

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...

**Who:** SEPAC (Special Education Parents Advisory Committee)  
**When:** March 10 9:00 a.m.  
**Where:** Hutchison Central Technology HS  
**Who:** 716-816-3060

**Who:** Ken-Ton SEPTSA  
**When:** March 10 7:00 p.m.  
**Where:** Kenmore East SHS, 350 Fries Rd, Tonawanda  
**What:** "Town Meeting" – Parenting Children with Disabilities

**Who:** Starpoint Special Education Group  
**When:** March 9 7:00 p.m.  
**Where:** Starpoint Middle School, Special Programs Conference Rm., 4363 Mapleton Rd., Lockport 14094  
**What:** Lisa A. Lundy, presenting "Working & Playing in the Team Environment"

**Who:** Williamsville SEPTSA  
**When:** March 25  
**Where:** Williamsville School District Offices, 105 Casey Road, E. Amherst 14051  
**What:** "Social and Emotional needs of Gifted Children"

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**What:** **Common Sense Parenting Workshop**  
**When:** March 2, 9, 16, 23, 30 & April 6 6:30 p.m.  
**Where:** Sweet Home HS, 1901 Sweet Home Rd, Amherst  
**Why:** Learn different approaches to handling common behavior issues, re-evaluate how you communicate with your children and restock your parenting tool box with new ideas.  
**\*Cost:** \$10 book deposit  
**Who:** 716-250-1229 to register;

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**What:** **A Path to Recovery – Insights from the Consumer Perspective**  
**When:** March 10 6:30 p.m.  
**Where:** WNY Children's Psychiatric Center, 1010 East and West Road, West Seneca 14224  
**Why:** Karl Shallowhorn, a professional living with Bipolar Disorder, will share his story of recovery and hope with the community. He will also answer question about living with a mental health diagnosis.  
**Who:** 716-677-7057 to register

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**What:** **Jazz, Jokes and Java**  
**When:** March 13 6:30 p.m.  
**Where:** Polish Falcons Club, 445 Columbia Ave., Depew 14043  
**Why:** danceability, Inc.'s 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Fundraiser features entertainment by SaxMan Slim & Comedy Sportz, delicious desserts and coffee, theme baskets and raffles.  
**\*Cost:** \$15 per person  
**Who:** 716-651-0094 for more information

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**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.

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**What:** **ADDRESS Adult Support Group**  
**Where:** Ascension Lutheran Church, 4640 Main Street, Snyder, NY  
**When:** 7:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m. 2<sup>nd</sup> 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](http://www.addresswny.org) for more information

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<b>What:</b>	<b>ADHD Parents Support Group</b>
<b>Where:</b>	Denny's, 4610 Genesee St., Cheektowaga, NY
<b>When:</b>	7:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m. 2 <sup>nd</sup> Tuesday of each month
<b>Why:</b>	Parents and guardians come ask questions and share information about raising children with ADHD.
<b>Who:</b>	(716) 829-7142 or <a href="http://www.addresswny.org">www.addresswny.org</a> for more information
<b>What:</b>	<b>WNY Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorders Family Support Group</b>
<b>Where:</b>	1625 Hertel Avenue, Buffalo, NY
<b>When:</b>	3 <sup>rd</sup> Wednesday of each month 7:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m.
<b>Why:</b>	Meet with other families, share experiences, ideas and information.
<b>Who:</b>	Helen Weinstein at 831-2298, ext. 19
<b>What:</b>	<b>The Parent Child Connection</b>
<b>Why:</b>	The purpose of this group is to provide parenting enrichment opportunities by offering educational programs for the families of Hamburg and surrounding communities.
<b>Who:</b>	The Family Support Center of Hamburg, (716) 646-9593
<b>What:</b>	<b>Support Groups for Adoptive Parents – Erie County</b>
<b>Where:</b>	Hillside Children's Center, 131 Orchard Park Road, West Seneca, NY
<b>When:</b>	4 <sup>th</sup> Thursday of every month 6:30 p.m. – 8:30 p.m.
<b>Why:</b>	Meet others who share the daily challenges and rewards of parenting adopted children and teens. Pre- and post-adoptive parents welcome.
<b>Who:</b>	Robin Smith at (716) 848-6412 to register or for more information
<b>What:</b>	<b>Adoptive Parents &amp; Kids Support Groups</b>
<b>Where:</b>	New Directions Youth & Family Services, 1445 Kensington Ave., Buffalo, NY
<b>When:</b>	4 <sup>th</sup> 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
<b>Who:</b>	Sylvia Inman at (716) 834-9413 ext. 212
<b>What:</b>	<b>Support Groups for Adoptive Parents – Niagara County</b>
<b>Where:</b>	Niagara Community Center Association, 66 Stevens St., Lockport, NY
<b>When:</b>	2 <sup>nd</sup> Thursday of every month 6:30 p.m. – 8:30 p.m.
<b>Why:</b>	Meet others who share the daily challenges and rewards of parenting adopted children and teens. Pre- and post-adoptive parents welcome.
<b>Who:</b>	Robin Smith at (716) 848-6412 to register or for more information
<b>What:</b>	<b>Erie County Adoption Resource Ctr. Support Group</b>
<b>Where:</b>	1370 William Street, Buffalo NY
<b>When:</b>	3 <sup>rd</sup> Wednesday of month 9:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m.
<b>Who:</b>	Karen Kelley 716-848-6419
<b>What:</b>	<b>Bornhava's Men's Forum</b>
<b>Where:</b>	Bornhava, 25 Chateau Terrace, Amherst, NY
<b>When:</b>	7:30 p.m. one evening per month during school year. Call for dates.
<b>Why:</b>	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.
<b>Who:</b>	(716) 839-1655 for more information
<b>What:</b>	<b>Connections Parent Support Group for Families of Children with Asperger's Disorder</b>
<b>Where:</b>	Summit Educational Resources, 150 Stahl Rd., Getzville, NY
<b>When:</b>	7:00 p.m. - 8:30 p.m. on the 1 <sup>st</sup> Monday of each month
<b>Why:</b>	Share ideas, information, treatment options, educational options and advocacy strategies.
<b>Who:</b>	Marlene Mancuso at (716) 629-3400

