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ALABAMA DISABILITIES ADVOCACY PROGRAM  
June 18, 2014

The Alabama Disabilities Advocacy Program (ADAP) is part of the nation's federally-funded protection and advocacy (P&A) system. ADAP provides legal services to Alabamians with disabilities to protect, promote and expand their rights. ADAP's vision is one of a society in which persons with disabilities are valued and exercise self-determination through meaningful choices, and have equality of opportunity. ADAP is part of the [National Disability Rights Network \(NDRN\)](#).

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[www.adap.net](http://www.adap.net)

## Extended Medicaid Eligibility to Age 26 for Former Foster Care Youth



As of January 1, 2014, the Affordable Care Act allows certain foster care children to receive Medicaid health coverage until age 26. Click [here](#) to find out who's eligible and how to apply in Alabama.

## Children and Youth with Special Health Care Needs



The Department of Children's Rehabilitation Services (CRS) wants to know how it can improve Alabama's system of care for children and youth with special health care needs (CYSHCN).

CYSHCN have, or are at increased risk for, chronic physical, developmental, behavioral, or emotional conditions, and require more health and related services than most children. Almost 26% of households in Alabama have one or more CYSHCN; the national rate is 23%.

The Department has developed three separate on-line surveys, one each for **families, youth** and **providers**. Please take a few minutes and let CRS know what you think of the needs of these children and their families.

CRS is conducting this surveying as part of its five year planning cycle. For more information about CRS's planning process or to get paper copies of the survey, please contact Lolita McLean at [lolita.mclean@rehab.alabama.gov](mailto:lolita.mclean@rehab.alabama.gov) or 334.293.7133.

## People First of Alabama State Conference

Thursday and Friday, August 21-22



Register now for the upcoming People First of Alabama State Conference. Registration cost for the conference, meals, and an overnight hotel stay is \$25. The conference agenda includes a panel presentation by national leaders from Self Advocates Becoming Empowered (SABE). In addition, attendees will discuss Alabama state projects, hear about chapters, and elect regional representatives and new officers. To register, send your name, address, chapter or other affiliation, and a check or money order to People

First of Alabama at 85 Walston Bridge Rd, Jasper, AL 35504. For more information, contact Susan Ellis at [pf.susan.200@gmail.com](mailto:pf.susan.200@gmail.com)

## Self-Advocates Becoming Empowered (SABE) Conference

October 9-12, 2014



People First of Alabama is organizing transportation to the SABE conference in Oklahoma City, OK. Costs for bus, registration (meals), and hotel rooms will be subsidized to keep the total cost to approx. \$300-\$500 each. All members and friends of People First of Alabama are encouraged to join us! Alabama is presenting a program

on Employment First. For more information please contact Susan Ellis at [pf.susan.200@gmail.com](mailto:pf.susan.200@gmail.com) as soon as possible. To organize the trip, People First needs to have a head count by August 15.

## 2014 PAC Independence Day



The month of July is all about celebrating independence and the Parent Advisory Committee (PAC) of the Children's Rehabilitation Services Office in Homewood is pulling out the fireworks! The PAC will host two workshops on how to foster independence among youth with disabilities. Each workshop is divided into two sections that will meet separately – one for families and one for youth. Click [here](#) for information.

## U.S. Department of Justice to Celebrate 15th Anniversary of Olmstead





On June 22, 1999, the United States Supreme Court held in *Olmstead v. L.C.* that unjustified segregation of persons with disabilities constitutes discrimination in violation of Title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act. This landmark Supreme Court decision requires states to eliminate unnecessary segregation of persons with disabilities and to ensure that persons with disabilities receive services in the most integrated setting appropriate to their needs. To celebrate the 15th anniversary of this important ruling, the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) and the U.S. Department of Justice (DOJ) will hold an event on Friday, June 20, 2014, from 1-2:30 pm in the Great Hall of the Hubert H. Humphrey Building.

You can view the event by going to this site: <http://www.hhs.gov/live/>



### **HAVE PRESENTATION. WILL TRAVEL.**

Do you need a speaker for an upcoming meeting? ADAP provides education and training on a wide variety of disability-related topics including: the Americans with Disabilities Act, Medicaid waivers, guardianships, special education, general disability rights, and transition services for youth. If you are interested in making arrangements for ADAP to come speak at one of your meetings, contact Anita Davidson at 205-348-5107 or at [akdavidson@adap.ua.edu](mailto:akdavidson@adap.ua.edu)



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**Our mailing address is:**

The University of Alabama  
Alabama Disabilities Advocacy Program  
Box 870395 - Tuscaloosa, Alabama 35487-0395  
website: [www.adap.net](http://www.adap.net)  
e-mail: [adap@adap.ua.edu](mailto:adap@adap.ua.edu)