

# CAPITAL AREA QUARTERLY



• It's who we are. It's what we do. •

Winter Newsletter / January - March 2019



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# OUR STAFF



**EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR**  
**Jamie S. Tindle**  
[jamietindle@fhfgbr.org](mailto:jamietindle@fhfgbr.org)

## OUR MISSION:

TO PROVIDE THE INDIVIDUALIZED SERVICES, INFORMATION, RESOURCES, AND SUPPORT NEEDED TO POSITIVELY ENHANCE THE INDEPENDENCE, PRODUCTIVITY, AND INTEGRATION OF PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES INTO THE COMMUNITY.



**ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT/  
MARKETING SPECIALIST**  
**Kristen Bellatti**  
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**BOOKKEEPER**  
**Vicki Wall**  
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**CHILDREN'S SPECIAL  
HEALTH SERVICES**  
**Kay Lewis, CSHS Parent Liaison  
& Ability Awareness Coordinator**  
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**INCLUSIVE EDUCATION**  
**Cynthia Chesterfield,  
Program Director**  
[cchesterfield@fhfgbr.org](mailto:cchesterfield@fhfgbr.org)



**EARLYSTEPS**  
**Diane Pitts,  
Community Outreach Specialist**  
[dpitts@fhfgbr.org](mailto:dpitts@fhfgbr.org)



**RESOURCE CENTER FOR AUTISM  
SPECTRUM DISORDERS**  
**Teresa Wilson Harlan  
Program Director**  
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**RESOURCE CENTER FOR AUTISM  
SPECTRUM DISORDERS;  
INFORMATION, RESOURCE, & REFERRAL**  
**Kara Shupe**  
**Autism Resource Specialist;  
Support Information, Resource & Referral  
& Lending Library Organizer**  
[kshupe@fhfgbr.org](mailto:kshupe@fhfgbr.org)



**EMPOWERMENT PROGRAM**  
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**EMPOWERMENT PROGRAM**  
**Sharese Morton**  
**Empowerment Program Admin. Assistant**  
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**CAPITAL AREA UNITED WAY**  
**Charita Hooper**  
**Community Outreach Specialist**  
[chooper@fhfgbr.org](mailto:chooper@fhfgbr.org)

## BOARD OF DIRECTORS

**CHAIR PERSON**

**KATE BALFOUR McLEAN**

**VICE CHAIR**

**KENDALL AGUILLARD**

**TREASURER**

[CLICK TO APPLY](#)

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**DIRECTORS**

**JANNA OETTING**

**DAVEY WOOLRIDGE**

**KEITH KELLER**

**JOSHUA MORTON**

**EX-OFFICIO**

**MICHELLE GARBIRAS**

## UPCOMING MEETINGS:

**11:30AM - 1:00PM @FHFGBR OFFICE  
WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 16, 2019**

**BOARD MEETINGS ARE OPEN  
TO THE PUBLIC. PLEASE JOIN US!**

**EVERYTHING YOU GO  
THROUGH IN LIFE IS INTENDED  
TO EITHER PREPARE YOU FOR  
SOMETHING ELSE LATER ON IN  
LIFE THAT YOU WILL FACE OR  
SO YOU CAN HELP SOMEONE  
ELSE WHO IS GOING TO GO  
THROUGH SOMETHING  
SIMILAR.**

**Dr. Jeremy L. Blunt**



**“Tigers for Autism Awareness” present...**

# **Friday Night Out!**

For teens and young adults ages 12-20+



**Friday Night Out** is a fun social gathering where LSU students spend quality time with teens and adults with special needs!



