



29th ANNUAL
Tools for Success
Family
Conference

February 16, 2024
Schultz Center
Jacksonville, Florida



Tools for Success Family Conference



Schedule of Events

8:00 – 8:45	Registration	Vendor Hall opens at 8:00 a.m. and closes at 1:00 PM School-Based Enterprises open when their students arrive and will end before 1:00 p.m. Stop by between sessions! Sales are cash only.
8:45 – 9:30	Welcome & Employer Awards	
9:40 – 10:30	Session I	Concurrent Sessions
10:35 – 11:15	Session II	Concurrent Sessions
11:20 – 12:15	Session III	Concurrent Sessions
12:15 – 1:00	Vendor Hall	
1:00	End of Day	29 th Annual Tools for Success Family Conference concludes with the end of Session III.

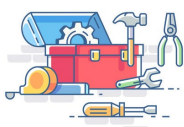
Thank you to all those who made today possible:

The Tools for Success Family Conference Planning Committee,
Speakers, Vendors, Volunteers and Attendees.

Our Catering was provided today by Bitty and Beau’s Coffee found in Gentry A
<https://bittyandbeauscoffee.com/location/jacksonville>

Thank you to our sponsors!





Tools for Success Family Conference



Location	<u>Session I</u> 9:40 a.m. – 10:30 a.m.	<u>Session II</u> 10:35 a.m. – 11:15 a.m.	<u>Session III</u> 11:20 am-12:15 p.m.
Gentry A	<u>Supplemental Security Income (SSI) 101</u> Danielle West-Lane Social Security Administration	<u>How to Manage Challenging Behaviors: Verbal De-Escalation</u> Jill Hill, CRPS Partnership for Child Health	<u>What is Mental Health? Signs, Symptoms, Coping Skills, and Support Strategies</u> Jill Hill, CRPS Partnership for Child Health
Gentry B *Facebook Live*	<u>The Agency for Persons with Disabilities (APD) - Applications Who/What/When/How and WHY!</u> Denise Torres The Arc Jacksonville	<u>Unlock Your Future: Free Employment Support in Florida</u> Jim Atkinson, Lisa Parlapiano PASS (Progressive Abilities Support Services)	<u>Nuts & Bolts of Self-Determination Skill Building</u> Kathy Powell Sassafrass Mittleman FND POPIN
Room 148 *Facebook Live*	<u>What Keeps You Up at Night? Planning for the Future of Your Loved One</u> Sarah R. Sullivan The Arc Jacksonville	<u>Build Assets, Live the American Dream- All While Maintaining Necessary Benefits</u> Charlotte Temple The Arc Jacksonville	<u>What is a Medicaid Waiver? Florida's Home and Community Based Medicaid Waivers 101</u> Charlotte Temple The Arc Jacksonville
Room 149	<u>Myths and Truths of Including All Students in the Classroom</u> Rojina Durant Florida Inclusion Network	<u>Understanding the IEP</u> Ginny Johnson Phyllis Barrington FDLRS/Crown	<u>Understanding Accommodations</u> Ginny Johnson Phyllis Barrington FDLRS/Crown
Room 159	<u>Learn more about deferment and the Extended Transition Programs in Duval County Public Schools</u> Ellisa Hayes Transition Specialist Duval County Public Schools.	<u>Duval County Public Schools Extended Transition Program on Florida State College at Jacksonville Campus</u> Shajuan Edwards, Alpha McDowell, Daina Devereaux Duval County Public Schools	<u>Transition Program at Frank H. Peterson</u> Julia Reisinger DCPS--Frank H. Peterson Academies
Room 160	<u>Transition Basics: Information for Families and Others Who Support Students with Disabilities</u> Leigh Ann Hale Project 10	<u>The Steps to Project SEARCH</u> Tonya Hickey, Ayaenna McHugh Project SEARCH/UNF	
Room 162/163	<u>Supporting Siblings of Individuals with ASD, Related Disabilities and Medical Complexities</u> Chanel Baldwin-Stinson UF Health Neurodevelopmental Pediatrics/ Center for Autism and Related Disabilities/ FDLRS-MDC	<u>Understanding Executive Function and Learning Skills to Help Your Child</u> Brett Walden UF Health Neurodevelopmental Pediatrics/ Center for Autism and Related Disabilities/ FDLRS-MDC	<u>Behavior Basics - It's a Whole New World!</u> Amy Lane UF Health - Jacksonville FDLRS MDC and CARD
Room 166/167	<u>Sensory Island for Parents</u> Dr. Melissa Call FDLRS/Crown	<u>Creating Visual Supports for Families</u> Matt Take FDLRS/Crown	<u>Visual Supports in the Home</u> Gwenivere Mauro & Rina Park UF Health Neurodevelopmental Pediatrics, CARD, FDLRS MDC

