

## 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 on community living

## CENTER FOR LEARNING AND LEADERSHIP

OKLAHOMA'S FEDERALLY DESIGNATED

UNIVERSITY CENTER FOR EXCELLENCE IN DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES (UCEDD)

September, 2017

[View our newsletter on the web](#)

### Nutrition is For Everyone



Nutrition is for Everyone will have a breakout session on healthy eating and will announce a nutrition challenge contest at the Oklahoma People First Conference. Follow us on Facebook for nutrition tips and events: <https://www.facebook.com/nutr4allOK/>. You can also follow us on Twitter at @nutr4allok and Pinterest at <https://www.pinterest.com/nutr4allOK/>. Contact Ashley at [Ashley-brice@ouhsc.edu](mailto:Ashley-brice@ouhsc.edu) for more details.

### Federal Guidance Released for States on ABLÉ Accounts



The Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) have provided guidance for states on implementing the ABLÉ (Achieving a Better Life Experience) Act. ABLÉ accounts are tax-advantage savings accounts for individuals with disabilities and their families. To learn more about ABLÉ accounts, visit [here](#). For a list of states where Oklahomans can open ABLÉ accounts, visit [here](#). To read the CMS letter to State Medicaid Directors, visit [here](#).

### Children with Disabilities Lack Adequate Oral Health Care



Children with disabilities are among the largest minority population without adequate oral healthcare. Finding dentists who will accept pediatric patients with disabilities can be difficult. In addition, dentists often do not know how to care for children with disabilities who may have specific dental needs and challenges, and many dental colleges have been slow to include disability-related material in their programs. These problems are compounded when these children reach adulthood. To read more about this issue, visit [here](#).

### Weatherization Assistance Program



The Weatherization Assistance Program (WAP) works with individuals and families who have lower incomes to reduce their utility bills and increase their homes' energy efficiency. For those who qualify, the program pays for weatherization solutions and energy audit processes like caulking, weather-stripping, and wall attic insulation. Priority is given to people with disabilities, seniors, and families with children. For more information visit [here](#).

### 27th Annual TARC Advocacy Awards Nominations Open



TARC will hold its annual Advocacy Award and Volunteer Recognition event on Dec. 7th. To nominate an outstanding Oklahoma advocate in the developmental disability community, visit [here](#). Nominations are due by Friday, October 13, 2017. To find out more about the event, visit [here](#), or call 918-582-TARC (8272).



A University Center for Excellence  
in Developmental Disabilities  
University of Oklahoma Health Sciences Center

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**Email:**  
Learn2Lead-UCEDD@ouhsc.edu

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## CLL SPOTLIGHT

### OFN Celebrates 20 Years of Family Stories

#### [The Oklahoma Family Network \(OFN\)](#)

recently hosted a 20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration in Oklahoma City. OFN Director Joni Bruce focused on the families, who have driven OFN from the beginning. For two decades, OFN has provided parent-to-parent information, guidance, and emotional support for Oklahoma families who have children with disabilities or special health care needs.



The Center for Learning and Leadership/OK UCEDD was honored to receive OFN's Partner of the Year Award. Thank you!

## MARK YOUR CALENDAR

- Sep. 23      2017 Down Syndrome Festival & 5K  
**DSACO (Down Syndrome Association of Central Oklahoma)**  
Bricktown Ballpark  
2 S Mickey Mantle Dr  
Oklahoma City, Oklahoma, 73104  
For more information visit [here](#).
- Sep. 29-  
Oct. 1      2017 Oklahoma People First Conference  
**OPF (Oklahoma People First)**  
Embassy Suites Norman  
2501 Conference Drive  
Norman, Oklahoma, 73069  
To register click [here](#).
- Sep. 26      Reframing Change at All Levels to Support Families across the LifeCourse  
**DHS Practice & Policy Lecture Series**  
Oklahoma History Center 12:00 PM– 1:00 PM  
800 Nazih Zuhdi Drive  
Oklahoma City, Oklahoma, 73106  
For more information visit [here](#).
- Sep. 30      5th Annual Epilepsy Walk 2017  
**Epilepsy Foundation Oklahoma**  
Hafer Park  
1034 W. Bryant  
Edmond, Oklahoma, 73034  
For more information visit [here](#).
- Oct. 3-5      12th Oklahoma Transition Institute  
**OTI (Oklahoma Transition Institute)**  
NCED Conference Center  
2801 East State Highway 9  
Norman, Oklahoma, 73071  
For more information visit [here](#).