

THE CESA #2 PARENT-EDUCATOR UPDATE NEWSLETTER

2008-2009

February 15th 2009

Issue #51

Please use this update to keep informed on topics relating to children with disabilities focusing on their education, health, development, and well-being. The CESA #2 Parent-Educator Update is a bi-monthly newsletter and will be published on approximately the 1st and 15th of each month. Please feel free to forward this newsletter onto parents, educators, or professionals who work with children or who have children that receive special education services. **New items posted to the Parent-Educator Update will be marked **.** You may notice some of the same information in this newsletter multiple times, however new information will be added each newsletter.

For further information about CESA #2 (Cooperative Educational Service Agency) go to: www.cesa2.k12.wi.us If you are a parent with questions about your child's special education, please contact a Wisconsin Statewide Parent Educator Initiative (WSPEI) parent consultant:

Dane and Green Counties
CESA #2 Parent Consultant:
Cynthia DiCamelli
cdicamelli@cesa2.k12.wi.us
608-758-6232 Ext. 312

Jefferson and Rock Counties
CESA #2 Parent Consultant
Deb Hall
dhall@cesa2.k12.wi.us
608-758-6232 Ext. 324

**Western Kenosha, Walworth,
& Western Racine Counties**
Parent-Educator Liaison:
Dannette Cates
DCates1@wi.rr.com
262-843-2343

THE LATEST NEWS

Parent Revocation of Consent for Special Education

On December 1, 2008, the U.S Department of Education issued the *final* regulations for Part B, Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA). The regulations may be found at: <http://edocket.access.gpo.gov/2008/pdf/E8-28175.pdf>, and they are effective on Dec. 31, 2008.

The regulations, among other things, significantly change 34 CFR § 300.300(b)(4). This section has been revised to permit a parent of a child with a disability to revoke consent for the provision of special education and related services at any time. The revocation of consent must be in writing. Upon receipt of the written revocation, the school district must promptly provide prior written notice in accordance with § 300.503 a reasonable time before stopping special education and related services. The school district may not use mediation or due process procedures to challenge the parent's revocation of consent.

Once special education and related services end, the school district is not required to make a free and appropriate public education (FAPE) to the child and is not required to have an individualized education program (IEP) meeting or develop an IEP for the child. The school district is also not required to offer the child discipline protections under IDEA. Finally, the school district is not required to amend the child's education records to remove any reference to the child's receipt of special education and related services. However, if the child is referred for special education in the future, the district must act upon that referral, and the evaluation will be treated as an initial evaluation.

If you have any questions please contact your Special Education Director.

OPPORTUNITIES

****Easter Seals Partners with Kenosha YMCA to Open Adult Day Services Program****

We will also offer an Inclusive After school program with their After School program. The Y has many features such as gymnasium, indoor and outdoor track, fitness center, rock climbing wall, game room, accessible kitchen and Miracle Field accessible ball field.

Easter Seals has started the enrollment process for adults with developmental disabilities into our Adult Day Services program. Over 45 family members, caseworkers, teachers, AFH staff and individuals with disabilities came to one of two open houses in December and January which brought in five interested individuals for enrollment. The caregivers expressed that they were impressed with the Easter Seals staff, the philosophy of our adult day services program and the YMCA facility.

If you know of anyone that is in need of Adult Day Services in an inclusive setting for one, two, three, four or five days a week from 7:30am-2:30pm, please contact me! We will officially start on Monday, February 16th. Feel free to stop by and see our program in action! Please note that the program will be closed on Tuesday, February 17th due to an all day workshop that I will be attending. For further information contact: Susan Klawien, Activity/Personal Care Coordinator, Kenosha YMCA - Callahan Family Branch, 414-571-5566 ext. 407

Applications now available for Youth Leadership Summit 2009

June 22-26 or July 13-17

Youth Leadership Summit is a week-long leadership development opportunity for high school students from Milwaukee, Ozaukee, Waukesha and Washington counties. Students will learn about self-advocacy, independent living, safe & healthy relationships, disability rights & voting, transitions to life after high school, money management, employment, college and much more. Youth will hear from experts, learn from each other, dream and plan for the future, develop community and be mentored by Summit Alumni. Applications are due April 20 and sessions are limited to 20 youth, FACETS & Independence *First*

10-4 p.m. Mon-Fri.