**\*\*\*\*\*ADVANCE REGISTRATION IS REQUIRED!\*\*\*\*\***

Email [autismawarenesslsu@gmail.com](mailto:autismawarenesslsu@gmail.com) or call Families Helping Families at (225)-216-7474 **for Registration info!**

**Please join us from  
6 PM – 9 PM on the  
following Fridays –**

02/01/19  
03/01/19  
04/05/19

**LSU Women's Center  
Veterans Drive  
5 Union Square  
Baton Rouge, LA 70803  
(225) 578-1714**



### **IMPORTANT INFORMATION:**

**\*\*\*Adult supervision will be present, but if your child is under 18, a parent or guardian must be present at all times.\*\*\***

**Our volunteers are not trained to manage severe behaviors.  
NO ADMISSION AT THE DOOR without PRE-REGISTRATION:  
[autismawarenesslsu@gmail.com](mailto:autismawarenesslsu@gmail.com). Space is limited!**



# EMPOWERMENT PROGRAM



## TRAVEL STIPENDS FOR FAMILIES


OFFERING FINANCIAL SUPPORT TO  
ATTEND BEHAVIORAL HEALTH  
WORKSHOPS & CONFERENCES

### HELP PROVIDED TO PAY FOR:

- *TRANSPORTATION*
- *HOTELS*
- *MEALS*
- *CHILD CARE*

### HOW TO APPLY:

Louisiana youth and family members of someone with a behavioral health issue or need can complete the application by visiting <http://bit.ly/FHFGBRStipendApplication>. Applicants will be required to complete a short questionnaire. Completed applications can be sent to [info@fhfgbr.org](mailto:info@fhfgbr.org).

 (225)216-7474

 FHFGBR.ORG

 INFO@FHFGBR.ORG



# JAVA - with - JAMIE

## **Java with Jamie is LIVE!**

Can't make it to FHFGBR? That's ok! Grab a cup of coffee or your favorite morning pick-me-up and tune in! Jamie will be answering your questions LIVE on Facebook! She'll also talk about what FHFGBR has to offer to families.

**Monday, January 14, 2019  
from 8:30AM - 10:00AM**

**Monday, February 11, 2019  
from 8:30AM - 10:00AM**

**Monday, March 11, 2019  
from 8:30AM - 10:00AM**



# EarlySteps

## Families Helping Families of Greater Baton Rouge

### Transitioning from Part C to Part B

Preparing Families for the next step as your child ages out of EarlySteps



**Presenter:**

**Diane G. Pitts**

EarlySteps Community Outreach Specialist

**This workshop will provide information on:**

Options and available resources  
Understanding the IEP Process  
OCDD/CAHS

***Date: Thursday, January 24, 2019***

***Time: 10:00AM – 12:00PM***

***Where: Families Helping Families  
2356 Drusilla Lane  
Baton Rouge, LA 70809***

***To register, contact Diane G. Pitts at (225)216-7474 or [dpitts@fhfgbr.org](mailto:dpitts@fhfgbr.org)***

***Light refreshments will be served and door prizes will be given away***



• It's who we are. It's what we do. •



This workshop is funded through a contract with OCDD.



# PARENT FAQs: SPECIAL EDUCATION IN CHARTER SCHOOLS

The Louisiana Department of Education is committed to ensuring all students in our state are ready for college or a professional career. Our students with disabilities are protected under federal and state law, and the Department is committed to ensuring that these students continue to receive a free and appropriate public education that supports the fulfillment of their post-school goals. This Frequently Asked Questions document is intended to help families understand their students' rights.



## CAN MY CHILD WITH A DISABILITY ATTEND A CHARTER SCHOOL?

Yes; all public charter schools must provide all special education and related services that have been determined by a special education evaluation and IEP to be needed.

For students ages 3-21, the charter school must:

1. Identify, locate and evaluate all students who need special education and related services.
2. Provide all special and related services to students who are identified with a disability and are eligible for the services. These services may include adapted physical education, assistive technology, occupational therapy, orientation and mobility services, physical therapy, school health services, school psychological services, school social work services, speech/language pathology services, and special transportation.
3. Provide special education and related services in the least restrictive environment that meets each student's individual needs.

## CAN A CHARTER SCHOOL REQUEST THAT I TAKE MY CHILD WHO NEEDS SPECIAL EDUCATION SERVICES TO ANOTHER PUBLIC SCHOOL?

No, students with disabilities may enroll in any public charter school at no cost.

Charter schools in Louisiana are prohibited from implementing enrollment policies or procedures that discriminate against students with disabilities. All schools must make a free appropriate public education, including special education and related aids and services designed to meet the individual needs of children with disabilities, available to all children with disabilities enrolled in the school. Therefore, charter schools are prohibited from informing or suggesting to parents that they should not enroll their child because (1) the school does not currently provide the services or placement necessary for the child or (2) because the child's disability might be better served by another school or district.

