

# THE INCLUSIVE CONNECTION



## QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER

October • November • December

2017

## MISSION

To provide the individualized services, information, resources and support needed to positively enhance the independence, productivity and inclusion of persons with disabilities.

## VISION

To ensure all individuals with disabilities have the opportunity to attend school, live, work, recreate in their own communities.



*The Northshore's Resource Center for Individuals with Disabilities & their Families*

204 W. 21st Avenue • Covington, LA 70433

(985) 875-0511 (800) 383-8700

[info@fhfnorthshore.org](mailto:info@fhfnorthshore.org)

Our Center is Open

9:00 am to 4:00 pm Monday - Friday



## Staff Members

### Katie Corkern

Executive Director

[katiecorkern@fhfnorthshore.org](mailto:katiecorkern@fhfnorthshore.org)

### Stephenie Miller

CSHS Parent Liaison

[stephanie.miller@la.gov](mailto:stephanie.miller@la.gov)

### Gaynelle Franklin

Inclusive Education Specialist

[gaynellefranklin@fhfnorthshore.org](mailto:gaynellefranklin@fhfnorthshore.org)

### Rachael Sykes

Adult Program Coordinator

[rachaelsykes@fhfnorthshore.org](mailto:rachaelsykes@fhfnorthshore.org)

### Lynne Renihan

Resource Specialist

[lynnerenihan@fhfnorthshore.org](mailto:lynnerenihan@fhfnorthshore.org)

### Ashley Nielsen

Inclusive Education Specialist

[ashleynielsen@fhfnorthshore.org](mailto:ashleynielsen@fhfnorthshore.org)

### Odessa Held

Community Outreach Specialist  
Financial Coordinator

[odessaheld@fhfnorthshore.org](mailto:odessaheld@fhfnorthshore.org)

## Board of Directors

### Sue Ellen Stewart

Chairperson

[Sueellen.stewart@icloud.com](mailto:Sueellen.stewart@icloud.com)

### Shelley Marengo

Vice Chairperson

### Sharon Delvisco

Secretary

### Jeanne Bower

Treasurer

#### Board Members

### Jennifer Brunning

### Jason Durham

### Shanee Holmes

#### Advisory Board Members

### Michelle Anderson

### Annie Cummer

### Chad Danenhower

### April Ducuing

### Nicole Justice

### Bernadette Lala

You are always welcome at NFHF Board Meetings

Meetings are typically held on the third Tuesday of the month at the NFHF Center.

If you would like to address the board, call Katie Corkern at 985-875-0511.

Opinions contained herein do not necessarily represent those of the funding source, and no endorsement should be inferred.



The work of NFHF, including publication of this newsletter, is funded by Florida Parishes Human Services Authority, Louisiana State Department of Education, Louisiana Department of Health, Louisiana Developmental Disabilities Council, and is supported by corporate and individual contributions. Northshore Families Helping Families is a United Way recipient.

# Katie's Corner



About six months ago I met “David” and the conversation I had with him still lingers in my mind even today...

David is unemployed. And David is frustrated.

David wants the same things that you and I want in this life. He wants to be happy, he wants friends, he wants love, he wants a job, he wants to make his own money, he wants to be included in his community, but he is struggling on how to accomplish these goals that we so often take for granted.

You see David has a developmental disability and he feels that employers are afraid to hire him because he’s “stupid.” David has put in applications at over 10 businesses in his town with no luck in securing a job. His frustration level grows with each passing day.

David loves meeting new people, he loves tools, he loves cars, and he loves helping others. He can tell you the difference between many different power tools, what is on sale this week at Home Depot and Lowes, and he can spot a Ford Mustang a mile away. His mind is sharp as a tack and his ability to carry a conversation from tools to cars to frozen yogurt is quite impressive. It was clear to me within 10 seconds of our conversation that David was anything but “stupid.”

My short time with David made me realize the systemic problem adults with developmental disabilities have in finding meaningful integrated employment. I began seeking out other adults like David and getting their input on employment opportunities on the Northshore. I had to know more.

