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Teen with Autism to Play Basketball at Division I School

As a toddler, Kalin Bennet's mother was told he may never walk or talk. Now after years of hard work on and off the court, he is the first athlete with known autism to be recruited to play basketball at a Division I School. The teen, who stands 6 feet and 10 inches, will attend and play for Kent State University. To read more and watch a short story about Kalin, click [here](#).



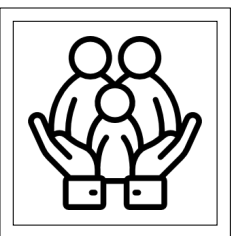
Microsoft Introduces New Accessibility Features

In honor of the United Nations International Day of Persons with Disabilities, Microsoft announced that they are adding automatic subtitles and captions to increase accessibility in PowerPoint, their presentation software. The new features are generated by an artificial intelligence program, which also allows for automatic translation into 12 spoken languages and over 60 written languages. The new features will be available in PowerPoint and as part of Microsoft 360 beginning in January. To read more click [here](#) and [here](#).



Business Owner with Down's Syndrome Mourns President H.W. Bush

John Cronin, co-founder of John's Crazy Socks, shared a bond with the late President Bush. John reached out to the former president and fellow sock lover, and created socks to honor his wife and her work benefiting literacy. After John sent him the socks, which the leader wore at his wife's funeral, the two struck up a friendship. John was impressed to learn his new friend signed the Americans with Disabilities Act. To read about John's friendship with the president click [here](#), and read John's statement [here](#). To view his tribute socks to his friend, click [here](#).



Oklahoma Continues to Offer Family Support Assistance Program

The Family Support Assistance Program is a monthly cash payment for certain children who have intellectual disabilities or other developmental disabilities and who live in areas of Oklahoma with limited incomes and resources. Assistance consists of a monthly cash payment between \$250 and \$400 to be used at the family's discretion. The amount is based on the number of children living in the home who meet program qualifications. The family/child is not eligible if receiving adoption subsidies or the DDS waiver services. Use this site [here](#), or call 405-521-3446 to find your local DDS office, and ask for the Family Support Assistance Program. Click the [here](#), [here](#), or [here](#) to view more specific policy information.

THANK YOU!!!

The Family Support 360° Center is so close to our goal of \$2,000!
Your kindness makes a difference in the lives of children and families!
To make a difference today, click [here](#)



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

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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CLL SPOTLIGHT

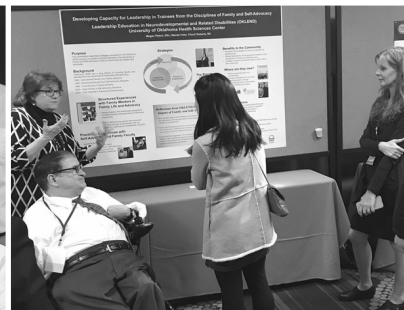
Center for Learning and Leadership and OKLEND Staff

CLL's Mrs. Wanda Felty, Dr. Angela Harnden, and Mr. Josh Fearing, together with OKLEND's Dr. Ami Bax, Dr. Megan Peters, core faculty Mr. Chuck Roberts, and fellow Mr. Lance Ford, attend the 2018 AUCD conference in Washington D.C. The team from the CLL and OKLEND presented multiple posters, met with UCEDD and agency representatives from throughout the nation, and had the change to speak with Oklahoma Senator James Lankford.

For more information, and to view the presentations, click [here](#).



Mr. Lance Ford, Mrs. Wanda Felty, Dr. Megan Peters, Commissioner Lance Roberts, Dr. Angela Harnden, Mr. Chuck Roberts, and Mr. Josh Fearing.



Mrs. Wanda Felty, Mr. Chuck Roberts, and Dr. Megan Peters discussing their poster.

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

Christmas Eve Service for Persons with Disabilities

Mustang United Methodist Church

December 24
6:00 PM

Mustang United Methodist Church
211 W SH 152
Mustang
73064

Christmas Eve service for individuals with disabilities and their families

[More information](#)

Nos Apoyamos!

TARC

January 7
6:00 PM - 8:00 PM

St Thomas More Catholic Church
2720 S 129th E Ave
Tulsa
74134

Support group for Spanish speaking parents

For more information contact:
918-582-8272

IEP Transition Workshop

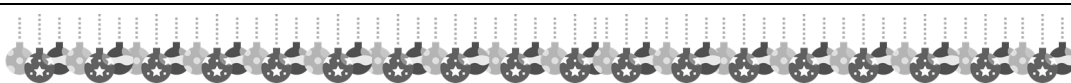
Down Syndrome Association of Central Oklahoma

January 26
10:00 AM - 12:00 PM

DSACO Office
521 W Wilshire Blvd
Suite 130
Oklahoma City
73116

Transition Training for families with Down Syndrome

[More Information](#)



Merry Christmas and Happy Holidays from the
Center for Learning and Leadership



Do you have an event to include in **focus facts**?
Email information to jfearing@ouhsc.edu