



Infant & Toddler
Connection of Virginia

In recent years, the news media has taken a keen interest in stories about the critical years of birth to three for early childhood development. This essential period of growth and learning is an extraordinary time of physical, social, and intellectual development. Research shows that these early years provide windows of opportunity. Early experiences, health, nutrition, parenting, and a multitude of other factors play important roles in a child's development. As early interventionists and family members, we have witnessed the remarkable changes that occur during these three years of life. At this year's conference, we will **"View the Future through the Windows of Opportunity."**

Please plan to join us!



Partnership for People with Disabilities

VCU

The Partnership for People with Disabilities is a university center for excellence in developmental disabilities at Virginia Commonwealth University. VCU is an equal opportunity/affirmative action institution providing access to education and employment without regard to age, race, color, national origin, gender, religion, sexual orientation, veteran's status, political affiliation, or disability. If alternative formats of this document are needed, please contact the Partnership for People with Disabilities at 804/828-3876 or 800/828-1120 (TDD Relay).

Partnership for People with Disabilities

Virginia Commonwealth University

ATTN: Cori Hill

700 E. Franklin Street, Box 843020

Richmond, VA 23284-3020

The Sixth Annual Infant & Toddler Connection of Virginia Early Intervention Conference

*Creating Connections:
Viewing the Future
through the Windows of
Opportunity*



**April 30 and May 1, 2008
The Hotel Roanoke and
Conference Center**

**Sponsored by:
VA Department of Mental Health,
Mental Retardation, and
Substance Abuse Services with
federal funds under Part C of the
Individuals with Disabilities
Education Act**

This project is coordinated by the
Partnership for People with Disabilities at
Virginia Commonwealth University

Agenda

April 30, 2008

- 7:00 - 8:30 Registration, Refreshments and Displays
8:30 - 10:15 Welcome
Keynote: Dr. Pam Schiller
10:30 - 12:00 Concurrent Sessions
12:00 - 1:15 Buffet Lunch, Displays
1:15 - 4:30 Concurrent Sessions
4:45 - 6:30 Reception with Pan Jammers

May 1, 2008

- 7:30 - 8:30 Registration, Refreshments and Displays
8:30 - 9:45 Welcome/Opening Remarks
Mary Ann Discenza
Kathy Glazer
10:00 - 11:15 Keynote: Ms. Karen Gaffney
11:30 - 1:00 Concurrent Sessions
1:00 - 2:30 Buffet Lunch, EI Awards
2:30 - 4:00 Concurrent Sessions

Session Topics include:

- ◆ Families' Perspectives
- ◆ Identification and Child Find
- ◆ Social-Emotional Development
- ◆ Evidence-based Practices in EI
- ◆ Service Implementation

And much more!

Who Should Attend:

- ◆ Family Members
- ◆ System Managers
- ◆ Early Interventionists
- ◆ Therapists/Providers
- ◆ Service Coordinators
- ◆ All who support infants and toddlers and their families in the Part C system

Hotel Accommodations: A block of sleeping rooms has been guaranteed until **3/28/08**. Ask for **"Creating Connections"** to receive the rate of \$126/single plus taxes and \$10 for each additional person. Reserve your room TODAY: **1-866-594-4722**. Room rates are not guaranteed after 3/28/08. Space is EXTREMELY limited.

Keynote Speakers



Pam Schiller is an early childhood curriculum specialist, freelance author and speaker. Dr. Schiller has worked as a childcare administrator and has also taught in the public schools as a kindergarten teacher. She served as Head of the Early Childhood Department at the University of Houston, where she also directed the Lab School. Dr. Schiller shares her extensive knowledge in workshops, radio and television interviews, and as a popular keynote speaker and author. She is the author of five early childhood curriculums, eleven children's books, more than thirty teacher and parent resource books and a number of other creative projects such as activity books, DVDs and CDs. Pam lives in Cypress, TX.



From the moment she was born, Karen Gaffney began an incredible journey that continues today. She is the President of a non-profit organization dedicated to championing the journey to full inclusion in families, schools, the workplace and the community for people with developmental disabilities. She is doing this by creating awareness and calling attention to the tremendous capabilities of people with disabilities. Karen accomplishes this through presentations and workshops delivered all over the country. One of the workshops Karen presents is on the importance of physical fitness and how to set up a regular fitness plan. She has also started a program that she calls "The Friends First Network™" in schools around the Portland area. She hopes to take this program nationwide. Karen graduated from St. Mary's Academy in Portland, Oregon and earned a two-year Associates of Science degree from Portland Community College. She successfully swam the English Channel as part of a six-person relay team. And, just this year, she accomplished her biggest swimming challenge yet....she swam 9 miles across Lake Tahoe in 59-degree water to raise money for the National Down Syndrome Congress and to show the world that people with Down Syndrome are more alike, rather than different, from everyone else. Karen travels the country speaking with determination and commitment, knowing she has limits, but not allowing them to limit her drive to succeed. Oh, and by the way.... Karen Gaffney has Down syndrome.

REGISTRATION FORM

Conference is limited to 350 participants.

Registration fees:

Providers: \$125.00 Family/Student: \$70.00

****Early Bird Discount for Providers****

All registrations postmarked by 3/31/08:
\$100.00

NO REFUNDS AFTER 4/15/08

Name: _____

Title: _____

E-mail: _____

Agency: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____

Fax: _____

Please check if you are a family member:

Please note any special accommodations you need (**INCLUDING VEGETARIAN MEALS**):

Please mail or fax registration & PO/check made payable to:

VCU/Partnership for People with Disabilities
ATTN: Betty Harrell
P.O. Box 843020
Richmond, VA 23284-3020
FAX: (804) 828-0042

To pay by credit card, register online at:
www.vcu.edu/partnership
Click on "Calendar of Events"

For registration questions, contact:
Betty Harrell (804) 828-0359
bpharrell@vcu.edu

For additional information, contact:
Cori Hill (540) 943-6776