



The Capital Area Quarterly
~ SUMMER EDITION ~

Of Greater Baton Rouge

**It's Who We Are,
It's What We Do!!!**

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Are You Among The 15,000+ Waiting For Services
-CALLING ALL ADVOCATES-
Mark Your Calendars
“DISABILITY RIGHTS DAY RALLY”
Tuesday, April 11th, 2006

Come let your voice be heard as Advocates from around the state gather on the **steps of the Capitol** to advocate for the services so desperately needed for individuals with disabilities in Louisiana.

Waiting for Needed Services? What Can You Do?
By: Kay Marcel

Are you, or someone you care about, on Louisiana's long waiting list for Medicaid waiver services? Are you, or someone you care about, tired of waiting for needed support services? Do you think it is wrong that people with disabilities have to wait on average 11 years to receive waiver supports?

Instead of just waiting, you can join with others for a “Disability Rights Rally” on April 11th, 1 p.m. – 3 p.m. at the State Capitol in Baton Rouge to send a strong message to legislators that “a waiting list is not a service” and the waiting list can no longer be ignored. This rally is being organized and held to bring attention to the 14,789 individuals with developmental disabilities who wait on average 11 years for waiver services.

Imagine the impact thousands of people at the Capitol on April 11th will have in bringing attention to the waiting list and the urgent need for state legislators to provide funding for more waiver services.

If you think it is patently unfair and wrong for the state to maintain a waiting list of almost 15,000 people and for people to wait 11 years for needed supports, you can join others at the Capitol on April 11th.

If you want to help make a positive difference in the lives of individuals with disabilities, you can join others at the Capitol on April 11th.

Joining with other individuals, families, and advocates at the Capitol on April 11th is something you can do for yourself or someone you care about.

For more information about the rally call Families Helping Families of Greater Baton Rouge at 225-216-7474 or toll free at 1-866-216-7474.

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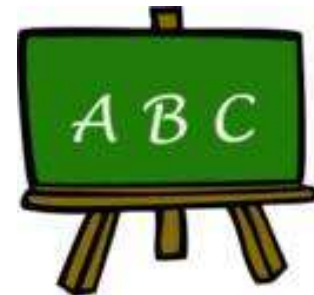
Families Helping Families GBR Board of Director's

John Samaha-Chairperson
 Roy Hebert-Vice Chair
 Barry Meyer-Secretary/Treasurer
 Sam Ortego
 Alvin Mack
 Thomas Sellars
 Sharon Dufrene
 Stacey Atkins
 Michelle Beard
 Everett Cunningham
 Belynda Gauthier
 Alicia Bailey

We invite the public to all of our board meetings. They are held the 2nd Thursday of each month from 11:30 am- 1:00 pm at our center.



STUDENT SPOTLIGHT



“**Mykael Thomas** is an exemplary student at Cohn Elementary School. He is a success story! Last year was pretty rough for him and he was having trouble following the school rules. He seemed to be in trouble all of the time! This year, Mykael's school tried something a little different. Mykael was moved from a resource class to an **inclusion classroom**. Mykael has had so much success in the regular classroom that he has actually made the honor roll twice this year! Mykael has shown excellent behavior in class and on campus. He has been an example to other students this year. His teachers, Shannon Chustz and Mary Wilson, are extremely proud of his success this year and wish him the same success in middle school next year.”

GREAT JOB MYKAEL! KEEP UP THE GOOD WORK!

*A very special thanks to **Ms. Mary Wilson**, teacher at Cohn Elementary School, and **Dr. David Strauss**, Special Education Supervisor in West Baton Rouge Parish for their nomination.*



2006 SUMMER CAMPS

COME JOIN THE FUN !!!



MED-CAMPS OF LOUISIANA 2006 CAMP SCHEDULE

SPINA BIFIDA/ORTHOPEdic CAMP	JUNE 4th-9th
CEREBRAL PALSEY CAMP	JUNE 11th-16th
ASTHMA CAMP	JUNE 18th-23rd
SICKLE CELL ANEMIA CAMP	JUNE 25th-30th
AUTISM CAMP	JULY 5th-7th
EPILEPSY & SEIZURE DISORDER CAMP	JULY 9th-14th
DEVELOPMENTALLY DELAYED CAMP 1	JULY 16th-21st
DEVELOPMENTALLY DELAYED CAMP 2	JULY 23rd-28th
HEARING/SPEECH/VISUALLY IMPAIRED CAMP	JULY 30th-AUGUST 4th
JUVENILE ARTHRITIS CAMP	AUGUST 6th-AUGUST 11th