The majority of adults I spoke to attend a day program and only a few held jobs where they were included in their community. These few adults with jobs couldn’t stop talking about how much they enjoy their job, how much they appreciate making their own money, and how much more independent they feel because of their inclusive employment. One individual stated, “I love my job because my boss believes in me and that makes me feel happy. I can’t wait to go to work each day and do a good job.”

While quite a few businesses I found do a fantastic job at regularly employing individuals with disabilities, many continually fall short. These businesses may fall short for a variety of reasons, but I believe we as a community can step up and assist them in recognizing the value in employing people of all abilities. And the time is NOW.

October is National Disability Employment Awareness Month (NDEAM). This is a national campaign that raises awareness about disability employment issues and celebrates the many and varied contributions of America's workers with disabilities. The theme for 2017 is "Inclusion Drives Innovation." I encourage you to look for businesses that employ people of ALL abilities and tell them thank you, showcase them on your social media, and let others businesses know that there is incredible value in integrated employment.

Every one of us has the right to work.

Every one of us has something to contribute to our communities.

Every one of us has the power to foster a disability friendly work culture where everyone is included.

“Advancing employment opportunities and expectations for people with disabilities strengthens not only America’s economy, but our moral fiber.” –Kathy Martinez

*Katie Corkum*

# NFHF

## Touch a Truck



**What a wonderful community we have!**

**There are so many people we'd like to thank for helping us to make this annual fundraiser such a success.**

**Your support helps NFHF continue to provide services and resources to families our community.**

**Thank you for supporting our vision of building an inclusive community for individuals with disabilities.**

### **To Everyone Who Attended**

Thank you for joining us for a day of food, fun and an amazing line up of all things on wheels! We enjoyed having so many families join us and loved watching the children explore and get behind the wheel of their favorite "Truck".

### **To Our NFHF Volunteers**

Touch a Truck wouldn't be possible without all of the wonderful people who volunteered their time and energy to make this day a success. We truly appreciate your ongoing dedication and support!

### **To Touch a Truck Vehicle Participants & Vendors**

This event has grown year after year thanks to a community who supports us by providing wonderful vehicles for everyone to enjoy. Allowing children to have a true hands on experience is one of the things that makes this annual fundraiser a community favorite.

Businesses and organizations that support individuals with disabilities are always the first to commit to being part of Touch a Truck. Thank you for being a vendor and for supporting the individuals and families we serve.

### **NFHF Touch a Truck Sponsors**

Our community is truly filled with generous and caring people! We'd like to thank our sponsors for their contributions and continued support of Northshore Families Helping Families. We do what we do because we understand the needs of parents, family members and individuals with disabilities. Your donations and continued support help us to provide the services and resources needed in our community. Thank You!

## **THE CHILDREN'S DENTAL COTTAGE**

### **CHURCH OF THE KING**

**Banner Ford • LeBlanc Pediatrics • Winn-Dixie  
Donahue**

**Senator Jack**

**Pediatric Therapy Northshore • Select Properties, Ltd.  
Pampered Pooch Mobile Grooming • Piggly Wiggly Madisonville  
Brown & Mary, Attorneys at Law • Uptown Pediatric Dentistry  
Porteous, Hainkel, & Johnson, LLP • Todd S. Brasuell, DDS  
Wegmann Dazet & Company • Dr. Katie Kimble Wonch, OD  
St. Pierre Dental**





## Northshore Families Helping Families Welcomes

### Rachael Sykes as Adult Program Coordinator

Rachael Sykes was born in New Orleans, but has lived most of her life in Abita Springs, a town in St. Tammany. She is a graduate of Fontainebleau High School. Rachael was born with a disability and was in special education classes throughout school. However, her disability does not define who she is as a person.



Rachael feels blessed to have been given the opportunity to be the Adult Program Coordinator for NFHF. Rachael's adult peers with disabilities, like herself, do not want to be defined by their disabilities but seen for their abilities. They share the same dreams as anyone else, they want to be a part of the community, have loving relationships in their lives and live life with purpose and dignity. One of Rachael's goals as Adult Program Coordinator is to provide opportunities for her peers to come together in a social setting and support each other in their challenges and to celebrate their successes.

Rachael believes that everyone was put on this earth for a reason and that is to help one another, love one another, and make the world a better place. She says we all have the ability to do this, whether it is just by sharing a smile or a hug, brightening someone's day by listening, or by inspiring others by our perseverance.

