

# Family Support Chronicle

## Welcome!

The Family Support Center of NJ proudly presents Sibshops! Sibshops are for kids between the ages of 8-12 years old who have a sibling with special needs. The group will meet once a month read below for more information!



**Family Support  
Center of  
New Jersey**

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.

[Join our Mailing List!](#)

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## 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!](#)

## You're Invited!

Come celebrate!  
20th Anniversary of the signing of the Americans with Disabilities Act.

Monday, July 26, 2010  
11:00 am - 1:30 pm  
New Jersey Statehouse Annex, Trenton NJ.

\*Guest Speakers \* Light Refreshments \*

[Click here for more information and to register.](#)

## FSCNJ Presents Training Series from Advocates for Alternatives & NJ Developmental Disabilities Planning Institute

Is your child eligible for Division of Developmental Disabilities (DDD) services? Learn how supports and services will be determined for your son/daughter's future. Learn how you can best prepare yourself to fully participate in the planning. Come find out what you don't know!

Advocates for Alternatives & New Jersey Developmental Disabilities Planning Institute presents an opportunity to better understand the principles of Self-Direction and demystify the Developmental Disabilities Resource Tool (DDRT), which is the phone survey used by DDD to determine an individual's level of need. Come to one of the following sessions:

July 27, 2010 from 6:00 pm-  
8:30pm  
Mays Landing Library  
40 Farragut Avenue  
Mays Landing, NJ 08330

September 30, 2010 from 6:00 pm-8:30pm  
Norman Bleshman School- Cafeteria  
333 East Ridgewood Avenue  
Paramus, NJ 07652

The Family Support Center of New Jersey  
2516 Route 35 North  
Manasquan, NJ 08736

Registration is free, but spaces are limited. RSVP is required to Cheryl at 800-372-6510.

## The Family Support Center of NJ presents....Sibshops!

Sibshops are for kids between the ages of 8-12 years old who have a sibling with special needs. FSCNJ will host Sibshop meetings once a month on a Saturday from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. Each session costs \$25.00 per child.

Meeting Schedule  
August 21, 2010  
September 25, 2010  
October 16, 2010  
November 20, 2010  
December 18, 2010

Sibshops will take place at  
The Family Resource Network - Shore Office  
Loins Head Office Park  
35 Beaverson Blvd. Bldg. 11  
Brick, NJ 08723

Please Call the Family Support Center of NJ to Register: 1-800-372-6510. Click [here](#) to download a registration form and follow instructions to ensure proper registration.

**\*\*SPACE IS LIMITED. PLEASE REGISTER AS SOON AS POSSIBLE\*\***

## Spina Bifida Rate Falling

By Crystal Phend, Senior Staff Writer, MedPage Today  
Reviewed by Adam J. Carinci, MD; Instructor, Harvard Medical School and  
Dorothy Caputo, MA, RN, BC-ADM, CDE, Nurse Planner

Spina bifida prevalence among American children is on the decline, according to the first broad population-based study.

Prevalence among children from birth to 11 years of age declined by 1.4% annually from 1991 to 2002 with a consistent reduction each year ( $P < 0.0001$ ), based on pooled data from the 10 regions studied, Mikyong Shin, RN, MPH, DrPH, of the CDC National Center on Birth Defects and Developmental Disabilities in Atlanta, and colleagues found.

Overall spina bifida prevalence reached 3.1 cases per 10,000 children ages 0 to 19 years in the 10 regions studied in 2002, for an estimated 24,860 cases nationwide, they reported in the August issue of *Pediatrics*.

The trend for falling numbers was significant only for older age groups (4 to 7 and 8 to 11).

The shift reflects the drop in prevalence of spina bifida at birth due to folic acid fortification of the food supply in the U.S. and the introduction of prenatal diagnoses countered by better survival rates with advances in medical treatments and technology, Shin's group said.

To read the full article, please [click here](#).

## Get Ready for the Walk for a Brighter Tomorrow!

### Central Walk for a Brighter Tomorrow

Sunday, October 10, 2010

Edison, NJ

Join us as we raise awareness and dollars to support existing programs and expansion projects. The Walks are fun filled events for families and friends to walk in support of their loved ones. A casual 5k Walk, entertainment and refreshments will be just a few of the day's highlights.

Please join us in our continuing efforts to provide low-cost quality services to New Jersey families living with developmental disabilities and chronic illnesses. You can make a difference!

Please visit [www.walkforabrightertomorrow.org](http://www.walkforabrightertomorrow.org) for more information.

## Annual Training Report Released

The Family Support Center's Training Department has released its annual report for 2008-2009 on three of their most noted training programs. The annual report is provided to DDD Senior Staff to provide data regarding "Lifeline for the Journey", "Pathways to Adult Life" and "Life After 21".

During the year, covered by the report, a total of 451 persons attended "Lifeline" presentations in 15 counties. "Pathway" trainings in 12 counties were attended by 855 participants, and "Life After 21" drew a total of 1,269 participants.

To get information on these trainings and to view the full report please [click here](#).

## Autism New Jersey Releases New Report

Autism New Jersey, formally COSAC, has released a new report, "Connecting with Autism: A Blueprint for Lifetime Support". For a copy or to view the report please visit [www.autismnj.org](http://www.autismnj.org).

## Donate your car to support FSCNJ!

Are you thinking of selling or trading in that old car? Why not donate it instead? As a charitable contribution your vehicle donation could make a big difference. Our process is simple, quick and convenient and we will provide free and timely pick-up of your vehicle donation. Our program is simple ... The better the car, the greater your tax deduction.

To inquire about a donation please contact Samantha Griffiths at (609) 392-4900.

## Registration Now Open!



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"

The first 50 paid registrants will receive a copy of John Crowley's family memoir,  
Chasing Miracles: The Crowley Family Journey of Strength, Hope and Joy.

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

## **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.

## **Respite Workbook for Families & Care Providers**

The Family Support Center is distributing comprehensive patient information tools that can be entrusted to a temporary care or respite provider. "About Our Family - A Respite Workbook for Families & Care-Providers" is a product of the Child Neurology Foundation and is distributed free of charge by the Family Support Center. Call (732) 528-8080 or (800) FSC-NJ10 and a friendly staff member will mail you a free copy today!

## **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 Facebook logo, consisting of 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  
The Family Support Center of NJ

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