



focus facts on community living

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

August 2024

Access our website at: <https://ouhsc.edu/thecenter>

August is Back to School Month

Are you ready to return to school? [The Oklahoma State Department of Health has created a resource page](#) to make sure that you have all the necessary paperwork ready and know where to go if you need to get a document for registration. Need support for your child on an IEP or 504? Check out [Oklahoma Parent's Center](#) special education support for people with disabilities from birth to age 26 and their families.

Center for Learning and Leadership's FY25 Faculty and Staff

The Center for Learning and Leadership's federal funding was renewed for the fiscal year 2025 (July 1st – June 30th, 2025). We thank all the faculty, staff, and partners who continue work on systems change, building capacity, and advocating for and with people with intellectual/developmental disabilities, caregivers, professionals, and decision makers. [Visit CLL's website to learn more about the center's faculty and staff.](#)

Health Equity is Important for Everyone

1 in 3 adults with disabilities ages 18-44 do not have a primary care provider. Through the Vaccine Education Initiative, [the Autism Society](#) is closing the health equity gap for Autistic individuals and those with disabilities by expanding access to vaccine clinics and trained healthcare professionals. They have made a [video featuring individuals with autism](#) explaining why health equity is important to them.

Animated, Educational Videos Make Topics Accessible and Interesting

[The Sprouts YouTube channel](#) offers educational animated videos that cover a wide range of topics. These videos are designed to be short and engaging, making complex subjects accessible and interesting. They often focus on themes such as psychology, science, history, and personal development. The channel aims to provide valuable insights and knowledge in an easy-to-understand format, appealing to a broad audience, including parents, caregivers, educators, and self-advocates. Additionally, some content is available in multiple languages, broadening its accessibility.

Oklahoma City Parks and Recreation Offers Adaptive Activities

The mission of [Oklahoma City Parks and Recreation](#) is to provide cultural, social and recreational experiences to the community so they can have the opportunity to cultivate wellness and enjoy a healthy lifestyle. OKC Parks and Rec offers a variety of adaptive activities throughout the year including art, sports, health and wellness, cooking, and other special interest classes. [Visit their website to see what classes are currently being offered and to register.](#)

EVENTS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

August 20th – October 8th (weekly) | Learn Basic ASL | OCCC | \$80

Learn basic American Sign Language in an enjoyable, fun class environment with a knowledgeable instructor. This is a great class to start your journey into the Deaf world. Also, learn about Deaf culture and etiquette through games and student interactions. No books or tools are needed, and all materials are provided. The cost is \$80, and it will take place each Tuesday in person at Oklahoma City Community College from 6:30-8:30. For more information, contact Kristi.l.carlucci@ouhsc.edu or 405.682.1611 x 7205. [ASL Class Registration is required.](#)

August 17th | BCBA Consultation | Advanced Behavioral Solutions | 9am-2pm (30min sessions) | FREE

[Advanced Behavioral Solutions](#) will start offering free monthly BCBA consultations including assessments, behavior planning, and parent training. The first monthly event will take place on August 17th. Sessions will last 30 minutes between 9am-2pm. Bilingual staff will be available. Spots are limited and registration is required. Contact info@advbehavioralsolutions.com to reserve your space.

August 24th | Care to Bowl Fundraiser | Sooner Success | 12pm-2pm | Andy B's (OKC & Tulsa locations)

Spend your Saturday afternoon bowling with friends and helping Sooner SUCCESS continue supporting Oklahoma families with this FUNdraiser happening at Andy B's in OKC and Tulsa locations. There will be games, prizes, and a silent auction. Registration includes shoes, pizza, and a drink. [Get your team together and register today!](#) For questions, contact 405-271-2710 or soonersuccess@ouhsc.edu.