## CAN A CHARTER SCHOOL REQUEST THAT I REMOVE MY CHILD FROM THE SCHOOL AND SEND HIM/HER TO ANOTHER PUBLIC SCHOOL BECAUSE OF BEHAVIOR PROBLEMS?

No, the public charter school must work with you as the parent. The IEP Team should meet to determine the supports that are needed for your child to be successful in the charter school.

## MY CHILD NEEDS SPECIAL TRANSPORTATION TO GET TO AND FROM SCHOOL. CAN MY CHILD ATTEND A CHARTER SCHOOL?

Yes, any child with special needs can attend any public charter school, regardless of need.

## MY CHILD IS IN A WHEELCHAIR. CAN HE/SHE GO TO A CHARTER SCHOOL?

Yes, all public charter schools must accept any child, regardless of the disabling condition, just as a traditional public school would.

## WHAT SHOULD I DO IF I BELIEVE MY CHILD HAS BEEN DENIED ENROLLMENT BECAUSE OF A DISABILITY?

If you believe that your child has been denied enrollment because of a disability, you should contact the school's enrollment office. Each type 2 and type 5 charter provides a process for investigating complaints of alleged discrimination, including a method for parents to make complaints, timelines for the school to conduct an investigation, and the steps the school will take to address concerns. The written procedures must also include the name and contact information for the person at the school responsible for the enrollment discrimination review process.

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## WHAT PROTECTIONS EXIST FOR STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES RELATED TO DISCIPLINARY REMOVAL?

A disciplinary removal is any instance in which a child with a disability is removed from his/her educational placement for disciplinary purposes, including students sent home for a portion of a school day, in-school suspensions, out-of-school suspensions, expulsions, removals by school personnel to an interim alternative educational setting for drug or weapon offenses or serious bodily injury, and removals by a hearing officer for likely injury to the child or others.

Students with disabilities are afforded certain disciplinary protections when they have been removed from their educational placement for more than ten days in a school year. In order to ensure that these protections are provided, it is important that schools keep accurate records of all disciplinary removals.

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## CAN I ACCESS MY CHILD'S DISCIPLINARY RECORDS?

Parents of students with disabilities have the right to access all educational records of their child. This right to access extends to a student's disciplinary records. Therefore, each charter school is responsible for accurately documenting every disciplinary removal experienced by a student with a disability, and parents have a right to access those documents which are related to their child.

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## WHAT SHOULD I DO IF I AM EXPERIENCING A CHALLENGE REGARDING SPECIAL EDUCATION AND RELATED SERVICES AT MY CHILD'S SCHOOL?

If you experience a problem regarding special education and related services, you should follow these steps:

1. Contact the principal of the school.
2. Contact the charter school board of directors.
3. Contact the Louisiana Department of Education at 1-877-453-2721. You may also e-mail the Department at [louisianabelieves@la.gov](mailto:louisianabelieves@la.gov).

Below are other resources that can offer assistance to you regarding your child in special education:

- Families Helping Families; please check the local phone book or contact directory assistance for the phone number of the Families Helping Families agency in your area.
- Advocacy Center; Telephone: 1-800-960-7705

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## WHAT LAWS IN LOUISIANA ADDRESS THE ISSUES CONTAINED IN THIS DOCUMENT?

### Charter School Demonstration Programs Law LA Revised Statute 17:3971– 4001

- A charter school established and operated in accordance with the provisions of Louisiana Charter School Law shall comply with state and federal laws and regulations otherwise applicable to public schools with respect to civil rights and individuals with disabilities.

### Regulations for Students with Disabilities Louisiana Bulletin 1706

- Rights of students with disabilities. Students with disabilities who attend public charter schools and their parents retain all rights under these regulations.
- Charter Schools that are public schools of the local education agency or State must serve students with disabilities attending those charter schools in the same manner as it serves students with disabilities in its other schools, including providing supplementary and related services on site at the charter school to the same extent to which the LEA has a policy or practice of providing such services on the site of its other public schools.



