

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



## Help Spanish Speaking Families Have a Bright Holiday

The Family Support 360° Center supports Spanish-speaking families who have children with disabilities by providing access to daily needs, emotional support, and information. Each year, The Family Support 360° Center provides a Holiday Assistance Program for families in need. The program provides winter clothes, toys, food baskets, and emergency items. Learn more about the program [here](#), and to help them achieve their goal of supporting 50 children in 20 families, [donate here!](#)



## Down Syndrome Association Offers Fall Fun

Down Syndrome Association of Central Oklahoma (DSACO) provides a wide variety of family friendly events and resources for individuals with Down Syndrome. Their 25th Annual Down Syndrome Festival and 5K raised over \$175,000 to serve Oklahoma families. Popular events include cooking classes, tutoring, family social events and self-advocacy workshops. Events next month include the DSACO Halloween Dance and Fall Basketball Clinic. Learn more about DSACO [here](#).



## Early Birds Provides Free Sessions for Caregivers

Early Birds is a free school readiness program for parents, grandparents, and caregivers of children under five. The program aims to “support you in your role as your child's first and most influential teacher.” The classes are 90 minutes and cover topics such as everyday learning, child development, health, safety, and school readiness. Meet other parents, learn about valuable resources, and take home free toys and materials. Learn more and register [here](#).



## Local Firm Wants Communities to be Diverse and Inclusive

Oklahoma public relations consulting firm Schnake Turnbo Frank are encouraging business leaders to “learn, grow, and network” with inclusion and diversity experts and community leaders. The firm is holding community meetings in OKC throughout 2019 and 2020. The free monthly meetings are sponsored by local and national business and organizations. Click [here](#) to learn more, and read about the effort in The Oklahoman [here](#).



**What We're Reading Now** - click the link or copy and paste into your browser  
(links to an external public or commercial website)

- [Merging Talent with Opportunities: New Thinking About the Autistic Workforce](#) - Autism Speaks
- [Why National Disability Employment Awareness Month Matters](#) - Yahoo!
- [YES, You Can Work and Still Receive SSI](#) - Mississippi State University NRTC





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>

## Familias Exitosas

CLL's Family Support 360° Center, in collaboration with the Developmental Disability Council of Oklahoma and other agencies, provided a free full day informational event for Spanish-speaking families with children with disabilities. The "Familias Exitosas" conference was presented in Spanish to families, with interpreters provided. The event was held at the Oklahoma City County Health Department, and different agencies and programs were present, including the Oklahoma Department of Human Services/DDS, Oklahoma City Public Schools, Sooner Success, Oklahoma Autism Center, and the Oklahoma Family Network. Around 45 families and professionals attended this event. To learn more about the Family Support 360° Center, click [here](#).



Developmental Disabilities  
Council of Oklahoma

## Mark Your Calendar

### Sensory Fall Carnival OKC

#### *Behavioral Innovations*

October 26  
10:00 AM - 2:00 PM

Behavioral Innovations  
14828 Serenita Ave.  
Oklahoma City  
73134

Free sensory friendly fall  
carnival with food and  
games.

Register: [here](#)

### IDefineMyWellness

#### *Association of University Centers on Disability (AUCD)*

October 29  
12:00 - 1:00 PM

Online Webinar

Free Webinar will share  
perspectives of how  
people with disabilities  
define wellness.

Register: [here](#)

### Special Needs Trick or Treat City

#### *Midwest City Parks and Recreation*

October 31  
10:30 AM - 12:00 PM  
1:00 - 2:30 PM

Nick Harroz Community Center  
200 N Midwest Blvd.  
Midwest City  
73110

Free, safe, indoors trick or  
treat event for kids with  
disabilities. Sensory  
inclusive.

Info: [here](#)

### Oklahoma Caregiver Conference: Caregiving Around the Clock!

#### *Oklahoma Caregiver Coalition*

November 13  
8:30 AM - 2:30 PM

Metro Technology Centers  
Business Conference Center  
1900 Springlake Dr.  
Oklahoma City  
73111

Free conference for  
Oklahoma caregivers to  
learn about resources and  
programs.

Register: [here](#)

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

Email information to [jfearing@ouhsc.edu](mailto:jfearing@ouhsc.edu)