



A Division of The Association For Community Living

COMMUNITY RESOURCES

FOR PEOPLE WITH AUTISM

*Creating Opportunities, Building Relationships, Improving Lives
for children and adults with developmental disabilities since 1952*

www.communityresourcesforautism.org



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Celebrate

the holiday season with

Community Resources for People with Autism

*Let's enjoy the evening with
friends, food, entertainment, Santa,
and presents for every child!*

Friday, December 17, 2010

6:00 pm - 8:00 pm

Holy Cross Parish Hall

23 Sycamore St., Holyoke, MA

(corner of Dwight St. and Holy Cross Avenue)

Potluck--if your last name begins with:

A-G please bring a dessert

H-Z please bring an appetizer

*So that we have a gift for every child,
please RSVP by December 10 to:*

Community Resources at (413) 529-2428

or email Jess Dockendorff at dockendj@theassn.org

****We will need each child's name, age, and gender****

*There is limited space in the hall,
so sign up is on*



DECEMBER 2010

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1	2 Berkshire Open Swim	3 Berkshire Teen Group	4 Conference on Transition Planning
5	6	7 Asperger's 101 6:30 - 8:30 PM	8	9 Berkshire Open Swim	10 Berkshire Teen Group	11 Futures Planning Workshop
12	13	14	15	16 Berkshire Open Swim	17 Family Holiday Party 6 - 8 PM Holy Cross Parish Holyoke, MA	18
19	20	21	22	23 Berkshire Open Swim	24 Christmas Eve Office Closed	25
26	27	28	29	30 Berkshire Open Swim	31 New Year's Eve Office Closed	
		Notes:				
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COMMUNITY RESOURCES' HAPPENINGS

Asperger's 101

Tuesday, December 7th

6:30 - 8:30 PM

Shriners Hospital, Springfield, MA

This workshop is intended to introduce families and caretakers to Asperger's Syndrome. Characteristics and strategies to help individuals are discussed, as well as some of the social difficulties that people with Asperger's experience. The workshop will also provide an opportunity to meet other parents of children and young adults with Asperger's. We encourage friends, family members, and support persons to attend this valuable workshop.

This event will be hosted by the Springfield PAC

Please RSVP by Friday, December 3rd to Community Resources, (413) 529-2428

COMMUNITY EVENTS

Conference on Transition Planning (Conferencia de Planificación Transición)

Saturday, December 4, 2010, 9:30 am - 3:30 pm

(Sabado 4 de diciembre de 2010, 9:30 am - 3:30 pm)

Springfield Technical Community College

Scibelli Hall, Building 2

Room 703 -704

1 Armory Square, Suite 1

Springfield, MA 01102-9000

A free training and clinic for parents and youth on special education transition services for children with disabilities, ages 14-22 In Spanish and English

(Un entrenamiento gratuito y clínica para padres y jóvenes sobre educación special de servicios de transición para los niños con incapacidades, edades 14-22. En Español e Inglés)

For registration (inscripción), call: 800-872-9992 or TTY: 800-381-0577

Website (página web): www.dlc-ma.org

CART and ASL will be provided if requested by Nov. 26th; Spanish interpretation will be provided (Se ofrecerá CART y ASL si se solicitan a más tardar el 26 de noviembre de 2010)

Registration is FREE!

(¡La conferencia es GRATUITA!)

Futures Planning Workshop

Saturday, December 11, 2010; 9:00 am - 12:00 pm; Registration begins at 8:30 am

Crowne Plaza, Pittsfield

Presented by: Attorney Theresa Varnet

This workshop will address new guardianship regulations, public benefits, and special needs trusts.

Free for BCARC family members; \$25 for professionals

For more information or to register, contact: Maryann Hyatt at (413) 499-4241 x227

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SAVE THE DATE!

