



Early Times

Infant & Toddler Connection of Fairfax-Falls Church

703-246-7121

3750 Old Lee Highway, Fairfax, VA 22030

Part of the Infant and Toddler Connection of Virginia

APRIL 2009

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ITCFF'S PURPOSE

The Infant & Toddler Connection of Fairfax-Falls Church provides evaluations and early intervention services to eligible infants and toddlers who have a developmental delay and who are younger than three years old. Early intervention supports and services focus on increasing the child's participation in family and community activities that are important to the family. In addition, supports and services focus on helping parents and other caregivers know how to find ways to help the child learn during everyday activities. These supports and services are available for all eligible children and their families regardless of the family's ability to pay.

Want to find out more about ITC at the state level? Want to represent other families' opinions and get more involved? If YES, then join the ITC taskforce. Contact Debra Holloway for more information at 888-604-2677 X103

A NOTE FROM THE DIRECTOR

Thank you for your patience as ITCFF transitions to our new electronic documentation program, which we refer to as CODE. We are receiving positive feedback from our staff.

We recently obtained the results of the annual family survey conducted by the state ITC office. Our county had a nice response rate and we appreciate you taking time out of your busy schedule to complete the survey. Overall, we were very pleased with the results, although there are always areas of improvement. One such area relates to families getting involved with community activities and opportunities to play with other children. This issue of the Early Times is loaded with just these types of opportunities. As you are aware, we offer our 4th Friday Family Fun event in our office on a regular basis (see details below). In May we will be offering four different Baby & Me Water Safety & Fun classes (see Page 2). May also marks Early Intervention Month and we celebrate with an Annual Family & Staff Picnic. It is not to be missed! Information is on Page 4 and be on the lookout for more information later in the month. All of these events provide opportunities for your family to socialize with others in ITCFF and for your children to play. We hope that you take advantage of these unique and free opportunities.

As always, feel free to contact me with any questions you may have. I may be reached at allan.phillips@fairfaxcounty.gov or 703-246-7170.

Allan Phillips, Director

Fourth Friday Family Fun at ITCFF



Friday 10-11:30am, April 24

<No event in May, June, July, August>

Join us in our office for playtime, snacks and an Infant & Toddler massage mini class!

For more info, call Andrea Adelman at 703-246-5351 or email andrea.adelman@fairfaxcounty.gov

"El Cuarto Viernes del Mes" - diversión para las familias...

viernes 10-11:30am, 24 de abril <No eventos en mayo, junio, julio y agosto>

Únase a nosotros y comparta un rato de diversión, juegos, meriendas y una clase de masajes para infantes y niños. Para más información llame a Andrea Adelman al 703-246-5351. Deje un mensaje con su nombre, el nombre de su hijo(a) y número de teléfono en español.



Preschool Special Education Classroom Observations

Parents of children receiving Infant & Toddler Connection services who are age-eligible to be considered for services through the Fairfax County Public Schools preschool special education program are invited to observe a preschool special education classroom. Parents should RSVP for the session they would like to attend by calling the appropriate Preschool Specialist (listed below) and their service coordinator.

Apr. 20	10:00 a.m. or 11:30 a.m.	North Springfield Elementary School 7602 Heming Ct. Springfield	RSVP to Sandy Burford 703-208-6536
Apr. 29	10:00 a.m. or 2:00 p.m.	Mt. Vernon Woods Elementary School 4015 Fielding St. Alexandria	RSVP to Jackie Martin, 703-446-2153
May 6	10:00 a.m. or 2:00 p.m.	Fairfax Villa Elementary School 10900 Santa Clara Dr. Fairfax	RSVP to Kathy Leininger, 703-446-2191

BABY & ME - INTRODUCTION TO WATER SAFETY & FUN

One-time class for children in ITCFF program with adult caregiver

ITCFF with Adapted Aquatics, a division of Fairfax County Park Authority, proudly offer families in ITC one free sample class on the following dates & times:

Friday, May 1	Providence Recreation Center 7525 Marc Dr., Falls Church	9:15am - 10:00am
Friday, May 8	Cub Run Recreation Center 4630 Stonecroft Blvd., Chantilly	9:15am - 10:00am
Friday, May 15	Spring Hill Recreation Center 1239 Spring Hill Rd., McLean	9:15am - 10:00am
Friday, May 29	George Washington Rec. Center 8426 Old Mount Vernon Rd., Alexandria	9:45am - 10:30am

The forty-five minute class includes warm-up and ½ hour water time. Class size is limited to 10 babies with parent/caregiver. Your therapist is also welcome to join you and your baby in the water. Advance registration is required at least two days before the scheduled class.

There is no childcare available for siblings and for safety reasons, they are not allowed in the pool or on the pool deck. Swim diapers with an additional plastic diaper cover are required for babies. Please bring several towels for use before and after the class. Locker rooms with changing and shower facilities are available. Please consult your child's physician prior to the class.