Sessions in rooms marked *Facebook Live* will be livestreamed via Facebook and available after the conference.

To watch recorded sessions, go to: facebook.com/popinfi or facebook.com/FamilyNetworkonDisabilities



Tools for Success Family Conference



Session I: 9:40 a.m.-10:30 a.m.

Room	Session Description	Presenter
Gentry A	<u>Supplemental Security Income (SSI) 101</u> We will provide an overview of SSI, the disability process, what you need to know when you receive SSI, SSI reporting responsibilities and online services.	Danielle West-Lane Social Security Administration
Gentry B *Facebook Live*	<u>The Agency for Persons with Disabilities (APD) - Applications Who/What/When/How and WHY!</u> The Agency for Persons with Disabilities (APD) is specifically tasked with serving the needs of Floridians with Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities (IDD). You can apply to APD or "pre-enroll" as early as age 3. If you have not already applied to APD and you have a family member with an IDD, you need this session. This basic information will give you the application and the guidance on all the documents you need to be gathering to submit with your application. Hold on to every IEP, every IEP because APD wants to review them. Details like this will clear up the process and help you submit a complete application. APD oversees the MedWaiver or Waiver program, and it can mean invaluable help in the future if you take care of things today.	Denise Torres The Arc Jacksonville
Room 148 *Facebook Live*	<u>What Keeps You Up At Night? Planning for the Future of Your Loved One</u> We will explore all the different stages of life for caregivers and persons with disabilities with the goal of informing caregivers of the plans necessary to ensure the highest standard of living for their loved one--even beyond the caregiver's death.	Sarah R. Sullivan The Arc Jacksonville
Room 149	<u>Myths and Truths of Including All Students in the Classroom</u> This presentation will review the foundations and research behind the best practices for including students with disabilities in the least restrictive environment, allow for engaging discussions regarding misconceptions, and address common myths and truths that address core beliefs necessary for students to be successful in the least restrictive environment.	Rojina Durant Florida Inclusion Network
Room 159	<u>Learn more about deferment and the Extended Transition Programs in Duval County Public Schools</u> Gain knowledge about what it means to defer your diploma and the opportunities it provides for young adults. In today's presentation once you have a better understanding of what it means to defer your diploma you will then learn about the Extended Transition Programs in Duval County Public Schools for young adults ages 18 -22.	Ellisa Hayes Transition Specialist Duval County Public Schools.
Room 160	<u>Transition Basics: Information for Families and Others Who Support Students with Disabilities</u> Review research on the importance of family involvement, transition services, individual educational plan (IEP) components, self-advocacy and self-determination, responsibilities of schools, families and students, and resources supporting family involvement in transition planning. The goal of this training is to help families of students with disabilities and others who support students with disabilities understand the secondary transition process and how best to participate in student post-school success.	Leigh Ann Hale Project 10
Room 162/163	<u>Supporting Siblings of Individuals with ASD, Related Disabilities and Medical Complexities</u> Sibling relationships are a vital part in the stability and preservation of the family unit. This presentation will explore the challenges a youth may face while growing up with a sibling who has a disability. The presenter will review topics such as ways to talk with siblings about applicable family member diagnoses, guiding siblings through the various emotions they may experience, and creating an environment that fosters and supports the needs of the sibling without a disability.	Chanel Baldwin-Stinson UF Health Neurodevelopmental Pediatrics/ Center for Autism and Related Disabilities/ FDLRS-MDC
Room 166/167	<u>Sensory Island for Parents</u> This training is designed to be a tool to help parents, professionals and children understand the sensory systems and how to manage hypersensitivity or hyposensitivity to certain input. The training focuses on the child as a whole person as we explore sensory issues, sensory modulation, emotional regulation, and the relationship between a sensory and behavioral response.	Dr. Melissa Call FDLRS/Crown



Tools for Success Family Conference



Session II: 10:35 a.m. – 11:15 a.m.