Rachael hopes to start a "Yes We Can" group to provide opportunities for her peers that want to give back to the community through community service projects. This will be an opportunity for adults with disabilities to be seen in the community for what they are able to achieve and also inspire others to do the same.

Hey Northshore parents and caregivers! The new school year has begun, and so have the IEP meetings! Do you want someone else to review your child's IEP, not associated with the school? Would you like assistance in understanding what all an IEP entails... in PARENT terms? Do you want to know more about your child's rights? Or simply, do you want input from someone who has been in your shoes and understands what you're going through?

We want to empower you to become knowledgeable of your child's rights, know that IEP front and back, and be able to effectively advocate for your child before, during, and after the meeting. We want to help you create a great relationship with your child's teacher and school so everyone is on the same page.



We are offering one on one support sessions throughout the months ahead! You let us know when you can make it to our center in downtown Covington and we'll set up a meeting with one of our two Inclusive Education Specialist or our Executive Director. We are here for YOU! Contact our center by calling 985-875-0511, message us on FB, or email [info@fhfnorthshore.org](mailto:info@fhfnorthshore.org) to book your session. Empowerment starts now!

# NFHF

## Save the Date



## Breakfast with Santa

### A Christmas Party

for the families served by

**Northshore Families Helping Families**

to enable children with disabilities to enjoy the Christmas spirit of Santa's sharing, caring and giving in an inclusive environment.

**Saturday, December 9th**

**9:00 am - 11:00 am**

**The Clarion Inn & Suites Conference Center**

**501 North Hwy 190**

**Covington, LA 70433**

Each child receives a toy from

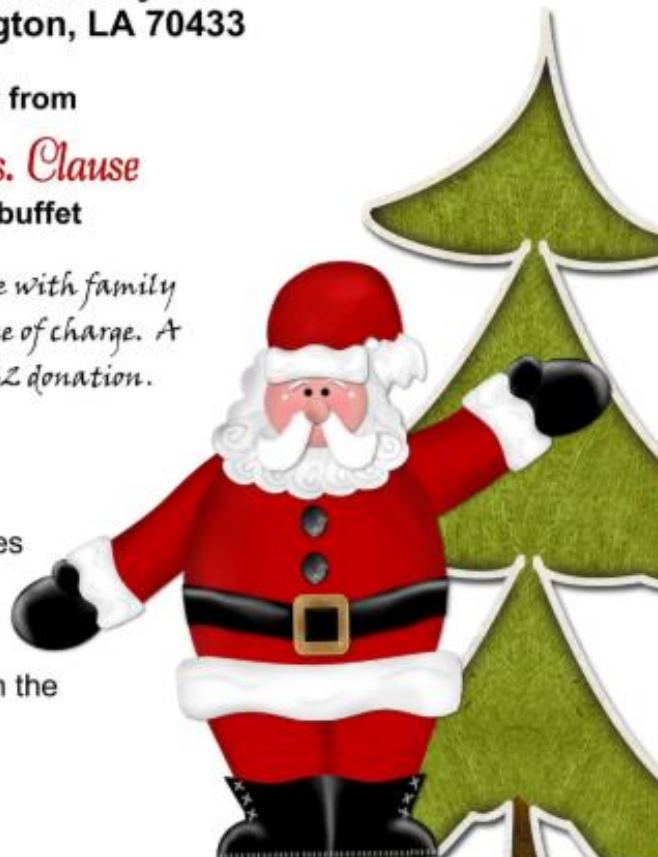
*Santa's Toy Shop & Mrs. Clause*

prepares a hot breakfast buffet

*Digital pictures with Santa to share with family and friends will be sent via email free of charge. A printed picture is available for a \$2 donation.*

Sponsored by:  
Northshore Families Helping Families  
Clarion Inn & Suites  
Shot by Joel Photography

Funded by generous donations from the community.



Click on Above Image to Register for Breakfast with Santa.

# What Happens When You Donate to NFHF



When You Donate to NFHF You Help Us to Fulfill Our Mission to Provide the Individualized Services, Information, Resources, and Support to Positively Enhance the Independence, Productivity and Inclusion of Individuals with Disabilities.



