

# FYI Newsletter May 30, 2016



Indiana Institute on Disability and Community



30 MAY 2016

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## UPCOMING



## PECS Level 1 Training Coming this Fall

Are you interested in learning how to teach communication skills rapidly to those with limited functional speech? If so, then plan to attend the *Picture Exchange Communication System (PECS) Level 1 Training* scheduled for September 12-13, 2016 in Carmel, Indiana.

Sponsored by the Institute's [Indiana Resource Center for Autism](#) and [Pyramid Educational Consultants, Inc.](#), PECS promotes communication within a social context without lengthy prerequisite training. Training in *PECS* begins by teaching a spontaneous request and goes on to teach additional communicative functions such as responding to questions and commenting. An added attraction for preschool children with autism and related disabilities is the high proportion of children who acquire independent speech.

Participants will learn how to implement the six phases of *PECS*, including attributes, through presenter demonstrations, video examples and role-play opportunities. Participants will leave the workshop with an understanding of how to implement *PECS* with individuals with autism, related developmental disabilities, and/or limited communication skills.

This workshop is designed for general and special education teachers, administrators, autism consultants, speech therapists, psychologists, family members, ABA therapists, and people working with individuals diagnosed with ASD and other related disabilities.

Registration fee is \$375.00 per person. All registrations are processed online by Indiana University (IU) Conferences. You may pay with a credit card or purchase order. Space is limited to 40 participants. [Click to register](#).

If you have questions about the workshop content, please contact Kristie Lofland ([klofland@indiana.edu](mailto:klofland@indiana.edu)) at (812) 855-6508. All registration payment questions should be directed to IU Conferences at 800-933-9330 or [iuconfs@indiana.edu](mailto:iuconfs@indiana.edu). For any other questions, contact Lisa Bidwell ([lbidwell@indiana.edu](mailto:lbidwell@indiana.edu)) at (812) 855-6508.

## ACROSS THE COURTYARD



### Memory Bridge Training Retreat

For the fourth consecutive summer, the Indiana Institute's [Center on Aging and Community](#) and [Memory Bridge](#) are sponsoring the *Memory Bridge Training Retreat*, to be held at the Tibetan Mongolian Buddhist Cultural Center in Bloomington on June 17-22, 2016. The *Retreat* is dedicated to ending the social isolation accompanying dementia through learning how to be with people with dementia in emotionally and spiritually sustaining ways.

Participation in the Retreat is on a scholarship basis only. Out of a pool of accomplished applicants providing dementia care in Germany, Norway, Australia, the U.K., Canada, Bermuda, and 23 U.S. states, 15 individuals have been selected for the 5-day training. Participation is by scholarship only, which pays for all expenses except travel. Eligible applicants include both professional and family care providers, as well as therapists who work with people with dementia, administrators, and service providers whose field of service enriches the lives of people with dementia.

The training is based upon experience-centered learning that positions people with dementia in the roles of teacher, guide, and companion. Participants are matched one-on-one with elders with dementia living at Autumn Hills Alzheimer's Special Care Center in Bloomington. Participants and their "Buddies" will spend time together on five occasions over the course of five days of the training. The training is led by Michael Verde, Founder and Director of Memory Bridge.

For more information visit the [Memory Bridge website](#) or contact Jane Harlan-Simmons via e-mail at [jeharlan@indiana.edu](mailto:jeharlan@indiana.edu) or (812) 855-2167.

## COMINGS AND GOINGS



### Family Engagement Presentation

[Katie Herron](#), research associate with the Institute's [Early Childhood Center](#), gave a presentation about family engagement in early intervention to First Steps providers in the Indianapolis area. Her presentation addressed how early intervention providers can use the [Early Learning Advisory Committee's family engagement framework](#) to inform their work and she engaged providers in a discussion about strategies that correspond with each framework component.