Room	Session Description	Presenter
Gentry A	<p><u>How To Manage Challenging Behaviors: Verbal De-Escalation</u> Have you had a moment when your child’s behavior started to escalate? What did you do to reduce the behavior? The goal of this training is to provide interventions to decrease challenging behaviors. When we notice the early signs of behaviors, they can often be resolved with supportive (nonconfrontational) language and other verbal de-escalation techniques to help diffuse the interaction. Come learn about the early warning signs, verbal techniques, effective communication, and positive attention to manage challenging behaviors.</p>	<p>Jill Hill, CRS Partnership for Child Health</p>
Gentry B *Facebook Live*	<p><u>Unlock Your Future: Free Employment Support in Florida</u> Want to know more about employment support services? You want access to the best support available. We'll guide you through the often-confusing system, from Vocational Rehabilitation to the Agency for Persons with Disabilities, so that you can find the perfect fit for your needs and goals. Services are free and available to those ages 14 and up. You choose the provider and set your own goals. Forget fitting into the system - it's here to support YOU! Join us to learn more, ask questions, and take control of your future.</p>	<p>Jim Atkinson, Lisa Parlapiano PASS (Progressive Abilities Support Services)</p>
Room 148 *Facebook Live*	<p><u>Build Assets, Live the American Dream - All while Maintaining Necessary Benefits</u> Working, building assets, all while maintaining the necessary supports/services and government benefits necessary, if possible. Have a better quality of life. A frank discussion about the programs and policies set up that promote a better quality of life for those with disabilities. Don't let the fear of exceeding income and resource limits get a person with a disability stuck in an extremely impoverished life.</p>	<p>Charlotte Temple The Arc Jacksonville</p>
Room 149	<p><u>Understanding the IEP</u> Participants will receive an overview of the elements involved in the development of an IEP. Parental consent, eligibility, the required meetings and the required meeting members will be reviewed. Participants will also receive information on the Facilitated IEP Process so they know what to expect, who does what and how this all comes together to broker positive collaboration, shared understanding and shared responsibility.</p>	<p>Ginny Johnson Phyllis Barrington FDLRS/Crown</p>
Room 159	<p><u>Duval County Public Schools Extended Transition Program on Florida State College at Jacksonville Campus</u> Who thought our students could attend college while still in high school? This presentation will inform the audience about this unique opportunity for students with disabilities. Attendees will receive information on the high school deferment, the FSCJ course offerings, the application process, and the criteria for full participation in the DCPS/FSCJ extended transition program.</p>	<p>Shajuan Edwards, Alpha McDowell, Daina Devereaux Duval County Public Schools</p>
Room 160	<p><u>The Steps to Project SEARCH</u> Project SEARCH is a transition-age youth program for students who have met the requirements for their standard diploma, have deferred receipt of their diploma to participate in the transition program and are typically in the last year of eligibility for free and appropriate education.</p>	<p>Tonya Hickey, Ayaenna McHugh Project SEARCH/UNF</p>
Room 162/163	<p><u>Understanding Executive Function and Learning Skills to Help Your Child</u> Executive functioning is coordinated in the brain's frontal lobe and used to plan, organize, strategize, pay attention, and complete goals. Executive dysfunction creates challenges with impulse control, flexible thinking, task initiation, organization, and working memory. Executive dysfunction affects children's learning and can make it difficult for them to complete a project, organize their work, complete multistep tasks, and think independently. Executive functioning skills are learned in day-to-day activities, in real-life contexts, through observation of a competent adult model. This presentation will offer strategies adults can use to teach these skills.</p>	<p>Brett Walden UF Health Neurodevelopmental Pediatrics/ Center for Autism and Related Disabilities/ FDLRS-MDC</p>
Room 166/167	<p><u>Creating Visual Supports for Families</u> Learn about how visual supports play a crucial role in supporting families, especially those with individuals who may have cognitive, communication, or sensory differences. These visual tools, such as charts, pictures, written words and schedules, provide a concrete way to convey important information. Visual supports can aid in understanding information and following instructions, fostering effective communication, supporting routines, promoting independence, managing behavior, and reducing stress related to unknown situations for individuals with complex needs.</p>	<p>Matt Take FDLRS/Crown</p>

