

# FYI Newsletter November 2, 2015

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Indiana Institute on Disability and Community



November 2, 2015

[Back Issues of the FYI Newsletter](#)



## QUICK SCAN

- ['Check and Connect' Today for a FREE VR Webinar!](#)
- [November Parent Group Meetings](#)
- [Expanding Expression Tool Workshops](#)
- [Mank Receives CCA Award](#)
- [Certificate of Appreciation](#)
- [Grossi Appointed Chair of Bloomington Commission](#)
- [IPAS will be on Call on Election Day](#)
- [Library Corner](#)

## UPCOMING



## 'Check and Connect' Today for a FREE VR Webinar!

This afternoon, Monday, November 2, at 2:00 p.m. (Eastern Time), Indiana Vocational Rehabilitation Services will present the third of its webinars for VR staff and Indiana employment specialists and providers. 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.

Today's webinar will feature Patty Cassidy, of Griffin Hammis Associates. Patty will talk with participants about *Effective Conversations: Tips and Tricks for Talking with the People Who Know Your Job Seeker*.

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 Indiana Institute's [Center on Community Living and Careers](#) website.

The *Check and Connect* series is free and there's no need to pre-register. Upcoming topics will include informational interviewing, vocational themes, Discovery in rural communities, and more. [Click](#) to access the connection link and a complete list of dates, times, and topics.



## November Parent Group Meetings

The [Indiana Resource Center for Autism](#) staff will continue their presentations to parent support groups across Indiana in November. These [parent support group meetings](#) are free and open to the public. However, the content will be geared toward family members of individuals who have a diagnosis along the autism spectrum. The information will not be geared toward professionals. If you are a professional and know of family members in your area that may benefit from such a meeting, you are encouraged to forward the relevant information.

November 3, 2015  
*Supporting Social Skills and Positive Relationships Before, During, and After Puberty*  
Forest Hills Special Education Cooperative/Edgewood Early Childhood Center, Ellettsville, IN

November 10, 2015  
*Behavior Issues in the Home*  
925 North Main Street, Bluffton, IN

November 12, 2015  
*Sensory Ideas for Home*  
Anthony Administration Building, Muncie, IN

November 18, 2015  
*Puberty and Sexual Health in Individuals with Autism Spectrum*

*Disorders*

Earlywood Education Center, Franklin, IN



## Expanding Expression Tool Workshops

Research consistently indicates that individuals with an autism spectrum disorder (ASD) often have difficulties with oral and written expression. This [workshop](#) will demonstrate a multi-sensory approach for oral and written expression for preschool through 12th grade that will facilitate improvement on vocabulary skills, the common core learning objectives, comprehension of curriculum material, report writing and expressive language. Sara Smith, MS, CCC-SLP is the featured presenter. Smith is an ASHA certified speech-language pathologist and founder of the Expanding Expression Tool™ (EET).

Sponsored by the Institute's [Indiana Resource Center for Autism](#), this workshop will be offered four times in November.

November 17, 2015  
Park Hill Learning Center  
New Haven, IN

November 18, 2015  
Educational Resource Center  
533 East Miller Drive  
Bloomington, IN

November 19, 2015  
Education Support Center  
2801 Grant Line Road  
New Albany, IN

November 20, 2015  
Education Service Center  
5201 East Main Street  
Carmel, IN

Note: This is an advanced workshop for those using the ETT program.

Registration fee \$100.00. You will be provided with a list of all four Expanding Expression Tool Workshops that we are offering, and you must select the specific workshop you wish to attend from the list. [Click](#) to register. If you have questions about the workshop content, please contact Kristie Lofland ([klofland@indiana.edu](mailto:klofland@indiana.edu)) or (812) 855-6508. Registration payment questions should be directed to IU Conferences at (800) 933-9330 Melissa at [juconfs@indiana.edu](mailto:juconfs@indiana.edu). For any other questions, contact Lisa Bidwell at [lbidwell@indiana.edu](mailto:lbidwell@indiana.edu) or (812) 855-6508.

