

THE NEWSLETTER THAT KEEPS PARENTS INFORMED

Parent Pipeline

WINTER 2009-2010

**Carbon Lehigh
Intermediate Unit #21**
4210 Independence Drive
Schnecksville PA 18078-2580



The Carbon Lehigh Intermediate Unit is an equal opportunity employer and does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, religion, national origin, age, marital status, sex or non-relevant handicap in activities, programs, or employment practices. For information regarding civil rights or grievance procedures contact Mr. John B. Houser, Section 504 Coordinator, or Mrs. Kim Talipan, Title IX and ADA Coordinator at the Carbon Lehigh Intermediate Unit, 4210 Independence Drive, Schnecksville, PA 18078-2580, 800-223-4821.

Local Task Force Meetings

Local Task Force Meetings are held at the Carbon Lehigh Intermediate Unit #21's Central Office in Schnecksville. Meetings begin at 10:00 a.m. All parents and interested persons are welcome to bring questions and concerns to the meetings. Call 610-769-4111 or 800-223-4821 for more information.

Future Local Task Force Meeting Dates

February, 2010—No meeting
March 18, 2010—Spring Workshop
May 20, 2010
June 2010 – No meeting



Spring Workshop

**Local Right to Education
Task Force
Carbon & Lehigh Counties**

What's New In Special Education?

Date: Thursday, March 18, 2010
Time: 10:00 am - 1:00 pm
(Complimentary lunch provided at noon)
Where: Troxell Building
Parkland School District
2279 N. Cedar Crest Blvd.
Allentown, PA 18104

For more information, contact Monica Swallop @ 610-769-4111, ext. 1218 or swallopm@cliu.org.

Mark Your Calendar!

Transition Services

The Carbon Lehigh Transition Coordinating Council meets four times each year. The purpose of the Council is to bring all stakeholders; parents, students, educators, and community support services together to maximize Transition Services for youth and young adults with disabilities, ages 14-21.

The Council seeks speakers within the community to share their expertise and knowledge of various transition topics. Additionally, updates are provided from agency representatives.

The Council encourages and welcomes parents and students to attend the meetings. For additional information on Transition Services and/or the Coordinating Council go to www.cliu.org. **Click: Special Programs and Services - Scroll Down - left hand side to Transition, Click on Transition Resources**, and the following topics with attached information will appear: Adolescent Relationship, Carbon Lehigh Transition Coordinating Council, Employment Outlook Fact Sheet, Health Care Services, Recreation and Leisure Activities, Resources, SSA & Work Incentives, Trainings and Workshops for Educators and Families, Transition School to Life, Transition Academy, Transportation and Youth and Young Adults.

Helping Children Learn

"CLIU is a service agency committed to Helping Children Learn."

CLIU Customer Service is providing quality, timely, knowledgeable, pleasant, and responsive services and support.

Volunteers Needed

The Carbon Lehigh #21 Intermediate Unit is in need of volunteers to act as Surrogate Parents for students who do not have a guardian available to act on their behalf. Volunteers typically will attend IEP or CER meetings, and act in place of a parent or guardian in making school related decisions. This is a service that the IU #21 provides for students who attend any of the 14 districts within Carbon and Lehigh Counties. If you have time during the day, and want to help meet the needs of a child in your area, please call or email Kellie Price or Rick Nicolazzi. We would be glad to answer any questions you have. Thank you in advance.