[CLICK HERE](#)  
[TO](#)  
[DONATE NOW!](#)



## **Information & Referral**

We provide information about disabilities and direct you to the resources you need for services or additional information. We also have an extensive lending library with topics ranging from education to health issues. This library is available to you, your child's educators, and health professionals.

## **Education & Training**

We provide support to parents of children with exceptionalities navigating the education system. Our monthly workshops are presented on topics relevant to the issues facing persons with disabilities and their families. Sign up for our newsletter for articles, workshop schedules, and other pertinent information.

## **Family to Family Support**

We will link you to families with experiences similar to your own who can provide emotional support, specific information, and guidance. Our Family to Family Support program can help you through difficult times and also share the joys of our children's ABILITIES.

## **Resources**

We provide individuals and families with a wide array of disability related topics including:  
NFHF Programs • NFHF Lending Library • Disabilities • Specific Diagnosis  
Education • Communication • Legislation • Health Services  
& more



**Northshore Families Helping Families**  
is a non-profit organization.  
Contributions may be tax deductible.  
There are no fees  
charged for services.



**Thank You for Your Support!**



# WE NEED VOLUNTEERS!

You make a difference! Get Involved!



## Would You Like To:

- Support Individuals with Disabilities?
- Share Your Experience, Talents & Energy?
- Positively Impact Someone's Life?
- Be a Leader in Your Community?

## Can You:

- Hand Out Brochures in Your Community?
- Help with Outreach Activities?  
(visit churches, therapy centers, etc. to share NFHF brochures)
- Assist other Families in need of Encouragement & Support?
- Help with Fundraisers in Your Area?
- Assist with Day to Day Duties in Our Center?

Northshore Families Helping Families is in the early stages of creating parent/caregiver volunteer committees in each parish we serve and we need your help!

We're looking for leaders who can help us reach more families in St. Tammany, Washington, Tangipahoa, Livingston & St. Helena Parish

.....

Interested in joining your parish's committee and helping NFHF expand its reach?

Want to learn more about volunteer opportunities or discuss specific skills you have to offer?

Contact our Executive Director, Katie Corkern

(985) 875-0511 or send her an email [katiecorkern@fhfnorthshore.org](mailto:katiecorkern@fhfnorthshore.org)

Thank You for Supporting Northshore Families Helping Families!



## **NFHF WORKSHOP**

Click on Location to  
Register to attend.

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Monday  
October 2nd  
5:30 pm - 7:30 pm

### **Amite Library**

204 N.E. Central Avenue  
Amite, La. 70422

### **Who Should Attend?**

Parents & Caregivers  
who have a young child  
or an adult family  
member with a disability  
are encouraged to attend  
this free and informative  
presentation.

### **REGISTER TODAY**

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**Northshore Families  
Helping Families**

**204 W. 21st Avenue  
Covington, La. 70433**

**985-875-0511**

**info@fhfnorthshore.org**

# Special Needs Trust

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## **10 Basic Financial Steps for Special Needs Caregivers**



**JOIN US TO LEARN MORE ABOUT**  
**How to Begin the Planning Process**  
**Who Should be Involved**  
**Government Benefit Eligibility**  
**Guardianship & Conservatorship**

**Presented By**

**Steven R. Fisher ChFC, ChSNC**

**Special Care<sup>Sm</sup> Planner**

**Mass Mutual Financial Group**

**along with**

**Patrick K. Reso**

**Attorney**



This training is supported under contract with the Florida Parishes Human Services Authority.

## **NFHF WORKSHOP**

Click on Location to  
Register to attend.

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**Monday**  
**October 9th**  
**6:00 pm - 8:00 pm**  
**Northshore**  
**Pastoral Center**  
**4465 Hwy. 190**  
**E. Service Road**  
**Covington, LA 70433**

### **Who Should Attend?**

Parents & Caregivers  
who have a school aged  
child in St. Tammany,  
Washington, Tangipahoa,  
St. Helena & East  
Feliciana Parishes are  
encouraged to attend  
this free and informative  
presentation.

