

Are you a parent/caregiver of a child with
special needs?

Then look inside and check out...

What's happening in WNY...

Upcoming and Ongoing Events
in the Community

News from the Community...



What:	Child & Family Support Program's Annual Family Picnic
When:	July 16 5:30 p.m.
Where:	Sheridan Park – Shelter #2, Tonawanda, NY
Why:	Family, food and fun
Who:	(716) 886-1242 ext. 318 to RSVP
What:	Ready Set Read
When:	July 16 6:30 p.m. – 8:30 p.m.
Where:	Epic, 1000 Main Street, Buffalo
Why:	This free family literacy program is a wonderful workshop series full of ideas and activities for parents of infants to young children up to age 8. Get answers to your questions and guidance to help you raise a strong reader. Dinner and bus token provided.
Who:	(716) 332-4121, Felicia Santiago to register.
What:	Mom's Only Ice Cream Meeting
When:	July 18 7:00 p.m.
Where:	Ice Cream at the Hatch, Erie Basin Marina
Why:	A night out for mothers of children & adults with disabilities. Pay your own way ~ the whole family is welcome at the July event!
Who:	716-805-1555 to RSVP
What:	Major Cool Ice Cream Social
When:	July 23 7:00 p.m.
Where:	361 Dingens St., Buffalo, NY
Who:	Deaf Adult Services
What:	Traps in the workplace for AD/HD Adults
When:	August 12 7:00 p.m.
Where:	Denny's (Airport) on Genesee Street
Why:	Meetings of the Adult AD/HD of WNY Support group are held the second Tuesday of each month, with varying topics. The meeting is free and open to the public, food/refreshments may be purchased before and during the meeting.
Who:	(716) 684-7142 for support group information
What:	Socialization Through Music: Session 1
When:	August 2 - September 6 9:30 a.m.- 10:15 a.m. for special needs children ages 2-5 10:15 a.m. - 11:00 a.m. for special needs children ages 5-8 October 4 – November 8 9:30 a.m.- 10:15 a.m. for special needs children ages 2-5 10:15 a.m. - 11:00 a.m. for special needs children ages 5-8
Where:	Fellowship Wesleyan Church, 1645 Southwestern Blvd. West Seneca, NY
Why:	Music classes for children with special needs and their families featuring adapted movement to music, playing instruments, singing songs and more.
*Cost:	Call for fee schedule
Who:	716-648-3095 to register
What:	Fantasy Island Day for Students with Disabilities
When:	Sunday, August 17
Who:	Buffalo Excels, Inc., (716) 510-0317 to make reservations
What:	The 12th Annual Buddy Walk of Buffalo/ Niagara
When:	September 6 10:00 a.m.
Where:	Old Red Brick School House, N. 4 th & Onondaga Street, Lewiston, NY
Why:	Walk, ride or stroll down Center St. in the Lewiston Kiwanis Peach Festival Parade, enjoy lunch, rides, music, pass out candy & balloons. This event will help raise positive awareness of individuals born with Down syndrome.
Who:	www.buddywalkniagara.org or (716) 870-4904 for more information

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**If you have specific questions about your child's services contact our information and referral department at (716) 332-4175
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News from the Community...