# WORKSHOPS



• It's who we are. It's what we do. •

**FREE CALL-IN  
SUPPORT  
NETWORK**

## PARENTS/CAREGIVERS NETWORKING MEETINGS

**TUESDAY  
JANUARY 8TH  
12:00PM**

**TUESDAY  
JANUARY 15TH  
5:00PM**

Are you a parent/caregiver with behavioral health concerns for your child or youth? These networking meetings will provide parents/caregivers across the state an opportunity to gather and share information and resources related to behavioral health services, and to increase their support networks. In addition to seeking solutions for concerns, participants will be able to share any successful experiences or barriers they may be experiencing.

### **CONFERENCE CALL INFO:**

Phone Number: (641)715-3273 / Access Number: 546755#

#### **PARTICIPATING FHF CENTERS:**

- Families Helping Families of New Orleans: fhfsela.org
- Families Helping Families of Greater Baton Rouge: fhfgbr.org
- Bayou Land Families Helping Families: blfhf.org
- Families Helping Families of Acadiana: fhfacadiana.org
- Families Helping Families of Southwest Louisiana: fhfswla.org
- Families Helping Families of Region VII: fhfregion7.com
- Families Helping Families of Northeast Louisiana: fhfnela.org
- Families Helping Families of Greater New Orleans: fhfogno.org

 (225)216-7474

 FHFGBR.ORG

 INFO@FHFGBR.ORG



# WORKSHOPS

FREE EVENT



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## Twilight Tuesdays

MANAGING BEHAVIOR WITH & WITHOUT  
MEDICATION: ONE PARENT'S PERSPECTIVE

**TUESDAY, JANUARY 15TH FROM 6:00PM TO 7:30PM**

Are you at your wits end addressing your child's behavior in and out of the classroom? Worried about putting your child on medication?

Come to this workshop to receive some positive tips to help your child and relieve some of your stress.

*Question & Answer session to follow presentation.*

### NEED FINANCIAL HELP TO ATTEND THIS WORKSHOP?

Follow this link: <http://bit.ly/FHFGBRStipendApplication>. Applicants will be required to complete a short questionnaire. Completed applications can be sent to [info@fhfgbr.org](mailto:info@fhfgbr.org).

### MEET THE STAR:



KARA SHUPE  
RESOURCE SPECIALIST, RCASD/  
SUPPORT, INFORMATION, RESOURCE  
& REFERRAL SPECIALIST, CAHS

**SPACE IS LIMITED! CALL NOW TO RSVP!**

FHFGBR, 2356 DRUSILLA LN, BATON ROUGE, LA 70809



(225)216-7474



FHFGBR.ORG



INFO@FHFGBR.ORG

THIS IS A FREE WORKSHOP FOR FAMILIES MADE POSSIBLE THROUGH PROCEEDS FROM THE ACTIVE FOR AUTISM 5K RUN/WALK & FUN FEST AND A COLLABORATION BETWEEN THE RESOURCE CENTER FOR AUTISM SPECTRUM DISORDER (RCASD).

# LEGISLATION



## Council's 2019 Legislative Agenda to be Presented at Roundtables

The Louisiana Developmental Disabilities Council will discuss its 2019 Legislative Agenda at nine Legislative Roundtables across the state where individuals with disabilities, families and advocates will have the opportunity to get more information about the issues and connect with legislators. The legislative agenda was developed with input from the Council's grassroots advocacy network (LaCAN) and the Families Helping Families Centers. Five issues are included on the agenda in the areas of home and community-based services and education.

### Home and Community-Based Services

As it has done for decades, the Council will continue to advocate for the increased availability of home and community-based supports and services so people with developmental disabilities can remain in their own homes and be fully participating members of their communities. The Council is calling for increased access to the State Personal Assistance Services (SPAS) program, increased funding for the two Human Services Districts/Authorities with the lowest state funding per capita, and implementation of the TEFRA Medicaid State Plan Option. Details on each issue can be found on the fact sheets linked below.

- [Fully Fund State Personal Assistance Services \(SPAS\)](#)
- [Equitably Fund the Human Services Districts/Authorities](#)
- [Fund and Implement TEFRA](#)

### Education

The Council will also continue to advocate for special education policies and practices that facilitate transparency and ensure student safety. The Council is calling for the Louisiana Department of Education to publicly report findings and corrective actions related to on-site monitoring and complaint investigations involving special education, and for cameras to be installed in special education classrooms upon request. Read more about these issues on the fact sheets linked below.

