

# Parents' Perspective

## The Arc of Virginia's Family Involvement Project Parent Newsletter

All staff members of the Family Involvement Project have or have had children who received Early Intervention services in Virginia. Our focus is to support and advocate for families who have young children receiving early intervention services.

A Bi-Monthly Newsletter announcing upcoming conferences , workshops and parent participant opportunities

May 2009 vol. 2

### Parent Participant Opportunities

The Virginia Interagency Coordinating Council is looking for Parent Representatives for the Central and South West Virginia Regions. If you are interested in either of these opportunities please contact Heidi Faustini at 1-888-604-2677 ext. 105 or [hfaustini@arcfip.org](mailto:hfaustini@arcfip.org).

### Telephone Matching Program

Parents are often the best resources and supports for one another, and the connections made between families that can relate to similar experiences are vital. We offer a telephone matching program for those who want to talk to another parent by phone. Call Heidi Faustini: 1-888-604-2677 ext 105 to learn more.

### Resources

The Family Involvement Project hosts a list serve. The list serve offers the opportunity for families to ask questions and learn about events, training opportunities and resources that are available.

To sign up send an e-mail to [dholloway@arcfip.org](mailto:dholloway@arcfip.org)

### Conferences

*Strong Roots Conference in Roanoke July 10th & 11th visit:* [www.medhomeplus.org](http://www.medhomeplus.org)

*Shinning Stars Conference in Virginia Beach July 13th, 14th & 15th visit:* [www.vcu.edu/ttac/early\\_childhood/events.shtml](http://www.vcu.edu/ttac/early_childhood/events.shtml)

*The Arc of Virginia Annual Conference in Charlottesville Aug. 6th, 7th & 8th visit:* [www.arcofoa.org](http://www.arcofoa.org)

## Transitioning out of Early Intervention

Each newsletter will announce an opportunity for parents to participate in an informative conference call session.

When a child turns three years old they are no longer eligible for early intervention services. We will be discussing the process of transitioning out of early intervention services and explore the different options that are available for families in their community. Please join us on a conference call on June 11th from 7:00 p.m. - 8:30 p.m. Contact Debra Holloway at [dholloway@arcfip.org](mailto:dholloway@arcfip.org) to participate and receive the call in information and handouts.

The Arc of Virginia Family Involvement Project: 1-888-604-2677

Debra Holloway: [dholloway@arcfip.org](mailto:dholloway@arcfip.org)

Heidi Faustini [hfaustini@arcfip.org](mailto:hfaustini@arcfip.org)

Carol Hagen [chagen@arcfip.org](mailto:chagen@arcfip.org)

Natalie Fleet [nfleet@arcfip.org](mailto:nfleet@arcfip.org)



## Spotlight Parent Support Organization

Syndromes Without A Name (SWAN) USA

SWAN is a national organization founded in 2004. It is a mutual support network that provides information and support for parents of children with an undiagnosed or unnamed condition. Newsletter and E-list discussion groups are available for parents to share information and provide each other with support.

Write:

Syndromes Without A Name

1745 Lorna Lane

Otsego, MI 49078

Voice: 1-888-880-7926

Website: <http://www.undiagnosed-usa.org/>

E-mail: [amyplugston@undiagnosed-usa.org](mailto:amyplugston@undiagnosed-usa.org)