What:	Wheels around the Park
When:	October 4 10:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.
Where:	Delaware Park, Ring Road
Why:	“Wheel” around Ring Road, using any kind of non-motorized wheels, or any other creative way of wheeling around the park. The day will feature educational videos, photographs & literature, entertainment and music.
Who:	www.dspgwny.org or (716) 832-9334 for more information
What:	Ready, Set, Parent! Series
When:	Call for a schedule of times, dates and locations
Why:	A series of 8 sessions for parents of infants and toddlers (birth to age 3). Get support & solutions to parenting concerns.
Who:	(716) 332-4153 to register
What:	Coping for Parents
When:	Monday evening 6:30 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.
Where:	UB South Campus, 3435 Main Street, Diefendorf Hall
Why:	For parents of children 5-12 with ADHD and other disruptive behavior problems who have trouble getting ready for the bus on time, show disruptive behavior at school, don't follow directions at home, and have been diagnosed with ADHD or another disruptive behavior disorder.
*Cost:	\$100 for the program plus unlimited passes to the program for the next school year.
Who:	(716) 829-2244 ext. 140 – for more information
What:	1-2-3 Magic
Where:	Elmwood-Crane Library, 633 Elmwood Ave. (on bus line), Buffalo, NY
When:	Call for schedule of dates and times
Why:	A simple, precise, and easy to learn method of four sessions that works effectively in disciplining children 2-5 years old. Parents should attend all four sessions to receive the full benefit of the program.
*Cost:	\$35 per four-week session. Call to learn when new session begins.
Who:	Terri Good, LMSW at (716) 871-9883 ext. 603 for more information.
What:	ADDRESS Adult Support Group
Where:	Ascension Lutheran Church, 4640 Main Street, Snyder, NY
When:	7:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m. 2 nd Wednesday of each month
Why:	These meetings are for adults with ADHD or those living with an adult with ADHD.
Who:	(716) 829-2244, ext. 135 or www.addresswny.org for more information
What:	ADHD Parents Support Group
Where:	Denny's, 4610 Genesee St., Cheektowaga, NY
When:	7:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m. 2 nd Tuesday of each month
Why:	Parents and guardians come ask questions and share information about raising children with ADHD.
Who:	(716) 829-7142 or www.addresswny.org for more information
What:	WNY Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorders Family Support Group
Where:	1625 Hertel Avenue, Buffalo, NY
When:	3 rd Wednesday of each month 7:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m.
Why:	Meet with other families, share experiences, ideas and information.
Who:	Helen Weinstein at 831-2298, ext. 19
What:	The Parent Child Connection
Why:	The purposes of this group is to provide parenting enrichment opportunities by offering educational programs for the families of Hamburg and surrounding communities.
Who:	The Family Support Center of Hamburg, (716) 646-9593