CALL: (318) 329-8405

EMAIL: info@medcamps.com

<p>The ARC of Baton Rouge</p> <p>Splash into Summer Swim Program LSU Student Recreation Center</p> <p>July 18th-29th Cost: \$35.00 Call: 225-927-0855</p>	<p>CAMP QUALITY USA</p> <p>638 Ervin Cotton Rd. Eros, La 71238</p> <p>Camp Dates: June 3-9, 2006</p> <p>Call: 318-329-7993</p>	<p>Louisiana Lions Camp</p> <p>This camp is free to boys & girls of LA with Mental & Physical Challenges, Diabetes, and Pulmonary Disorders.</p> <p>Call Or Go On-Line For An Application</p> <p>800-348-6567 www.lionscamp.org</p>
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EDUCATING CHILDREN WITH EMOTIONAL & BEHAVIORAL DISORDERS

Date: March 28th, 2006

Time: 10 am - 2:00 pm

Place: BREC- Independence Park

Cost: No charge Please Call To Register



Jim Galagan- Attorney, Southern Disability Law Center

Hector Linares-Attorney, Juvenile Justice Project of Louisiana

Getting Legal Representation for your Child in EBR Parish

Mr. Galagan will provide a short presentation on an initiative currently underway in East Baton Rouge Parish for children who:

Are classified with Emotional or Behavioral Disorders

Are failing to achieve goals and objectives or not advancing from grade to grade

Are not receiving appropriate accommodations

Have repeated and continual suspensions

Are receiving limited or no transition services

Shawn Fleming- PBIS Coordinator for the La. DOE

Positive Behavior Intervention Services

Mr. Fleming will present effective practices in identifying and managing challenging behaviors in the classroom.

Adrienne Dupont- Attorney

Manifestation Determination under IDEA 2004

Learn what the changes in our educational law will mean for our children in public schools.

For reservations call: Families Helping Families of Greater Baton Rouge @ 225-216-7474 or toll free @ 866-216-7474.

If you cannot attend, but need assistance for your child, please call Sharon Dufrene at NAMI Louisiana at

FREE TRANSITION PLANNING WORKSHOP

Are you unsure about what programs Louisiana has to offer your child as they approach the age of transition? Do you need tips on how to write a great Transition Plan? Then we invite you to attend this free workshop. Ms. Bonnie Wise, Transition Coordinator for the Louisiana State Department of Education will present. Parents and students will learn what options are currently available through the Louisiana School System during the age of transition. Don't miss this great opportunity. Call to reserve your seat today!

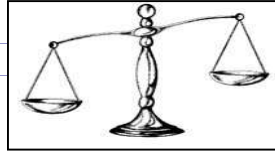
Date: April 10, 2006

Time: 10:30 AM-12:30 PM

Location: LMA Building

Address: 700 North 10th Street in Baton Rouge

Telephone: 225-216-7474



Save this Date and Plan to Attend

“ Disability Rights Day Rally”

The Right to Receive Services



A Waiting List is NOT a Service!

A Rally at the State Capitol in Baton Rouge
Tuesday April 11th 1 – 3 p.m.

Join other Individuals with Disabilities And Family Members



Mark your calendar and plan to attend.
Call our center for your free t-shirt to wear at the rally!!



◀ FHFGBR welcomes Cynthia Chesterfield as one of our new IEP Facilitators for Inclusive Education.



FHFGBR welcomes volunteers.
Call Jamie Tindle at 225-216-7474 to find out more.

Volunteerism is a great way to make a positive contribution to your community.

CAMP COLLAGE

Visual & Performing Arts Camp
Inclusive to Individuals age 14 and above with and without disabilities.
April 28,29,30, 2006 Friday-Sunday
Call 504-525-7329

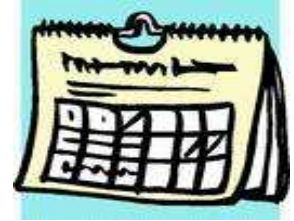
Do you have an inspirational story, poem or information you would like to share with us? Perhaps an upcoming event in Region II? Maybe you would like to nominate a special student or teacher for us to spotlight.