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### **REGISTER TODAY**

**Northshore Families  
Helping Families**

**204 W. 21st Avenue**  
**Covington, La. 70433**

**985-875-0511**

**info@fhfnorthshore.org**

# **Understanding Resolutions & Special Education Disputes**

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**This presentation will include information regarding  
Special Education disputes, options for resolutions,  
guidance on how to choose the option that works best  
for your child, and tips on due process.**

**This is a do not miss event for any parent who has  
struggled to address disputes with their local education  
system!**

Presented by

**Parris Taylor**

Special Education Attorney

Louisiana Department of Education

**Seating is Limited**

**Early Registration is Recommended**

This presentation is supported under contract with the Louisiana Department of Education

## **NFHF WORKSHOP**

Click on Location to  
Register to attend.

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Friday  
November 3rd  
10:00 am - 12:00 pm  
**Tangipahoa  
Health Unit**  
15841 W. Club Deluxe  
Road  
Hammond, La. 70403

### **Who Should Attend?**

Louisiana Medicaid  
Waiver recipients or  
family members.

Individuals, parents or  
caregivers who have or  
plan to apply for Medicaid  
Waivers.

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### **REGISTER TODAY**

Northshore Families  
Helping Families

204 W. 21st Avenue  
Covington, La. 70433

985-875-0511

[info@fhfnorthshore.org](mailto:info@fhfnorthshore.org)

# Understanding Medicaid Waivers

DO YOU KNOW WHAT MEDICAID WAIVERS ARE AVAILABLE IN  
LOUISIANA FOR INDIVIDUALS WITH DISABILITIES? WANT TO  
KNOW HOW TO ACCESS THEM? CURIOUS ABOUT WHAT  
SERVICES THEY PROVIDE?

JOIN PRESENTER KAREN SCALLAN FOR A CONVERSATION  
ABOUT MEDICAID SERVICES IN LOUISIANA.

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 3, 2017 10:00 AM TO 12:00 PM  
TANGIPAHOA HEALTH UNIT - HAMMOND, LA  
FREE ADMISSION - REGISTRATION REQUIRED

**Presenter Karen Scallan will be sharing practical and  
useful information about Medicaid Waivers.**

**Join in the conversation and get your questions  
answered.**

**This is a do not miss event for anyone who has  
questions about Medicaid Waivers. Join in the  
conversation and get your questions answered!**

**There is No Fee to Attend this Presentation**

**Seating is Limited**

**Early Registration is Recommended**

This presentation is supported under contract with Florida Parishes Human Services Authority.



## **NFHF WORKSHOP**

Click on Location to  
Register to attend.

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Tuesday  
December 5th  
6:00 pm - 8:00 pm

### **Northshore Catholic Center**

4465 Hwy. 190 Service Road  
Covington, La. 70433

### **Who Should Attend?**

Anyone wanting  
information on saving  
toward the future of an  
individual with a disability.

This presentation is  
offered free of charge.

### **REGISTER TODAY**

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**Northshore Families  
Helping Families**

**204 W. 21st Avenue  
Covington, La. 70433**

**985-875-0511**

**[info@fhfnorthshore.org](mailto:info@fhfnorthshore.org)**

# **Able Savings Accounts**

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## **The ABC's of ABLE Accounts**



Learn about Achieving a Better Life Experience (ABLE) Accounts, which allow individuals with disabilities and their families to save for the future and build financial independence.

PRESENTED BY

**STEVEN R. FISHER CHFC, ChSN**

**MASS MUTUAL FINANCIAL GROUP**



This training is supported under contract with the Florida Parishes Human Services Authority.

## **NFHF WORKSHOP**

Click on Location to  
Register to attend.

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Wednesday  
December 13th  
6:00 pm - 8:00 pm

### **Tangipahoa Health Unit**

15841 W. Club Deluxe Road  
Hammond, La. 70403

### **Who Should Attend?**

Parents and Caregivers of  
a child with a disability are  
encouraged to attend this  
free and informative  
presentation.