Rick Nicolazzi
610-794-1300 ext. 1667
Lehigh County Surrogate Parent Coordinator

Kellie Price
610-769-4111 ext. 1954
Carbon County Surrogate Parent Coordinator



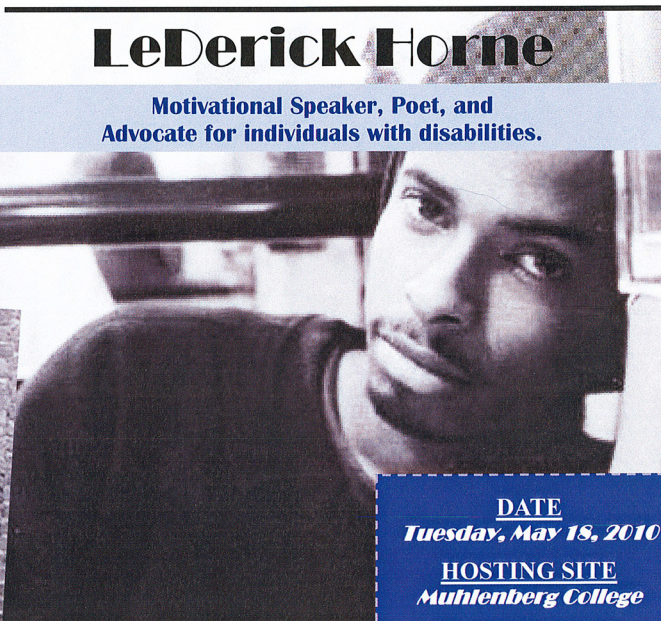
2010 4th Annual Transition Academy

Transition: Rap Up Your Future Plans!

2010
Transition
Academy
Day

Special Guest LeDerick Horne

Motivational Speaker, Poet, and
Advocate for individuals with disabilities.



Sponsored by:
Carbon Lehigh Intermediate Unit #21
Local Right to Education Task Force
Hosted by Muhlenberg College

DATE
Tuesday, May 18, 2010
HOSTING SITE
Muhlenberg College
REGISTRATION
8:00 AM
CLOSING EVENTS
1:00 PM

Special
Guest
LeDerick
Horne

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News from the Classrooms/Programs

Project SEARCH Open House

Project SEARCH held its second annual Open House on December 7, 2009 at Good Shepherd Rehabilitation Network (GSRN) in Allentown. In attendance were over 100 guests including interested high school students, parents, school administrators, local agency staff, and GSRN employees. The program opened with welcome messages from Sally Gammon, President and CEO, GSRN, and Jack Houser, Director of Special Programs and Services, CLIU #21. The interns from the graduating class of 2009 were recognized and presented with Project SEARCH pins. Information about their employment status was shared. Of the seven graduates, six are competitively employed in the Lehigh Valley and the seventh is involved in discovery process with OVR. The program ended with presentations from each intern enrolled in the program this year with information on their first work rotation at GSRN which began in September and their employment goals for the future. It was obvious that the Project SEARCH program produces outcomes of success and celebration for young adults with disabilities.



Project | SEARCH

Nonpublic Services

The Nonpublic Services Department Reading Specialists have been servicing their schools in teams by administering the DIBELS assessment to all students in Kindergarten, First, and Second grades, and some schools continued this assessment in the Third and Fourth grades. These assessments assist in identifying the students who are serviced through the ACT 89 and/or Title I programs. This data is also shared with administration and classroom teachers to help with the development of their reading programs and curriculum. The assessment is done for all students in all of the nonpublic schools three times a year. Providing this service to the schools not only produces important data but also promotes the practices of CLIU #21 Nonpublic Reading Specialist working as teams and opportunities to observe and experience the differences within each school.

The role of a Reading Specialist also includes working together collaboratively with administration, classroom teachers, paraprofessionals, and parents to provide each student the best practical

Signing Santa at the Lehigh Valley Mall

The Deaf/Hard of Hearing classes at Parkway Manor Elementary School visited *Signing Santa* at the Lehigh Valley Mall in early December. The children got the opportunity to discuss directly with Santa Claus their desires for Christmas. They were then able to make their purchases for their "Secret Santa" selection within the class while at the Mall. Individual and group pictures were donated to the students by the Lehigh Valley Mall.