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<b>What:</b>	<b>Sensory Processing Disorder Support Group</b>
<b>When:</b>	Call for meeting dates, times and location
<b>Why:</b>	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. <i>Meetings are for adults only.</i>
<b>Who:</b>	Kirsten Seebald (716) 982-1770 or <a href="mailto:marilynballard@gmail.com">marilynballard@gmail.com</a>
<b>What:</b>	<b>Autism Society of WNY Support /Informational Meetings &amp; Workshops</b>
<b>Where:</b>	St. John Lutheran Church, 3512 Clinton Street, West Seneca, NY
<b>When:</b>	7:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m.; check website for meeting date & topic
<b>Why:</b>	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. <a href="http://www.autismwny.org">www.autismwny.org</a>
<b>Who:</b>	(716) 633-2275 or email <a href="mailto:info@autismwny.org">info@autismwny.org</a>
<b>What:</b>	<b>Families' Child Advocacy Network (CAN) Monthly Roundtable Discussion Group</b>
<b>Where:</b>	The Family Resource Ctr., 347 East Ferry St., Buffalo NY 14208
<b>When:</b>	2 <sup>nd</sup> Monday of each month 6:30 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.
<b>Why:</b>	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.
<b>Who:</b>	(716) 884-2599 or <a href="http://www.familiescanwny.org">www.familiescanwny.org</a> for more information.
<b>What:</b>	<b>GLOW Family Support Program</b>
<b>Where:</b>	Hillside Children's Center, Genesee, Livingston, Orleans and Wyoming Counties
<b>When:</b>	Ongoing support groups and respite care
<b>Why:</b>	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.
<b>Who:</b>	Integration Center at (585) 256-7500 for more information.
<b>What:</b>	<b>Child &amp; Family Support Programs</b>
<b>Where:</b>	ECMC, Room 444, 462 Grider St., Buffalo, NY
<b>When:</b>	2 <sup>nd</sup> and 4 <sup>th</sup> Saturday of the month 12:30 p.m. -2:00 p.m.
<b>Where:</b>	Brylin Support Group, 1263 Delaware Avenue, Buffalo NY
<b>When:</b>	1 <sup>st</sup> and 3 <sup>rd</sup> Wednesday of the month 5:30 p.m. – 6:30 p.m.
<b>Where:</b>	Boys & Girls Club Southside Clubhouse, 17 Tamarack, Buffalo NY
<b>When:</b>	1 <sup>st</sup> and 3 <sup>rd</sup> Friday of the month 6:30 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.
<b>Where:</b>	Harlem Road Community Center, 4255 Harlem Road, Amherst, NY
<b>When:</b>	1 <sup>st</sup> and 3 <sup>rd</sup> Wednesday of the month 6:30 p.m. - 8:30 p.m.
<b>Where:</b>	Buffalo Outpatient Center, 575 Alberta Drive, Suite 2, Amherst NY
<b>When:</b>	2 <sup>nd</sup> and 4 <sup>th</sup> Thursday of the month 7:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m.
<b>Where:</b>	Orchard Park Town Hall (Basement), 4295 South Buffalo St., Orchard Park, NY
<b>When:</b>	1 <sup>st</sup> and 3 <sup>rd</sup> Thursday of the month 6:30 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.
<b>Why:</b>	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.
<b>Who:</b>	Child & Family Support Program at 886-1242 ext. 318
<b>What:</b>	<b>WNY Chapter Families of Spinal Muscular Atrophy (SMA)</b>
<b>Where:</b>	Airport Millennium Hotel, 2040 Walden Avenue, Cheektowaga, NY
<b>Why:</b>	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.
<b>Who:</b>	(716) 622-0804 or <a href="http://www.wnyfsma.org">www.wnyfsma.org</a> for meeting dates, time and more information.