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- What:** **Support Groups for Adoptive Parents – Erie County**
Where: Hillside Children's Center, 131 Orchard Park Road, West Seneca, NY
When: 4th Thursday of every month 6:30 p.m. – 8:30 p.m.
Why: Meet others who share the daily challenges and rewards of parenting adopted children and teens. Pre- and post-adoptive parents welcome.
Who: Robin Smith at (716) 848-6412 to register or for more information
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- What:** **Adoptive Parents & Kids Support Groups**
Where: New Directions Youth & Family Services, 1445 Kensington Ave., Buffalo, NY
When: 4th Wednesday of the month 6:00 p.m. – 7:30 p.m.
 Adoptive parents come together and share common stories while supporting one another; while their adoptive children meet with other adoptive kids to help promote their social skills
Who: Sylvia Inman at (716) 834-9413 ext. 212
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- What:** **Support Groups for Adoptive Parents – Niagara County**
Where: Niagara Community Center Association, 66 Stevens St., Lockport, NY
When: 2nd Thursday of every month 6:30 p.m. – 8:30 p.m.
Why: Meet others who share the daily challenges and rewards of parenting adopted children and teens. Pre- and post-adoptive parents welcome.
Who: Robin Smith at (716) 848-6412 to register or for more information
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- What:** **Sensory Processing Disorder Support Group**
When: Call for meeting dates, times and location
Why: Created for parents to provide information, resources and understanding to parents, friends, teachers, relatives, community members, professionals and any one touched by the impact of Sensory Processing Disorder. Meetings feature group discussions, education and guest speakers.
Meetings are for adults only.
Who: Kirsten Seebald (716) 982-1770 or marilynballard@gmail.com
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- What:** **Bornhava's Men's Forum**
Where: Bornhava, 25 Chateau Terrace, Amherst, NY
When: 7:30 p.m. one evening per month during school year. Call for dates.
Why: This forum is open to fathers and male caregivers of children with developmental delays. It is a chance to meet others in a similar situation and share ideas.
Who: (716) 839-1655 for more information
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- What:** **Connections Parent Support Group for Families of Children with Asperger's Disorder**
Where: Summit Educational Resources, 150 Stahl Rd., Getzville, NY
When: 7:00 p.m. - 8:30 p.m. on the 1st Monday of each month
Why: Share ideas, information, treatment options, educational options and advocacy strategies.
Who: Marlene Mancuso at (716) 629-3400
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- What:** **Autism Society of WNY Support /Informational Meetings & Workshops**
Where: St. John Lutheran Church, 3512 Clinton Street, West Seneca, NY
When: 7:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m.; check website for meeting date & topic
Why: To provide information to families & professionals who work with our children. Parents should call/email for a free book on ASD, and to be added to mailing list. Website lists upcoming workshops of interest in WNY area. www.autismwny.org
Who: (716) 633-2275 or email info@autismwny.org
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- What:** **Child & Family Support Program – BryLin Support Group**
Where: BryLin Support Group, 1263 Delaware Avenue, Buffalo NY
When: July 23rd, August 6th & 20th 11:30 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.
Why: Offering support for families raising a child with emotional and/or behavioral problems. Meetings present an opportunity to talk, listen and learn about issues and feelings involved.
Who: Child & Family Support Program at (716) 886-1242 ext. 318
**Childcare is available. Please call ahead with number and ages of children you will be bringing.*
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What:	Child & Family Support Program – ECMC Support Group
Where:	ECMC, Room 444, 462 Grider St., Buffalo, NY
When:	2 nd and 4th Saturday of the month 12:30 p.m. -2:00 p.m.
Why:	Offering support for families raising a child with emotional and/or behavioral problems. Meetings present an opportunity to talk, listen and learn about issues and feelings involved.
Who:	Child & Family Support Program at 886-1242 ext. 318
What:	Child & Family Support Program – Youth Peer Support Group
When:	2 nd & 4 th Friday 6:30 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.
Where:	Delaware Park (playground near Parkside Avenue)
When:	1 st & 3 rd Fridays 6:30 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.
Where:	Cazenovia Park Baptist Church, 520 North Legion Drive, Buffalo NY
Why:	A youth-run peer support group for adolescents ages 12-18.
Who:	Child & Family Support Program at 886-1242 ext. 318
What:	Families CAN Monthly Roundtable Discussion Group
Where:	135 Delaware Avenue Suite 210, Buffalo NY 14202
When:	2 nd Monday of each month 6:30 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.
Why:	Families CAN is family run and family driven for all parents, grandparents, foster parents and caregivers raising a child with social, emotional and/or behavioral disabilities.
Who:	(716) 884-2599 or www.familiescanwny.org for more information.
What:	Short Term Respite Care
Why:	Respite may be provided for eligible families raising a child with mental health and serious emotional/behavior issues.
Who:	Child & Family Support Program (716) 886-1242 ext. 327
What:	GLOW Family Support Program
Where:	Hillside Children's Center, Genesee, Livingston, Orleans and Wyoming Counties
When:	Ongoing support groups and respite care
Why:	GLOW offers support, respite, advocacy, information and referral, newsletters, a library, etc. for families of children birth to age 21 with an emotional and/or behavioral challenge.
Who:	Integration Center at (585) 256-7500 for more information.
What:	Support Group/Bible Study for Parents and Caregivers of Children with Special Needs
Where:	Wesleyan Church of Hamburg, 4999 McKinley Pkwy., Hamburg, NY
When:	1 st and 3 rd Monday each month 7:00 p.m. – 8:30 p.m.
Why:	Meetings offer biblically based support for those involved in the life of a child with special needs. Come meet with other parents/caregivers to talk, listen and learn about issues and feelings.
Who:	Wesleyan Church of Hamburg at (716) 649-6335
What:	WNY Chapter Families of Spinal Muscular Atrophy (SMA)
Where:	Airport Millennium Hotel, 2040 Walden Avenue, Cheektowaga, NY
When:	Monthly
Why:	Goals of the group include helping families cope with SMA through information and support, to fund research and to raise awareness about Spinal Muscular Atrophy.
Who:	(716) 622-0804 or www.wnyfsma.org for more information.
What:	After School Enrichment for School Aged Children with Developmental Disabilities
Where:	Enterprise Charter School, 275 Oak St., Buffalo, NY
When:	Monday – Friday 3:00 p.m. - 6:30 p.m.
Why:	To provide academic enrichment and a range of cultural and recreational opportunities for children with Developmental Disabilities.
Who:	(716) 874-7200