### **REGISTER TODAY**

---

Northshore Families  
Helping Families

204 W. 21st Avenue  
Covington, La. 70433

985-875-0511

[info@fhfnorthshore.org](mailto:info@fhfnorthshore.org)

## **Help Your Child to Become a Self Advocate**



*Being a self advocate isn't a one day process, it's  
something you learn to do over time.*

**Jeff Arseneaux will be speaking about his life  
experience as a child with a disability and give  
parents and caregivers tips and insight on how  
they can help their child to become an effective  
self advocate.**

**This is a Free Presentation with Limited Seating  
Early Registration is Recommended**

# Community News & Groups



## CHATTING WITH *Katie*

Did you know you can watch live broadcasts of “Chatting with Katie” episodes on our Facebook Page?

Join in the Conversation • Get Useful Tips • Learn About Services

Ask Questions • Get Involved



Katie and Liz Gary, the Louisiana Partners in Policymaking Coordinator, share information about the Partners in Policymaking Program and the life changing information and advocacy skills parents of children with developmental disabilities and adults with a developmental disability gain as program participants.



Katie talks with Jeff Arseneaux to learn more about his life experience as an individual with a disability.

Jeff shares stories from his life as a student, an employee, a desire for relationships and his vision of inclusion for individuals with disabilities.

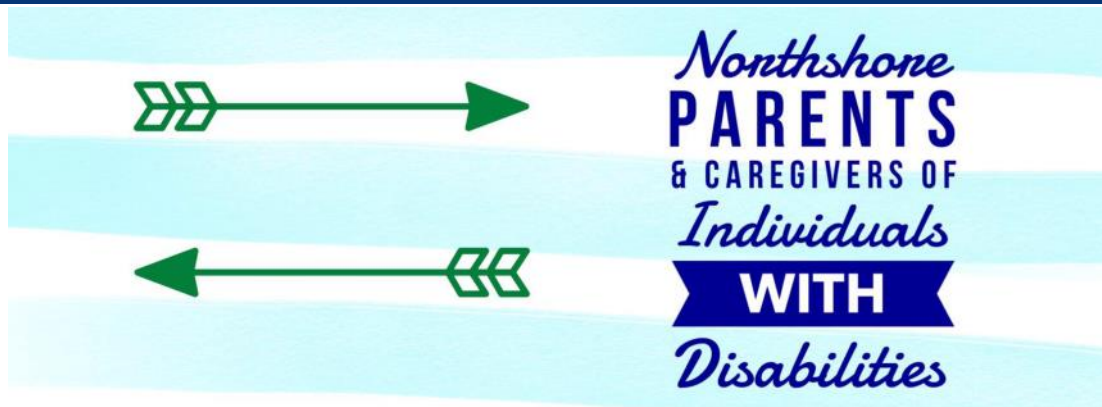
Click the Image Above Description to Watch the Featured Episode's  
Interested in sharing information about a program or service you provide for  
individuals with disabilities and their families?

Contact the NFHF Center @ 985-875-0511 or

By email [info@fhfnorthshore.org](mailto:info@fhfnorthshore.org)



# Community News & Groups



**Parents & Caregivers are Connecting on new FB Group Page Offering Information and Support.**

This group is for parents and caregivers for networking, supporting, encouraging, and discussing all aspects of raising/caring for a child/teenager/adult with special needs on the Northshore!

[Click on above image to visit page.](#)

## NFHF PARENTS DINE OUT

Are you the parent or caregiver to a son or daughter with a disability?

Are you looking to connect with other parents who understand what it's like to raise a child with a disability?

Join us as we host monthly Parents Dine Out on the first Tuesday of the month at various restaurants in St. Tammany, Livingston, St. Helena, Washington and Tangipahoa Parishes.

- Participants must register to attend by calling your NFHF center or register online by following the links below •
- Participants must pay for their meal. •

[Join our Mailing List & Follow us on Facebook to stay up to date on Times & Locations](#)

**Register to Attend, Mark Your Calendar & Join Us!**

**October 3rd Dine Out in Livingston Parish @  
Duke's Seafood in Denham Springs @ 6 pm**

**November 7th Dine Out in Washington Parish @  
The Sugar Shack in Franklinton @ 6 pm**

**December 5th in Tangipahoa Parish @  
Mike's Seafood in Amite @ 6 pm**



# Community News & Groups



## What is Exceptional People of the Northshore?

EPNS is a series of short interviews with individuals with disabilities, their parents or caregivers.