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<b>What:</b>	<b>After School Enrichment for School Aged Children with Developmental Disabilities</b>
<b>Where:</b>	Enterprise Charter School, 275 Oak St., Buffalo, NY
<b>When:</b>	Monday – Friday 3:00 p.m. - 6:30 p.m.
<b>Why:</b>	To provide academic enrichment and a range of cultural and recreational opportunities for children with Developmental Disabilities.
<b>Who:</b>	(716) 874-7200
<b>What:</b>	<b>Southtowns Autism Spectrum Disorder Support Group</b>
<b>Where:</b>	Chapel Park Villa Head Start, 7008 Erie Rd., Derby, NY
<b>When:</b>	6:30 p.m. the 3 <sup>rd</sup> Wednesday of each month.
<b>Why:</b>	The group offers families of children with Autism Spectrum Disorder a chance to meet, share ideas and find support in the Southtowns area.
<b>Who:</b>	Gayle Duffy at (716) 947-0085 for more information
<b>What:</b>	<b>SMILE Support Groups in Niagara County</b>
<b>Where:</b>	Wheatfield Community Senior Center, 2790 Church Rd., North Tonawanda, NY
<b>When:</b>	2 <sup>nd</sup> and 4 <sup>th</sup> Friday each month
<b>Where:</b>	The Dale Association, 33 Ontario Avenue, Lockport, NY
<b>When:</b>	2 <sup>nd</sup> and 4 <sup>th</sup> Tuesday each month 7:00 p.m. – 8:30 p.m.
<b>Why:</b>	To provide support, education and information on topics selected by group members & parent facilitators.
<b>Who:</b>	Marge Wright at (716) 433-4487 to register.
<b>What:</b>	<b>Short Term Respite Care</b>
<b>Why:</b>	Respite may be provided for eligible families raising a child with mental health and serious emotional/behavior issues.
<b>Who:</b>	Child & Family Support Program (716) 886-1242 ext. 327
<b>What:</b>	<b>Teen Pals Program</b>
<b>Where:</b>	Yad B'Yad, 2640 North Forest Dr., Getzville, NY
<b>When:</b>	Twice per month, once on the weekend, once during the week. Times vary.
<b>Why:</b>	Open to teenagers 13-18 who need help with social skills. Currently accepting names for a waiting list.
<b>Who:</b>	(716) 204-3583 for more information * <b>Cost:</b> \$200 for the year
<b>What:</b>	<b>Precious Jewels Day Care Center, Inc.</b>
<b>Where:</b>	390 Emslie Street, Buffalo, NY 14206
<b>When:</b>	Monday – Friday 6:30 a.m. – 6:30 p.m.
<b>Why:</b>	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.
<b>Who:</b>	(716) 604-1514 for more information
<b>What:</b>	<b>Heritage Christian Services Club House Adventure</b>
<b>Where:</b>	Day Habilitation Site, 1000 Ellicott Creek Road, Tonawanda, NY
<b>When:</b>	10:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m. two Saturdays per month
<b>Why:</b>	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.
<b>Who:</b>	(716) 743-2020 or <a href="mailto:scardinal@heritagechristianservices.org">scardinal@heritagechristianservices.org</a> for more information
<b>What:</b>	<b><a href="http://www.buffalodiocese.org/disabilities">www.buffalodiocese.org/disabilities</a></b>
<b>Why:</b>	To discover the spiritual resources provided to persons with disabilities in the Catholic Diocese of Buffalo
<b>What:</b>	<b>Adult ADHD of WNY Support Group</b>
<b>Where:</b>	31 Colonial Ave, Lancaster 14086
<b>When:</b>	2 <sup>nd</sup> Tuesday of month 7:00 p.m.
<b>Who:</b>	716-684-7142 for more information

