

[Click here to view our newsletter on the web](#)



Save the Date for the First OPF and OK-APSE Joint Conference

[Oklahoma People First \(OPF\)](#) and the [Oklahoma Chapter of the Association of People Supporting Employment First \(OK-APSE\)](#) are holding their first joint conference September 13th - 14th at the Embassy Suites in Norman. Topics will include advocacy, financial independence, employment, health, sexuality and relationships, voting, and more. Learn about various topics from self-advocates and other leaders, and network with advocates across the state. Contact OPF's [Jeryldine Schutte-Pogue](#) or OK-APSE's [Melissa Gituma](#) for more information.



Oklahoma Ninja Warrior Raises Awareness for Epilepsy

Tulsa's Tom Mortimer competed at American Ninja Warrior's qualifying round in Oklahoma City, which aired in June. Tom, a bird specialist at the Tulsa Zoo, says his reason for competing is his son who has epilepsy. Tom found inspiration from his son, who encouraged him to work to be a contestant. Tom is using his Ninja Warrior experience to raise awareness of epilepsy and to support his son and others with the condition. Watch a video about Tom's family [here](#) and view his interview with Tulsa news [here](#).



President Trump Signs Bill for Disaster Planning

President Trump signed the Pandemic and All-Hazards Preparedness and Advancing Innovation Act into law on June 24, which requires federal agencies to consider people with disabilities when planning for disasters such as tornadoes, hurricanes, and fires. The act calls for the creation of a national advisory committee for disaster planning for individuals with disabilities. The committee will be comprised of government officials, people with disabilities, and health care professionals and will review federal policies and make recommendations. Learn more [here](#) and view the text of the act [here](#).



Peanut Butter Falcon Stars Actor with Down Syndrome

Peanut Butter Falcon, a comedy-adventure film starring Zack Gottsagen, an actor with Down Syndrome, and Shia LeBeouf, wowed fans and critics at South by Southwest. The film won the fan award at the music and film festival, and is set to open in select theaters August 6th. The film was written with Gottsagen in mind after the creators met him at an acting camp and discussed how there are no films starring actors with Down Syndrome. Read more about the film [here](#).



What We're Reading Now - click the link or copy and paste into your browser.

- [Meet the People Fighting for Health Care Access for Disabled Kids Detained at the Border](#) - Vox
- [Here's Some Free Advice for Presidential Candidates on How to Talk About Disability](#) - Rooted in Rights
- [Comcast's New Remote Control Lets You Channel Surf with Your Eyes](#) - Cnet
- [Medical Schools are Starting to Diversify](#) - Stat News



Celebrate the Americans with Disabilities Act's 29th Birthday
with the Center for Learning and Leadership/UCEDD

Click [HERE](#) to learn more!





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

focus facts is supported by grant #90DDUC0028 from the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services Administration on Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities. Additional support is provided by Oklahoma co-sponsors: OU College of Medicine, The University of Oklahoma Health Sciences Center, and project partners: East Central University and Cameron University.

The University of Oklahoma publishes this newsletter in compliance with Titles VI and VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, Executive Order 11246 as amended, Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972, Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, and other federal laws and regulations. The University of Oklahoma, in compliance with all applicable federal and state laws and regulations does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, sexual orientation, genetic information, gender identity, gender expression, age, religion, disability, political beliefs, or status as a veteran in any of its policies, practices, or procedures. This includes, but is not limited to: admissions, employment, financial aid, and educational services. Inquiries regarding non-discrimination policies may be directed to: Bobby J. Mason, University Equal Opportunity Officer and Title IX Coordinator, 405-325-3546, BJM@ou.edu, or visit <http://www.ou.edu/eoo.html>

CLL/UCEDD SPOTLIGHT

CLL/LEND at the 2019 AUCD Leadership Academy

The Center for Learning and Leadership/UCEDD and OKLEND's Wanda Feltz attended the AUCD Leadership Academy with OKLEND's Mark Fisher. As participants, Wanda and Mark met and worked with leaders throughout the AUCD national network, including CLL's Valerie Williams and AUCD Executive Director Andy Imparato. The academy is a weeklong program designed to enhance leadership skills. The academy welcomes participants from LENDs, UCEDDs, and disability partners and engages them in discussion, shared experiences and evaluation. This year, Oklahoma was proud to be the only state sending two delegates. Congratulations Wanda and Mark!



Mark Your Calendar

Cha Cha for Children

Regional Physical Therapy, Inc.

August 10
7PM - 10:30PM

Regional Physical Therapy, Inc.
9309 East Reno Avenue
Midwest City
73130

Dine, dance, and donate to raise money for The Children's Center Rehabilitation Hospital.
Info: [here](#)

15th Annual Teen Empower Trivia Event

Teen empower!

August 17
6PM - 10PM

Riverwind Casino
1544 W. State Highway 9
Norman
73072

Trivia event to raise money for Teen emPower.
Info: [here](#)

Love OKC One Day

Love OKC

August 17
9AM - 2PM

Oklahoma City Fairgrounds
3001 General Pershing Boulevard
Oklahoma City
73107

Free event with health fair, lunch, family photos, hair cuts, groceries and more.
Info: [here](#)

3rd Annual Comedy Night: Comedy for a Cause

ABLE Community Based Services

August 23
6PM - 9PM

NCED Conference Center and Hotel
2801 E. State Highway 9
Norman
73071

Comedy fundraiser with food and silent auction to benefit ABLE.
Info: [here](#)

14th Annual Oklahoma Transition Institute

Oklahoma Transition Council

October 14

Tulsa Technology Center
Owasso
Moore-Norman Technology Center
S. Oklahoma City

Statewide transition conference. Two simultaneous locations.
Info: [here](#)

Do you have an event to include in *focus facts*?

Email information to jfearing@ouhsc.edu