If you are interested in having your son or daughter (or an adult) who has an exceptionality/disability to be highlighted in NFHF's new EPNS series please email the name of the individual, age, diagnosis, and town of residence to [katiecorkern@fhfnorthshore.org](mailto:katiecorkern@fhfnorthshore.org)

[Follow us on Facebook](#) to meet Exceptional People of the Northshore

### Meet Miley Grace #EPNS



Click Image for Intro

### Meet Sebastian #EPNS



Click Image for Intro



# Community News & Groups



**Free, easy-to-use resources.**

**Find the best benefits and services in Louisiana for Children and Young Adults with Disabilities.**

Click on Image for more info

*Calling all athletes and buddies!*

## 2017 FALL BASEBALL

[MIRACLELEAGUENORTHSHORE.ORG/REGISTER](http://MIRACLELEAGUENORTHSHORE.ORG/REGISTER)

REGISTRATION THROUGH SEPTEMBER 1

GAMES ON TUESDAYS

SEPTEMBER 19- NOVEMBER 21

6:00P.M. YOUNGER GROUP

7:00P.M. OLDER GROUP

*Because every child deserves the chance to play!*



## PEOPLE FIRST



## NORTHSHORE CHAPTER

Learn about self-advocacy, rights & responsibilities of individuals with disabilities @ monthly meetings on the third Wednesday of each month from 1—2 pm @ Arc of GNO Northshore Community Center 106 E. 25th Avenue in Covington.

**Save the Dates:**

**October 18th**

**November 15th**

**December 20th**

## Upcoming Autism Support Groups

Hosted By:



**East St. Tammany**

Slidell Memorial Hospital Parenting Center

501 Robert Blvd., Slidell, LA

3rd Wednesday of every month from 9-11 am

For more info contact 985-370-2300 or

[agalliano@soarwithautism.org](mailto:agalliano@soarwithautism.org)

**Tangi**

SOAR Center

112 Lake Orleans Blvd., Ponchatoula

4th Thursday of every month from 6-7 pm

For more information contact 985-370-2300 or

[ehermann@soarwithautism.org](mailto:ehermann@soarwithautism.org)

**West St. Tammany**

Archdiocese Pastoral Center

4465 E. Hwy 190 Svc Rd., Covington

Last Tuesday of every month from 11 am - 1 pm

For more information contact 985-370-2300 or

[comara@soarwithautism.org](mailto:comara@soarwithautism.org)

PosterMyWall.com





## Meet Your Region 9 LaCAN Leader Karen Artus

[kartus@lacanadvocates.org](mailto:kartus@lacanadvocates.org)

**Education, Home & Community Based Services**

Karen is a parent and advocate for individuals with developmental disabilities in Livingston, St. Tammany, St. Helena, Tangipahoa and Washington Parishes.

Karen helps parents and caregivers by providing information and support in their advocacy efforts. She can answer your questions about content or actions needed for the latest advocacy alerts and assist you when writing your legislator, scheduling a legislative visit, or preparing public testimony.



**Is your child on the 12 year waiting list for a developmental disabilities waiver?**

**Is your child's services through Florida Parishes Human Services Authority affected by state budget cuts?**

**Would you be interested in telling your story at Louisiana's State Capitol?**

**We need more passionate advocates for citizens with developmental disabilities in Louisiana and that could be you!! [Join LaCAN today!](#)**

# Community Links



## La Developmental Disabilities Council

### Raising Expectations: EMPLOYMENT FOR ALL!

**2017 CONFERENCE**

Raising Expectations: Employment for All Conference  
Thursday, November 9, 2017 8:45 am to 3:30 pm

Crowne Plaza Executive Center  
4728 Constitution Avenue, Baton Rouge, LA

Click on Image to Register

Participants will learn about:

- Employment First as a national priority for individuals with disabilities
- Customized employment for people with developmental disabilities
- Best practice for supporting people in competitive integrated employment
- Employment programs and services available in Louisiana
- Advocating for effective employment services and financing



Click on the image above to learn more.

The Louisiana Achieving a Better Life Experience Act is a program which allows families to save for disability related expenses of their loved ones.