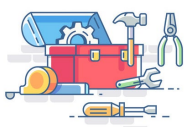


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Session III: 11:20 a.m. – 12:15 p.m.

Room	Session Description	Presenter
Gentry A	<p><u>What is Mental Health? Signs, Symptoms, Coping Skills, and Support Strategies</u> According to the CDC, 1 in 5 youth will be diagnosed with a mental health disorder every year. It can be difficult to understand mental health disorders in children because normal childhood development is a process that involves change. Learn the Signs, Symptoms, Coping Skills, and Support Strategies to help a youth go through managing the complex world of Mental Health. Stress, a factor in Mental Health, comes with traumatic events that are serious, intense, or sudden. Which disorder is a Mental Health Disorder... ADHD? ...Autism Spectrum Disorder? ...Eating Disorders? ...or Anxiety?</p>	<p>Jill Hill, CRPS Partnership for Child Health</p>
Gentry B *Facebook Live*	<p><u>Nuts & Bolts of Self-Determination Skill Building</u> Students who have self-determination skills have a stronger chance of being successful by addressing the need for self-determination skills among adolescents, including some of the major components of self-determination which are knowledge of self and others, personal management, effective communication, self-advocacy, and Advocacy within systems, decision-making, goal setting & problem-solving. These experiences help a young person test his or her strengths as a self-advocate. Adult outcomes for the students were assessed using a scale completed by parents.</p>	<p>Kathy Powell Sassafrass Mittleman FND POPIN</p>
Room 148 *Facebook Live*	<p><u>What is a Medicaid Waiver? Florida's Home and Community Based Medicaid Waivers 101</u> If an individual needs long term care/supports as an adult to live in and be a part of the community as independently as possible, a Home and Community Based Medicaid Waiver may be the answer. An overview of the different waivers offered in Florida, services offered, eligibility and where to apply.</p>	<p>Charlotte Temple The Arc Jacksonville</p>
Room 149	<p><u>Understanding Accommodations</u> The process of identifying and selecting accommodations requires thoughtful consideration and collaboration. This session will help parents understand the types of accommodations and how to participate in an IEP Team meeting to have the discussions to determine what can be done where and how for a student to ensure they have appropriate access to instructional activities and their environment.</p>	<p>Ginny Johnson Phyllis Barrington FDLRS/Crown</p>
Room 159	<p><u>Transition Program at Frank H. Peterson</u> The Transition Program at Frank H. Peterson offers industry training and certification to students who have chosen to defer their high school diploma. Our students may access one of the vocational academies in addition to receiving instruction in social skills, independent living skills, and employability skills.</p>	<p>Julia Reisinger DCPS--Frank H. Peterson Academies</p>
Room 160		
Room 162/163	<p><u>Behavior Basics - It's a Whole New World!</u> This presentation considers students' motivation to attend school and be engaged. Strategies such as using praise and effective error correction are provided to encourage behavioral success and build strong relationships. Foundations for understanding the motivation for certain behaviors will be provided.</p>	<p>Amy Lane UF Health - Jacksonville FDLRS MDC and CARD</p>
Room 166/167	<p><u>Visual Supports in the Home</u> This training focuses on equipping parents and caregivers with the necessary knowledge and skills to effectively use visual supports as communication tools for individuals with Autism, developmental delays, cerebral visual impairments, and language disorders. By the end of this training, parents and caregivers will be equipped with the knowledge and skills needed to create a supportive visual environment at home, fostering enhanced communication abilities for their children with language delays.</p>	<p>Gwenvere Mauro & Rina Park UF Health Neuro- developmental Pediatrics, CARD, FDLRS MDC</p>