**KUDOS**



## Mank Receives CCA Award

Indiana Institute director [David Mank](#) received the *Lifetime Achievement Award* at the Bloomington [Council for Community Accessibility](#) (CCA) Awards ceremony held last week. Mank received the award in appreciation of his work as director of the Indiana Institute on Disability and Community and national leadership in the areas of applied research, disability policy, employment, and transition related to persons with disabilities.

The CCA is a volunteer group that advocates for the interests of people with disabilities. Formerly known as the Community Council on Handicap Concerns, the group was formed in 1990. The CCA promotes awareness of the challenges faced by people with disabilities, and works to develop solutions to problems of accessibility in the community. The CCA holds public meetings at City Hall in Bloomington. Contact [cca@bloomington.in.gov](mailto:cca@bloomington.in.gov) or (812) 349-3471 for more information. Congratulations Dr. Mank!!

Photo: David Mank and Bloomington Mayor, Mark Krizan courtesy of the CCA.



## Certificate of Appreciation

The [CCA](#) also recognized the Indiana Institute and its Center on Aging and Community with a *Certificate of Appreciation*, for participation in the *All-In Block Party* on July 26, 2015 at the Bloomington Farmers' Market. *All-In Block Party* participants were charged with creating a fun challenge for those attending the Market around the 25th Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) anniversary. Additional community partners included LifeDesigns, Stone Belt, NAMI Bloomington, Down Syndrome Family Connection, Area 10 Agency on Aging, League of Women Voters, and Ivy Tech. Funding for the event came from Indiana Humanities.

## ACROSS THE COURTYARD



## Grossi Appointed Chair of Bloomington Commission

[Teresa Grossi](#), director of Indiana Institute's [Center on Community Living and Careers](#), was appointed chair of Bloomington's *Commission on the Status of Children and Youth*. The Commission promotes community connections to "empower, enhance, and nurture children and youth."

This fall, for instance, the Commission is sponsoring its first S.W.A.G.G.E.R. (Students Who Act Generously, Grow, and Earn Respect) Award, which will honor students within the Monroe County Community School Corporation area. The Commission's [webpage](#) reports that nominated students demonstrate commitment to a cause or act in ways that have improved their lives and/or the lives of others around them.

“Students may be recognized for volunteer service to a non-profit organization, assisting a friend or neighbor in need, working and also attending school, mentoring a younger sibling, exemplifying a positive attitude among peers, or showing respect for others.”

Grossi’s work with the Commission will also include identifying and assessing needs, resources and services relating to children and youth and empowering children and youth to reach their full potential and celebrate their success.

## IN INDIANA



### IPAS will be on Call on Election Day

On Election Day, Tuesday, November 3rd, [Indiana Protection and Advocacy Services](#) (IPAS) advocates and attorneys 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. EST – 7:00 p.m. EST (6:00 p.m. CST).

Exercising the 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. You will be prompted to enter an extension number. Between the hours of 6:00 a.m.-12:30

p.m. EST, enter extension #451. After 12:30p.m. , enter extension #470. Leave a message with your phone number and issue. Your call will be returned promptly.

## LIBRARY CORNER



### Library Corner

- Baker, J. (2015). *Overcoming anxiety in children and teens*. Arlington, TX: Future Horizons, Inc.

Describes motivational techniques, cognitive behavioral strategies, exercises, relaxation and mindfulness guides to lower anxiety to the point where individuals can begin to confront their fears.

- Kingsley, L. K. (2015). *Blue skies for Lupe*. Bethesda, MD: Woodbine House.

Offers life lessons about working hard to achieve your dreams, and shows the value of a supportive community. The book includes an update on the adult Lupe's accomplishments and future plans, as well as a short glossary of Spanish-language vocabulary words featured in the story.

- Sundberg, M. L. (2014). *VB-MAPP Verbal Behavior Milestones Assessment and Placement Program: A language and social skills assessment program for children with autism or other intellectual disabilities: Guide*. Concord, CA: AVB Press.

A criterion-referenced assessment tool, curriculum guide, and skill tracking system that is designed for children with autism and other individuals who demonstrate language delays. 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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