

# FYI Newsletter May 2, 2016



Indiana Institute on Disability and Community



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## UPCOMING



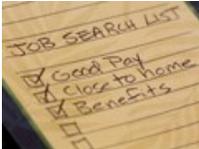
## Effective Interventions for Behavioral and Social Challenges Workshop

Begin to plan for the fall now and register for *All Kids Can Succeed: Effective Interventions for Behavioral and Social Challenges* workshop presented by Jed Baker, September 22, 2016, in Newburgh, Indiana.

Sponsored by the Institute's [Indiana Resource Center for Autism](#) in collaboration with Warrick and the Evansville Vanderburgh School Corporation, this workshop focuses on strategies to handle meltdowns and design effective behavior plans to prevent these moments and reduce frustration and anxiety. The second part of the presentation details strategies to motivate students to learn, ways to teach social skills, how to generalize skills into the natural setting and increase acceptance and tolerance from peers. Information will be imparted through lecture, interactive exercises, and video clips.

Registration fee is \$100.00 per person. [Click to register](#). If you have questions about the workshop content, contact Cathy Pratt ([prattc@indiana.edu](mailto:prattc@indiana.edu)) at (812) 855-6508. Registration payment questions should be directed to IU Conferences at 800-833-9330 or to Melissa at [juconfs@indiana.edu](mailto:juconfs@indiana.edu). For any other questions, you may contact Lisa Bidwell ([lbidwell@indiana.edu](mailto:lbidwell@indiana.edu)) at 812-855-6508.

## ACROSS THE COURTYARD



### Center Delivers Technical Assistance to Disability Service Providers

This spring, the Indiana Institute's [Center on Community Living and Careers](#) is providing varying levels of support and individualized assistance to more than 25 of the state's community employment providers, including mental health service organizations. The goal is to improve the quantity and quality of community-based employment opportunities and to further discern and establish best practices.

Providers applying for receipt of technical assistance work directly with diverse job seekers to choose a career, find preferred employment, improve personal presentation and interviewing skills, establish meaningful relationships with co-workers, and demonstrate strengths/contributions in the workplace. Provider employment staff also collaborates with employers on improving inclusive strategies, creative recruitment, and increased retention. Provider agencies work in a multi-faceted environment, requiring knowledge of disability services and supports, as well as human resources, and the rules and regulations of the state agencies that govern employment supports and services.

Thanks to this new intensive training and technical assistance effort, funded by [Indiana Vocational Rehabilitation Services](#),

Center staff members [Sandy Block](#), [Maya Cox](#), [Jackie Tijerina](#), and [Kelley Land](#) are traveling throughout the state to help providers evaluate and strengthen employment services. Assistance can involve a review of staffing, marketing and job development strategies, reimbursement and billing, monthly reports, Indiana's new Employment Service Model, and more depending upon what a provider may need.

The 25 providers receiving support may also participate in a new three-topic advanced job development training series for employment specialists. The series was introduced this spring with *Foundations of Quality Representation: A Framework for Employment Services*, and will be followed by trainings this summer and fall on *Customized Employment*, and *Building Business Relationships*.

Providers will receive technical assistance for a minimum of a year. During the technical assistance process, the Center hopes to disseminate "lessons-learned" information about effective employment practice, strategy, and innovation, which can then be used to strengthen employment services and outcomes throughout the state.



### Autism in Love Documentary Follow-Up

On April 23, 2016, the Institute's [Indiana Resource Center for Autism](#) and Center on [Community Living and Careers](#) had the opportunity to collaborate with [WTIU Bloomington](#) and the [City of Bloomington](#) to show the PBS Independent Lens documentary *Autism in Love*. Approximately 35 people attended from Bedford, Bloomington, Martinsville, and Paoli. After the screening, a couple featured in the documentary, Lindsey Nebeker and Dave Hamrick, shared their personal experiences. Participants were able to ask questions and speak to Lindsey and Dave one-on-one to gain insights into their own lives.

"This event truly made a difference in our lives!! Now we would like to explore both social and housing connections for our young adults (both males and females)."

"I really enjoyed having Dave and Lindsey there to talk about their experiences. They were both wonderful. It was helpful when Dave mentioned that they have worked with a couple's counselor, and Lindsey followed that up, saying there's no shame in asking for help, and talking with someone on a regular basis has helped them in their relationship."

"The whole event was very encouraging."

For more information about the documentary *Autism in Love*, go to the [Independent Lens website](#) at to view a preview. If you live in the state of Indiana, the documentary is available through the lending library at the [Center for Disability Information and Referral](#). Call 800-437-7924 or e-mail [cedir@indiana.edu](mailto:cedir@indiana.edu) to check-out this inspiring film.

