



Teen & Young Adult Newsletter  
Oct/Nov/Dec 2024

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# *Youth Leadership* FORUM

The Youth Leadership Forum (YLF) is a game-changing leadership boot camp for high schoolers with disabilities all over Arkansas! Thanks to the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), these remarkable young folks can step up and shine as leaders in our community. But hey, challenges still lurk! YLF is here to equip students with the skills and resources they need to tackle those hurdles and fully embrace their roles in society.

Every year, this awesome forum takes place at Hendrix College in Conway.

Stay tuned—info about YLF 2025 is just around the corner!

For more details, give the Arkansas Rehabilitation Services Field Services Office a ring at 501-296-1600.

Check out the Youth Leadership Forum  
Video [HERE!](#)

# *Spooky Season*



# LAUGHS



**What do you call  
a werewolf with  
a fever?**

**A hot dog.**



# Independent Futures That Work



## Work and Supplemental Security Income (SSI) Benefits

A Tip Sheet from the Independent Futures that Works! Project

Individuals with disabilities who receive Supplemental Security Income (SSI) due to their disability may have concerns about the impact working may have on their SSI benefits. Benefits counseling can provide guidance and support to help make informed decisions about one's benefits.

### Benefits Counseling helps with:

- **Understanding Benefits:** Benefits counselors can explain everything about SSI benefits. They'll talk about how much money you get each month, healthcare coverage through Medicare or Medicaid, and any other benefits. They can also tell you how to qualify, apply, and if anything might change your SSI benefits.
- **Maximizing Money:** They can help you figure out how working or other income might affect SSI benefits. They'll guide you through programs like the Ticket to Work, which supports people with disabilities in finding jobs.
- **Learning and Feeling Empowered:** Benefits counseling gives you knowledge and resources. You'll know your rights, understand the Social Security system better, and make smart choices about your child's financial future.

### How to Get Benefits Counseling:

**Find a WIPA Provider:** Benefits counseling is provided by a Work Incentives Planning and Assistance (WIPA) provider. To locate a WIPA provider, go to:

<https://choosework.ssa.gov/findhelp/>

or scan the QR code below.





# *Opportunities* for Work-Based Learning

The WOLF program—formerly known as OWL—and the WIN initiative are teaming up to give students a taste of the work world! In a fabulous collaboration between local schools and Arkansas Rehabilitation Services, they're rolling out work-based learning opportunities for students with disabilities, ensuring they snag those essential work readiness skills and real-life experiences before tossing their caps in the air at graduation.

And hey, don't miss the action! Check out the awesome videos of the program made by the talented Joey Travolta's Inclusion Films!

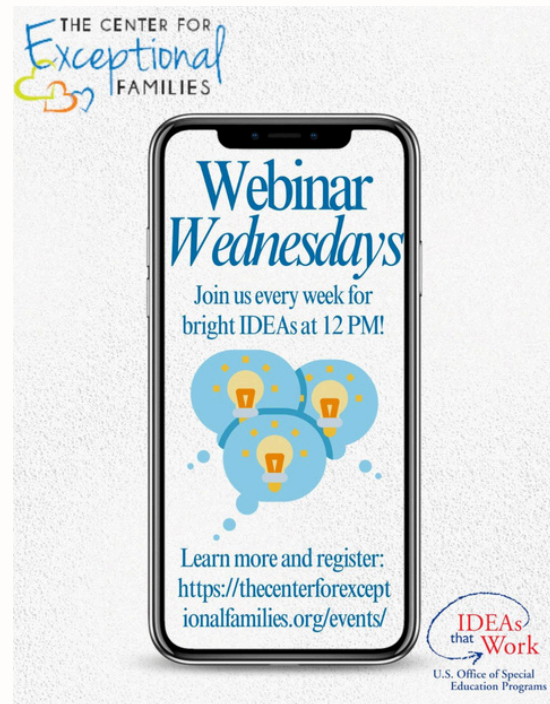
[CLICK HERE FOR THE VIDEO!](#)





# Resources & Information

Find most of  
our  
presentations  
[HERE!](#)



## WEBINAR WEDNESDAYS

Join TCFEF on Wednesdays at 12 PM for presentations and information to help you in your journey advocating for your child, client, or student! [Click Here](#) to access our calendar for dates and topics for Webinar Wednesdays

[Click Here](#) to register for all Webinar Wednesdays and get a dedicated link so you can attend when you want



# We Need Your Feedback!

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our services,  
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**REQUEST FOR SERVICES**

