

## Rose Ann Percival retires after 34 years of service in the disability field

On June 30<sup>th</sup>, Rose Ann Percival retired after 34 years of serving, supporting, and advocating for and alongside people with disabilities. Twelve of those years were spent at the Center for Learning and Leadership/UCEDD where she was the [Community Partnerships Coordinator](#) and Project Coordinator for Oklahoma Self-Advocacy Network (OKSAN). Rose Ann was a founding member of the Oklahoma Respite Resource Network, and a leader in disability advocacy groups at the state and national levels. In her years working at Oklahoma Developmental Disabilities Services, she served as the statewide facilitator for the Oklahoma [Olmstead](#) Strategic Planning Committee, which helped people with I/DD to live in their communities rather than in institutions. Retirement plans for Rose Ann includes traveling, OU sporting events, and finding new ways to advocate for and with people with disabilities. We appreciate Rose Ann's dedication to service and wish her a happy retirement.

## The Americans with Disabilities Act turns 32

On July 26<sup>th</sup>, the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) will turn 32 years old. The ADA is a law first passed in 1990 that protects people from discrimination based on their disability. The ADA National Network has set up an [anniversary page](#) that provides information to "Learn. Celebrate. Share." Information about the ADA including videos, articles, and social media toolkits.

## Featured Partner: Cameron University

[Cameron University](#), located in Lawton, Oklahoma, is one of the Center for Learning and Leadership's academic partners. Cameron has hosted Camp of Champs for children with intellectual and developmental disabilities (IDD) for over 10 years at Quartz Mountain State Park; however, it has been on hiatus for the past three years due to COVID-19. In lieu of Camp of Champs, this year a non-residential camp was held, Movin and Groovin, on Cameron's campus June 21st-23rd. Campers aged 6-12 with IDD attended the camp and enjoyed activities in gross motor learning, creative art experiences, and swimming.

The goal of Camp of Champs is to provide intensive training in social skill development and independent living for campers. The camp also provides an interdisciplinary practicum experience for counselors based on best-practice research. Campers engage in activities such as swimming, bowling, and playing at a water park. Daily activities include hiking, games, and creative arts. The camp concludes with an awards ceremony on the last day to celebrate the many successes of the week. Each camper receives a personalized achievement award and a camp T-shirt and awards are presented to the outstanding boy and girl camper of the year for each age group.

The Center for Learning and Leadership/UCEDD is proud to partner with Cameron University on this valuable work to benefit children with I/DD and their families. For more information about Cameron's Camp of Champs, contact [Dr. Ronna Vanderslice](#) at 580-581-2250.

## Free COVID-19 tests for people who are blind or have low vision

[Free, at-home COVID-19 tests](#) have been available since early 2022, but people with disabilities were quick to point out that the tests presented accessibility challenges. On June 23<sup>rd</sup> 2022, the [Biden-Harris Administration](#) launched new at-home kits that will be more accessible for people who are blind or have low vision. Test instructions and results will be able to be read by downloading an app on a Bluetooth enabled smartphone. To order your free accessible tests please fill out the [order form provided by the USPS](#).

## ABLE account age adjustment bill to be considered by Senate

The Senate Finance Committee has reviewed the ABLE Age Adjustment Act and has voted to send the act to the full senate for review. Currently, people must develop their disability before the age of 26 to qualify for an ABLE account. This bipartisan act increases the age limit from 26 to 46, opening the opportunities to even more people with disabilities to save money without risking income-limited services and entitlements such as SSI. Read the [National Disability Rights Network's press release](#) for more information about the ABLE Age Adjustment Act. For more information about opening an ABLE account in Oklahoma, visit the [OK STABLE](#) website or speak to an [OK ABLE Ambassador](#).

## ANNOUNCEMENTS AND EVENTS

**Challenge Air's Fly Day Event:** Challenge Air's annual Fly Day is coming Saturday, October 22<sup>nd</sup> to the Tulsa Riverside Airport. Challenge Air is a national nonprofit that provides opportunities for 7-21 year olds with disabilities to learn about aviation. The event includes an educational ground school and a 30-minute flight in a plane. For more information about piloting, volunteering, sponsoring the event, and registering a participant, please visit [their website](#).

**Survey Announcement:** [Blessings to Share \(BTS\)](#) is a faith-based Tulsa area nonprofit that serves transition-aged adults with IDD. They are currently gathering feedback on the needs and interests of the population with I/DD to prepare for their soon-to-open CARES Club. Follow the link to find out more about the [CARES Club and to take the survey](#).

Blessings to Share (BTS) Foundation va a abrir una CARES Club para proveer un espacio para personas con discapacidades intelectuales o del desarrollo (DID), incluso trastorno del espectro autista (TEA), donde pueden alternar, aprender, y crecer juntos. Buscamos tu feedback para ayudarnos a diseñar el programa para quedar las necesidades y intereses de la población. Agradecemos tu disposición para dar tu feedback. [Encuesta de CARES Club en español](#).



Please take The Center for Learning and Leadership's/UCEDD 4-question website satisfaction survey. You can take the survey by [clicking this link](#) or by scanning the QR code in the picture with your phone. Thank you!

## We want to hear from you!

Do you have news or an event to share in focus facts? Please send all information including a link (if applicable) to [learn2lead-ucedd@ouhsc.edu](mailto:learn2lead-ucedd@ouhsc.edu). All submissions should be in no later than the fourth Friday of the month before publication (ex: 4<sup>th</sup> Friday in June for July's newsletter).

Sign-up to receive our free monthly newsletter *focus facts on community living* <http://tiny.cc/focusfacts>  
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](mailto: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.