Independence First, Milwaukee

Pathways to Independence Regional Grant Request for Proposals

Pathways to Independence project within the Wisconsin Department of Health Services, Division of Long-Term Care is offering grant funds up to \$480,000 statewide through regional grants to decrease barriers to and increase opportunities for person-centered, integrated employment in order to support people with disabilities in achieving their desired employment outcomes.

The Pathways to Independence Regional Grant Request for Proposals (RFP) is also posted on the DHS website at <http://dhs.wisconsin.gov/rfp/index.htm#DLTC>

Save the Date: Medical Home Implementation Teleconference Series

March – June 2009, The American Academy of Pediatrics will be hosting a free teleconference series in early 2009 to provide child health professionals with practical strategies for implementing medical home in practice. These informative calls will be led by nationally recognized experts with the goal of educating participants about the value of the family-centered primary care medical home for all children and youth, the availability of practical tools and resources, and will provide strategies for improving care and increasing patient/family satisfaction. Go to <http://sharedwork.org/documents/datesaver.pdf> for more information.

Seeking Call for “Parents in Partnership” Proposals 2009-2010

With a new year upon us, it is time to begin planning for "Parents in Partnership" trainings for the 2009-2010 year. The 2009-2010 “Call for Parents in Partnership” proposal can be downloaded at <http://www.dpi.wi.gov/sped/hmnew.html> or http://www.dpi.wi.gov/sped/par_traing.html.

Parents in Partnership (PIP) is a four or five part leadership opportunity for parents, foster parents, or other care givers who have children with special needs, 6-14 years old or youth with special needs 12-21 years old. Parents who participate have the opportunity to develop leadership skills, support networks, and positive parent-professional partnerships. The Wisconsin Statewide Parent-Educator Initiative (WSPEI) of the Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction through federal special education discretionary funds sponsors PIP. These proposals can be submitted from communities or parent groups that would like to host Parents in Partnership training. A limited number of PIP trainings will be provided. Groups making a request must be able to identify 12 or more parents who have not attended a PIP and are willing to commit 4 to 5 weekends during the school year to the training. A weekend includes Friday 5:00 to 8:30 p.m. and Saturday from 9:00 a.m. until 4:00 p.m. The parents will have children or youth who have special needs who are in one of the age groups described above. Training for parents of 12-21 year olds will focus on transitioning from school to adult goals and services.

Proposals must be submitted by March 17, 2009 to:

WSPEI, Martha DeYoung
P.O. Box 564, Portage, WI 53901
608/742-8814 ext. 25 or deyoungm@cesa5.k12.wi.us

EVENTS

Housing 101: An Introduction to Housing Options

Saturday, February 21, 2009 from 8:45 a.m. – 11:45 a.m. at the Children’s Hospital Auditorium, 9000 W. Wisconsin Avenue in Milwaukee. This presentation will cover a variety of community living options for adults with cognitive disabilities, developmental disabilities, physical and/or medical disabilities. Speakers include those with personal and professional experiences with housing options. Go to <http://southeastregionalcenter.org/pdf/brochures/20090221%20%20Flyer.pdf> for more information.

Register for the Community of Practice on Transition Video Conference

Transitioning from High School to Post-Secondary Education: Focus on Healthcare

February 26, 2009 from 9:00 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.

This event will focus on the healthcare issues of youth transitioning from high school to post-secondary education. The agenda will include a presentation by a college student and his family who will share his transition to an out-of-state university and how he manages his healthcare conditions; a panel of college and high school youth and their group leader, who will discuss a unique program to help educate health care; and other community providers about youth with special health care needs. Videoconference sites for this meeting are in Green Bay, Oak Creek, Madison, Tomahawk, and Chippewa Falls. For further location details and to register please follow this link: <http://www.wsti.org/> Your registration must be received by February 12, 2009. Please contact Eden Schafer with any questions at eden.schafer@wisconsin.gov or 608-267-0329.