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<b>What:</b>	<b>The Heart Club</b>
<b>Where:</b>	Grace Baptist Church, 2525 Eggert Road, Tonawanda NY
<b>When:</b>	1 <sup>st</sup> Monday of the month 7:00 p.m. – 8:30 p.m.
<b>Why:</b>	To provide monthly social and spiritual interaction for developmentally disabled adults. Enjoy crafts, music, devotions and a snack while socializing with other adults 21 yrs. and older.
<b>Who:</b>	Jean Fitzgerald (716) 877-7080 for more information
<b>What:</b>	<b>Socialization &amp; Recreation Group Program</b>
<b>Where:</b>	Robert Warner Rehabilitation Center, 219 Bryant St., Buffalo, NY; various community locations.
<b>When:</b>	Every other Friday evening for 2 hours.
<b>Why:</b>	Teenagers aged 12-15 or 16-19 who have a developmental or medical disability may be eligible. Spaces are limited and filled on a first-come-first-serve basis.
<b>Who:</b>	Program Coordinator at 878-1260 for an application packet.
<b>What:</b>	<b>Friends Program</b>
<b>Where:</b>	Yad B'Yad, 805 Delaware Ave., Buffalo NY
<b>When:</b>	20 outings per year, each approximately 2 hours long
<b>Why:</b>	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.
<b>*Cost:</b>	<i>Need to have Medicaid waiver for funding.</i>
<b>Who:</b>	(716) 923-0020 for more information
<b>What:</b>	<b>Aspire Mental Health Clinic</b>
<b>Where:</b>	Aspire, 7 Community Drive, Cheektowaga, NY
<b>Why:</b>	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.
<b>Who:</b>	Mary Carol Roberson at (716) 505-5630
<b>What:</b>	<b>Free Adult Tutoring</b>
<b>Where:</b>	Boys & Girls Beecher Clubhouse, 180 10 <sup>th</sup> Street, Buffalo NY
<b>When:</b>	Mondays & Wednesdays Noon – 2:00 p.m.
<b>Why:</b>	To help you get a job, speak better English, improve your reading and writing, get a GED, or read to your children.
<b>Who:</b>	Literacy Volunteers (716) 876-8991
<b>What:</b>	<b>Saturday Superstars Bowling League</b>
<b>Where:</b>	Kenmore Lanes-on Kenmore Ave. between Elmwood & Military
<b>When:</b>	Saturdays through April 2010, 11:00 a.m.
<b>Why:</b>	A recreational activity for students with a documented disability 6 - 21year olds.
<b>*Cost:</b>	<i>\$6.00 each week</i>
<b>Who:</b>	Buffalo Excels, 716-510-0317 to register
<b>What:</b>	<b>Power Wheelchair Soccer</b>
<b>Where:</b>	Northtowns – Boys & Girls Club of the Northtowns, 325 Franklin St., Tonawanda Southtowns – Elma Boys & Girls Club, 2080 Girdle Rd, Elma
<b>When:</b>	Various dates – Call for schedule.
<b>Why:</b>	Power Wheelchair Soccer - players must be in a power wheelchair and be able to understand the game and safely maneuver the power wheelchair.
<b>*Cost:</b>	<i>\$25 registration fee includes all equipment (can be waived based on ability to pay)</i>
<b>Who:</b>	Chris at (716) 685-3976 or <a href="http://www.TheIndependenceFoundation.org">www.TheIndependenceFoundation.org</a>
<b>What:</b>	<b>Danceability, Inc.</b>
<b>Where:</b>	In the Tops/George Urban Plaza, 3859 Union Rd. Ste. 400, Cheektowaga, NY
<b>When:</b>	Call for schedule
<b>Why:</b>	A dance and creative movement program for children and adults with special needs.
<b>Who:</b>	(716) 651-0094 for schedule and fee structure

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- What:** **Graceful & Gifted Special Needs Dance Program**  
**Where:** 5000 Saunders Settlement Rd., Bay #3, Niagara Falls, NY  
**When:** Call for schedule  
**Why:** A ballet/movement program for ambulatory and non-ambulatory individuals from 4 yrs. to adults.  
**Who:** For information and to register call Susan Farley-Akin, 716-946-7909
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- 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.
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- 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*
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- 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](http://www.NFTA.com) for application information.  
 For more information or to register (716) 646-9412

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