News from the Classrooms/Programs - continued

- Students in Terri Trotter's MDS/Functional class at Lehighton Middle School are having fun with the activities for the Unique Learner curriculum. They participated in activities that helped them to get to *Know the United States*.
- Lenore Barr's students on Penn Kidder Campus, Jim Thorpe Area School District, have been busy engaging in activities both in school and within the community setting. They enjoyed a CBI trip to Kovatch located in Nesquehoning and were given a tour of the facilities to see how the trucks are made. Students were able to sit in a brand new fire truck and water truck. Students are also working hard in their academic lessons and several have been chosen as *Student of the Month*.
- Palmerton Alternative ED
Students in James Kochie's junior high program have won another Achieve 3000 TeenBiz contest. This contest focused on reading comprehension. Students were able to earn a point for every score above 75%. Jim's class had the highest score. TeenBiz will be providing them with a party in the coming weeks.

MIRACLE LEAGUE

May 2010 is the opening day for the fifth season of the Miracle League of the Lehigh Valley. The Miracle League provides the opportunity for children ages 4-21 with special needs to play baseball regardless of their diagnosis or abilities. All special needs children are encouraged to participate regardless of their limitations.

Each player will be assigned to a team with 12-14 players. There are no practices, and we do not expect players to make every game. Games are three innings long and each player bats in each inning. Each player has a buddy who will assist them throughout the game. All games last about 45 minutes to an hour and take place at Fowler Field at Jaundt Family Park which is located at 5858 Sell Road in Schnecksville, PA.

For more information on the Miracle League, please contact Melissa Borland, Executive Director, at 484-221-9814. Registration forms will be distributed throughout various CLIU #21 programs beginning in late February.



Don't Forget

Parents/Guardians please be sure that your child's teacher and IU#21 bus driver have an up-to-date emergency phone number!



Upcoming Spring Dance

The Spring Dance sponsored by the CLIU#21 Social Workers and CLIU#21 Special Needs Children's Foundation will be held on Friday, May 14, 2010 at our Main Office, 4210 Independence Drive, Schnecksville, PA 18078 from 7:00 to 9:00 pm. The theme will be *You Are A Star*. Come as your favorite celebrity.



The dance is for students who attend CLIU Multiple Disabilities or Life Skills Programs. Flyers will be sent home. Please speak to your child's teacher to see if that class attends and to find out what transportation may be available for your child.



Looking forward to seeing you there!

Ben Yorgey Foundation

The Ben Yorgey Foundation is pleased to announce the Inaugural Ben Event which has been scheduled for the weekend of July 16-17, 2010 at Macungie Memorial Park. The planned events will serve as the Foundation's primary fundraising opportunity in 2010.

Ben died on May 7, 2009 at the age of 24 from anoxic brain injury caused by a seizure. This event is designed to honor his legacy and sow the seeds for the Ben Yorgey Foundation which will provide 10 graduation scholarships for special education students. For more information visit www.heyiknowyou.org.

Seventeenth Annual CLSNCF Golf



The 17th CLSNCF Golf Tournament presented by Carbon Lehigh Special Needs Children's Foundation and the fourteen public school districts of Carbon and Lehigh Counties in cooperation with the Carbon Lehigh Intermediate Unit #21 is scheduled for Tuesday, June 22, 2010, at the Olde Homestead Golf Club, 6598 route 309, New Tripoli. Proceeds from the tournament support special needs children in recreational and educational activities.

If you are interested in more information, please see our website at www.cliu.org, call

Tom Mullen, Erik Malmberg, or Barbara Montanari at 800-223-4821 or 610-769-4111, or email us at mullent@cliu.org, malmberge@cliu.org or montanarib@cliu.org. We are particularly interested in potential sponsors and have different levels of sponsorship available to suit any business.

Special Needs Awareness Day



Special Needs Awareness Day

*Sponsored by
State Representative
Douglas G. Reichley*

**March 13, 2010
10:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.**

**Integrated Health Campus
250 Cetronia Road
Allentown, PA 18104**

- This day is for families and friends who are involved with children or adults with special needs.
- Over 50 exhibitors will be present to provide information about resources and services available to families in Pennsylvania.
- **Admission is FREE.**
- For directions or more information, please contact Rep. Reichley's District Office at 610-965-9933.

