

focus facts on community living

CENTER FOR LEARNING AND LEADERSHIP
OKLAHOMA'S FEDERALLY DESIGNATED
UNIVERSITY CENTER FOR EXCELLENCE IN DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES (UCEDD)

September 2015

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Nominations for TARC Awards

TARC is now accepting nominations for the 2015 Annual Advocacy Awards. The awards were created to recognize those who have provided outstanding service and advocacy to Oklahomans with developmental disabilities. Awards will be presented in the following categories of advocacy: catalyst of change, board member, case manager, direct care provider, educator, professional provider, volunteer, elected official, self-advocate, member of the media, and parent. There is also an award for special achievement in advocacy. TARC will celebrate the 25th Advocacy Awards and Volunteer Recognition event on Thursday, Dec. 3, 2015 at the OU-Tulsa Schusterman Learning Center, located at 41st St. and Yale Ave in Tulsa. Nominations are due November 2nd. For more information contact Craig Thompson at cthompson@ddadvocacy.net. To submit a nomination, go to www.ddadvocacy.net.

Sibling Caregivers Protected under FMLA

The Department of Labor has included sibling caregivers among those eligible for FMLA (Family and Medical Leave Act) in a new interpretation of the law. The FMLA provides eligible employees up to 12 weeks of unpaid leave a year and requires employers to maintain employee health benefits during the leave. Employees are also entitled to return to their jobs, or equivalent jobs, at the end of their FMLA leave. In two updated fact sheets, the Department of Labor explains who is protected under the FMLA. To view the fact sheets, visit, <http://tinyurl.com/coavmtm> or <http://tinyurl.com/8g2h3hm>. To read more about the FMLA, go to: <http://www.dol.gov/whd/fmla/fmla-faqs.htm#18>.

Mid-Atlantic ADA Center Provides Guide to Accessible Meetings

The Mid-Atlantic ADA Center has released a "Guide to Accessible Meetings, Events, and Conferences" to assist organizations in making their meetings accessible to people with disabilities. The extensive guide covers site selection, pre-event activities, universal design in presentations, food service, considerations for personal assistants and service animals, tips for presenters and attendees, and emerging best practices. The guide makes the economic case for accessible meetings and events. To view the guide and other resources, visit: <http://tinyurl.com/nugq6ok>.

Learn & Lead

Vision

All people with disabilities and their families are valued participants in community life.

Mission

Partners making a positive difference in the lives of people with disabilities and their families through learning and leadership.

focus facts is published for the Center for Learning and Leadership, Oklahoma's University Center for Excellence in Developmental Disabilities (UCEDD). It is disseminated to a statewide and national network of people interested in developmental disabilities. If you would like to submit information to be published in the newsletter, please e-mail or mail our Editor. Be sure to include the source, description, and contact information relevant to the information you are submitting.

Email:
Learn2Lead-UCEDD@ouhsc.edu

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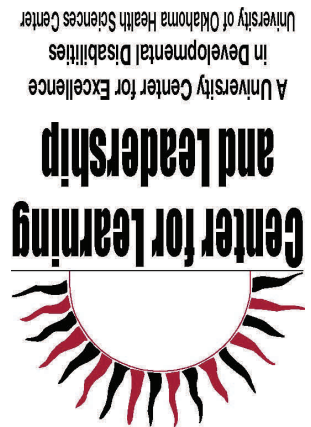
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Mark Your Calendars

- September 19-20:** Making Promises Happen, Theatre Camp
#1 Twin Cedar Lane Guthrie, OK 73044
Campers ages 6 and up
For more information, contact:
<http://www.centralchristiancamp.org/contact-us>
- September 23rd:** Caregiver Support Group, 11 a.m.
Easter Seals, 701 N.E. 13th Street Oklahoma City, OK 73104
For more information, call (405) 239-2525
- September 24th:** Oklahoma Family Network Regional Institute
Kiamichi Technology Center, 1410 Old Military Road, Stigler, OK 74462
To register online, go to: <http://stiglerleadershipinstitute15.eventbrite.com>
- September 26th:** Down Syndrome Association of Central Oklahoma's festival and 5K, 8 a.m.
Bricktown Ballpark, 2 S Mickey Mantle Dr, Oklahoma City, OK 73104
For more information, go to: <http://www.dsaco.org/index.html>
- October 16th:** Free Autism Screening, 11 a.m.
Easter Seals, 701 N.E. 13th Street Oklahoma City, OK 73104
For more information, call (405) 239 2525
- October 17-18:** Oklahoma People First Annual Conference
Embassy Suites, 2501 Conference Dr., Norman, OK
For registration information, go to: <http://www.okpeoplefirst.org>

Looking for more events?

Visit our website at www.ouhsc.edu/thecenter/newsandevents



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