

# FYI Newsletter December 21, 2015



Indiana Institute on Disability and Community



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2015

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## UPCOMING



### Check and Connect January 4 for 'Developing Vocational Themes'

Monday, January 4, at 2 p.m. Eastern Time, Indiana Institute's [Center on Community Living and Careers](#) will present another *Check and Connect* webinar for Indiana employment specialists and providers as well as Indiana Vocational Rehabilitation Services staff. The Check and Connect series delves into topics pertaining to the new Indiana Employment Services model, including the use of Discovery to help job seekers with disabilities determine and realize their employment goals.

Note that this webinar is the day after the New Year's holiday. Mark your calendars now! The January *Check and Connect* webinar will again feature Patty Cassidy, of Griffin-Hammis Associates, who will talk with participants about *Developing Vocational Themes*.

Missed a webinar in the series? No problem. The *Check and Connect* series is being recorded and archived on the [Past Trainings and Materials page](#) of the Center on Community Living and Careers website. Scroll down to the Check and Connect section. Check and Connect webinars are free and there is no need to pre-register. Upcoming topics will cover vocational themes, discovery in rural communities, and more. For the connection link and a complete list of upcoming dates, times, and topics, [click](#) here.

### New Employment Specialists Trainings for 2016

The Institute's [Center on Community Living and Careers](#) has scheduled four new *Indiana Employment Specialist Trainings*(EST) for 2016. *EST* provides training and expertise for Indiana employment professionals supporting people with disabilities who are seeking community employment.

All *Employment Specialist Trainings* combine online integrated content with two in-person, face-to-face meetings where participants have the chance to receive essential support from experts in the field as well as their colleagues-in-training from around the state.

The first training of 2016 will be:

February 1 – March 28, 2016 (access to online content)



February 1 and March 1, 2016 (in-person meetings), 9 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. Eastern Time, at Easter Seals Crossroads, 4740 Kingsway Dr., Indianapolis.

EST prepares participants for the APSE Certified Employment Specialist Professional Exam. Trainings are intended for new professionals in the field - employment consultants, job coaches, job developers, mental health professionals, vocational coordinators, and WorkOne staff. The deadline for registration is January 27, 2016. The registration fee is \$200.00 per participant. For more information or to register, [click](#) here. For a list of additional 2016 training dates, [click](#) here.



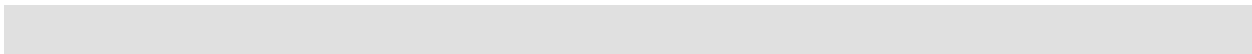
### 2016 Memory Bridge Training Retreat

The Institute's [Center on Aging and Community](#) is pleased to announce the fourth annual *Memory Bridge Training Retreat and Scholarship*, co-sponsored with the Memory Bridge Foundation.

The 2016 training will be held June 17 - 22 at the Tibetan Mongolian Buddhist Cultural Center in Bloomington, Indiana. We are seeking applicants from across the world who share our dedication to ending the emotional and social isolation of people with dementia through learning how to be with them in spiritually sustaining ways. Applications are open to care providers - both professional care providers and family care providers ("non-professional") - therapists who work with people with dementia, administrators, and service providers whose field of service enriches the lives of people with dementia.

The selected participants will receive full scholarships for the 5-day *Memory Bridge Training Retreat*. The *Retreat* will be limited to those 12 participants, on a scholarship basis only. All expenses except travel will be paid. The design of the retreat is based on *Memory Bridge's I Am A Bridge Dementia Immersion Training*, an experience-centered learning model that positions people with dementia in the roles of teacher, guide, and companion. The deadline for receipt of the first phase of the application is February 3, 2016. Learn more about the [2016 Memory Bridge Training Retreat online](#) or contact Jane Harlan-Simmons via e-mail at [jeharlan@indiana.edu](mailto:jeharlan@indiana.edu) or (812) 855-2167. There is a Bridge -- please join us in building it.

## ACROSS THE COURTYARD





## New Publication Provides Resources for Families of Children Newly Diagnosed with ASD

A new publication developed by the [Indiana Resource Center for Autism](#) at the Indiana Institute on Disability and Community is designed to provide Indiana families a place to start to navigate systems after their child receives an autism spectrum disorder diagnosis. This free booklet, *After the Diagnosis of an Autism Spectrum Disorder: A Resource for Families Whose Child is Newly Diagnosed*, includes information on what it means to have an autism spectrum disorder diagnosis, what services and supports are available, funding, and a state resource list.