## COMINGS AND GOINGS



### Clark County Presentation

[Sue Dixon](#), program trainer and [Lynne Hall](#), research associate, with the Institute's [Early Childhood Center](#) presented to the preschool staff of Greater Clark County Schools last week on how to create conversations that count in their classrooms. The emphasis was on developing preschoolers' advanced language skills and conceptual understanding by engaging in conversations that involve higher order thinking skills throughout the day. The presentation addressed intentionality and planning by teachers, the types of questioning strategies to use, and how to best equip classroom centers for these types of conversations.



### Advocates for Livable Communities Workshop

The Kokomo Advocates for Livable Communities wrapped up their second week of training last week learning how to become effective advocates for change in making communities more livable.

Workshop presenters Jennie Todd, research associate with the Institute's [Center on Aging and Community](#) and Sharon Baggett, from the [University of Indianapolis](#), provided participants with information on the concepts around livability and how they apply to communities including:

- Health and Support Services
- Housing
- Mobility
- Recreation
- Social and Cultural Opportunities
- Work, Education, and Civic Engagement

Participants work with others to advocate by writing effective letters and news articles, presenting testimony, working with community partners, serving on local boards and commissions, and taking other actions. For more information on the [Advocates for Livable Communities](#) training series, contact Jennie Todd at (812) 855-6508 or e-mail [jeptodd@indiana.edu](mailto:jeptodd@indiana.edu).

## DD NETWORK PARTNER NEWS



### IPAS on Call During Primary Election Day

On Primary Election Day, Tuesday, May 3rd, [Indiana Protection & Advocacy Services](#) (IPAS) staff will be available to answer questions and take complaints from persons with disabilities who have any issue casting their vote. IPAS staff will be available to take calls during the time the polls are open, 6:00

a.m. – 6:00 p.m. EDT.

Exercising our right to vote is an essential element of our civil rights. Every person who has registered to vote and has proper identification should be able to cast their vote privately and independently at their polling place or through absentee voting. Unfortunately, some people with disabilities may experience issues when they try to vote. If you experience any of the following issues, call IPAS:

- Lack of an accessible path from the parking spot/drop off point to the voting booth;
- Stairs or non-paved surfaces such as gravel or grass as the only path to the polling location;
- Lack of at least one doorway wide enough for a wheelchair to get through to access the polling location;
- Lack of at least one set of automatic doors or someone available to open doors.
- Lack of a functioning, accessible voting machine.
- Lack of poll workers available who know how to assist with operating the accessible voting machine.

Know your rights. If you require assistance in order to cast your vote, a poll worker may assist you or you may bring someone with you to assist you. The person who assists you cannot be your employer or your union representative. You must request assistance before you enter the voting booth.

If you are a person with a disability, and you are unable to cast your vote privately and independently during this election, contact IPAS at 800-622-4845. When you are prompted, enter extension #466. Leave a message with your name, phone number, and issue. Your call will be returned promptly.

## LIBRARY CORNER



### Library Corner

- Bellini, S. (2016). *Building social relationships 2: A systematic approach to teaching social interaction skills to children and adolescents on the autism spectrum*. Lenexa, KS: AAPC Publishing.

“The BSR program is a systematic social skills program that addresses both social cognitive processing and social skill performance. Building Social Relationships-2 (BSR-2) provides readers with a conceptualized framework that will improve their understanding of social functioning in youth on the autism spectrum. The book will teach readers how to assess and teach social skills and activate social cognitive processing in both children and adolescents. BSR-2 contains over 40 instructional strategies and includes a revised version of the Autism Social

Skills Profile (ASSP-2), an instrument designed to measure social competence in youth on the spectrum.” -publisher

- James, G. (2016). *Transforming behaviour in the classroom: A solution-focused guide for new teachers*. Thousand Oaks, CA: Sage Publications Ltd.

“This book presents a solution-focused approach to behaviour management in primary and secondary schools, starting with the child and offering a flexible methodology and practical strategies for facilitating long-term positive behaviour. Key coverage includes an overview of main approaches to behaviour management drawing from educational theory and research, case studies throughout the book exploring key strategies and issues, how to develop confidence in the classroom as a new teacher, and neuroscience and behaviour: what can we learn from recent scientific discoveries?” - publisher

- Minahan, J., & Rappaport, N. (2012). *The behavior code: A practical guide to understanding and teaching the most challenging students*. Cambridge, MA: Harvard Education Press.

“Based on a collaboration dating back nearly a decade, the authors—a behavioral analyst and a child psychiatrist—reveal their systematic approach for deciphering causes and patterns of difficult behaviors and how to match them with proven strategies for getting students back on track to learn. The Behavior Code includes user-friendly worksheets and other helpful resources.” -publisher

These new materials may be borrowed from the [Center for Disability Information and Referral](#) (CeDIR) at the Institute. To check out materials, contact the library at 800-437-7924, send an e-mail to [cedir@indiana.edu](mailto:cedir@indiana.edu), or visit us at 1905 North Range Road in Bloomington.



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