Fax to 225-216-7977 Attn: Newsletter Editor
Or e-mail info@fhfgr.org

(All submissions are subject to administrative review prior to release)



SAVE THE DATE



<p>One-On-One IEP/504 Plan Consultation</p> <p>April 6, 2006 10:30am-12:30pm. EBRP Health Unit 353 N. 12th St. in Baton Rouge</p>	<p>All That Wiggles Is Not ADHD</p> <p>Presenter - Dr. Valerie Burton with OLOL. Friday, April 7, 2006. 10:30am-12:30pm LMA Building - 700 N. 10th St. in Baton Rouge. Free workshop. Call 225-216-7474 to register.</p>	<p>People First Language</p> <p>Presenter - Kathie Snow April 7, 2006. 9am-3pm Call 225216-7474 to register.</p>
<p>Baton Rouge Autism Support Association</p> <p>Jones Creek Library in Baton Rouge. April 8, 2006 3-5pm</p>	<p>Transition Planning Workshop! April 10, 2006. 10:30am-12:30pm <i>Presenter - Bonnie Wise, Transition Coordinator with the La State Dept of Education.</i> LMA Building - 700 N. 10th St. in BR. Free to Register 225-216-7474</p>	<p>Point Coupee Parish Annual Spring Transition Fair</p> <p>William Scott Civic Center in New Roads, La. April 11, 2006. 9am-11:30am</p>
<p>Solving The Employment Puzzle</p> <p>Sunday, April 23, 2006 2:30-4:30 PM Jones Creek Library 6222 Jones Creed Road Baton Rouge, LA 70817</p>	<p>Self Advocate Party DJ—Robert Savage BREC Independence Park in Baton Rouge, 5:00 pm—7:30 pm April 28, 2006 For Details Call 216-7474</p>	<p>Solving The Employment Puzzle</p> <p>Wednesday, May 10, 2006 9:30 AM-2:30 PM Ascension Parish Library 500 Mississippi St Donaldsonville, LA</p>
<p>Baton Rouge Autism Support Association</p> <p>Jones Creek Library in Baton Rouge. May 13, 2006 3-5pm</p>	<p>Self Advocate Party DJ—Robert Savage BREC Independence Park in Baton Rouge. 5:00 pm—7:30 pm May 12, 2006 For Details Call 216-7474</p>	<p>Solving The Employment Puzzle</p> <p>Thursday, June 13, 2006 9:00 AM-12:00 PM Greenwell Springs Library 11300 Greenwell Springs Rd Baton Rouge, LA</p>
<p>Self Advocate Party DJ—Robert Savage BREC Independence Park in Baton Rouge. 5:00 pm—7:30 pm May 12, 2006</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">CAMP SUNSHINE</p> <p style="text-align: center;">For children with disabilities, ages 6-12 & ages 13-16 Independence Recreation Center Call 225-928-7860 Camp Registration begins April 10th for In-Parish Residents and April 17th for all Out-of-Parish Residents.</p>	

Families Helping Families of Greater Baton Rouge

Spring 2006

LaSIG Parent Leadership Training

Follow-Up Academy



Proudly Presents

Kathie Snow

Kathie is the parent of two teenagers, one of whom has a disability. For over ten years, she's presented new ways of thinking about people with disabilities at conferences in the United States and Canada.

Friday April 7, 2006

9:00 am to 4:00 pm

Holiday Inn - South

9940 Airline Hwy

Baton Rouge, LA

Registration/Breakfast 8:30-9:00

Disability is Natural and Other Revolutionary Common Sense for Raising Successful Children with Disabilities.

Come to learn about People First Language and Attitudes and Focusing on your child's strengths and abilities, IDEA relating to inclusive education/least restrictive environment, what a truly inclusive school looks like, how one school made that change and improved relationships with educators, and more. Space is limited. You must register to attend by calling Families Helping Families of Greater Baton Rouge at 216-7474

Sponsored through the La. State Improvement Grant with the La. State Department of Education



Did you know that BREC offers inclusive recreation programs? WE DO!

All of our recreational programs are inclusive to children and adults with disabilities!

We have summer day camps, gymnastics, karate, piano, art, aerobics, yoga, tai chi, parent/child association, fitness centers, inclusive tea ball, and inclusive basketball!

We are inviting you to come and be a part of our programming. Please visit

<http://www.brec.org> or call 225-272-9200 for more information.

It all starts at BREC!



Of Greater Baton Rouge

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Baton Rouge, LA 70806

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