WSPA Spring Conference Registration

March 4-6, 2009

Holiday Inn Hotel & Convention Center, Stevens Point, WI

Pre-Convention: A Proactive and Positive Approach to Classroom Behavior Management by Randy Sprick, Ph.D., Director and Lead Consultant for Safe & Civil Schools. This workshop is designed to assist school personnel in building a plan for increasing student motivation, improving behavior and increasing student responsibility. Participants will learn basic principles of classroom management, behavior management and an instructional approach to discipline. Cost is \$80. Registration and payment can be made at the pre-convention or register online at www.uwlax.edu/conted/wspa

Diagnostic Classification of Mental Health & Development Disorders of Infancy & Early Childhood

March 9, 10, 11, 2009

Ramada Convention Center, Eau Claire, WI

Sessions led by Terri Rose, PhD, a professional trainer for ZERO TO THREE, the National Center for Infants, Toddlers and Families.
March 9: Awareness training for all child and family professionals, March 10-11: Additional clinical training for licensed mental health practitioners, \$65 for Awareness training only, \$200 for all three days

More information and a registration form are available online at: http://www.wiimh.org/dc03r_eauclaire.htm

Contact Person: Lana Nenide, Phone: (608) 442-0360, Lana.Nenide@cssw.org

Training About Adolescents with Developmental or Emotional/Behavioral Disabilities

The Wisconsin Department of Justice, Office of Crime Victim Services-Children's Justice Act program is hosting a one-day training on March 10, 2009, in Appleton, "How to Better Understand Adolescents with Developmental or Emotional/Behavioral Disabilities." Contact Jan Dunn-Herfel at dunn-herfelj@doj.state.wi.us or by phone at 608-266-7084 for a copy of the brochure and registration form, or visit http://www.doj.state.wi.us/cvs/cja/cja_upcoming_events.asp.

****The 7th Annual Statewide Family Conference****

March 13-15, 2009 at the Concourse Hotel & Governor's Club in Madison, Wisconsin. The goal of the conference is to bring families of children who are hard of hearing, deaf, deafblind and deaf with additional disabilities together in a supportive, educational, and enjoyable atmosphere. The conference offers parents the opportunity for valuable personal contact with other parents and children from around the state of Wisconsin, as well as professionals in the field through workshops, discussion groups, and exhibits. The conference is designed with many fun and educational activities to support each family's development and growth.

Questions? Please contact Laurie Nelson at 608-822-3756 or

laurie.nelson@wesp-dhh.wi.gov or go to: https://www.regonline.com/63356_654287S

****WI FACETS Training of Trainers for Transition and Rehab. Act****

Two opportunities for free training-after which participants can receive a \$50 stipend for presenting a PowerPoint from the training to 10+ people. If two completed participant's co-train, each will receive \$50. Two opportunities listed below. Topics covered Transition from school to life as required in IDEA-2004 and WI statute Chapter 115. Adult services as explained in The Rehabilitation Act of 1973, as amended in 1998. Section 504, Olmstead decision, and ADA Restoration Act. Tips and practice in presentation skills.

Ideas for marketing your workshop.

March 20&21, 2009 Attendance required for both days for completion.

Verona Public Library, Verona (Madison area)

1:00pm-4:45pm 3/20

9:00am-3:45pm 3/21

April 17&18, 2009 Attendance required for both days for completion.

Options For Independence, Green Bay

4:30pm-8:00pm 4/17

9:00am-4:00pm 4/18

**Space limited to 25 participants per seminar. To register, contact Sandra McFarland; smcfarland@wifacets.org or 877-374-0511. For more information, please contact Charlotte Price, MS Ed., Executive Co-Director, WI FACETS, PTIC Information Specialist, WINMILL Program Coordinator, 1-877-374-4677, cprice@wifacets.org

7th Annual CESA 5 Speech-Language Institute

March 16-17, 2009

Kalahari Resort & Convention Center, Wisconsin Dells, Wisconsin

CESA 5 is excited to present two outstanding speakers on AUTISM SPECTRUM DISORDERS...

Carol Gray, the internationally known speaker, consultant, author and President of the Gray Center for Social Learning and Understanding.

