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- **A good assessment of our folks is key to the long-term health of our DD program**

FCC SOCIAL 2/7/08, 3-5PM

All please come to the Family Care Council Social to be held on the ground floor, room 148, in the same building as the APD office, [210 N. Palmetto Ave](#), Daytona Beach, FL 32114.

This is a perfect opportunity to meet your family care council members and supporting members of the Agency for Persons with Disabilities. Here you will have the oppor-

tunity to tell us what we can do for you (or you for us).

We will have a short business meeting followed by cake, cookies, coffee conversation and a presentation by Jane Johnson, our state APD Director.

She will speak on her plans to improve the state of DD support in Florida and the role of the family care councils.

PREPARING FOR THE FUTURE

At the FCC meeting last week, we were informed that APD will be hiring 3 part-time workers to start a new assessment initiative.

This initiative will include all folks with developmental disabilities including those on the wait list. The wait list folks, however, will be assessed after the folks that are not on the wait list.

The idea behind doing this is to try and get a better handle on current and future needs of our folks. This will allow APD and the legislature to properly plan for the future, hopefully eliminating some of the budget crisis issue that seem to crop up every year.

APD will eventually contact you in order to complete the assessment.



PROVIDER RECOMMENDATIONS

The family care council is actively seeking recommendations from families about really good providers. See more on PG. 2

Preparing for your Child's IEP Meeting

Sheila Harlacher
Volusia County Schools
Exceptional Student Education,
Family Support Specialist

Every child with a disability who is eligible for exceptional student education (ESE) will have an individual educational plan (IEP). An IEP is a written plan for the special education of a child with a disability.

Your child's IEP will be written by a team of people at an IEP meeting. The IEP team will decide which special services and supports your child needs in order to make progress. You are an important member of this team. It is important for you to prepare for and participate in the meeting. Volusia County Schools wants parents to participate effectively in all aspects of the IEP process.

In preparation for the meeting you should think about the goals you have for your child's future. You may want to make a list of strengths and preferences and review the previous IEP. List any questions you may have and bring them with you to the meeting. You may bring individuals with you who are knowledgeable about your child.

Bring paper, a pen, and any records or evaluations of your child to the meeting. Share your vision for your child and

Come and meet Jane Johnson, APD director, at the Family Care Council Social on 2/7/08

If you are planning to attend, please call Sandra Mills at the APD office, 386-238-4607, and let her know or leave a message if she's not there. We would like to get a rough attendance count.

PROVIDER RECOMMENDATIONS (CONT. FROM PAGE 1)

We will be publishing those providers on our web site, www.fcc12.org, under info for families.

So far we have recommendations for support coordinators, behavioral specialist and a respite provider. Here they are:

SUPPORT COORDINATION
DANIEL H. CRANDALL

2 SWAN AVENUE
NEW SMYRNA BEACH
FL 32168
(386) 689-4543 Recommended by Susan Tanner, 386-736-9235

CAROL RUSHING

1888 POINSETTA DRIVE
PORT ORANGE FL
32128

(386) 238-6487 Recommended by Susan Tanner, 386-736-9235

DANA SANDERS

2809 SUNSET DRIVE
NEW SMYRNA BEACH
FL 32168
(386) 409-5295
Recommended by Susan Tanner, 386-736-9235

RESPITE
Tom Brander from Covenant Support services
Sanford, FL 386-416-8378

Recommended by Philip Pearson - 386-445-1288

BEHAVIORAL COUNSELING

DAVID L. AFFOLTER, M.S.Ed., LMHC
Licensed Mental Health Counselor
4550 S. Clyde Morris Blvd. Suite C
Port Orange, FL 32129
(386) 793-1346

MEET YOUR APD FOLKS PATRICK BURWELL

Patrick Burwell

I have a B.S. Degree in Sociology from Northern Michigan University and have worked with the State of Florida Social Services for over 22 years. Twelve years of that time has been with the Developmental Disabilities Program (Now the Agency for Persons with Disabilities).

Duties:

I assist eligible individuals and guardians in completing the necessary forms needed to place individuals on the Waiver Wait List. Provide ongoing communication re-

garding program related information including changes and updates. Maintain a central record and computer programs for individuals on the Wait List and/or not Medicaid eligible. Assist individuals to purchase commodities and/or services with General Revenue funding, when available.

Assist individuals to transition from the Waitlist to the Medicaid Waiver Program.

Assist individuals with the information referral process for Intermediate Care Facilities, Nursing Homes, the Mentally Retarded Defen-

Upcoming Provider Fairs

Folks, Here is your opportunity to meet and greet providers so that you can be better informed when hiring one.