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What:	Southtowns Autism Spectrum Disorder Support Group
Where:	Chapel Park Villa Head Start, 7008 Erie Rd., Derby, NY
When:	6:30 p.m. the 3 rd Wednesday of each month.
Why:	The group offers families of children with Autism Spectrum Disorder a chance to meet, share ideas and find support in the Southtowns area.
Who:	Gayle Duffy at (716) 947-0085 for more information
What:	SMILE Support Groups in Niagara County
Where:	Wheatfield Community Senior Center, 2790 Church Rd., North Tonawanda, NY
When:	2 nd and 4 th Friday each month
Where:	Henrietta G. Lewis Campus School, 6395 Old Niagara Rd., Lockport, NY
When:	2 nd and 4 th Wednesday each month
Why:	To provide support, education and information on topics selected by group members & parent facilitators.
Who:	Marge Wright at (716) 433-4487 to register.
What:	Precious Jewels Day Care Center, Inc.
Where:	390 Emslie Street, Buffalo, NY 14206
When:	Monday – Friday 6:30 a.m. – 6:30 p.m.
Why:	A not-for-profit child care center licensed by the NY State Department of Social Services. They offer activities designed to promote the physical, emotional and intellectual needs of each child.
Who:	(716) 604-1514 for more information
What:	Teen Pals Program
Where:	Yad B'Yad, 2640 North Forest Dr., Getzville, NY
When:	Twice per month, once on the weekend, once during the week. Times vary.
Why:	Open to teenagers 13-18 who need help with social skills. Currently accepting names for a waiting list.
Who:	(716) 204-3583 for more information * Cost: \$200 for the year
What:	Heritage Christian Services Club House Adventure
Where:	Day Habilitation Site, 1000 Ellicott Creek Road, Tonawanda, NY
When:	10:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m. two Saturdays per month
Why:	A respite program for children and young adults with disabilities ages 3-25 who are eligible for services through the Western New York DDSO. Participants must reside in Erie, Orleans, Genesee or Niagara counties. Capacity is limited.
Who:	(716) 743-2020 or scardinal@heritagechristianservices.org for more information
What:	Friends Program
Where:	Yad B'Yad, 2640 North Forest Dr., Getzville, NY
When:	20 outings per year, each approximately 2 hours long
Why:	Open to young adults age 18-30 with developmental disabilities living at home with family. Participate in age appropriate life activities that address life skill areas. Each participant will be matched with a volunteer.
*Cost:	<i>Need to have Medicaid waiver for funding.</i>
Who:	(716) 204-3583 for more information
	** Note: <i>Seeking college age volunteers to work with participants</i>
What:	www.buffalodiocese.org/disabilities
Why:	To discover the spiritual resources provided to persons with disabilities in the Catholic Diocese of Buffalo
What:	Buffalo Excels summer recreation activities list
When:	Summer 2008
Why:	summer programs to help at risk students and those with disabilities in Erie and Niagara Counties
Who:	(716) 510-0317 for more information and complete schedules