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention released new figures in 2015 indicating that the prevalence rate of autism spectrum disorders in the U.S. had climbed to 1 in 68 children. The estimated rate is 1 in 41 among boys and 1 in 189 among girls. In Indiana, based on 2014 child count data collected by the Indiana Department of Education, Office of Special Education, the prevalence rate is now approximately 1 in 71 in Indiana schools.

The new *After the Diagnosis* booklet answers the question many families ask: "Now that we have the diagnosis, what can I do for my child?" This booklet provides a first step towards experiencing some relief, and finding hope and needed guidance for a family and child with an autism spectrum disorder diagnosis.

The booklet is available free of charge to any individual or organization in Indiana concerned with the development of children on the autism spectrum. A printer-friendly online version of the booklet can also be found on the Indiana Resource Center for Autism [website](#). A Spanish version will be available in the near future.

Content for this booklet was produced through a collaborative effort by the following agencies in Indiana: The Indiana Resource Center for Autism, [Riley Child Development Center](#), [Autism Society of Indiana](#), [Family Voices Indiana](#), [LOGAN Autism Learning Center](#), and [The Arc of Indiana](#). Additional support was provided by [Easter Seals Crossroads](#) and [Answers for Autism](#). This booklet is also made possible through donations received from family members, individuals, and organizations.

For more information, contact [Cathy Pratt](#), director of the Indiana Resource Center for Autism, at (812) 855-6508 or [prattc@indiana.edu](mailto:prattc@indiana.edu).



## Funding for Local ADA Implementation Projects Announced

[ADA-Indiana](#), in conjunction with the Indiana Governor's Council for People with Disabilities, is pleased to announce that funding is available for community organizations through the 2016 Coros ADA Community Grants Program.

The purpose of the Coros ADA Community Grants program is to promote increased implementation of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) and "Livable Community" concepts in Indiana communities. Funding up to \$3,000 is available for projects submitted by social service agencies, local government entities, schools, businesses, or other community organizations.

Proposals will be accepted until Friday, January 22, 2016. The Request for Proposal is available at ADA-Indiana's [website](#). To receive information on how to apply for the grants, contact [Matt Norris](#), Project Staff for ADA-Indiana, at (812) 855-6508 or e-mail [adainfo@indiana.edu](mailto:adainfo@indiana.edu).

## NEW STAFF



### Maya Cox

The Institute's [Center on Community Living and Careers](#) would like to welcome [Maya Cox](#), M.Ed., to the staff as program coordinator. Cox provides technical assistance and training to improve employment outcomes for individuals with disabilities across Indiana. Her areas of interest include employment, family supports, research to practice, and autism spectrum disorders. Cox has worked to improve outcomes for individuals with disabilities through direct service, technical assistance and training, and research. She received her Bachelor's Degree from the University of Notre Dame, and her Master's degree from the University of Louisville.

## COMINGS AND GOINGS



### IN-APSE Conference

Staff from the Indiana Institute were in force at the [IN-APSE](#) Conference, held December 16-18, 2015 at the Marriott East Hotel, Indianapolis. [Teresa Grossi](#), director of the Institute's Center on Community Living and Careers presented a session titled *Working Together for Better Outcomes: School and Agency Collaboration*. [Cathy Pratt](#), director, Indiana Resource Center for Autism presented a session titled *Employment Strategies for Individuals with Autism*. Finally, [Kelley Land](#), project coordinator for the Center on

Community Living and Careers, presented a session entitled *Ticket to Work: A Road to Success*.

## LIBRARY CORNER



### Library Corner

- Giles, G. (2015). *Girls like us*. Somerville, MA: Candlewick Press.

"When they're thrown together as roommates in their first "real world" apartment, it initially seems to be an uneasy fit. But as Biddy's past resurfaces and Quincy faces a harrowing experience that no one should have to go through alone, the two of them realize that they might have more in common than they thought — and more important, that they might be able to help each other move forward." —publisher

A Schneider Family Book Award winner

- Mass, W. (2010). *A mango-shaped space: A novel*. New York: Little, Brown.

"Thirteen-year-old Mia Winchell has a secret: sounds, numbers, and words appear to her in color. Mia has synesthesia, the mingling of perceptions whereby a person sees sounds or tastes shapes. This coming-of-age novel chronicles Mia's developing appreciation for her gift." -publisher

A Schneider Family Book Award winner

Happy Holidays from the library! [CeDIR](#) is now closed for the season and will re-open at 8:00 a.m. on Monday, January 4th. If you have library materials to return, you may mail them back to us or return them in person to any Indiana University campus library.



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