2010 ANNUAL SPRING SPECIAL EDUCATION WORKSHOP

LOCAL RIGHT TO EDUCATION TASK FORCE LEHIGH AND CARBON COUNTIES



WORKSHOP TITLE:

WHAT'S NEW IN SPECIAL EDUCATION?

PRESENTER:

Pam Klipa, Training & Special Education
Coordinator for The Arc of Pennsylvania in
partnership with PaTTAN (PA Dept. of
Education/Bureau of Special Education)

SPEAKING POINTS:

Changes to PA's school code & how it impacts
your child
Brand new or substantially revised forms
Red flags to look for in the IEP
Definition & intent of LRE (Least Restrictive
Environment)
What federal law says about inclusion
Successful stories of inclusion

DATE & TIME:

March 18, 2010 from 10-1
(Complimentary lunch provided at noon)

LOCATION:

Troxell Bldg., Parkland School District
2279 N. Cedar Crest Blvd., Allentown PA

FURTHER INFO:

Free event but you must RSVP. Also open to
Northampton County families. Note: Unlike past
conferences, this year there is just one topic
due to its very extensive nature.

RSVP:

Please RSVP to Monica Swallop of IU 21 at either
610-769-4111, ext. 1218 or swallop@cliu.org.

NOTE:

If you attended this same training in October 2009 at
The Arc, you are welcome to attend again for a
refresher.

Hot Topics In Special Education

HOT TOPICS IN SPECIAL EDUCATION

TRANSITION & YOUR CHILD'S IEP

WHO: Domenico Cavauiuolo, Ph.D & Angela Murphy, Esquire

WHAT: Family-friendly transition workshop

WHEN: Wednesday evening, March 3 from 6:30-8:30
(Snow date: March 10)

WHERE: The Arc, 2289 Avenue A, Bethlehem PA

WHY: So that transition from high school is as
SMOOTH & SUCCESSFUL AS POSSIBLE!



TOPICS FOR DISCUSSION

Overview of transition assessments, evaluations, & services
Importance of early planning
Measurable & appropriate IEP goals
Fostering self-advocacy skills
Student attendance at his or her IEP
Helpful transition checklist for parents

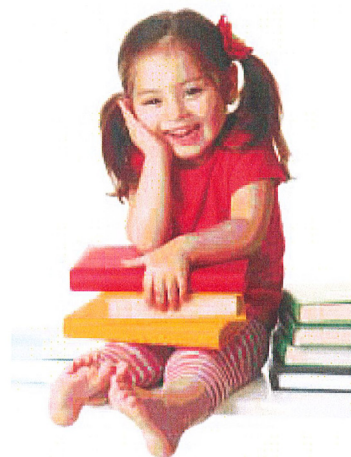
REGISTRATION

- Registration is free & geared for families of those 14 & older.
- Please RSVP to Susan Kluge at 610-849-8076, ext. 22 or skluge@arcofl-n.org. Email response preferred as voice mail fills up fast.
- Seating limited to 20 attendees. Light refreshments provided.

Reaching New Heights in Early Education.



Need Help Paying for Child Care? We Can Help!



Any family who is income eligible, or on the waiting list for a Child Care Works subsidy, and is enrolled or is enrolling in a Lehigh Valley Children's Centers location, may apply for an LVCC Scholarship. Scholarship aid is available for infants through school-age children. Aid is based on family income, and helps you pay for child care until a Child Care Works subsidy becomes available.

A trusted neighbor since 1970, Lehigh Valley Children's Centers provides:

- High quality early education & care
- Services for children from 6 weeks - 12 years
- Nurturing, professional teachers
- Full-time and part-time hours
- Nutritious meals and snacks
- Over 20 convenient locations in Allentown, Bethlehem, Easton and surrounding communities

LVCC Scholarship Funds have been provided, in part, by the Community Action Committee of the Lehigh Valley (CACLV), under the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009.

ENROLL TODAY!

610-820-5333

LVCCOnline.org