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Located in Gentry C and Room 158

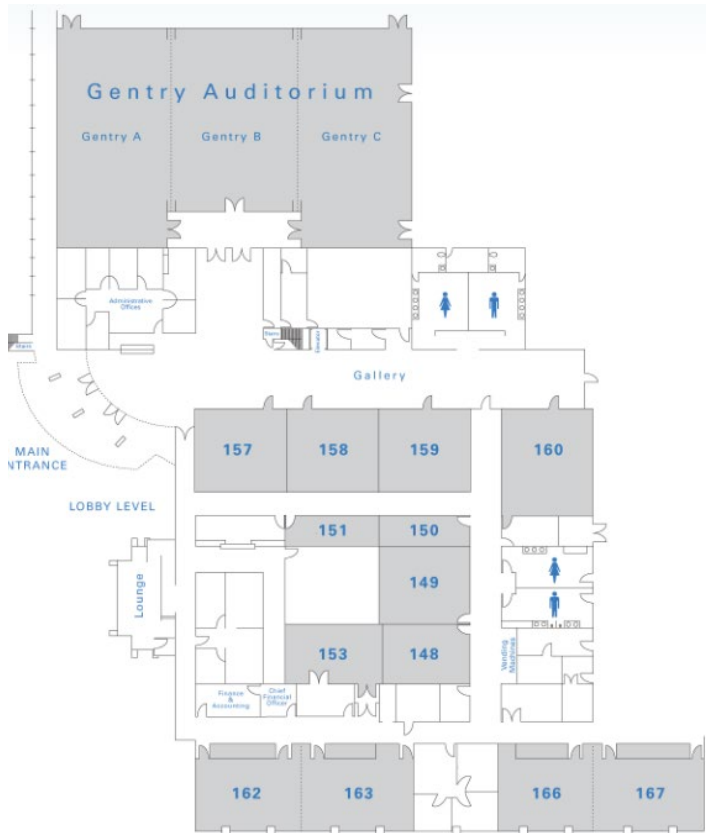
Vendor/Agency Name	Vendor/Agency Point of Contact	Vendor/Agency website
ABLE United	Karen Prewitt	www.ableunited.com
APD/Agency for Persons with Disabilities	Sheryl Dick-Stanford	APDcares.org
BASCA, INC.	Robin Snyder	www.bascainc.org
Best Buddies	Ally Johnson	https://www.bestbuddies.org/florida/
Bright Feats/ Family Care Council 4/ The Arc of the St. John's - Therapeutic Learning Center	Anna Machiz-Dillon	Www.brightfeats.com https://www.fccflorida.org/area-4-fcc.html https://www.arcsj.org/tlc/
Brightstone Therapy	Ciara Burke	www.brightstonetherapy.com
Broach Schools of Jacksonville	Whitney Millson	Broachschoool.com
Buddy Cruise Inc.	Pamela Gray	www.buddycruise.org
Cathedral Arts Project	Karen Demuth	CAPkids.org
CIL Jacksonville	Pam Sohn	cijacksonville.org
City of Jacksonville Disabled Services	Jimmy Smith & Kara Tucker	https://www.jacksonville.gov
Cultivate Behavioral Health & Education	Jose Monteagudo	https://cultivatebhe.com/locations/florida/orange-park/
Dedicated Senior Medical Center	Mayra Rodriguez	WWW.Dedicated.care
Duval Schools Deaf and Hard of Hearing	Ronda Giffin	www.duvalschools.org
Disability Rights Florida	Dawn Moore	www.DisabilityRightsFlorida.org
Division of Vocational Rehabilitation	Gonzague Gonza	www.rehabworks.org
Down Syndrome Association of Jacksonville	Sarah Simmons	www.dsaj.org
Early Learning Coalition of Duval	Maura Colan, Casha Brown, Kaitlyn Lannon	elcduval.org
Early Steps	Melanie Provenza	https://floridaearlysteps.com/
Elite DNA Behavioral Health	Nyree McGrath	www.elitedna.com
Episcopal Children's Services	Jamila Green Mario Decunto	www.ecs4kids.org
Exhale Babysitting Company	Kayla Obamwonyi	exhalebabysitting.com
FIRE Foundation of NE Florida-Igniting Inclusion	Michelle tetschner	FireFoundationNEFlorida.org
First Coast Audiology/First Coast Brain Builders	Angie Pardee	firstcoastaudiology.com ; firstcoastbrainbuilders.com
FDLRS Crown	Rebecca Skinner	www.fdlrscrown.org
Florida School for the Deaf & the Blind: Parent Infant	Joanna Campbell	
Florida School for the Deaf & the Blind: Outreach and Therapy	Jeniffer Flagge	
Florida Youth Council	Serena Wetmore	FloridaYouthCouncil.org
FND POPIN	Kathy Powell	fndusa.org
Health Planning Council of NE Florida	Jennifer Campbell	www.hpcnef.org
Hope Haven	Kimberly Reed	https://www.hope-haven.org/
Iglesia Ciudad/ City Church	Patricia Angelica	www.iglesiaciudad.org / www.citychurchjax.org
International Language Services	John Arroyave	https://www.ilsjax
IslandCove Behavioral Pediatrics	Rachael Mohler	islandcovebehavioralpediatrics.org
Jacksonville Neuro and Clinical Psychology Group	Jennifer Clark	https://jaxpsychology.com/
Jacksonville School for Autism (JSA)	Ashley Kwon	www.jsakids.org
Jericho School for Children with Autism	Beatriz Beyer-Johnson	https://www.thejerichoschool.org
MassMutual SpecialCare	Michael J Sousou	www.coastalfinancialstrategies.com
New York Life / Eagle Strategies, LLC	Todd L Middleton	https://www.newyorklife.com/agent/tlmiddleton
Office of Children's Medical Services and Specialty	Sherry Buchman	MFC.Floridahealth.gov

