

# Family Support Chronicle

## Welcome !

2010 is going to be a great year and a very busy one for the Family Support Center!

This month's ezine is filled with many educational, informative and fun opportunities. We look forward to seeing you at our events!

To learn about the Family Support Center of New Jersey please visit us on the web: [www.fscnj.org](http://www.fscnj.org) or call (800)372-6510 and a friendly staff member will be more than happy to assist you.



### Family Support Center of New Jersey

[Join our Mailing List!](#)

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## Community Works Together to Present Accessible Van to Deserving Family



Wall Twp, NJ - The Samanich Family and the Grueninger family met for the first time inside the Monmouth Vans garage, finding shelter from the snow. The Grueningers wanted to see the reaction as the Samaniches lay eyes on their new van, a valuable piece of equipment they could not have afforded without the Grueninger's help.

When Larry Grueninger and his wife, Margie, of Lakehurst, NJ, were looking to upgrade their accessible family vehicle, they decided to donate their old van to a family in need rather than trading it in for credit on a new one.

They went to Monmouth Vans where they had purchased their vehicle in the past, and spoke to Donald Dufty, Mobility Consultant, to discuss their options. When he finished speaking with the Grueningers, Dufty contacted Ramona Carmeci, Manager of Family Support Programs at the Family Support Center of New Jersey. "I called Ramona as soon as I could because I had worked with her in the past and I was confident she would find a deserving family," Dufty said.

To read more about this amazing story click [here!](#)

## Sign Our Online Petition Today!

The Family Support Center of New Jersey provides a wide array of services and resources are that they offer to the New Jersey disability community. If you support our programs and services please consider signing this online petition. Please click [here](#)!

## **Family Support Center of NJ announces the Spring 2010 Training Schedule!**

The FSCNJ Training Department has been conducting information sessions for New Jersey's families since May 2004, and has developed exciting, interactive sessions intended to assist families of children with developmental disabilities targeting different age ranges in order to address unique needs.

Within each of the training sessions, families are exposed to appropriate advocacy strategies and are encouraged to develop a person centered approach to planning for their child. FSCNJ encourages and empowers families to create solutions that are right for them.

FSCNJ currently conducts three trainings through collaboration with the New Jersey Division of Developmental Disabilities, they are:

### **Life Line for the Journey**

An interactive training session assisting families of children from infancy through age 14. At this stage, families are typically wondering and worrying about what the future holds for their child with a developmental disability. The information presented includes vision building, as well as, the different systems that they may encounter, and the scope of service provision for each including eligibility criteria. Networking time is built into the sessions so that families have an opportunity to connect with other families facing similar concerns. Click [here](#) to register for this session.

### **Pathways to Adult Life**

Dedicated to the needs of children between the ages of 14 and 19. The purpose of this training is to assist students and their families with making informed choices during the transition process from school to adult life. At these sessions, a representative from each agency provides an overview of responsibilities and their services to transitioning students. Families have an opportunity to meet their local contact representatives and follow-up with individual concerns. Click [here](#) to register for this session.

### **Preparation for Life After 21**

A two-part training series designed to specifically address the concerns of students with developmental disabilities ages 19 through 21 and their families as they quickly approach the end of their education entitlement. This training provides detailed information on DDD Traditional Day Programs and Self-Directed Day Services option, DDS programs and services, DVRS resource information, and participants receive information on NJWINS (specifically for SSI/SSDI beneficiaries to make informed decisions about employment). Click [here](#) to register for this session.

If you have any questions please contact Laura Kay, Assistant Director or Debra Egan, Coordinator of Training and Education at 1(800)372-6510.

## Wrightslaw Special Education Law & Advocacy Conference Led by Peter Wright, Esq. Thursday, April 15, 2010

Registration & Breakfast 8am - 9am Event Ends at 4:30 pm  
Wrightslaw Special Education Law & Advocacy Conference  
Led by Peter Wright, Esq.  
Maggiano's Little Italy - Hackensack, NJ 07601

Registration until Monday April 12th \$150.00

Please Note: Each registrant will receive breakfast and lunch at Maggiano's, and two books, *Wrightslaw: Special Education Law and Wrightslaw: From Emotions to Advocacy*

Click [here](#) to register online today! If you have any questions, please contact Dana Goldberg at (732)262-8020 or email [DGGoldberg@familyresourcenetwork.org](mailto:DGGoldberg@familyresourcenetwork.org).

## PASS Presents An Afternoon of Fun at The Bowling Alley

P.A.S.S. is a coalition of parents & agencies in NJ dedicated to supporting siblings of children with different abilities in an environment that is encouraging, supportive and ongoing. P.A.S.S. offers opportunities for these siblings to meet each other and obtain mutual support while having fun.

### DATE/TIME

Friday, April 23  
4:00 - 6:00 pm

### LOCATION

THE LANES AT SEA GIRT  
2106 STATE HIGHWAY 35  
SEA GIRT, NJ 08750

Click [here](#) for an information flier or call Ramona Carmeci (732)528-8080 with any questions!