The advantage of this program is that it allows the family to save without worrying about whether the assets in an account will be counted as an asset for purposes of determining eligibility for federal and state benefits programs such as Medicaid and Social Security.

## TEFRA Option and Children with Disabilities



Caring for Your Child

The Catalyst Center has produced a policy brief -- [Expanding Access to Medicaid Coverage: The TEFRA Option and Children with Disabilities](#) -- that clarifies the differences and similarities between TEFRA and Home- and Community-based Services waivers.

It explains how TEFRA can help reduce health care coverage inequities among children with disabilities whose family incomes are too high to qualify for Medicaid while allowing children to be cared for at home rather than in institutional settings.

( Click on Image to read more.)



# Adult Program

## October to December



*The purpose of these events is to provide folks who are 16 and older with the opportunity to meet new people, have fun and try new things!*



### Book & Journal Club

This group meets every  
Wednesday @ 1:00  
@ St. John's Coffee Shop  
535 E. Boston Street in  
Downtown Covington

#### Save the Dates:

October  
4th • 11th • 18th • 25th  
November  
1st • 8th • 15th • 22nd • 29th  
December  
6th • 13th • 20th • 27th

### Dinner Club



Adults, ages 16 and up, gets together once  
a month for dinner at restaurants in our  
community. Join the NFHF Adult Program FB  
Group for time, location & updates or  
call our center @ 985-875-0511  
for more information.

**Click on the Date to Register to Attend!**

[October 12th - 6:00 pm @  
Piccadilly in Covington](#)

[November 9th—6:00 pm @  
Mugshots in Covington](#)

Please Note: Everyone pays for their own  
food and drinks.

**Follow the NFHF Adult Group FB Page & Join our Mailing List to  
get updates on future events.**

**Interested in learning more about the NFHF Adult Program?  
Contact the NFHF Adult Program Coordinator, [Rachael Sykes](#).**



# Adult Program

## Save the Date



# UGLY CHRISTMAS SWEATER

**December 14th**  
**6:00 to 8:00 pm**

## Party

**ABITA TOWN HALL**  
22161 Level Street  
Abita Springs, La. 70420

**Join us for**  
**Northshore Families Helping Families**  
**Annual Holiday Party for**  
**Adults 16 & older.**

**Ugly Christmas  
Sweater Contest**

**Gift Card  
Exchange**  
Bring a \$5 Gift Card

**Pot Luck Dinner**  
Bring a Favorite Dish

**Music &  
Dancing**

You Must Retgister if You Plan to Attend. Contact  
Northshore Families Helping Families @ 985-875-0511 or  
info@fhfnorthshore.org to register

CLICK ON ABOVE IMAGE TO REGISTER

# NFHF CALENDAR

## October 2017



# October 2017

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1	2 Special Needs Trust Workshop in Amite	3 NFHF Parents Dine Out in Livingston Parish	4 AP Book Club	5	6	7
8	9 Special Education Dispute Resolution Presentation	10 AP Dinner Club	11 AP Book Club	12 AP Dinner Club	13	14
15	16	17	18 AP Book Club	19	20	21
22	23	24	25 AP Book Club	26	27	28
29	30	31				

# NFHF CALENDAR

## November 2017



# November 2017

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1 AP Book Club	2	3 Understand Medicaid Waivers Workshop	4
5	6	7 NFHF Parents Dine Out in Washington Parish	8 AP Book Club	9 AP Dinner Club	10	11
12	13	14 AP Dinner Club	15 AP Book Club	16	17	18
19	20	21	22 AP Book Club	23	24	25
26	27	28	29 AP Book Club	30		



# NFHF CALENDAR

## December 2017



# December 2017

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1	2
3	4	5 NFHF Parents Dine Out in Tangi Parish  ABLE Savings Accounts Presentation	6 AP Book Club	7	8	9 Breakfast with Santa
10	11	12	13 AP Book Club  Child Self Advocate Presentation	14 Adult Group Holiday Party	15	16
17	18	19	20 AP Book Club	21	22	23
24	25	26	27 AP Book Club	28	29	30
31						<div>JOIN THE NFHF MAILING LIST CLICK HERE</div>