



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

The Vision of the Infant & Toddler Connection of Fairfax-Falls Church is: All infants and toddlers with a developmental need are identified, supported, accepted, included and valued in their family and community.

A Note from the Director

Dear Families of ITC,

It is official now! The Governor has signed the budget for Virginia for 2014 and it includes a \$6Million increase statewide for Early Intervention Services. Additionally the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors has approved a \$1.2million increase for the Infant & Toddler Connection, which provides early clinical intervention services for infants and toddlers up to age 3 who have developmental delays. The additional funding is needed to meet the continued growth in demand for services which the CSB is legally mandated to provide. This is very encouraging news to see how our state and local leaders see the importance and benefit of early intervention. We thank them for their leadership and support. And we thank you for speaking up to support ITC.

I hope you and your families have a nice summer!

Thank you,

Allan Phillips, Director ITC

allan.phillips@fairfaxcounty.gov or 703-246-7170



Infant & Toddler
Connection of
Fairfax-Falls Church

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ITCFF's PURPOSE

The Infant & Toddler Connection of Fairfax-Falls Church provides early intervention supports and services to infants and toddlers from birth to age three who are not developing as expected or who have a medical condition that can delay normal development. 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.



A Special ITC Volunteer

In support of National Volunteer Recognition Week, which took place in April, we thank and appreciate Barbara Winthrop who volunteers 3-5 hours per week to manage and maintain the Equipment Loan Closet and inventory system. Barbara has been assisting ITC since February 2012.

Barbara writes "I am a retired military spouse and mother of three – a son who is a cadet at Virginia Tech, and daughter who is a senior at Chantilly

High School and hopes to become a Vet and a beautiful 9 year old with special needs. Since the birth of my daughter, I have learned a great deal and wish to pursue a degree in Occupational Therapy. Last year, I began looking for ways to give back to my community and increase my knowledge of the rehab field in general to add to my OT application. I found the posting for an assistant of the loan closet and was very excited since ITC played such a huge role in the life of my daughter and my family.

The support I received during our time at ITC was tremendous. Not only did a therapist work with my daughter, but provided me with a sense of empowerment so that I could affect change within my daughter on a daily basis. They walked me through therapy strategies, equipment choices, resources to find answers to a multitude of questions. As a parent, I know how vitally important it is to have equipment that meets the need of your child in everyday activities and in different settings. I also know how upsetting it can be to **purchase a piece of equipment that just doesn't work or not have access to equipment** that is really needed. I was very excited to see this volunteer opportunity and knew this was something I could and would love to do for my community. It would give parents and therapists the opportunity to try different equipment to find the right fit and help alleviate the stress of everyday life.

(Continued on Page 4)

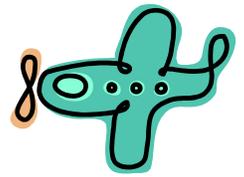
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GETTING AWAY THIS SUMMER?

Air travel for people with disabilities can be challenging, but with a little advance planning, it can be safe, fun and rewarding. Check out these helpful sources while planning your next trip:

- ◆ Transportation Security Administration (TSA) provides an up-to-date guide about its security check-point screening process for people with disabilities. Children with disabilities can be screened without being separated from their parents or guardians. For complete information, go to www.tsa.gov/traveler-information/children-disabilities
- ◆ U.S. Dept. of Transportation offers comprehensive travel planning information sequenced in the same way a traveler may plan a trip. The DOT has also established a toll-free hotline to assist travelers with disabilities, which provides general information, responds to requests for printed information and assists with time-sensitive disability-related issues. The number is 1-800-778-4838. More information at airconsum-er.ost.dot.gov/hotline.htm.
- ◆ Mobility International USA outlines laws and provides nine essential tips to review before traveling. www.miusa.org/ncde/tipsheets/airlinetips



Websites and More ... You Can Use

The 12-part series addresses some of the most common and challenging issues facing parents of babies and toddlers. For a complete listing, go to www.zerotothree.org/about-us/funded-projects/parenting-resources/podcast/

ACE-Autism Center for Excellence
The VCU-ACE is dedicated to improving services to individuals with autism spectrum disorders and to the implementation of evidence-based practices in schools and the community. www.vcuautismcenter.org

Preemie Support for Families
www.preemieworld.com and
www.preemieworld.com/blog/wp-content/uploads/PreemiePARENT052013.pdf

Challenging Behavior? Positive Solutions for Families
This brochure gives 8 practical tips when young children exhibit challenging behavior. <http://tinyurl.com/cruacsx>

Effective Practices In Early Intervention
NICHCY connects you with a knowledge base of effective practices in early intervention. <http://nichcy.org/babies/effectivepractices>

Education Directory for Children with Special Needs
The directory can help you make informed decisions and smoother relocation transitions for your child with special needs. Although meant for Military Families, the guide has comprehensive information about early intervention services and school-age education services by state. apps.militaryonesource.com/mil/MOS/?p=EFMP_DIRECTORY:HOME:0:::EKMT:37.10.0.0.0.0.0.0

Eliana Tardio—Creciendo con todas las Habilidades

Website y blog en español

www.redsocialielianatardio.com

International Children's Digital Library

Free digital books in multiple languages

<http://en.childrenslibrary.org/>

Touch Technology: The Voice of Special Needs Technologies

Providing the latest info on apps in the marketplace, the most relevant tech news in the special needs community and the most conclusive research available.

www.touchtechnews.com

More App Info

www.scribd.com/doc/24470331/iPhone-iPad-and-iPod-touch-Apps-for-Special-Education#download

More App Info for Blind and Vision Impaired Young Children

www.wonderbaby.org/articles/ipad-apps

dis-Abilities Celebration Connection Spring Newsletter

www.celebratingspecialchildren.org/clientuploads/Newletters/disAbilitiesCelebrationConnectionSpring2013.pdf