- [Public Reporting of Special Education Monitoring Findings and Corrective Actions](#)
- [Require Cameras in Special Education Classrooms Upon Request](#)

### Get Involved

Individuals with disabilities, family members, and advocates are encouraged to attend a Legislative Roundtable and participate in the Council's other advocacy efforts, including legislative visits and yellow shirt days. The roundtables have been scheduled in January and February throughout the state.

- Click [here](#) for the 2019 Legislative Roundtable schedule.

Those interested in visiting legislators, attending roundtables or participating in other advocacy events should contact their regional [LaCAN Leader](#).

### Contact Us

LaDDC News is the electronic newsletter for the LA Developmental Disabilities Council. If there are any questions about the information above, contact the Council by replying to this email, or calling the toll free number listed below:

phone: 1-800-450-8108  
email: [info@laddc.org](mailto:info@laddc.org) website:  
[www.laddc.org](http://www.laddc.org)  
facebook: [www.facebook.com/LaDDCCouncil](https://www.facebook.com/LaDDCCouncil) twitter:  
[www.twitter.com/laddcouncil](https://www.twitter.com/laddcouncil)



Click [HERE](#) to view all recent LaDDC News articles

# WORKSHOPS



## Special Education

### Due Process Hearings & State Complaints

#### Don't Be Scared—Just Be Prepared

Please come out and join us for FREE valuable information and a greater understanding of Formal State Complaints and Due Process Hearings as dispute resolution options for children with exceptionalities. This information is sure to help you if other special education dispute resolution options have failed and/or you are considering filing a due process hearing request. This workshop will review the request filing requirements, provide preparation suggestions, offer insight on what happens after you filed the request, and deliver other helpful information intended to de-mystify the hearing process.

Funding for this workshop is provided by a contract with the Louisiana Department of Education with funds under part B of the Individuals with Disabilities Act of 2004

Due Process  
Hearings and  
Formal State  
Complaints

Wednesday  
January 9, 2019

Main Library  
7711 Goodwood Blvd.  
Baton Rouge, LA  
70806

10:00 AM – 12:00 PM

Presenters:  
Parris Taylor  
Attorney  
La. Dept. of  
Education



**To Register:**  
Call (225)216-7474 or

**Email:**  
[cchesterfield@fhfgbr.org](mailto:cchesterfield@fhfgbr.org)



# LEGISLATION



## Save the Date

**Tuesday, February 12, 2019**  
**9:30 am - 12:00 pm**

American Red Cross  
4655 Sherwood Common Blvd.  
Baton Rouge, LA 70816

RSVP to Ashley McReynolds  
225-715-5740 / 225-216-7474  
[amcreynolds@lacanadvocates.org](mailto:amcreynolds@lacanadvocates.org)

### TO REGISTER:

[HTTPS://WWW.EVENTBRITE.COM/E/2019-LEGISLATIVE-ROUNDTABLE-TICKETS-53104078729](https://www.eventbrite.com/e/2019-legislative-roundtable-tickets-53104078729)



## Kent State recruit Kalin Bennett becomes first player with autism to get D1 basketball scholarship

*The player wants to be an inspiration for others like him.*

By [James Dator](#) | Nov 26, 2018, 10:24am EST



Kent State is becoming the first school in NCAA history to sign a player with autism to compete in a Division I sport. Kalin Bennett isn't just aiming to play basketball when he arrives on campus next summer, he wants to inspire kids with autism everywhere to follow their dreams — no matter what.

Bennett is moving from Little Rock, Arkansas, with his mom and the 6'10 center told Cleveland.com what he wants to do on, and off the court.

"So, when he read it, and then met the therapist, he said; 'Are you the one who said I would never do this and never do that?' She said, 'Yes Kalin, I am.' He said, 'My question is, I hope you haven't told anybody else that because you could ruin their lives.' She sat right there and took it from Kalin. She did."