September 4th | Waiver Basics & Planning for Waiver Services | CLL and ODLC | 12pm | Online

Please join the Center for Learning and Leadership|UCEDD and the Oklahoma Disability Law Center for this **FREE** community and family training. We will be going over Oklahoma's Home and Community Based Services waivers for people with disabilities. We will touch on the history of waiver services in Oklahoma and highlight DDS waiver services. We will share options for people with intellectual disabilities and how they and their family can help prepare to be part of the Individual Plan and Person Center Planning process. [Sept. 4th training Registration is required](#)

September 11th | Oklahoma ABLE Savings Accounts | OKABLE, CLL, ODLC | 12pm; 6pm | Online


The Achieving a Better Life Experience Act (ABLE) created a path for people who rely on supports that limit assets to be able to save money over that asset limit. Come to this **FREE** training to learn more about Oklahoma ABLE accounts, how they work and how they can help people with disabilities achieve a better life! Registration is required. [OKABLE Register for Noon](#) | [OKABLE Register for 6pm](#)

September 19th | Using LifeCourse to Plan for Waiver Services | CLL, OFN, ODLC | Noon | Online

Join the Center for Learning and Leadership/UCEDD, Oklahoma Family Network and the Oklahoma Disability Law Center for this **FREE** training on Using LifeCourse to help prepare for waiver services. You will learn about Charting the LifeCourse tools and how they can help you prepare for long-term support. [Sept. 19th Registration is required](#)

Save the Date: 2024 Oklahoma Autism Conference on November 7-8 at the Edmond Hilton Garden Inn and Conference Center in Edmond, Oklahoma. This year's theme is **"Together We Thrive: Advocacy, Belonging, and Connection for All."** [Visit the website for more information and to learn more.](#)

We want to hear from you! Do you have news or an event to share? Please send all information including a link (if applicable) to learn2lead-ucedd@ouhsc.edu. All submissions should be in no later than the fourth Friday of the month before publication (ex: 4th Friday in June for July's newsletter).

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Or use your cell phone camera and point it to this QR code 



The University of Oklahoma advances a diverse, equitable, and inclusive university community by embracing each person's unique contributions, background, and perspectives. OU Norman, OU Tulsa, and the Health Sciences Center recognize that fostering an inclusive environment for all, with particular attention to the needs of the historically marginalized populations, is vital to the pursuit of excellence in all aspects of our institutional mission and enhances the OU experience for all students, faculty, and staff. **focus facts** is published for the University Affiliated Developmental Disabilities Network members. Its purpose is to highlight specific information and data items relevant to developing and sustaining positive community environments. Individual information items are provided for use in this form, or for further circulation. When re-printing information please reference *focus facts* and the month of issue noted below the banner at the top of this page. The name of a contact person for additional information on items referenced in the newsletter is provided for your convenience. If you have data, information or a story to report relevant to community living, please send it to **focus facts** Editor at the Center for Learning and Leadership/UCEDD OU Health Sciences Center, PO Box 2690, Oklahoma City, OK 73126. Please include the information source, by title, a one paragraph (or less) description or story, a contact name who can provide additional information on the subject, and a daytime or evening telephone number for the contact.

If you have questions regarding the format for submissions, please call the Center for Learning and Leadership/UCEDD Headquarters Office at (405) 271-4500. The University Affiliated Developmental Disabilities Network is open to membership by any organization or individual who shares the interests of Network members. The Network is dedicated to identifying opportunities for collaboration and information exchange among its participating members, which leads to improving our statewide, regional or local capacity to provide a better living environment in Oklahoma for people with developmental and other disabilities and their families. The Network is partially supported through a grant from the U.S. Administration on Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities, Department of Health and Human Services, and by the Offices of the Designated Representatives of the Center for Learning and Leadership/UCEDD Collaborating Partners.

If you have a disability (Deaf/hard-of-hearing, Blind/low-vision, mobility, cognitive, etc.), and require accommodations, please reach out to Learn2Lead@ouhsc.edu. It is helpful if you share what type of accommodations will be needed to ensure that you are able to use the resource materials.