Carol is best known for developing Social Stories™ and has written several articles on the subject.

http://www.thegraycenter.org/store/index.cfm?fuseaction=page_display&page_id=19

Taylor Crowe, an inspiring speaker and successful young adult with autism. He learned how to write Social Stories™, which helped to reduce his autistic behaviors. <http://www.taylorcrowe.com>

For registration information go to www.cesa5.k12.wi.us/departments/sped_stafflevel.cfm

Educational Opportunities for Home Visitors

Monday, March 30 and Tuesday, March 31, 2009 at the Madison Marriott West Atrium Hotel and Conference Center, Middleton, WI. This educational opportunity is provided through a partnership of the Wisconsin Children's Trust Fund, Parents Plus and the Together for Children Conference. Sessions for home visitors are scheduled to provide intensive learning experiences along with the opportunity to take part in keynote presentations and other workshops at the Together for Children Conference. Conference attendees may choose one or both of these educational opportunities when registering for the Conference. For more information and to register, visit www.preventchildabusewi.org.

****Transition the Bridge to the Future Workshop****

Thursday, April 2nd,
Salem Community Library
24615 89th St., Salem, WI (SE corner of Hwys 83 and AH)
6:15-6:30 Registration
6:30-8:00 Workshop

Parents, students and educators are frequently confused about what should occur in order to have a successful transition. Sometimes this confusion can stall a good individual transition plan. The intent of the training is to demystify transition into post secondary life in order to make a collaborative and comprehensive plan for a student. Presented by Cathy Steffke, Advocacy Specialist, Disability Rights Wisconsin.

The following topics will be covered:

- Why the transition plan must begin at 14
- Fostering independence to the greatest extent possible
- Preparing for education or training
- Preparing for work
- Responsibility who does what and when
- A square peg can't fit a round hole – working around the limitations of a school district's "transition program"
- Guardianship new laws new options and alternatives
- State and county programs
- Thinking outside the box – Caleb's Story

Registration is required for this free workshop. For further information or to register contact the Westosha Special Education Alliance office at 262-843-2343 or email Dannette Cates at DCates1@wi.rr.com

****Widening the Circle Conference in La Crosse****

The La Crosse Native American Student Association and the Hmong Organization Promoting Education, and KDP in conjunction with the WI Department of Public Instruction and the UW-La Crosse School of Education is planning the 6th annual Widening the Circle/Act 31 Teacher Education Symposium April 3-4th at

UW-La Crosse. If you have any questions regarding the conference please contact Samantha Lawien, 608-785-8838, 608-797-0159 or indigenouseducation@gmail.com. Visit <http://www.uwlax.edu/native/Act31.html> for a brochure and registration.

Save a Date for Early Childhood Conference

UW Platteville 22nd Annual Early Childhood Conference
April 4, 2009, 8:00 a.m. To 4:00 p.m., UW Platteville Campus
For more information, contact Kerie at wedigek@uwplatt.edu or 888-281-9472

****Kenosha Autism Support Group****

Is sponsoring a Crop for Autism on April 17 2009 at Country Inn Suites 7011 122nd Ave at 6:00-10:00 p.m. Dinner will be provided, we will have make and takes, and we will be making a FAMILY or FRIENDS wordbook. We will also have games and raffles to win great prizes. The cost of this event is \$10.00 in advance or \$15.00 the night of the event All proceeds raised at this event will benefit families with Autism through the Kenosha Autism Support. This event is for anyone who scrapbooks, wants to learn to scrapbook or anyone who wants to support a great cause. Any questions please contact Patricia at 262-657-3615 or patriciaherr@sbcglobal.net

Making Transitions Easier

Friday, April 24 2009
8:30-3:00

This session will examine the reason why transitions and change may be so difficult for many individuals on the autism spectrum. Participants will learn a number of different strategies they can use to help support individuals with upcoming transitions. Participants will have an opportunity to put together transition plans for the individuals they support

Madison Area Technical College, Downtown Education Center, 211 N. Carroll St. Madison, WI 53703

Print and fill out your application at www.icc-wi.org now, as space is limited!

For further information go to: <http://www.icc-wi.org/fall%20brochure.pdf>

Parent Leadership Conference

Building Partnerships for Student Success
April 29, 2009 at Monona Terrace, Madison

Keynote Speaker: Karen Mapp Session description: What kinds of family-school-community partnerships improve student achievement? Karen Mapp, co-author of the book, "Beyond the Bake Sale," presents strategies for schools to engage families of all backgrounds to help children achieve success. Registration fee is \$20 per person. Bring a team of three or more (at least one parent) and receive a free book!