### Stafford to Present

Phil Stafford, director of the Indiana Institute's [Center on Aging and Community](#) will present at a plenary session of the [53rd Making Cities Livable Conference](#) to be held in Rome, Italy in June. [Stafford's](#) presentation, *The Age-Friendly Community Movement*, will discuss the manner in which livability can be defined through participatory research and development that is inclusive of all ages and abilities. Inclusion is taken to be a human right and it will be argued that the just city (or town) is only livable to the degree that it is moving towards full inclusion in both planning and outcomes.

The International Making Cities Livable Council (IMCL) is an interdisciplinary, international network of individuals and cities dedicated to making our cities and communities more livable.

IMCL Council members are active in organizing and participating in the International Making Cities Livable Conferences held twice a year, once in North America and once in Europe; in publishing books, consulting, teaching, and improving the livability of their own cities. Stafford is a Board Member of the organization.

## IN INDIANA



### IPAS Now Indiana Disability Rights

On Tuesday, May 31, 2016, [Indiana Protection and Advocacy Services \(IPAS\)](#) will change their name to Indiana Disability Rights. The name will change but the mission will not. Indiana Disability Rights will continue to offer the same services and support to people with disabilities in Indiana.

The Indiana Disability Rights website will move to reflect the new name. Additionally, the organizations e-mail addresses will change. Office address and telephone numbers will remain the same.

Indiana Disability Rights  
4701 North Keystone Avenue, Suite 222  
Indianapolis, IN 46205  
Local phone: (317) 722-5555  
Toll-Free: 800-622-4845  
Local TTY: (317) 722-5563  
Toll-Free TTY: 800-838-1131

[Website](#)

[E-mail](#)

If you have any questions, contact Jessica Trimble, Director of Communication and Outreach, at (317) 722-3455 or [info@indianadisabilityrights.org](mailto:info@indianadisabilityrights.org).

### Utility Assistance Help Available to Families



Warmer weather has finally arrived, but families may be behind on utility bills from the cold weather months, or may face challenges in paying bills to keep their house cool this summer. Qualified families who need assistance with their heating or cooling bills can seek assistance through [The Arc of Indiana's](#) Utility Support Program.

The [Arc's Utility Support Program](#) can assist families with a

dependent child, one or more family members with a disability, and income at or below 250% of the federal poverty level. The program can provide up to two months heating or cooling utility bill assistance, funding to prevent disconnection or reactivate services, funding to cover utility debt back to one year from date of application, and deposit assistance to begin services.

Families can receive additional information or apply for the Utility Support Program by calling 800-573-9816 or e-mail [gdewilde@arcind.org](mailto:gdewilde@arcind.org).

## LIBRARY CORNER



### Library Corner

- Fuller, M., Groppa, C., Heilveil, I., Uhlfelder, S., O'Flinn, A., & Quayle, M. (2015). *Autism in love*. [Los Angeles, CA]: [Good Docs].

"Autism in Love follows the story of four adults with an autism spectrum disorder as they search for and manage romantic relationships. These heartbreaking and brave individuals round up the ensemble cast of Autism in Love as they take audiences on a journey that urges them question and reevaluate their own ideals of what it means to love and be loved." –publisher

- Morgan, R. L., & Riesen, T. J. (2016). *Promoting successful transition to adulthood for students with disabilities*. New York: The Guilford Press.

"Comprehensively addressing the challenges of transition, this book provides practical knowledge and tools geared toward real-world educators. It presents clear guidelines for all aspects of team-based transition planning for individuals with various levels of disability, illustrated with vignettes of three secondary students who are followed throughout the book. The authors describe evidence-based practices for conducting assessments and promoting optimal outcomes in the areas of employment, postsecondary education, and independent living." –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.

#### Library Holiday Hours

In observance of the Memorial Day holiday, CeDIR will have different hours all week. We will be closed all day on Monday, May 30th, and will be open from 8:00 a.m. to noon from May 31st through June 3rd. The Center will return to our regular

hours the following week: 8:00 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. and 12:30 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.



## Research, Education, and Service



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