Vendor/Agency Name	Vendor/Agency Point of Contact	Vendor/Agency website
Partnership for Child Health	Jill Hill	https://partnershipforchildhealth.org/
PASS (Progressive Abilities Support Services)	Lisa Parlapiano	https://www.progressiveabilities.org/
Pine Castle	Haley Jones	Pinecastle.org
PossAbilities Plus	Susan Peters	https://www.possabilitiesplus.com/
Proactive Life Skills	Rebecca Aleman	www.proactivelifeskills.org
Ruby Beach Behavioral Pediatrics	Megan Alexander	www.Rbbehavioral.com
Social Security Administration	Danielle West-Lane	www.ssa.gov
Special Education Solutions	Terri George	www.specialeducationsolutions.net
Special Olympics Florida	Lindsay Jones	specialolympicsflorida.org
Springbrook Autism Behavioral Health	Monalisa Mitchell-Gray	www.springbrookautismbehavioral.com
Step Up For Students	Stephanie Love	www.SUFS.org
The Arc Jacksonville	Denise Torres	https://arcjacksonville.org/
The Morris Center	Alyssa Sommer	www.themorriscenter.com
Thrive Behavioral Consultants	Erica Crowley	ThriveBehavioralConsultants.com
Time to Talk IEPs	Meagan Auitable	www.timetotalkieps.com
Tribe Rehabilitation Nonprofit	Lori Allen	https://www.inthetribe.net/
UF Division of Neurodevelopmental Pediatrics/CARD/FDLRS-MDC	Jeannie Potthast	https://ufhealthjax.org/locations/uf-health-development-pediatrics-dupont-station
UNF Student Accessibility Center	Dr. Tara Frazier	www.unf.edu/sac
United Way 211/988/Real Sense	Kristie McBee	www.unitedwaynefl.org

School Based Enterprises

Alden Road Exceptional Student Center – Duval County Public Schools
Palm Avenue Exceptional Student Center – Duval County Public Schools
North Florida School for Special Education
The Arc Jacksonville Career Campus

**Please take our Electronic Survey.
Your input will help in planning for
next year’s event.**



29th Annual Tools for Success
Family Conference Evaluation

<https://forms.office.com/r/kl5x9UYyka>

Thank You for Attending!