

Infant and Toddler Connection of Fairfax-Falls Church

Early Times

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 by Allan Phillips

Dear Families of ITC,

Frequently families are expressing concerns about how they can plan for their child in the future in case the child needs some ongoing support as an adult. When your child reaches the age of 18 and has a disability he /she could be eligible for Medicaid for health insurance and also for Supplemental Security Insurance (SSI) which is a monthly financial payment to support your child. These Federal Government programs have strict income requirements that preclude owning any real assets. Now there is a new Federal program that

allows saving money for your child without losing any government assistance. It is called the ABLÉ Act.

ITC is sponsoring a workshop with Chris Rodriguez from the National Disability Institute to provide an information session on the ABLÉ Act. Please join us for this session. Time date and location is listed below.

ABLE Act Workshop

A new law, called the Stephen Beck Jr., Achieving a Better Life Experience (ABLE) Act, allows eligible individuals and their families to put away more money than ever before without risk of losing other federal means tested benefits. If you have a child with special needs, you may be eligible

for opening a tax-advantaged ABLÉ savings account that allows you to set aside money for your child to use in the future, while not affecting your ability to receive SSI, Medicaid and other benefits. Chris Rodriguez, a Senior Public Policy Advisor with National Disability Institute, will be leading an information session to explain how ABLÉ Act can benefit you. Join us to learn more!

*Tues, March 15, 2016, 6:30 p.m.
Joseph Willard Health Center
(rear entrance)
Large Conference Room
3750 Old Lee Highway
Fairfax, VA 22030*

Regards,
Allan

Allan Phillips, Director, ITC
Allan.Phillips@fairfaxcounty.gov
703-246-7170

First Nutrition Clinic at ITC

by Adriana Gallego-Gomez

On February 4th, 2016, the Infant & Toddler Connection, together with nutritionist, Erika Messenger, hosted a Nutrition Clinic to assess children's nutritional status as well as promote and educate families about healthy nutrition. We were able to accommodate 4 families at our South County office and the Annandale Office on the same day!

Each family received individualized attention during sessions lasting an hour. Four lucky families from our South County and Heritage offices ultimately took advantage of this excellent opportunity and learned about calorie ingestion, portion sizes, their child's current growth, and nutrition status, and took great strategies home. Families helped the nutritionist with her assessment by providing their child's growth chart and food record, and completing a PEACH survey (Parent Eating and Nutrition Assessment for Children with Special Needs). Parents and caregivers were also able to ask lots of questions, which they later reported to be very useful.

Overall, we at ITC were very pleased with the feedback received from our participants and we hope to repeat this excellent opportunity again in the spring at one of our other offices. If you have any concerns related to your child's nutritional status impacting his/her development, ask your service coordinator for more information about this excellent opportunity and after discussion with your IFSP team a nutrition visit may be added to your child's Individualized Family Service Plan.

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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.



Transition Workshop and Resource Fair

By Silvia Zaleta-Meza

On Sunday, January 31st, 2016, approximately 70 families attended the ITC Transition Workshop and Resource Fair at Forestdale Elementary School in Springfield.

The Resource Fair provided families an opportunity to learn more about family resources and services offered by our community partners. Parents had the opportunity to gather information, ask questions and talk to many exhibitors, including Parent Resource Center, Fairfax County Neighborhood and Community Service, Fairfax County Office for Children, The Arc of Northern Virginia, and Parent Education Advocacy Training Center (PEATC).

The Transition Workshop provides information to ITC families about various educational services offered by the Fairfax County Public School System to children once they “graduate” from ITC early intervention services. Jennie Smith, an experienced Fairfax County Special Education Preschool Teacher and a parent of a child with special needs, led the presentation. She explained the eligibility process and described the various FCPS special education services available. In addition, a panel of parents whose children have received these special education services voluntarily shared their experiences.

While parents attended the Transition Workshop in the school cafeteria, ITC staff provided childcare in the school classrooms, including play time, bubbles, Valentine’s crafts and stories. ITC staff enjoyed this opportunity to share valuable information with families as they transition to the next phase of their educational journey!



Music Fun with ITC Families

by Karyn Patino

During the first week in February, some very talented community partners hosted music classes for our ITC families. It began at Mott Community Center with Music Together’s Anne Whitten, an experienced music educator, who put on quite a show with her ukulele, which the children took turns strumming. Her colorful egg shakers, scarves and small instruments really engaged the children as they got their bodies moving in time with the music. The following day at Dolley Madison Library, Wee Got the Beat’s Beth Barbaro sang and strummed her guitar while our ITC kids jumped, shook maracas, clapped their hands and swayed to the beat. Music classes like the ones Anne and Beth held are designed to provide opportunities for sensory experiences, language

building, and gross and fine motor movement. With consistent engagement in musical activities, children can also benefit from increased brain activity and enhanced appreciation for music. We hope to see our ITC families at future music class events like this, and we thank Anne and Beth for spending time with us!

