



Your Local EI/ECSE Program Needs Your Help!

Tell the story of why EI/ECSE Services are so important to your family! And why they should be fully funded!

Connect with your legislator on the “find your legislator” section of

<https://www.oregonlegislature.gov/>

OR:

Connect with the members of the Ways and Means Joint Subcommittee on Education, who will be focusing specifically on Oregon’s EI/ECSE budget.

<https://olis.leg.state.or.us/liz/2015R1/Committees/1WMED/Overview>

Write an email in support of increased funding for EI/ECSE services! Legislators look at numbers of letters and emails when deciding what bills to support.

We support HB 5016!

We still have more advocacy days happening in Salem! If you would like to come and support EI/ECSE we will be there to support you!

We can even help you set up your appointment with your legislator.

Read Advocacy Training Materials and Fact Sheets at the I/DD Coalition’s website here:

http://oregonddcoalition.org/index.php/oddc/fact/fact_sheets

April 2015

Oregon AEI’s letter from the Coordinator

Thank you to those who came out to our advocacy training and EI/ECSE focus day at the Capitol!

We had a small but powerful group who came to share their stories and speak directly to legislators.

There are still four more advocacy events running into June so if you couldn’t make it April 2nd you can still come!

We will have another advocacy training on June 16th in Salem. More details to come!

Register at:

<http://www.eventbrite.com/e/d-d-advocacy-day-at-the-capitol-registration-14917011182>

One Family’s Story Read about Nick’s success



Three Great Events in 2015:



13th ANNUAL AUTISM WALK in PORTLAND SUNDAY, APRIL 19, 2015

Oaks Amusement Park in SE Portland
Fun starts at 9 am - Walk (1/2 mile) at 10:45 am -
Rides open at 11:30am
~ AND/OR ~

COLOR THE COAST FOR AUTISM:

3K Run + Fun Walk
SATURDAY, APRIL 11, 2015
KOA - Astoria,
Fun starts at 10 am ~ Run & Walk at 11:30 am
~ AND/OR ~

2nd ANNUAL CENTRAL OREGON AUTISM WALK & FAMILY FUN DAY - SATURDAY, MAY 2, 2015

HIGHLAND BAPTIST CHURCH
Redmond, OR (near Bend)
Fun starts at 10 am ~ Walk (1/2 mile) at 11:30 am

Welcome to two new Family Networks!

Families Engaged And Thriving Together: (FEATT)

Embracing families touched by children with disabilities. We believe that when families unite, they become stronger and share a more optimistic vision of a future without limitations. Partnering with communities to share in the belief that our children can achieve their goals and dreams while leading a full, abundant life.
<http://www.featt.org/>

FACT CCC: Columbia, Clatsop, Tillamook, and Lincoln counties:

FACT is a family leadership organization for individuals and their families experiencing disability, working collaboratively to facilitate positive change in policies, systems, and attitudes through family support, advocacy, and partnerships.
<http://www.factorregon.org>



Meet Nick!

Nick is a very bright and loving 11 year old boy. We didn't know before he was born that he had Down Syndrome, and it was a bit overwhelming at first.



Shortly after he was born he had to undergo heart surgery. At this point we were concerned not only about how he was developing but mostly about his health in general.

We were so thankful that after his surgery when we brought him home we were able to have nurses come to our home to check in on him and make sure everything was going well.

It was around this time we connected with Early Intervention Services. These services were instrumental to ensuring that we were able to have all the support we needed in order to support him with his needs. Since I work full time outside the home, having someone available who could advocate for us, give us suggestions and guide us through all the processes that come with having a child with special needs took so much pressure off and made me feel like I could just be a mom again. I didn't have to feel like I was always scrambling on my own to find answers.

Our early intervention/early childhood special education team was excellent at responding to any questions or concerns that I had. Over the years we were able to have specialists come to our home to work with Nick and we were able to access services from partners of our EI/ECSE agency. Nick is still working on articulating his words, but he has come so far during the last 11 years and we are so thankful for everything our team did to help our family!

Family Network Events and Trainings

<p>CODSN http://www.codsn.org/</p>  <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Family Support Group <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - April 14th 6:00-7:30pm Redmond, OR - April 28th 6:00-7:30pm Bend, OR • Latino Support Group <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - April 28th 6:00-7:30pm Bend, OR • Breaking Barriers: Life Beyond Labels Conference: April 24th For more info: http://www.breakingbarriersoregon.com/ 	<p>FACT http://factoregon.org/</p>  <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Understanding the IEP: April 9th Webinar 7:30-9:30pm Click HERE to register for Webinar! • Creating a Person-Centered Profile: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - April 1st Pendleton, OR 1-3:00pm & 6-8:00pm - April 16th Portland, OR 5:00-7:00pm - April 29 La Grande, OR 10-12:00pm & 6-8:00pm • Special Education Regional Conference <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - April 11th Clackamas, OR 8:00-4:30 pm • Behavior and the IEP: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - April 7th Corvallis, OR 5:30-8:30pm - April 20th Ontario, OR 10-12:00pm & 6-8:00pm - April 22nd Condon, OR 1-3:00pm & 6-8:00pm <p>Information/Registration 1 (888) 988-3228</p>
<p>ROCCOS http://roccosfamilynetwork.org/</p>  <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Understanding the IFSP: April 10th John Day, OR 2:00-5:00pm <p>For more information about upcoming events contact Dana at:</p> <p>dana@roccosfamilynetwork.org</p>	<p>Creating Opportunities http://www.creatingops.org/</p>  <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Strengthening Family & Friends Dallas and Polk County: April 14th 6:00pm • Family Support Group : April 14th McMinnville, OR 5:30pm-7:30pm • Late Morning Coffee Polk County, OR: April 10th 10:00am • Advocacy Across Systems April 15th McMinnville, OR 4:00pm April 17th Salem, OR 4:00pm April 28th Dallas, OR 4:00pm
<p>Families Connected http://www.arclane.org/</p>  <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Weekly Night Out at Bounce Gymnastics: Tuesdays: Eugene, OR • Sib-shops: For Siblings ages 8-13: Eugene, OR Tuesdays May 5- June 9 4-6:00pm • Family Dinner Night April 23rd 6:00-8:00pm <p>Contact: Laura.dahill@arclane.org</p>	<p>Families for Community http://familiesforcommunity.org/</p>  <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • TGIF Bowling, Fridays at 4pm Lava Lanes, Medford • Sib-shops: For Siblings ages 8-12: Grants Pass, OR April 13th 7:00pm YMCA • Sib-shops: For Siblings ages 8-12: Medford, OR April 25 10:00-2:00pm • Medford Community Moms Tuesday April 21st 6:30pm <p>Contact: http://familiesforcommunity.org</p>

Events and Trainings Around Oregon

Swindells Resource Center:

- April 7th Developmental Disability and K-Plan Oregon City OR
- For more information about upcoming events see:
<http://oregon.providence.org/our-services/s/swindells-resource-center/events/>

Oregon Technical Assistance Commission

- April 7th Oregon Intervention System- OIS-P is for Parent Salem, OR
- April 21st Oregon Intervention System- OIS-P is for Parent Portland, OR

Autism Society of Oregon- ASO

- April 11th Color the Coast for Autism Hammond, OR
- April 19th 13th Annual Autism Walk Portland, OR