**Tap for full article**

# WORKSHOPS

FREE EVENT



• It's who we are. It's what we do. •

## Twilight Tuesdays

### MANNERS OF THE HEART: TUTORIAL MEAL

**TUESDAY, JANUARY 22ND**

**SESSION 1 (AGES 10 - 14): 5:00PM TO 6:00PM**

**SESSION 2 (AGES 14 & UP): 6:30PM TO 7:30PM**

**REGISTRATION REQUIRED**

Please join FHFGBR and Manners of the Heart at the table for a special tutorial meal.

By defining manners as an attitude of the heart that is self-giving not self-serving, Manners of the Heart helps develop social and emotional skills, ultimately supporting the successful development in all areas of life.

At this tutorial meal, we will work on mastering the basics of dining etiquette, and in the process, focus on: prosocial attitudes and behaviors, personal responsibility, and self-regulated behavior.

### MEET THE STAR:



**SPACE IS LIMITED! CALL NOW TO RSVP!**

**FHFGBR, 2356 DRUSILLA LN, BATON ROUGE, LA 70809**



**(225)216-7474**



**FHFGBR.ORG**



**KSHUPE@FHFGBR.ORG**

THIS IS A FREE WORKSHOP FOR FAMILIES MADE POSSIBLE THROUGH A CONTRACT WITH CAPITAL AREA HUMAN SERVICES (CAHS).



# 2019 SPRING sunshine SOCIAL calendar



Through a partnership with Families Helping Families of Greater Baton Rouge, BREC is able to offer themed, monthly socials for adults with cognitive and developmental disabilities and their friends and family.



Jan. 18



**FOOTBALL FRENZY**

SHOW YOUR FOOTBALL TEAM PRIDE!

Feb. 15



**DIAMONDS & DENIM**

DON YOUR DUDS & SPARKLY STUDS

MARCH 15



**SHAMROCK SHUFFLE**

BE SURE TO BE GREEN!

APRIL 18

[HELD ON THURSDAY DUE TO GOOD FRIDAY]



**BUNNY HOP**

POP ON THE RABBIT EARS OR YOUR FAVORITE EASTER ATTIRE!

MAY 17



**PROM**

GRAB A DATE  
FOR A NIGHT  
TO REMEMBER!



.....  
*Disc jockey* DINNER PRIZES  
SOCIALIZATION *and FUN!*



(225) 573-5245



[brec.org/adaptive](http://brec.org/adaptive)



[molly.orr@brec.org](mailto:molly.orr@brec.org)

**MILTON J. WOMACK PARK**

6201 Florida Blvd. /// Every Third Friday /// 6–9 p.m.

**Ages: 16+ with disabilities**

**\$5 donation** supports this program, including supplies and door prizes each month





Save the Date: Saturday, January 12, 2019  
Justice for All Ball  
A Special Evening for Young Adults with Disabilities

Hosted and Organized by St. Joseph's Academy Seniors  
Hannah Mistic ([39537@sjabr.org](mailto:39537@sjabr.org)), Corrine Hutchinson ([39357@sjabr.org](mailto:39357@sjabr.org)),  
Skylar Mancuso ([39468@sjabr.org](mailto:39468@sjabr.org)) and Catherine Cangelosi ([39147@sjabr.org](mailto:39147@sjabr.org))

Mother Alice Hall Community Room  
6:30-8:30 p.m.  
Music, Dancing, Food and Games  
(Parents of Special Guests are Welcome to Stay)

Volunteers/Donations are Needed • Look for a Sign-up Survey in Weeks to Come  
Please direct questions to the organizers at their email addresses listed above.

**Please RVSP to the Ball by December 31<sup>st</sup> or sooner!**  
**Contact one of the emails listed above to register.**

Dress Code:  
Any nice clothes will do!  
Prom dresses and tuxedos are NOT expected!  
Dress nice and appropriate!

# WORKSHOPS



• It's who we are. It's what we do. •

**FREE CALL-IN  
SUPPORT  
NETWORK**

## PARENTS/CAREGIVERS NETWORKING MEETINGS

**TUESDAY  
MARCH 12TH  
12:00PM**



**TUESDAY  
MARCH 19TH  
5:00PM**

Are you a parent/caregiver with behavioral health concerns for your child or youth? These networking meetings will provide parents/caregivers across the state an opportunity to gather and share information and resources related to behavioral health services, and to increase their support networks. In addition to seeking solutions for concerns, participants will be able to share any successful experiences or barriers they may be experiencing.