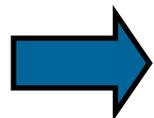


Coming this Spring

Spring is on the way! We have filled the months of March, April and May with exciting family outings and activities. Come meet other ITC families, enjoy some stories, play with friends, listen to music, even visit a firehouse! Check out all our fantastic events on the events calendar on the following pages!



Stay In Touch!



Subscribe to our listserv to receive news and local event info
<http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/csb/itc/family-news/>



INFANT & TODDLER
CONNECTION OF
FAIRFAX-FALLS CHURCH

3750 Old Lee Highway
Fairfax, VA 22030
Phone: 703-246-7121
Fax: 703-653-1385

March

Tuesday, March 1st – 10:15 a.m.

ITC Story Time at [Sherwood Library](#)
2501 Sherwood Hall Lane, Alexandria, VA 22306
Contact: [Silvia Zaleta-Meza](#) or 703-704-6491

Wednesday, March 2nd – 6 to 7:30 p.m.

Dad's Pizza Night
[Joseph Willard Health Center \(rear entrance\)](#)
3750 Old Lee Highway, Fairfax, VA 22030
Contact: [Allan Phillips](#) or 703-246-7170

Wednesday, March 2nd – 10:30 a.m.

L'il Giggles Playgroup
Infant & Toddler Connection of F-FC
[7611 Little River Turnpike, East Wing, 2nd Floor](#)
Annandale, VA 22003
Contact: [Tracey Phillips Edman](#) or 703-538-7454

Thursday, March 3rd – 10 to 11:30 a.m.

ITC Terrific Thursday Parent Support Playgroup
[8350 Richmond Highway, Suite 515G](#)
Alexandria, VA 22309
Contact: [Silvia Zaleta-Meza](#) or 703-704-6491

Monday, March 7th – 10:30 a.m.

ITC Story Time at [Reston Regional Library](#)
11925 Bowman Towne Drive, Reston, VA 20190
Contact: [Karyn Patino](#) or 703-449-6142

Tuesday, March 8th – 11 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

REGISTRATION REQUIRED
Alternative Nutrition Playgroup
[Joseph Willard Health Center \(rear entrance\)](#)
3750 Old Lee Highway, Fairfax, VA 22030
Contact: [Lauren Piccillo](#) 703-246-7121

Tuesday, March 8th – 10:30 a.m.

ITC Story Time at [Chantilly Regional Library](#)
4000 Stringfellow Road, Chantilly, VA 20151
Contact: [Karyn Patino](#) or 703-449-6142

Wednesday, March 9th – 10:30 a.m.

L'il Giggles Playgroup
Infant & Toddler Connection of F-FC
[7611 Little River Turnpike, East Wing, 2nd Floor](#)
Annandale, VA 22003
Contact: [Tracey Phillips Edman](#) or 703-538-7454

Thursday, March 10th – 10 to 11:30 a.m.

ITC Terrific Thursday Parent Support Playgroup
[8350 Richmond Highway, Suite 515G](#)
Alexandria, VA 22309
Contact: [Silvia Zaleta-Meza](#) or 703-704-6491

Tuesday, March 15th – 6:30 p.m.

ABLE Act Workshop
[Joseph Willard Health Center \(rear entrance\)](#)
Large Conference Room
3750 Old Lee Highway, Fairfax, VA 22030
Contact: [Karyn Patino](#) or 703-449-6142

Tuesday, March 15th – 10:00 a.m.

Firehouse Visit at Bailey's Crossroads Fire Station
[3501 Firehouse Lane, Falls Church, VA 22041](#)
Contact: [Tracey Phillips Edman](#) or 703-538-7454

Wednesday, March 16th – 10:30 a.m.

ITC Story Time at [Herndon Fortnightly Library](#)
768 Center Street, Herndon, VA 20170
Contact: [Karyn Patino](#) or 703-449-6142

Wednesday, March 16th – 10:30 a.m.

L'il Giggles Playgroup
Infant & Toddler Connection of F-FC
[7611 Little River Turnpike, East Wing, 2nd Floor](#)
Annandale, VA 22003
Contact: [Tracey Phillips Edman](#) or 703-538-7454

Thursday, March 17th – 10 to 11:30 a.m.

ITC Terrific Thursday Parent Support Playgroup
[8350 Richmond Highway, Suite 515G](#)
Alexandria, VA 22309
Contact: [Silvia Zaleta-Meza](#) or 703-704-6491

Monday, March 21st – 10 a.m.

ITC Story Time at [Richard Byrd Library](#)
7250 Commerce Street, Springfield, VA 22150
Contact: [Silvia Zaleta-Meza](#) or 703-704-6491

Tuesday, March 22nd – 11 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

REGISTRATION REQUIRED
Alternative Nutrition Playgroup
[Joseph Willard Health Center \(rear entrance\)](#)
3750 Old Lee Highway, Fairfax, VA 22030
Contact: [Lauren Piccillo](#) 703-246-7121

Thursday, March 24th – 10:30 a.m.

ITC Story Time and Craft
[Burke Centre Library](#)
5935 Freds Oak Road, Burke, VA 22015
Contact: [Karyn Patino](#) or 703-449-6142

Thursday, March 24th – 10 to 11:30 a.m.

ITC Terrific Thursday Parent Support Playgroup
[8350 Richmond Highway, Suite 515G](#)
Alexandria, VA 22309
Contact: [Silvia Zaleta-Meza](#) or 703-704-6491

Monday, March 28 – 10:30 a.m.

ITC Story Time
[Reston Regional Library](#)
11925 Bowman Towne Drive
Reston, VA 20190
Contact: [Karyn Patino](#) or 703-449-6142

Wednesday, March 30th – 10:30 a.m.

L'il Giggles Playgroup
Infant & Toddler Connection of F-FC
[7611 Little River Turnpike, East Wing, 2nd Floor](#)
Annandale, VA 22003
Contact: [Tracey Phillips Edman](#) or 703-538-7454

Thursday, March 31st – 10 to 11:30 a.m.

ITC Terrific Thursday Parent Support Playgroup
[8350 Richmond Highway, Suite 515G](#)
Alexandria, VA 22309
Contact: [Silvia Zaleta-Meza](#) or 703-704-6491

Thursday, March 31st – 10:00 a.m.

Bagels & Brews!
Infant & Toddler Connection of F-FC
[7611 Little River Turnpike, East Wing, 2nd Floor](#)
Annandale, VA 22003
Contact: [Tracey Phillips Edman](#) or 703-538-7454

April

Tuesday, April 5th – 10:15 a.m.

ITC Story Time at [Sherwood Library](#)
2501 Sherwood Hall Lane
Alexandria, VA 22306
Contact: [Silvia Zaleta-Meza](#) or 703-704-6491

Wednesday, April 6th – 6 to 7:30 p.m.

Dad's Pizza Night
[Joseph Willard Health Center \(rear entrance\)](#)
3750 Old Lee Highway
Fairfax, VA 22030
Contact: [Allan Phillips](#) or 703-246-7170

Wednesday, April 6th – 10:30 a.m.

L'il Giggles Playgroup
Infant & Toddler Connection of F-FC
[7611 Little River Turnpike, East Wing, 2nd Floor](#)
Annandale, VA 22003
Contact: [Tracey Phillips Edman](#) or 703-538-7454

Thursday, April 7th – 10 to 11:30 a.m.

ITC Terrific Thursday Parent Support Playgroup
[8350 Richmond Highway, Suite 515G](#)
Alexandria, VA 22309
Contact: [Silvia Zaleta-Meza](#) or 703-704-6491

Tuesday, April 12th – 11 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

REGISTRATION REQUIRED
Alternative Nutrition Playgroup
[Joseph Willard Health Center \(rear entrance\)](#)
3750 Old Lee Highway, Fairfax, VA 22030
Contact: [Abi McAlister](#) at 703-449-6151 OR [Lauren Piccillo](#) 703-246-7121

Tuesday, April 12th – 10:30 a.m.

ITC Story Time at [Chantilly Regional Library](#)
4000 Stringfellow Road
Chantilly, VA 20151
Contact: [Karyn Patino](#) or 703-449-6142

Wednesday, April 13th – 10:30 a.m.

L'il Giggles Playgroup
Infant & Toddler Connection of F-FC
[7611 Little River Turnpike, East Wing, 2nd Floor](#)
Annandale, VA 22003
Contact: [Tracey Phillips Edman](#) or 703-538-7454

Thursday, April 14th – 10 to 11:30 a.m.

ITC Terrific Thursday Parent Support Playgroup
[8350 Richmond Highway, Suite 515G](#)
Alexandria, VA 22309
Contact: [Silvia Zaleta-Meza](#) or 703-704-6491

Friday, April 15th – 10:30 a.m.

