

MORE PROGRAMS

A WALK THROUGH GUIDE TO GUARDIANSHIP, DECISION-MAKING OPTIONS AND SPECIAL NEEDS FINANCIAL PLANNING

PRESENTERS: Victoria L. Davis Davila, J.D. and Kathleen Oberneder ChSNC®, Financial Advisor

WHEN: February 21, 2024 **6 - 8:30PM**

In this session, participants will learn about a spectrum of decision-making options available for people with disabilities. We will discuss informal supports, supported decision-making agreements, powers of attorney, and guardianship, and cover both personal/health care and financial/estate decisions. We will discuss 529 ABL Savings Accounts and Special Needs Trusts (SNTs), and learn how these planning tools interact with one another.

AN EVENING ON INCLUSION WITH DR. SHELLEY MOORE

PRESENTERS: Dr. Shelley Moore

WHEN: March 12, 2024 **6 - 7:30PM**

Based in Vancouver, British Columbia, Dr. Shelley Moore is a highly sought after inclusive education researcher, collaborator, consultant and storyteller, and has worked with school districts and community organizations throughout both Canada and the United States. The presentation will highlight inclusive education, curriculum design, strength based IEPs and universal supports.

UNDERSTANDING THE MENTAL HEALTH NEEDS OF TODAY'S YOUTH

PRESENTERS: Wellpoint Care Network

WHEN: April 10, 2024 **6 - 8:00PM**

This presentation is for parents and caregivers of youth navigating mental health needs, though students are also welcome to join. We will focus on identifying symptoms and signs of mental health concerns in youth. We will pay particular attention to ways parents and caregivers can support their children and community resources available to them. Strategies to manage school avoidance and anxiety, particularly in the post-pandemic world, will be highlighted. We will discuss how to build up resiliency, self-awareness, and regulatory capacities in our children. Melanie Heindl, DAT, LPC, ATR-BC, will be facilitating this session. Melanie is a clinical services supervisor in Wellpoint Care Network's outpatient mental health clinic.

FERRARI BRAIN WITH BICYCLE BRAKES: SUPPORTING STUDENTS WITH ADHD

PRESENTERS: Patric Mattek, Ph.D.

WHEN: May 7, 2024 **9 - 11:30AM**

Dr. Patric Mattek, a clinical psychologist, will discuss the nature and neurobiology of the Attention Deficit/Hyperactivity Disorder (ADHD) and our brain's executive functions. The impact of potential deficits in executive functioning will be discussed, as will the construct of ADHD. Youth with deficits in executive functioning can face significant challenges in school, socially, and at home. Dr. Mattek will discuss potential interventions and strategies for promoting success across those domains.

ABOUT PARENTS UNITED

Parents United is a coalition of 28 school districts in collaboration with educators, community resources and related service providers focused on empowering parents of children with disabilities to become effective advocates and informed decision-makers. This non-profit community-based organization provides regular informational workshops featuring experts presenting a wide range of topics relative to students with disabilities and their families. Parents United began with 4 districts in 2002-03 and has grown exponentially.

SPONSORED BY THE SCHOOL DISTRICTS OF

Arrowhead	Kettle Moraine	Nicolet
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		Waukesha
		Wauwatosa

2023-2024 FREE PROGRAMS

The mission of **Parents United** is to present timely and relevant information in a neutral forum for parents and professionals who work with children. The lectures and presentations offered each school year provide links, knowledge and networking to the community for the ultimate benefit of our students. Learn more about the program and its Board at www.ParentsUnitedWI.org.





PROGRAMS

YOUR CHILD WAS IDENTIFIED AS A STUDENT WITH AN IEP, NOW WHAT?

PRESENTERS: Anthony Strancke, Director of Student Services, PSD
Cheri Sylla, WSPEI Statewide Family Engagement
Coaching Coordinator, CESA 1

WHEN: September 20, 2023 **6 - 8PM**

Parents navigating the world of special education can be overwhelming. This two hour workshop will explain the IEP process and what all of the various components of the IEP mean. Parents will be afforded an opportunity to ask questions and learn about the IEP process.

VISUAL REFERENCES 101 - LISTEN TO LEARN, THEN MAKE AND TAKE

PRESENTERS: Jen Cullen, Pewaukee School District

WHEN: September 26, 2023 **6 - 8PM**

Participants in this professional development will walk away with a better understanding of what visual references are, why they are important, how to choose them, how to teach what they mean and how to use them to fade support and increase independence. Participants will leave with their own visual references they have created.

JUST GIVE HIM THE WHALE: USING PASSIONS, AREAS OF EXPERTISE, AND STRENGTHS TO SUPPORT STUDENTS WITH AUTISM/LEARNING DIFFERENCES

PRESENTERS: Dr. Paula Kluth **WHEN:** October 10, 2023
6 - 7:30PM

Do you know someone who loves whales? Or ceiling fans? Or elevators? Most of us do know learners with specific interests. Often, however, these favorites of students with autism are not celebrated but seen as annoying, problematic or in need of "extinction". In this presentation, Dr. Kluth will explore alternative perspectives and will focus specifically on how they can serve as supports, teaching tools, inspirations, and hobbies. Participants will learn how honoring fascinations and using them as tools can help teachers calm, comfort, teach, inspire, and connect with their students with autism labels. Some of the topics to be covered in this session include using interests to teach standards-based academic content, nurture social connections, minimize anxiety, and expand communication opportunities and skills.

YOU FOUND OUT YOUR CHILD IS USING ALCOHOL AND OTHER DRUGS, NOW WHAT?

PRESENTERS: Kevin Polky, CADC, LCSW, Executive Director, Red Oak

WHEN: October 25, 2023 **6 - 8PM**

Part 1: For Parents - One of the biggest fears as a parent is discovering your child is using alcohol or drugs. What should I do? Who do I talk to? Why is my child using drugs? What went wrong? What can I do? This presentation is for parents and caregivers on the signs and symptoms of substance use and abuse. We are going to address these questions and present strategies to address the issues of substance use and abuse while maintaining a loving, engaged relationship. What to look for while maintaining a loving and engaging relationship with your child. Introduce techniques and strategies for communicating with your child about substances. Resources if there is a bigger problem developing. Join us to talk about this difficult topic that is more critical now than ever to have tools to address with your child.

HOW TO TALK TO YOUR CHILD ABOUT ADDICTIVE BEHAVIORS

PRESENTERS: Kevin Polky, CADC, LCSW, Executive Director, Red Oak

WHEN: November 29, 2023 **6 - 8PM**

Part 2: For Parents & Students - This presentation is for parents, caregivers and their child on the risk and impact of addictive behaviors. We are aware of the negative impact of drugs and alcohol on the brain. But, is excessive social media use and gaming safe? We will discuss the similar impact on the brain of addictive substances and behaviors. We will discuss the mental, emotional and physiological effects of these addictive behaviors. We will introduce techniques to prevent and break the patterns of habitual behaviors and develop a healthy lifestyle that includes the use of social media, gaming and other tools for entertainment.

STRESS AND ANXIETY IN YOUTH

PRESENTERS: David M. Jacobi, Ph.D., Lead Psychologist: Child and Adolescent CBT Services, Rogers Behavioral Health

WHEN: December 5, 2023 **9 - 11:30am**

This presentation will offer a comparison between the stress experienced by children and teens and clinically significant anxiety disorders. Further, interventions to manage each of these types of issues will be offered including a discussion of cognitive behavior therapy-based interventions such as thought challenging and exposure. We will discuss the role of family accommodation, how it impacts treatment interventions, and how families and others can pull back these accommodations to improve treatment outcomes.

LEARN ABOUT THE TRANSITION PROCESS

PRESENTERS: Cheri Sylla, WSPEI Statewide Family Engagement Coaching Coordinator, CESA 1 & Jill Thomas, Transition Coordinator, Pewaukee School District

WHEN: January 31, 2024 **6 - 8:30PM**

This presentation will cover the goals of transition and programming available to support students with disabilities as they transition into adulthood.



CELEBRATING OUR 22ND YEAR!

To register for an event, please visit our website by either scanning the QR code above or visiting <http://parentsunitedwi.org/register-now/>. You may also call 262-345-7810.

LOCATION

ALL PRESENTATIONS WILL BE HOSTED VIA ZOOM UNLESS NOTED OTHERWISE

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