

Bi-Monthly Meeting

When: Saturday, July 23, 2005, 10:00 a.m. - 12:00 noon

Where: Integris Baptist Medical Center Auditorium

Topic: Developmental Disabilities

Services Division (DDSD) Waivers

Speaker: Rose Ann Percival, Programs Manager, Department of Human Services

Ms. Percival has worked for the Department of Human Services (DHS) for 22 years in the areas of juvenile probation, special investigator for abuse and neglect for people with disabilities, and for the past 17 years, developmental disabilities. She currently serves as the facilitator for the Olmstead Strategic Planning Committee and respite coordinator for DHS.

If you want to know what DDSD waivers mean, have specific questions about the program, etc., then you will want to come to this meeting. Ms. Percival will share information about the DDSD In-Home Support Waiver, what it means for your child and family and what steps you need to take to ensure your child receives services.

She will also share information about TEFRA (Tax Equity and Fiscal Responsibility Act) a new Medicaid program through the Oklahoma Health Care Authority.

All individuals with developmental disabilities and their families are invited to attend this meeting. Whether your child is two-months old, 16, or older you will want to come and hear Ms. Percival discuss this program.

PLEASE NOTE: Childcare will be provided by **RSVP ONLY**. You **MUST** call Sharon Domek at 405-945-4523 and leave a message **before Wednesday, July 20th** to RSVP. Childcare will be in the Bennett Room.



Mark Your Calendars! Buddy Walk 2005

When: September 24, 2005!

Where: Remington Park

Fun, Food, Games & a Walk to help promote awareness for individuals with Down syndrome! Come Join the Fun!

Buddy Walk Committee Meeting

When: Tuesday, July 26, 2005, 7:00p.m. - 8:30p.m.

Where: Integris Baptist Medical Center, Bennett Room

It's not too late!!! Please come and get involved in planning another successful Buddy Walk event. Everyone is welcome.

If you have any questions, please call Lori @ (home) 405-329-8185 or Bill @ (home) 405-715-1568.

Tentative August meeting dates: Aug 9th and Aug 23rd.

For more information contact Lori Wathen, Co-Committee Chair, at 405-329-8185 via email wathenl@mdteam.com or Bill Lovell, Co-Committee Chair at (405) 715-1568 via email blovell@lwpb.com.

Bountiful Blessings Calendar Update

We are in the process of the photography appointments. Most are being done June 15 and 16. The deadline for the photographer is July 31, then the graphic artist, Louise Broda will begin work. She will send her completed product to the printer, Southwestern Stationery. It usually takes a few days for the printer to do their work.

We Need Your Help!!! July 31, 2005 is the deadline for sponsorships. If you know any companies, doctors, dentists, individuals, etc. who might be interested in sponsoring a month in the calendar the cost per month is \$1,000 for the entire month or \$500 to co-sponsor a month.

For their sponsorship the company name and logo will be printed on a month of the calendar. Of course smaller donations are welcome and will be recognized in the front of the calendar. If you need more sponsorship forms please call or email me.

If you have any money to turn in from 2005 calendars, please send it to me ASAP. Please do not mail cash.

If you have any questions or comments, please feel free to call or email me.

Tami Arambula

Calendar Committee Chair

1321 Craig Drive ~ Piedmont, OK 73078 ~ (405) 373-2854 or tamira@netzero.com

Governmental Affairs Committee Update

Two items you should be aware of -- First, this is an exciting time in Oklahoma for individuals with disabilities. The Oklahoma Legislature recently passed and Governor Henry signed into law Senate Bill 1015, the Self-Directed Care Act. Self-Directed Care will begin as a pilot program, but this will change the future of services in Oklahoma. Thank you to all of you who contacted you state Legislators – we can make a difference!

Second, it is time to move to the next mountain to climb. The U.E. Department of Education has announced proposed regulations to implement the Individuals with Disabilities Education Improvement Act of 2004 (IDEA) and invites public comment. The official copy of this notice of proposed rulemaking (NPRM) will be published in the Federal Register within a few days. However you can review the proposed regulations in an “unofficial” copy by going to the Department’s web site at www.ed.gov . Let me forewarn you this is a 650-page document!

The Department will be holding a series of public meetings in June and July to receive comments and suggestions about the proposed regulations to implement programs under the recently amended IDEA. In addition, public comments may be made to the Department within 75 days after the date of publication in the Federal Register. This can be done via the postal service or via email.

The National Down Syndrome Society (NDSS) is working on a series of bullet (talking) points about the proposed regulations to assist anyone who wants so send comments to the Department about the proposed rules. Once the actual deadline is published and we have the addresses to send your comments to, we will let you know. Also, DSACO plans to send a representative to one of the public hearings.

We can make a difference! Let’s let the Department of Education know what we think (good or bad) about the proposed rules!

If you have any questions about either of these items, you can call Doris Erhart at 405-722-2795 or via email at dors.erhart@cox.net

Buddy Walk Family Team Packets

It’s time again to start organizing your Family Teams for this year’s Buddy Walk. Look for the Family Team Packets to arrive by mail in early August. If you do not receive a packet by mid-August and plan to have a team in the Buddy Walk, please contact Julia Trotter at (405) 912-1059 or Julia_trotter@yahoo.com. We had nearly 40 teams last year, let’s shoot for 50 teams this year!

Teens & Adults Event Update!

Keep your eyes open for an upcoming event in mid-July. Lisa Hancock will be sending out notices and schedule as the event details get worked out! Check your mail boxes and get ready for lots of FUN!

Enviro Systems Hits Grand Slam with Softball Fundraiser

Enviro Systems' 2nd Annual Charity Softball Tournament held in Seminole on June 4, 2005, was a major success and provided hours of fun for friends, family, fans and participants.

Approximately \$1,500 was raised with \$850 of that going to directly to DSACO's Buddy Walk! The rest of the proceeds went to care packages for soldiers overseas and other favorite Enviro charities.

A team consisting of DSACO parents, friends and extended family participated to represent DSACO. "Team Buddy Walk" went 1-2 in the tournament with a small fan club to cheer them on. Although "Team Buddy Walk" did not bring home a trophy, they were still big winners by being recognized as one of the organizations to benefit from a great day of fun.

The local National Guard unit provided a color guard to start the day's activities with our own Taylor Harjo, son of Stace & Holli Harjo, present to hold a flag. During the day's activities, a helicopter landed at the softball complex for children of all ages to inspect and enjoy.

Thank you Enviro Systems for your hard work and generosity to make this event a success for many. "Team Buddy Walk" had a ball!"