For more information and to register, email Andrea Adelman, Family Resource Coordinator, at andrea.adelman@fairfaxcounty.gov or call 703-246-5351.

FOR YOUR INFORMATION

New Accessible Park in City of Fairfax

Stafford Drive Park is the city's first barrier-free playground. It has a fully accessible walking trail & bathroom facilities. Stafford Drive Park is located at 3300 Stafford Drive behind KFC and Outback on Route 50 in Fairfax.

National Parks – Accessible to Everyone

National parks have been set aside for all to experience and appreciate, and National Park System units are moving forward to provide trails, campgrounds, museum exhibits, ranger programs, and other opportunities for visitors with disabilities. The website www.nps.gov/pub_aff/access/index.htm, showcases trails, activities, and other features that are accessible nationwide.

Beach Wheelchair Program – Ocean City, MD

The Town of Ocean City offers access to the beach for the physically challenged through the Beach Wheelchair Program. Beach chairs are provided on the beach at certain locations from Memorial Day through Labor Day, from 10 am to 5 pm daily and are available on a first-come, first-serve basis. More information and locations are available on the website www.ococean.com/beachch.html.

Family Support Center on Disabilities' Knowledge & Involvement Network (KIN)

The Family Support Center on Disabilities' Knowledge & Involvement Network is a new clearinghouse established by HHS (US Dept. of Health & Human Services) to provide family centered information. The new Family Support Center on Disabilities is establishing a centralized resource, to provide specialized information and assistance that meets families' needs. www.familysupportclearinghouse.org

Partners in Policymaking Class of 2010

Recruitment of parents of young children with developmental disabilities for the 2009-2010 VA Board for People with Disabilities' (VBPD) Partners in Policymaking advocacy training program is currently underway. Participants attend advocacy training, resource development, and skill building workshops over an 8-month time period. VBPD covers expenses for training, lodging, meals, and travel. Applications are due April 30. For more information and application forms, go to www.vaboard.org/policymaking.htm.

UPCOMING WORKSHOPS/EVENTS

Wednesday, May 6 7:30-9:00pm

New Family Open House - an informational session for family members of and people with disabilities. Come and find helpful resources, ask questions, and meet friendly faces.

The Arc of Northern Virginia

98 N. Washington Street, Falls Church

Free of charge - For more info. and to RSVP, contact info@TheArcofNoVa.org or 703 532-3214.

The same workshop will be offered July 1.

Friday, May 8 7:00pm

Disney's "Beauty and the Beast" presented by the Good Shepherd Players - a special performance exclusively for children with special needs and their families. Special sensory, physical and seating accommodations are being made to make this a low stress/high fun evening for all!

The Church of the Good Shepherd

9350 Braddock Road, Burke

Free of charge - For further details and to register go to www.goodshepherdplayers.com.

Saturday, May 16 9:00-1:30pm

Medicaid Waivers & Supplemental Security Income Workshop

Fairfax Presbyterian Church

10723 Main Street, Fairfax

Free of charge – For more information and to RSVP, contact info@TheArcofNoVa.org or 703 532-3214. The same workshop will be offered July 18 at Fairfax County Government Center from 9am-1:30pm. For a complete listing of workshops and other events, go to www.thearcofnova.org/calendar.

Monday, May 18 7:30-9:00pm

The Special Family: Grief with Tim Sweeney, LCSW

Community lecture designed for parents and professionals in the disability community.

McLean Bible Church Tysons Campus

8925 Leesburg Pike, Vienna

Free of charge - For more information, contact Jackie Mills-Fernald at 703/770-2942 or Jackie.millsferald@mcleanbible.org

Sunday, May 31 1:00-3:00pm

Braille Babies! Strategies to Promote Pre-Reading Skills in Infants & Children with Visual Impairments with Kimberly Avila

Fairfax City Regional Library

10360 North Street, Fairfax

Free of charge – For more information, contact Kim at krwa@verizon.net. RSVP by May 29 to events@premiestoday.org.

Please join us for the
Infant & Toddler Connection of Fairfax-Falls Church
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- Who:** Families with children in ITC-FF and staff
When: Saturday, May 30, 2009 11am – 2pm
Where: Van Dyck Park
3730 Old Lee Highway, Fairfax
What: Food, Fun, Entertainment
Desserts Welcome!
Bring a blanket or chairs

RSVP by May 25 / Reservaciones hasta el Lunes 25 de Mayo
Andrea Adelman, 703-246-5351 or andrea.adelman@fairfaxcounty.gov
Deje un mensaje en español



To request this information in an alternate format, call ITC-FFC, 703-246-7180, 703-538-5292 (TTY). Fairfax County is committed to a policy of nondiscrimination in all county programs, services and activities and will provide reasonable accommodations upon request. To request special accommodations call ITC-FFC, 703-246-7180, 703-538-5292 (TTY). Please allow seven working days in advance of the event in order to make the necessary arrangements.

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ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED