.com)

**MY HEALTH MY RESOURCES (MHMR) OF TARRANT COUNTY 817-569-4300**

Using innovative approaches, MHMR Tarrant has improved the lives of people with health care needs such as substance use disorder, psychiatric disorders, intellectual and development disabilities, and developmental delays. MHMR also provides information about COVID 19 vaccinations. [www.mhmrtarrant.org](http://www.mhmrtarrant.org)

**OAK STREET HEALTH 817-380-9164**

We are a Primary Care Doctor's office for Adults on Medicare. [www.oakstreethhealth.com/locations/fort-worth-tx](http://www.oakstreethhealth.com/locations/fort-worth-tx)

**PLATICAS AZULESFW 682-323-9225**

Somos un grupo de apoyo para mamás y familias de hijos autista y/o otras discapacidades de la comunidad Hispana en el area de Fort Worth. We are a support group for autism and/or other disabilities moms & families in the Hispanic community in the Fort Worth area.

**SOUNDLY SPEAKING THERAPY SERVICES, PLLC 469-659-6548**

Soundly Speaking Therapy Services is the number one provider of Speech, PT, OT, and Dietary services to adults with IDD in the state of Texas. Adults with IDD truly have our heart and everything we do is with the intended goal of bettering their lives. [www.soundlyspeakingtherapyservices.com](http://www.soundlyspeakingtherapyservices.com)

**TEXAS WORKFORCE COMMISSION 512-569-4258**

Providing publications and resources to students, parents and teachers for career exploration and workforce readiness. [www.twc.texas.gov](http://www.twc.texas.gov)

**WWW.WORKABILITY.ONE EMAIL: OUTREACH@WORKABILITY.ONE**

[www.workability.one](http://www.workability.one) is an internet job board that connects neurodiverse, autistic and disabled job seekers with inclusive employers worldwide. [www.workability.one](http://www.workability.one)

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# SAVE THE DATES!

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<p><b>It's SANTA! It's SANTA!</b> Mr. and Mrs. Santa Claus will be dropping by for photos, cookies and cocoa!</p> <p><b>SAVE THE DATE</b> <b>WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 6, 2023</b> 6 p.m. – 8 p.m.</p> <p>To accommodate social distance requirements and time limitations, advance reserved time spots are recommended. Registration coming soon at <a href="http://www.IDDCouncil.org/sensorysanta">www.IDDCouncil.org/sensorysanta</a></p> <p><b>WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 6</b> SENSORY SANTA</p>	<p> </p> <p><b>MAKING CONNECTIONS NORTH TARRANT</b> DISABILITY RESOURCES FOR ALL AGES</p> <p><b>SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 24, 2024</b> MAKING CONNECTIONS NORTH TARRANT DISABILITY RESOURCES FAIR</p>	<p> <b>CAPEabilities Job Fair 2024</b> <i>Connecting All People with Employment</i> <small>A job fair promoting employment opportunity for people with intellectual and developmental disabilities (IDD).</small></p> <p><b>FRIDAY, MAY 10, 2024</b> CAPEABILITIES JOB FAIR <u>C</u>ONNECTING <u>A</u>LL <u>P</u>EOPL<u>E</u> WITH <u>E</u>MPL<u>O</u>YMENT</p>
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**FOR MORE ACTIVITIES AND EVENTS SIGN UP TO RECEIVE THE IDD COUNCIL NEWSLETTER:**

<https://www.iddcouncil.org/iddevents>

## NOTES:

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