For more information contact Jane Grinde at 608-266-9356 or jane.grinde@dpi.wi.gov or Shirley Moutry at 414-227-1846 or 608-266-3945 or shirley.moutry@dpi.wi.gov

**2009 Circles of Life Conference and the
2009 Gathering of Youth Conference for Youth ages 14-20 with Disabilities**

April 30th and May 1st 2009

Madison Marriott West

Middleton, WI

This conference is for families who have children of any age with disabilities or special needs and the professionals who support and provide services for them. The Gathering of Youth is a first-conference for youth with disabilities to learn about futures planning, employment, getting involved in their IEP and more. You must register each person for each conference option they are choosing. Conference details and registration forms can be found at <http://www.wfv.org/circle/details.html>. Registration is required by March 27, 2009. Scholarship applications will become available beginning February 2, 2009. Obtain scholarship applications by contacting John Shaw by phone at 608-266-7707, or by e-mail at john@elsieshaw.org. Return completed scholarship applications as instructed no later than March 13, 2009.

****Wisconsin School for the Deaf is Poud to Pesent:****

Macbeth, by, William Shakespeare

Thursday 4/30/09 10:00 am & 7:00 pm, Friday, 5/1/09 10:00 am & 7:00 pm

Delavan-Darien High School Auditorium

150 Cumming St., Delavan, WI 53115

\$5 for adults \$3 for students (Elem-HS) & senior citizens (65+)

For Reservations, contact Kari Wicinski at: drama.club@wsd.k12.wi.us

ASW 2009 Annual Conference

Registration materials are now on the ASW website for the ASW Annual Conference, May 7-9, 2009 at the Kalahari Resort & Convention Center. . More information can be found on the website at www.asw4autism.org by contacting Jane Pribek at jpribek@asw4autism.org or 920-973-4080.

20th National APSE Conference on Integrated Employment

<http://www.apse.org/conference/rfp.cfm>

The conference will be held from June 30 – July 2, 2009 at the Hyatt Regency in Milwaukee, WI.

If you have any questions please contact David Hoff at david.hoff@umb.edu 617-287-4308 (TTY: 617-287-4350)

INFORMATION & RESOURCES

****Going to College: A Resource for Teens with Disabilities****

<http://www.going-to-college.org/>

****PEATC Complimentary Webcasts Series****

PEATC in partnership with VCU-RRTC is presenting six transition-focused webcasts funded by a grant from the U.S. Department of Education. Career options for youth with disabilities and other aspects of preparing for life after high school are the topics. For a complete listing and to register please visit www.peatc.org. The full series is free but you must be registered to access.

PEATC Webcast Series Schedule:

3/2/2009 - From Segregated to Customized: The Shift to Personalized Employment -Laura Owens, E.D., APSE

3/16/2009 - In Support of Supported Decision Making - Lisa Morgan, E.D., Icon Community Services

4/6/2009 Assistive Technology & Transition: Evaluation, Identification, & Acquisition - Joey Wallace, Ph.D., NewWell Foundation

4/20/2009 - Opportunities Offered through Career Tech Ed - Domenic Giandomenico, Institute for a Competitive Workforce

5/4/2009 -Transition and the Arts: Tapping into Creative Opportunities - Betty Siegal, JFK Center for Performing Arts

5/18/2009 Student Voice: The Transition to College - Liz Getzle, VCU and students

****Office of Disability Employment Policy (ODEP) Releases Two New Fact Sheets****

The Office of Disability Employment Policy (ODEP) at the Department of Labor released two new fact sheets for promoting equal employment opportunities and supporting employers who hire employees with disabilities. Both fact sheets are available in PDF and MS Word versions on the ODEP website: <http://www.dol.gov/odep/pubs/publicat.htm>

****New Website for Students with Disabilities Interested in College****

This new website contains information about living college life with a disability. It is designed for high school students. The site provides video clips, activities, and resources that can help them get a head start in planning for college. Video interviews with college students with disabilities offer a way to hear firsthand from students with disabilities who have been successful. Modules include activities that will help students explore more about themselves, learn what to expect from college, and equip them with important considerations and tasks to complete when planning for college. Going to College is funded by a grant with the U.S. Department of Education, Office of Special Education and Rehabilitative Services <http://www.going-to-college.org/>

****Tots 'n Tech Website****

This site provides creative ideas and instructions for making low-tech assistive devices. Childcare and early intervention providers, as well as parents, will find practical information about activities, routines and developing functional skills in infants and toddlers. Go to <http://www.asu.edu/clas/tnt/> and click on 'Ideas to Share' button.