**Collaborating Agencies:** Statewide Parent Advocacy Network (SPAN)/NJ Parent to Parent (NJ P2P) • Family Support Center of New Jersey (FSCNJ) • Parents of Autistic Children (POAC)

## SAVE THE DATE!!



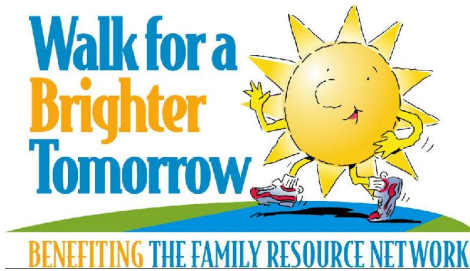
# WOMEN'S CAREGIVER RETREAT

6th Annual Women's Caregiver Retreat  
Thursday, May 13th, 2010  
RWJ - Hamilton Center for Health and Wellness  
Mercerville, NJ

Please be advised that due to lack of funding and sponsorship in these difficult fiscal times, we regrettably must charge a **\$20.00** fee to all attendees. If you have any questions, please contact Cheryl Guaimano at the Family Support Center of NJ (800)372-6510.

*Click here to register online today!*

## Walk for a Brighter Tomorrow - Shore Area Walk



Sunday, May 16, 2010  
Seaside Park, New Jersey  
Registration 11:00 am  
Walk 12:00 pm

Please join the Family Support Center of New Jersey for a 5k walk on the beautiful Seaside Boardwalk as we raise much needed funds and awareness for individuals and their families living with developmental disabilities and chronic illness.

For more information please visit [www.walkforabrightertomorrow.org](http://www.walkforabrightertomorrow.org)!

## The Training Calendar Offers a Clearinghouse of Community Events

In an effort to spread awareness about workshops, conferences and other training opportunities the Family Support Center of New Jersey has launched The Training Calendar. We invite professionals to post information on activities, lectures, trainings, or other events for caregivers and the people they are caring for on [www.thetrainingcalendar.org](http://www.thetrainingcalendar.org). We also invite families and caregivers to view the trainings available in their area.

Previously The Training Calendar had been administered by the Progressive Center for Independent Living. We applaud their foresight in developing this clearinghouse program.

## AFSNJ Presents a series of workshops promoting Autism Awareness

April 9, 2010 @ 12:30 PM-2:00PM

"Make Friends with Autism" I

By: Adrienne Robertiello, Autism Educator

April 9, 2010 @ 6:30PM-8:00PM

"Make Friends with Autism" II

By: Adrienne Robertiello, Autism Educator

April 16, 2010 @ 6:30PM-8:00PM

"The Sibling Connection-Creating positive experiences for Siblings"

By: Annette Becklund, MSW, LCSW

May 5, 2010 @ 11:00AM-12:30PM

"The N.J. Insurance Reform Act: An Autism Update"

By: Valerie A. Powers Smith, Esq.

All workshops will take place at

The Family Support Center of New Jersey

2516 Route 35 North

Manasquan, NJ 08736

Registration is Required - Please RSVP to Cheryl at 800-372-6510

Visit [www.autismfamilyservicesnj.org](http://www.autismfamilyservicesnj.org) for additional information or to view and informational flier!

**SAVE THE DATE!**



**NATIONAL  
CAREGIVERS  
CONFERENCE**

Changing the Face of Caregiving

**SAVE THE DATE - Tuesday, October 26, 2010**

**Renaissance Woodbridge Hotel Iselin, NJ**

**Keynote Speaker:**

**JOHN CROWLEY, President and CEO of AMICUS THERAPEUTICS**

Father of the family that inspired the movie "Extraordinary Measures"

Visit [www.nationalcaregiversconference.org](http://www.nationalcaregiversconference.org) regularly for up to date

## conference information!

### Keeping You Connected!



Everyone is social networking, and FSCNJ will not be left behind. Our goal with blogging is to keep you informed of the latest hints, trends and resources that may pass our way. We encourage you to tag this as a favorite, and check back on a weekly basis to see what is going on. We also welcome suggestions and comments that might help others as well. [Click this link to be redirected to our "blog spot"!](#)

### FSCNJ is on facebook!

The word "facebook" in white lowercase letters on a dark blue rectangular background.

The Family Support Center of New Jersey has joined cyber space and we want to connect with you! Click on [Facebook](#) to become our "fan" to receive bulletins and messages. Our goal is to keep people updated on news, legislation, and other activities important to the community we serve.

Thank you for reading Family Support Chronicle! If you have any information you would like included in our e-zine, please email me at [enza.jacobowitz@fscnj.org](mailto:enza.jacobowitz@fscnj.org). To receive regular publications click "Join Our Mailing List" located on the top of our newsletter.

Additionally, the Family Support Center of NJ is dedicated to keeping you informed and sharing resources with the community, so we invite you to utilize the "Forward Email" button at the bottom of this email.

Sincerely,

Enza Jacobowitz, Website Operations Manager  
[Family Support Center of New Jersey](#)

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