Music with Miss Beth!!
[Dolley Madison Library](#)
1244 Oak Ridge Avenue
McLean, VA 22101
Contact: [Karyn Patino](#) or 703-449-6142

Monday, April 18th – 10:30 a.m.

ITC Story Time at [Herndon Fortnightly Library](#)
768 Center Street
Herndon, VA 20170
Contact: [Karyn Patino](#) or 703-449-6142

Monday, April 18th – 10 a.m.
ITC Story Time at [Richard Byrd Library](#)
7250 Commerce Street, Springfield, VA 22150
Contact: [Silvia Zaleta-Meza](#) or 703-704-6491

Wednesday, April 20th – 10:30 a.m.
L'il Giggles Playgroup
Infant & Toddler Connection of F-FC
[7611 Little River Turnpike, East Wing, 2nd Floor](#)
Annandale, VA 22003
Contact: [Tracey Phillips Edman](#) or 703-538-7454

Thursday, April 21st – 10:30 a.m.
ITC Story Time at [Burke Centre Library](#)
5935 Freds Oak Road, Burke, VA 22015
Contact: [Karyn Patino](#) or 703-449-6142

Thursday, April 21st – 10 to 11:30 a.m.
ITC Terrific Thursday Parent Support Playgroup
[8350 Richmond Highway, Suite 515G](#)
Alexandria, VA 22309
Contact: [Silvia Zaleta-Meza](#) or 703-704-6491

Tuesday, April 26th – 11 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.
REGISTRATION REQUIRED
Alternative Nutrition Playgroup
[Joseph Willard Health Center \(rear entrance\)](#)
3750 Old Lee Highway, Fairfax, VA 22030
Contact: [Abi McAlister](#) at 703-449-6151 OR [Lauren Picillo](#)

Wednesday, April 27th – 10:30 a.m.
ITC Story Time at [Reston Regional Library](#)
11925 Bowman Towne Drive, Reston, VA 20190
Contact: [Karyn Patino](#) or 703-449-6142

Wednesday, April 27th – 10:30 a.m.
L'il Giggles Playgroup
Infant & Toddler Connection of Fairfax-Falls Church
[7611 Little River Turnpike, East Wing, 2nd Floor](#)
Annandale, VA 22003
Contact: [Tracey Phillips Edman](#) or 703-538-7454

Thursday, April 28th – 10 to 11:30 a.m.
ITC Terrific Thursday Parent Support Playgroup
[8350 Richmond Highway, Suite 515G](#)
Alexandria, VA 22309
Contact: [Silvia Zaleta-Meza](#) or 703-704-6491

May

Monday, May 2nd – 10:30 a.m.
ITC Story Time at [Herndon Fortnightly Library](#)
768 Center Street, Herndon, VA 20170
Contact: [Karyn Patino](#) or 703-449-6142

Tuesday, May 3rd – 10:15 a.m.
ITC Story Time at [Sherwood Library](#)
2501 Sherwood Hall Lane, Alexandria, VA 22306
Contact: [Silvia Zaleta-Meza](#) or 703-704-6491

Wednesday, May 4th – 6 to 7:30 p.m.
Dad's Pizza Night
[Joseph Willard Health Center \(rear entrance\)](#)
3750 Old Lee Highway, Fairfax, VA 22030
Contact: [Allan Phillips](#) or 703-246-7170

Wednesday, May 4th – 10:30 a.m.
L'il Giggles Playgroup
Infant & Toddler Connection of F-FC
[7611 Little River Turnpike, East Wing, 2nd Floor](#)
Annandale, VA 22003
Contact: [Tracey Phillips Edman](#) or 703-538-7454

Thursday, May 5th – 10 to 11:30 a.m.
ITC Terrific Thursday Parent Support Playgroup
[8350 Richmond Highway, Suite 515G](#)
Alexandria, VA 22309
Contact: [Silvia Zaleta-Meza](#) or 703-704-6491

Saturday, May 7 – 10:30 a.m.
REGISTRATION REQUIRED
Photos with Jennifer!
[Ossian Hill Park](#)
7900 Heritage Drive, Annandale, VA 22003
Contact: [Tracey Phillips Edman](#) or 703-538-7454

Tuesday, May 10th – 11 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.
REGISTRATION REQUIRED
Alternative Nutrition Playgroup
[Joseph Willard Health Center \(rear entrance\)](#)
3750 Old Lee Highway, Fairfax, VA 22030
Contact: [Abi McAlister](#) at 703-449-6151 OR [Lauren Picillo](#)

Tuesday, May 10th – 10:30 a.m.
ITC Story Time at [Chantilly Regional Library](#)
4000 Stringfellow Road, Chantilly, VA 20151
Contact: [Karyn Patino](#) or 703-449-6142

Wednesday, May 11th – 10:30 a.m.
L'il Giggles Playgroup
Infant & Toddler Connection of F-FC
[7611 Little River Turnpike, East Wing, 2nd Floor](#)
Annandale, VA 22003
Contact: [Tracey Phillips Edman](#) or 703-538-7454

Thursday, May 12th – 10 to 11:30 a.m.
ITC Terrific Thursday Parent Support Playgroup
[8350 Richmond Highway, Suite 515G](#)
Alexandria, VA 22309
Contact: [Silvia Zaleta-Meza](#) or 703-704-6491

Thursday, May 12th – Time and Details TBD
REGISTRATION REQUIRED
Busy Bees Please! At Busy Bees Playroom
6110 Arlington Blvd,
Falls Church, VA 22044
Contact: [Tracey Edman](#) or 703-538-7454

Thursday, May 12th – 10 a.m.
REGISTRATION REQUIRED
Music Together with Ms. Anne!
Mott Community Center
12111 Braddock Rd, Fairfax, VA 22030
Contact: [Karyn Patino](#) or 703-449-6142

Friday, May 13th – 10:30 a.m.
REGISTRATION REQUIRED
Music with Maddy!
Thomas Jefferson Library
7415 Arlington Blvd,
Falls Church, VA 22042
Contact: [Tracey Edman](#) or 703-538-7454

Friday, May 13th – 10:30 a.m.
ITC Story Time at [Herndon Fortnightly Library](#)
768 Center Street, Herndon, VA 20170
Contact: [Karyn Patino](#) or 703-449-6142

Monday, May 16th – 10:30 a.m.
ITC Story Time at [Reston Regional Library](#)
11925 Bowman Towne Drive, Reston, VA 20190
Contact: [Karyn Patino](#) or 703-449-6142

Monday, May 16th – 10 a.m.
ITC Story Time
[Richard Byrd Library](#)
7250 Commerce Street, Springfield, VA 22150
Contact: [Silvia Zaleta-Meza](#) or 703-704-6491

Wednesday, May 18th – 10:30 a.m.
L'il Giggles Playgroup
Infant & Toddler Connection of F-FC
[7611 Little River Turnpike, East Wing, 2nd Floor](#)
Annandale, VA 22003
Contact: [Tracey Phillips Edman](#) or 703-538-7454

Thursday, May 19 – 10:30 a.m.
ITC Story Time at [Burke Centre Library](#)
5935 Freds Oak Road, Burke, VA 22015
Contact: [Karyn Patino](#) or 703-449-6142

Thursday, May 19th – 10 to 11:30 a.m.
ITC Terrific Thursday Parent Support Playgroup
[8350 Richmond Highway, Suite 515G](#)
Alexandria, VA 22309
Contact: [Silvia Zaleta-Meza](#) or 703-704-6491

Saturday, May 21st – 10:30 a.m.
REGISTRATION REQUIRED
Photos with Jennifer! - (RAIN DATE ONLY)
Ossian Hill Park
7900 Heritage Drive, Annandale, VA 22003
Contact: [Tracey Phillips Edman](#) or 703-538-7454

Tuesday, May 24th – 11 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.
REGISTRATION REQUIRED
Alternative Nutrition Playgroup
[Joseph Willard Health Center \(rear entrance\)](#)
3750 Old Lee Highway, Fairfax, VA 22030
Contact: [Abi McAlister](#) at 703-449-6151 OR [Lauren Picillo](#)

Wednesday, May 25th – 10:30 a.m.
L'il Giggles Playgroup
Infant & Toddler Connection of Fairfax-Falls Church
[7611 Little River Turnpike, East Wing, 2nd Floor](#)
Annandale, VA 22003
Contact: [Tracey Phillips Edman](#) or 703-538-7454

Friday, May 13th – 10:30 a.m.
ITC Spring Craft and Story Time at
[Herndon Fortnightly Library](#)
768 Center Street, Herndon, VA 20170
Contact: [Karyn Patino](#) or 703-449-6142

Thursday, May 26th – 10:00 a.m.
Bagels & Brews!
Infant & Toddler Connection of Fairfax-Falls Church
[7611 Little River Turnpike, East Wing, 2nd Floor](#)
Annandale, VA 22003
Contact: [Tracey Phillips Edman](#) or 703-538-7454

Thursday, May 26th – 10 to 11:30 a.m.
ITC Terrific Thursday Parent Support Playgroup
[8350 Richmond Highway, Suite 515G](#)
Alexandria, VA 22309
Contact: [Silvia Zaleta-Meza](#) or 703-704-6491

