

## ALABAMA DISABILITIES ADVOCACY PROGRAM May 15, 2013

The Alabama Disabilities Advocacy Program (ADAP) is part of the nationwide federally mandated protection and advocacy (P&A) system. ADAP's mission is to provide quality, legally based advocacy services to Alabamians with disabilities in order to protect, promote and expand their rights.

Find Us On The Web www.adap.net

## **ADAP Monitors Community Placements**

In December 2011, Alabama's last state-operated institution for persons with developmental disabilities, Partlow, closed its doors and discharged the last residents to appropriate, community placements. Since Partlow's closing, ADAP has focused its efforts in ensuring persons with developmental disabilities in community placements are receiving appropriate services and are free from abuse and neglect.

ADAP has monitored persons with developmental disabilities in their group homes, day habilitation programs, and sheltered workshops. If you have concerns about a person with developmental disabilities and the treatment they are receiving in a community program, please call, 1-800-826-1675, or email, adap@adap.ua.edu. ADAP can make an unannounced monitoring visit to the community program and/or conduct an investigation into the person's situation.

### Public Special Education Meeting Scheduled

Alabama's Special Education Advisory Panel (SEAP) will meet on Wednesday, June 19, 2013 from 9:30 AM to 2:00 PM in Montgomery.

Among its duties, the SEAP advises the Department of Education of any unmet needs of students with disabilities. For more information about the role of the SEAP, click here.

For the meeting agenda, location information, and to find out how to access the meeting via the web, click here.

# Improving Outcomes for Children with Disabilities: Parents and Teachers Together Conference

The Alabama Parent Education Center (APEC) is hosting its annual statewide conference for families of children with disabilities, educators, and professionals working with families on Friday, June 14, 2013 from 8:30 AM to 1:30 PM.

Conference sessions will focus on transition planning and the new Alabama diploma, behavioral management planning for students, and assistive technology.

The conference will be held at the following sites:

- Alabama Public Library Service, Montgomery AL (live)
- Mobile County Board of Education, Mobile (live video-transmission)
- University of Alabama, Martha Parham Hall West (ADAP's office), Tuscaloosa (live videotransmission)

To register to attend the conference at one of these sites or for more information, contact APEC at 334-567-2252 or 866-532-7660. Or, click here to register.

## Improving Transition from High School to Work: An Online Conversation for Change

Here's your chance to help shape federal strategies that support young people with disabilities as they transition from school to work!

The U.S. Departments of Labor, Education, Health and Human Services and the Social Security Administration are hosting a free, public online dialogue to examine the impact of existing federal regulations and legislation on the transition from school to work of youth with disabilities.

You and other policymakers, service providers, advocates, families, and youth from around the country will be providing ideas and comments around this question: What legislative and regulatory changes need to happen to effectively implement employment, education, health and human and social security services for youth and young adults with disabilities under public law?

This online dialogue began on Monday, May 13<sup>th</sup> and will run until Monday, May 27<sup>th</sup>. During this two week period, you'll be able to submit ideas, vote on existing ideas, or add comments to the online dialogue. It's not too late to get in on the conversation!

For more information and to register, click here.

## Certificate Based Supported Employment Job Coach Training

Virginia Commonwealth University & The Alabama Department of Mental Health Certificate Based Supported Employment Job Coach Training will be held on September 11 - 13, 2013 at AIDT One Technology Court in Montgomery, Alabama.

This training is appropriate for all new job coaches and other professionals working for community rehabilitation programs, Mental Health & DD/ID organizations, school job coaches, and other interested in supported employment. This training is designed to make job coaches and other professionals more successful in achieving employment outcomes for individuals. To Register online, click here.



#### HAVE PRESENTATION. WILL TRAVEL.

Are you a member of a group that needs a speaker for an upcoming meeting? If so, ADAP can fill this need. ADAP staff provides education/training sessions on a wide variety of disability-related topics including, but not limited to: the Americans with Disabilities Act, Medicaid waivers, guardianships, special education, general disability rights, and transition services for youth who will soon become adults. We will also speak on specifically requested, disability-related topics. If you are interested in making arrangements for ADAP to come speak at one of your meetings, please contact Vicki Hubbard, one of ADAP's Legal Assistants, by calling 205-348-5093, or emailing her, vhubbard@adap.ua.edu or adap@adap.net.



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