Berkshire Sibshops: Workshops for Children with Siblings with Special Needs

Ice Skating

Saturday, January 22nd; 2 - 3:30pm

Foote Memorial Skating Rink

1267 South Church St., North Adams, MA

Bring \$5 for snacks

Community Resources for People with Autism Workshop & Training Calendar 2010—2011

Asperger's 101

- Thursday, January 6, 2011 (snow date: Tuesday, Jan. 27); 6:30 pm to 8:30 pm
BCARC Social Development Center (65 Depot St.; Dalton, MA)
- Thursday, January 13, 2011 (snow date: Thursday, Jan. 20); 6:00 pm to 8:30 pm
Community Resources for People with Autism (116 Pleasant St., Ste. 366; Easthampton)
- Tuesday, May 10, 2011; 6:30 pm to 8:30 pm
Holyoke Community College—KC 301 (303 Homestead Ave., Holyoke)

Insight Into Autism

Thursday, March 10 (snow date: March 17); 6:00 to 8:30 PM

BCARC Social Development Center (65 Depot St., Dalton, MA)

The Hidden Curriculum

Tuesday, March 15; 6:00 to 8:00 pm

New North Citizen's Council (2383 Main St., Springfield)

21st Annual Conference

Tuesday, April 12; 8:30 am to 3:30 pm

The Log Cabin; Holyoke, MA

Speakers: Barry Prizant, Ph.D., and Roy Richard Grinker, Ph.D.

Be sure to check our monthly mailings for more details as the dates approach!

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2nd Annual Stepping Out for Autism

Make a difference in the life of an individual with autism!

*Saturday, January 22nd 2011
6:00 pm to 11:00 pm
The Delaney House ~ Holyoke, MA*

TICKET PRICING

Ticket Price \$40
Table of 10 \$350
Early Bird Ticket \$35

(Early Bird must be purchased by 12/15/10)

*Hor D'oeuvres and Dinner will be served
Dancing to the music of Union Jack
Silent Auction and Raffle Prizes*

For more information and to purchase tickets, visit:

www.communityresourcesforautism.org

or

call Community Resources at (413)529-2428

Berkshire Swim

Community Resources for People with Autism's Berkshire Autism Projects Committee has joined the Berkshire County ARC and Berkshire Family and Individual Resources to sponsor an hour of family swim.

Location:

Gladys Allen Brigham Community Center
165 East St., Pittsfield

When:

6:00 pm – 7:00 pm
Every Thursday evening (excluding holidays)
September 30, 2010, through May 2011

No cost to families!

There will be lifeguards on duty;
however, children will need to be accompanied by parents or care providers.

Please call the Gladys Allen Brigham Community Center at (413) 442-5174 by 3:00 pm on the day you plan to attend to ensure that they have enough lifeguards on duty.

If you have any questions, please call Megan Sherman at (413) 443-4780 x 15.



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Parent & Teen Support Groups

Amherst Support Group For Parents of Special Needs Children

Meetings held at Hampshire Family
Support Center, Rte. 9, Hadley
Fridays 9:30 - 11AM
Drop-ins welcomed.
No childcare provided.
Running thru May (except holidays)

For more information, contact
Phyllis Keenan at:
(413) 687-4191;
keenanpf@earthlink.net
Or contact Deb Belle at:
(413) 253-6402

The Special Needs Support System

This group is facilitated by Stephanie and Charles McCormick, parents of a special needs child.

Support and activities for families who have a child with special needs of any kind.

Meetings: 1st and Last Tuesday monthly
6:00 PM to 7:30 PM

Tabernacle Baptist Church
(603 New Ludlow Road, Chicopee)

Group activities for children!

For more information and to register,
please contact Stephanie:
specialchildren@yahoo.com or (413)693-5188.

Spanish Parent Support Group

Join Community Resources staff member, Betsy Rivera, at a Spanish speaking Parent Support Group.

For more information & location, please contact:

Betsy Rivera
(413) 529-2428 ext 112; riverab@theasn.org

Agawam Parent Support Group

Facilitated by Angie Jordan, a mom of a child with autism.