So— In conjunction with the Volusia Flagler County Transition Team's Pathway to Transition Fair, APD will be hosting Provider Fairs. The dates and location will be as follows:

Tuesday, January 22, 2008
Deland High School
Time: 3:00 to 6:00 PM

Thursday, January 31, 2008
Daytona Beach College
Time: 3:00 to 6:00 PM

APD Quality Steering Committee

Did you know that APD has a quality steering committee? The purpose is to involve self-advocates, family members and other representatives in the efforts of quality improvement initiatives

The meetings are held quarterly at the APD office in Daytona Beach. The Area 12 Quality Steering Committee is currently working on addressing the need for quality providers in the areas of Dental, Physical Therapy, Speech Therapy, Occupational Therapy, Specialized Mental Health, and Dietary services. Contact APD if you would like to be involved.

dants Program, and all appropriate community resources.

Participate in Cost Plan reviews and provide technical assistance to Waiver Support Coordinators.

Complete special projects, attend trainings, and implement program changes as directed by the APD Central Office.

Assist individuals in crisis to apply for the Crisis Determination Review for possible transition to the Waiver.

It is always a good idea to get to know our APD folks. Our future lies in their hands.

Preparing for Your Child's IEP Meeting

talk about any services your child has received in the past and may be eligible for in the future. Listen and ask questions to make sure you understand what is being said. During the meeting you will discuss what your child should learn by the end of the year and what special education services, supports, accommodations or modifications, and assistive technology your child will receive.

Once the IEP is complete, the school will provide you a copy. Keep this with all other educational records for your child. If you have questions regarding anything included in the IEP, contact your child's teacher.

Taken from "Getting Ready for Your Child's IEP Meeting", distributed by the Florida Department of Education Bureau of Instructional Support and Community Services (2002).

FROM THE EDITOR

As I sat in the auditorium at DBCC last month and looked around at the attendance, I was, to say the least, disappointed!

The event was a Strategic Planning meeting called and organized by APD at the direction of Jane Johnson, director of the state-wide APD.

It was a great idea and one sorely needed by the state and the agency. In this time of budget short-falls and cuts we really need a good vision of who we are and where we are going with regards to supporting our DD folks and families.

These meetings are being hosted throughout the state in order to make sure that as much input is gathered from the stakeholders. Of course, the stakeholders are the families, the agency and the taxpayers.

At our meeting, there were less than a dozen families represented. We should have had at least a hundred! I understand that word was sent out about the meetings via the support coordinators so if you didn't receive info about the meeting, we would like to know.

If you did get word about the meeting and didn't attend, then I suggest that you reassess your priorities. This was a golden opportunity to give your input. Anyway—enough chastising!

The planning process went well and was well organized. One common theme that seemed to come out was one of communications. We all need much more information on what is going on with our folks.

We expect to get feedback from our meeting in the near future and plan to include some of it in our newsletter.

Your FCC

Again, we need your help on the Family Care Council. Strength comes through numbers.

One thing that we need is your input on where to focus our efforts. Please see the website, www.fcc12.org, for a list of priorities in our plan and contact me with any suggestions.

We also need suggestions for content for this newsletter.

Remember, we are given about \$10,000 by the legislature every year to advocate for our folks.

One place that we could use a person is to edit this newsletter. That person would need computer editing skills and be able to use a program like Microsoft

publisher or other newsletter publisher.

Thanks to Ed and Sandra and the rest of the team at APD for stepping up to the plate and helping us with meeting space and secretarial services at their location, [210 N. Palmetto Ave., Suite 312](#) Daytona Beach, FL 32114. We just lost both our office and secretarial services that we were receiving from Easter Seals and we weren't sure how we were going to cover them. This will certainly encourage more interaction between the FCC and our APD partners.

Contact me at
ppearson1@mindspring.com
 Or 386-445-1288

FCC UPCOMING MEETING SCHEDULE

- 1/10/08—3-5pm, APD office, [210 N. Palmetto Ave., Suite 312](#) Daytona Beach, FL 32114—we will have a presentation on the Centra Florida Parent Center featuring Anna "Mennona" Brynild
- 2/7/08—3-5pm, FCC Social featuring **Jane Johnson**, APD Director, Room 148, [210 N. Palmetto Ave.](#) Daytona Beach, FL 32114
- 3/13/08 -3-5pm, APD office, [210 N. Palmetto Ave., Suite 312](#) Daytona Beach, FL 32114
- 4/10/08—Bunnell/Palm Coast area, location and time TBD