### CONFERENCE CALL INFO:

Phone Number: (641)715-3273 / Access Number: 546755#

#### PARTICIPATING FHF CENTERS:

- Families Helping Families of New Orleans: fhfsela.org
- Families Helping Families of Greater Baton Rouge: fhfgbr.org
- Bayou Land Families Helping Families: blfhf.org
- Families Helping Families of Acadiana: fhfacadiana.org
- Families Helping Families of Southwest Louisiana: fhfswla.org
- Families Helping Families of Region VII: fhfregion7.com
- Families Helping Families of Northeast Louisiana: fhfnela.org
- Families Helping Families of Greater New Orleans: fhfgno.org

 (225)216-7474

 FHFGBR.ORG

 INFO@FHFGBR.ORG

**SPOTS ARE LIMITED!**

## **Merakey Gateway Transition Centers**

### **Spring 2019 Day Program**

Merakey Gateway Day Program is designed to direct young adults with Autism to develop fundamental social, pre-vocational, and life-skills. Our program empowers individuals to live, work, and thrive in their communities.

### **Contact**

*Maggie Giles, LMSW, Program Director*  
maggie.giles@merakey.org  
225-590-3124

## **ABOUT THE PROGRAM**

Merakey Gateway Day Program lessons include:

- Independent living
- Social skills
- Money management
- Career exploration
- Social interaction through community involvement with weekly volunteering to experience various work environments
- Full onsite t-shirt print shop for employment opportunities and transferable job skills

Eligibility:

- Should be between the ages of 18-26
- Diagnosed with ASD or other related disorder
- Be able to converse and have a desire for more independent daily living

## **DETAILS**

- January 14-May 3
- M/Tu or W/Th 10am-2pm
- Friday times may vary
- \$2500 (payment plans available)



# CW Austin Learning Disability Conference

Sat, February 2, 2019 • 8:30

A.M. – 4:30 P.M.

Location:

Catholic Life Center  
1800 South Acadian Thruway  
Baton Rouge, LA  
70808

Free or Low-Cost CEU  
No Admission Cost

Topics include:

Medications, Assistive Technology,  
Math, ADHD, Dyslexia, Anxiety,  
Self-Regulation, Advocacy, Evaluations,  
Auditory Processing, Fluency,  
Careers, Comprehension, Executive  
Function, Word Retrieval, Self-Care,  
Homeschool

Register  
at  
[ldhelp.org](http://ldhelp.org)

# STAY UPDATED!

- Text FHFGBR to 22828 or call the FHFGBR office to be added to our weekly eblast list.
- Check out our events calendar on our website at [www.fhfgbr.org](http://www.fhfgbr.org)
- Follow us on Facebook for constant updates on events & news
- Come by our office to see us and learn more!

## JANUARY

Tuesday, January 8 12:00PM to 1:00PM	<i>Behavioral Health:</i> Parents/Caregivers Networking Meetings	Call-In: (641)715-3273 Access No.: 546744#
Wednesday, January 9 10:00AM to 12:00PM	Special Education: Due Process Hearings & State Complaints	Goodwood Library 7711 Goodwood Blvd. Baton Rouge, LA
Monday, January 14 8:30AM to 10:00AM	Java with Jamie Facebook Live!	FHFGBR 2356 Drusilla Lane Baton Rouge, LA
Tuesday, January 15 5:00PM to 6:00PM	<i>Behavioral Health:</i> Parents/Caregivers Networking Meetings	Call-In: (641)715-3273 Access No.: 546744#
Tuesday, January 15 6:00PM to 7:30PM	Twilight Tuesday: Managing Behavior with & without Medication: One Parent's Perspective	FHFGBR 2356 Drusilla Lane Baton Rouge, LA
Wednesday, January 16 11:30AM to 1:00PM	Board of Directors Meeting	FHFGBR 2356 Drusilla Lane Baton Rouge, LA
Friday, January 18 6:00PM to 9:00PM	Sunshine Social: Football Frenzy!	Milton J. Womack Park 6201 Florida Blvd. Baton Rouge, LA
Monday, January 21 All Day	OFFICE CLOSURE Martin Luther King, Jr. Day	FHFGBR 2356 Drusilla Lane Baton Rouge, LA
Tuesday, January 22 6:00PM to 7:30PM	Twilight Tuesday: <b>MANNERS</b> <small>of the</small> <b>HEART</b>	FHFGBR 2356 Drusilla Lane Baton Rouge, LA
Thursday, January 24 10:00AM to 12:00PM	EarlySteps Transition Part C to Part B	FHFGBR 2356 Drusilla Lane Baton Rouge, LA
Saturday, January 26 10:30AM to 12:00PM	AMC Sensory Friendly Film: A Dog's Way Home	AMC 16 Theatre 16040 Hatteras Ave. Baton Rouge, LA