Zero to Three Baby Steps, Online Parenting Bulletin

The April 2013 Edition includes ideas for play, podcast information and links to much more. Check it out at

main.zerotothree.org/site/MessageViewer?em_id=10801.0&dlv_id=28561

Zero to Three Podcast Series:
Little Kids, Big Questions

June 2013

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
2	3	4	5 	6	7 	1/8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25 	26 	27	28	29 
30						

July 2013

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1	2 	3 	4	5	6
7	8	9 	10 	11	12 	13
14	15	16 	17 	18	19	20
21	22	23 	24 	25	26	27 
28	29	30 	31 			

August 2013

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1	2	3
4 	5	6 	7 	8	9 	10
11	12	13 	14 	15	16	17
18	19	20 	21 	22	23	24 
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

VISIT A PARK Whether locally, state-wide or nationally, parks are a great and economical option to consider. The National Park Service offers an Access Pass to people with disabilities. Visit more than 2,000 national parks free for a lifetime. Individuals of any age must permanently reside in the U.S. and have a medical determination and documentation of blindness or permanent disability. For complete details about qualification and how to obtain the pass, go to www.nps.gov/findapark/passes.htm. There are 35 State parks with plenty of programs, events and activities for all. Free parking is offered at all state parks for those with a handicapped license plate/decal. For a complete listing, go to www.dcr.virginia.gov/state_parks/index.shtml. As mentioned in the April/May newsletter, Fairfax County should also be considered when searching for the perfect park destination. A complete listing is available at www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/wp-glance003.htm.

Upcoming Workshops/Events

Wednesday, June 5 12:30pm FREE
 Responding to Your Toddlers Challenging Behaviors
 During this webinar we will explore why some toddlers display challenging behaviors and strategies to support their child to express their feelings in a more appropriate way. 
 Contact Debra Holloway with Arc of Virginia to register, at 804-649-8481, ext. 103 or dholloway@thearcofva.org.

Friday, June 7 10:00am-12:00pm FREE
 Sensational Summer Strategies at FCPS Parent Resource Center (PRC) 
 Join us for this workshop including FREE resources and a CD for students of all ages.
 FCPS Dunn Loring Center for Parent Services
 2334 Gallows Road, Entrance 2- Room 108, Dunn Loring
 For more information and to register, call 703-204-3941 or register online at www.surveymonkey.com/s/sensationalsummerstrategies.

Saturdays, June 22, July 27 9:00am-2:00pm FREE
 & August 24
 Safety Seat Saturday 
 Fairfax County Public Safety Center, Public Parking Garage
 10550 Page Avenue, Fairfax
 Specially trained and certified sheriff's deputies will help parents and caregivers ensure that a child fits securely in the safety seat and that the safety seat fits securely in the vehicle seat. Bring your vehicle, safety seat(s) and child.

Tuesdays & Wednesdays, 10am \$1.00
 beginning June 25 for 9 weeks
 Regal Summer Movie Express 
 A different family friendly movie (G & PG ratings) each day at Regal and UA Movie Theatres. A portion of the proceeds will benefit the Will Rogers Institute. For a complete listing of theatres and dates, go to www.regmovies.com/Movies/Summer-Movie-Express#Virginia.
 Arlington, Ashburn, Fairfax, Manassas and more

Fridays, July 12 & August 9 7-9pm FREE
 Sherwood Cinema Series 
 Sherwood Community Center, 3740 Old Lee Highway, Fairfax
 Relax, watch and enjoy a movie on the big screen. July 12—The Princess and the Frog, August 9—Wreck-It Ralph
 There are many, many more opportunities to see movies this summer both indoors and outdoors. Go to www.dullesmoms.com/Movies.html for additional listings.

Sunday, August 4 11am \$12.00+
 Imagination Stage: Peter Pan and Wendy Sensory Friendly Show 
 Imagination Stage, Bethesda, MD
 Sensory-friendly performances are designed to be more accessible to those individuals on the autism spectrum or to others with sensory sensitivities. Our Box Office and Front of House staffs are trained to create an accessible and welcoming experience for your child and your family. To purchase tickets, or ask any questions about this event, please call 301-280-1660. Tickets may be purchased by phone only. For more information, go to www.imaginationstage.org.

Congratulations Ana! Thank you Barbara!

On March 22, 2013, Ana Catoni-Yildirim was recognized with a Fairfax County Outstanding Performance Award for **her work at Infant & Toddler Connection. Her supervisor wrote this: "As a service coordinator with ITC, Ana consistently provides high quality service to families on her caseload and, when needed, will go beyond expectations to assist families in emergency situations to support their unique needs. Ana primarily works with Spanish speaking families and assists them with accessing the necessary resources to insure their children receive the medical, nutritional, financial and educational support necessary to allow them to reach their highest potential."** We are lucky to have you as part of our team Ana!



Barbara's helpers painting chairs for the loan closet!

Ana receiving her award!



(Continued from Page 1) We have over 700 pieces of equipment for the family of Fairfax- Falls Church. At the request of therapists, I created a visual inventory for all the equipment pieces that provided pictures, manufacturer sites for purchase, cost and sizing options. I paint, clean, repair, and organize the equipment on a weekly/biweekly basis. We are in the process of adding additional shelves and organizational systems to more easily store and retrieve the equipment. For now I am the only volunteer and would appreciate new volunteers!

I applied and was accepted into the Shenandoah Universities OT program and I plan to begin in the Fall of 2013. I plan to continue as the loan closet manager and hope to juggle my schedule to make that possible after I start classes in **the fall."**

You are amazing Barbara! We are so fortunate to have your assistance at ITC. Best of luck in your studies!

 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