****Peer Power Grant Call for Proposals****

The Independent Living Council of Wisconsin, 201 West Washington Avenue, Suite 110, Madison, WI 53703 is seeking proposals for up to 4 Peer Power Program Sponsors. First Year Funding up to \$10,000.00 for each Sponsor is available.

To apply go to www.ilcw.org. Grant Application Deadline: 4:00 pm, March 16, 2009

To be eligible for funding all grantees must operate under a 501(c)(3). This request for proposals (RFP) is funded by the Wisconsin Board for People with Developmental Disabilities (BPDD). Questions about this RFP should be directed to cheryls@ilcw.org and in email format only. If you are in need of a Screen Reader Version of this RFP, please notify Cheryl Schiltz at cheryls@ilcw.org

****Unemployment Rate for People with Disabilities****

The US Bureau of Labor Statistics is now keeping data on the unemployment rate for people with disabilities Be sure to check out the website too: <http://www.bls.gov/cps/cpsdisability.htm>

****Federal Grant Opportunity on Mental Health****

Grants for the Integration of Schools and Mental Health Systems; Notice Inviting Applications for New Awards for Fiscal Year (FY) 2009. Applications due 2/23/09. <http://edocket.access.gpo.gov/2009/E9-364.htm>

****GAIN-SS Screener****

The GAIN-SS is an evidence-based, electronic, screening tool that identifies needs for further assessment in the areas of mental health, substance abuse and anger management. It is available at no cost for pupil services professionals. To learn more go to: www.wifamilyties.org and look for the GAIN-SS link on the left.

****DEPRESSION AND BIPOLAR SUPPORTS ALLIANCE****

The Depression and Bipolar Support Alliance has launched a new Spanish language website that is available at <http://www.dbsalianza.org/>

****CHILDREN'S PERSPECTIVES OF THEIR MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES****

This literature review attempted to summarize research examining foster children's perspectives of child and adolescent mental health services (CAMHS). Given the dearth of information on this topic, the authors instead reviewed the literature on children's and youth's perspectives of mental health services. The review can be found at <http://www rtc.pdx.edu/PDF/dt158.pdf>

****NATIONAL FEDERATION OF FAMILIES FOR CHILDREN'S MENTAL HEALTH****

The National Federation of Families for Children's Mental Health is a national family-run organization dedicated exclusively to helping children with mental health needs and their families achieve a better quality of life. The Federation has published a guide to systems of care for families, "Family Guide to Systems of Care for Children with Mental Health Needs" to inform caregivers and families about how to seek care for children with mental health needs. Families determined the content and format across the country. The report can be found <http://mentalhealth.samhsa.gov/publications/allpubs/Ca-0029/default.asp>

****GUIDE FOR SELF-DIRECTED PUBLIC MENTAL HEALTH CARE****

The Bazelon Center for Mental Health Law and UPENN Collaborative on Consumer Integration has released "In the Driver's Seat: A Guide to Self-Directed Mental Health Care". The guide contains a description of self-directed care, offers advocacy strategies and tactics, and offers an in-depth look at how self-directed care initiatives work and how they are funded. The appendices include a series of fact sheets, such as "Financing Self-Directed Care" and "State Initiatives on Self-Directed Care," designed for state policymakers and others and can be copied and distributed. The guide can be found at http://www.hcbs.org/files/140/6977/self_directMed_mental_health.pdf

****Wisconsin Web Academy Provides Online Courses****

State Superintendent Elizabeth Burmaster reminds students, parents, and school districts that the Wisconsin Web Academy (WWA) provides additional educational opportunities through online courses available to students throughout Wisconsin. The WWA is the state-led, supplemental online education program made possible through state legislation adopted last April. The law requires the Department of Public Instruction to provide equitable access to high-quality online education by offering online courses to school districts, cooperative educational service agencies, charter schools, and private schools located in Wisconsin. The DPI has partnered with the [Cooperative Educational Service Agency \(CESA\) 9](#) to operate the WWA. The WWA operates as a supplemental online course provider, which means that students taking courses through the academy remain enrolled in their home districts and receive credit for their WWA courses through their home district. Students wishing to enroll in a course that is not provided by their home school district and who may have looked at open enrollment to attend another district to satisfy their needs, can instead consider taking the course through WWA. Students interested in taking courses through WWA can enroll year round through their local school districts and the Wisconsin Web Academy-Wisconsin Virtual School.