Dates: 1st & 3rd Thursday of each month

Time: 7:00 PM to 8:30 PM

Location: Agawam Senior Center
954 Main St., Agawam

No childcare—though children are welcome.
For more information, contact: Angie Jordan
(413) 786-3826; jadey73@gmail.com

GRASP Western MA Support Group

Anyone on the spectrum is invited, plus those in support roles if they clearly identify their role. You must register before you can attend. This allows your membership to remain as anonymous as you desire.

The 3rd Saturday 2:00 - 4:00 PM
Westfield Athenaeum
6 Elm St., Westfield

For more information, contact
Michael Reinlagen
mreinlagen@gmail.com

Amherst Autism Parent Group

3rd Saturday of each month
September 2010 — May 2011
11/20, 12/18, 1/15, 2/19, 3/19, 4/16, 5/21
10:00 AM to Noon
Chris & Laurel Peltier's
691 South East St. ; Amherst

For more information or to RSVP, contact:
Chris and Laurel Peltier
(413) 230-3287 or cnlpeltier@aol.com

Support Groups & Programs

Autism Parental Support Group

The Jericho community would like to welcome you to join our parental support group. The hope of this group is to support each other in every way as partners, parents, caregivers, and friends dealing with Autism, together.

Meetings: 3rd Wednesday monthly
September - May
6:30 PM to 8:00 PM
Jericho Pastoral Center
537 Northampton St., Holyoke, MA

Childcare is available, please call 413-538-7450 at least 2 days in advance if you will be bringing your child.

Social Thinking Groups with Kathleen Becker

Everyday Heroes, Social Detectives, Social Thinking & Skills—are just a few of the programs offered! All of the listed groups have a focus on social cognitive development as well as social skills. There is also time for practicing these skills via play and conversational activities. All groups are led by Kathleen Becker, a speech/language therapist specializing social cognition and skill development.

For more information, contact Kathleen at (413) 320-3408 or kmbecker42@gmail.com

Jewish Community Center Special Needs Programming

Many programs and classes offered for children with special needs. Check out their current offerings at www.springfieldjcc.org

Unified Sports Program

For information about the different sports and activities offered by Unified Sports Program, visit www.unifiedsportsprogram.com

All Out Adventures

Our mission is to promote health, community and independence for people with disabilities and their family and friends through outdoor recreation. Call for summer schedule, more information and to register at (413) 527-8980; or www.alloutadventures.org.

Online Support Forum

As a part of our efforts to expand the types of services we provide and ways parents can access and share information, Community Resources for People with Autism has developed an online forum for parents, professionals, and community members to exchange information and knowledge. On this forum, openly discuss specific autism-related topics, ask other parents for advice or suggestions, share your success stories, alert families and professionals of community events, and so much more.

Visit this new online forum at www.CRPAforum.proboards.com

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Bowling League

A bowling league for children with disabilities and their siblings.

When: Every other Saturday

Cost: \$15.50 per person—which includes shoe rental and 3 strings of bowling

Location: Agawam Bowl; 359 Walnut St. Ext., Agawam

For more information, contact Angie Jordan, (413) 330-6376 or jadey73@gmail.com

Yoga Classes

Yoga classes for children with an autism spectrum disorder and sensory issues.
Siblings are welcome, too!

When: Monthly—beginning Friday, September 24; 6:30 PM — 7:30 PM

Cost: \$15.00 per person

Location: Fitness First; Feeding Hills

For more information, contact Angie Jordan, (413) 330-6376 or jadey73@gmail.com

Update Your Info!

In an effort to make sure we are operating as efficiently as possible, give us a call and update your contact information. The majority of our communications are now happening through email—so, if we don't have your email address, you won't receive the most current information and might miss out on important events!

Call (413) 529-2428, or email info@communityresourcesforautism.org

Do You Have Something To Share?

Community Resources would love to hear your story!

- ◆ If you have a story you'd like to see featured in our newsletter, we'd love to hear it!
- ◆ If you would like to advertise a workshop, research study, community activity, or other information, let us know!

Please contact Jess Dockendorff at (413) 529-2428 or dockendj@theassn.org

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