# CALENDAR

## FEBRUARY

Friday, February 1  
6:00PM to 9:00PM

Friday Night Out

LSU Women's Center  
5 Union Square  
Baton Rouge, LA

Tuesday, February 5  
5:00PM to 6:00PM

*Behavioral Health:*  
Parents/Caregivers  
Networking Meetings

Call-In:  
(641)715-3273  
Access No.: 546744#

Monday, February 11  
8:30AM to 10:00AM

Java with Jamie  
Facebook Live!

FHFGBR  
2356 Drusilla Lane  
Baton Rouge, LA

Tuesday, February 12  
12:00PM to 1:00PM

*Behavioral Health:*  
Parents/Caregivers  
Networking Meetings

Call-In:  
(641)715-3273  
Access No.: 546744#

Friday, February 15  
6:00PM to 9:00PM

*Sunshine Social:*  
Diamonds & Denim

Milton J. Womack Park  
6201 Florida Blvd.  
Baton Rouge, LA

## MARCH

Friday, March 1  
6:00PM to 9:00PM

Friday Night Out

LSU Women's Center  
5 Union Square  
Baton Rouge, LA

Monday, March 4 -  
Tuesday, March 5

OFFICE CLOSURE  
Mardi Gras

FHFGBR  
2356 Drusilla Lane  
Baton Rouge, LA

Monday, March 11  
8:30AM to 10:00AM

Jave with Jamie  
Facebook Live!

FHFGBR  
2356 Drusilla Lane  
Baton Rouge, LA

Tuesday, March 12  
12:00PM to 1:00PM

*Behavioral Health:*  
Parents/Caregivers  
Networking Meetings

Call-In:  
(641)715-3273  
Access No.: 546744#

Tuesday, March 19  
5:00PM to 6:00PM

*Behavioral Health:*  
Parents/Caregivers  
Networking Meetings

Call-In:  
(641)715-3273  
Access No.: 546744#

Wednesday, March 20  
11:30AM to 1:00PM

Board of Directors  
Meeting

FHFGBR  
2356 Drusilla Lane  
Baton Rouge, LA



# 10TH ANNUAL ACTIVE FOR AUTISM

FHFGBR.ORG

## 5K RUN/WALK AND FUN FEST

BENEFITING FAMILIES HELPING FAMILIES OF GREATER BATON ROUGE

Families  
Helping  
Families  
of Greater Baton Rouge

• It's who we are. It's what we do. •



# SAVE THE DATE

**27**  
APRIL

**SATURDAY**  
**2019**

### LOCATION:

Pennington Biomedical Research Center  
6400 Perkins Rd.  
Baton Rouge, LA 70808

**8:00AM TO 11:30AM**

**LAUREN WESTBROOK**  
EVENT EMCEE



behavioral  
intervention  
group





• It's who we are. It's what we do. •

# OFFICE CLOSURES

Monday, January 21, 2019  
Martin Luther King, Jr. Day

Monday/Tuesday, March 4/5, 2019  
Mardi Gras

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“It's who we are. It's what we do.”

FHFGBR receives partial funding from the Louisiana Developmental Disabilities Council, Capital Area United Way, Capital Area Human Services, Louisiana Department of Education, and the Louisiana Department of Health as well as generous donations from families and our community.

*FHFGBR does not endorse or promote any legislation, institutions, individuals, methods of treatment, or therapy.*