Districts interested in offering courses through WWA should contact [Dawn Nordine](#) at CESA 9, (715) 453-2141, ext. 231.

****Proyecto Visión****

Proyecto Visión is a project to connect Latinos with disabilities to employment opportunities. Its bilingual web site provides information on education, employment, and independent living resources and lists hundreds of job, scholarship, internship, grant, award, and other educational opportunities of interest to Latinos and students with disabilities. The website is frequently updated with information about new opportunities. For more information go to <http://www.proyectovision.net/english/opportunities/index.html> To review those with application deadlines in the coming month go to <http://proyectovision.list-manage.com/track/click?u=2ff2f4610984b181ead8b0d6&id=ae6318dd28&e=10a0d3d52a>

The latest issue of the Proyecto Visión newsletter is also available its web site. It includes interviews with disability advocate Stephanie Ortoleva and writer Natasha Álvarez and introduces new Proyecto Visión pages on Facebook and YouTube. For more information go to <http://www.proyectovision.net/english/news/index.html>

****Join the State-Wide AT Community of Practice****

Wisconsin's Assistive Technology (WIAT) listserv facilitates interactive electronic communication to provide a mechanism for educators and others to receive technical assistance, share experiences, network with each other, ask questions, and find resources related to assistive technology state-wide. Contact Wisconsin's Assistive Technology (WIAT) Listserv at Join-wiat@lists.dpi.wi.gov .

****Guidance on Report Cards and Transcripts for Students with Disabilities****

The Office of Civil Rights in the U.S .Department of Education issued guidance concerning disclosure of disability on report cards and transcripts for students with disabilities attending public elementary and secondary schools. For Questions and Answers on Report Cards and Transcripts For Students with Disabilities Attending Public Elementary and Secondary Schools please go to <http://www.edpubs.org/lyris/ReportCards.pdf> .

****REPORT FROM GAO ON YOUNG ADULTS WITH SERIOUS MENTAL ILLNESS AND TRANSITION****

The transition to adulthood can be difficult for young adults who live with a serious mental illness, such as schizophrenia or bipolar disorder. When these individuals are unsuccessful, the result can be economic hardship, social isolation, and in some cases suicide, all of which can pose substantial costs to society. Due to concerns about young adults with serious mental illness transitioning into adulthood, GAO was asked to provide information on (1) the number of these young adults and their demographic characteristics, (2) the challenges they face, (3) how selected states assist them, and (4) how the federal government supports states in serving these young adults and coordinates programs that can assist them. Highlights from the report can be found <http://www.gao.gov/highlights/d08678high.pdf>
The full report can be found at <http://www.gao.gov/new.items/d08678.pdf>

****COMMUNITY INTEGRATION OF TRANSITION-AGE INDIVIDUALS: VIEWS OF YOUNG ADULTS WITH MENTAL HEALTH DISORDERS****

This study sought to examine what community integration means to young adults with mental health disorders. More specifically, it examined their definitions of community integration, the ways in which they strive to achieve community integration, and the barriers and supports they encounter. The Brief can be found at <http://www rtc.pdx.edu/PDF/dt157.pdf>

The CESA #2 Parent – Educator Update Newsletter is published approximately semi-monthly. CESA #2 is not a legal agency and cannot provide legal advice or legal representation. We do not endorse any treatments, providers, or product information in this newsletter. As with any program for your child, parents are encouraged to thoroughly check out references when enrolling their child in any program. Any information contained in this newsletter is not intended as legal advice but only for informational purposes. Submissions from parents and professionals are welcomed. Questions regarding any information in this newsletter can be directed to:

*Dannette Cates
Parent-Educator Liaison CESA #2
Coordinator of the CESA #2 Update Newsletter
Dcates1@wi.rr.com
262-843-2343*