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What:	Youth Peer Support Groups
Where:	Various locations, days & times
Why:	A youth-run support group for adolescents 12-18 years old. Help plan a monthly activity and meet other youth. Sponsored by Erie County Family Voices Network in collaboration with the Mental Health Association of Erie County, Inc.
Who:	(716) 886-1242 x 327 for more information
What:	Socialization & Recreation Group Program
Where:	Robert Warner Rehabilitation Center, 936 Delaware Ave., Buffalo, NY; various community locations.
When:	Every other Friday evening for 2 hours.
Why:	Teenagers aged 12-15 or 16-19 who have a developmental or medical disability may be eligible. Spaces are limited and are filled on a first-come-first-serve basis.
Who:	Program Coordinator at 878-1260 for an application packet.
What:	Free Adult Tutoring
Where:	Boys & Girls Beecher Clubhouse, 180 10 th Street, Buffalo NY
When:	Mondays & Wednesdays Noon – 2:00 p.m.
Why:	To help you get a job; speak better English, improve your reading and writing, get a GED, or read to your children.
Who:	Literacy Volunteers (716) 876-8991
What:	Aspire Mental Health Clinic
Where:	Aspire, 7 Community Drive, Cheektowaga, NY
Why:	An acute care, crisis prevention and intervention clinic that will provide short-term stabilization and therapy for dually diagnosed individuals with BOTH mental health & developmental disability diagnosis.
Who:	Mary Carol Roberson at (716) 505-5630
What:	Common Sense Parenting Series
Where:	115 Ash Street, Buffalo, NY
When:	Call for current dates and times.
Why:	Common sense parenting bringing parents together to address parenting issues
Who:	Jan Krull at (716) 677-7087 William Preston at (716) 563-5646
What:	Continuing Education Classes
Where:	Various locations throughout Buffalo
When:	Call for class schedule
Why:	To help individuals with developmental disabilities further their education and achieve their highest level of independent living. Classes offered: Reading Level 2, Drivers Permit, Computer Basics, Music & Dance, Are You Ready? Disaster Preparation Class, Parenting Classes, Budgeting Classes & Career Exploration. Registration deadline July 23 rd .
Who:	Community Services for the Developmentally Disabled, (716) 824-5555 ext. 125 for info
What:	Power Wheelchair Soccer
Where:	Northtowns – Boys & Girls Club of the Northtowns, 325 Franklin St., Tonawanda Southtowns – Elma Boys & Girls Club, 2080 Girdle Rd, Elma
When:	Various dates – Call for schedule.
Why:	Power Wheelchair Soccer - players must be in a power wheelchair and be able to understand the game and safely maneuver the power wheelchair.
*Cost:	<i>\$25 registration fee includes all equipment (can be waived based on ability to pay)</i>
Who:	Chris at (716) 685-3976 or www.TheIndependenceFoundation.org
What:	Danceability, Inc.
Where:	In the Tops/George Urban Plaza, 3859 Union Rd. Ste. 400, Cheektowaga, NY
When:	Call for schedule
Why:	A dance and creative movement program for children and adults with special needs.
Who:	(716) 651-0094 for schedule and fee structure

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What:	SABAH
Where:	Amherst Pepsi Center, Niagara U Rink, Hamburg Town Arena and N. Buffalo Community Rink
When:	Evening and weekend programs
Why:	To provide you and your family with a positive fulfilling and enjoyable skating season
Who:	(716) 362-9600
What:	Graceful & Gifted Dance Program
Where:	St. John de LaSalle School, 8477 Buffalo Ave., Niagara Falls NY
When:	Call for schedule of days, times and fee
Why:	A ballet oriented program for students with special needs, briefly touches on other forms of dance.
Who:	Susan Akin (716) 946-7909
What:	Touching Bases Adult Softball League
Where:	Lancaster NY
Why:	Touching Bases hopes to build a daytime softball league for adults with disabilities in Lancaster. Games would begin at 10:00 a.m. during the summer of 2008, practicing in July, playing games in August/September.
*Cost:	\$35 per player-includes jersey, hat, insurance, banquet/luncheon & trophy.
Who:	Laura Malkowski (716) 505-5532 for more information
What:	Resource Lending Library
Where:	Autistic Services Inc., 4444 Bryant Stratton Way, Williamsville, NY
Why:	A place for the WNY community to turn for information about autism spectrum disorders.
Who:	Call Veronica Federiconi at 716-631-5777 for more information.
What:	Angel Food Ministries
Where:	Cazenovia Park Church
When:	Monday – Thursday 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.
Why:	Quality food at a great price. No income guidelines; no memberships; no obligation to purchase every month.
Who:	(716) 822-7925) for more information
What:	Getting There Transportation Program
Where:	The Western New York Independent Living Project, Inc., Erie County
Why:	Provides transportation assistance to and from recreational activities. There are three levels of service, depending upon needs of the individual. Documentation of disability must be provided.
Who:	Ann Palmer at (716) 836-0822, ext. 18
*NOTE: Need volunteer drivers to transport people of all ages with developmental disabilities to various social activities. Must use your own vehicle. For more information, call Cathy at 836-0822, ext. 150	
What:	Paratransit Access Line (PAL)
Where:	Several stops located throughout WNY.
When:	Operates the same hours as Metro Bus & Rail service.
Why:	An accessible bus and rail system for individuals with disabilities. PAL provides curb-to-curb transportation service for various purposes, including social, medical and recreational activities.
Who:	(716) 855-7268 (voice), (716) 855-7377 (TDD), www.NFTA.com for application information.
Who:	For more information or to register (716) 646-9412

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