FAMILY ★ LINKS

UTAH'S STATEWIDE CONFERENCE

FOR PARENTS OF CHILDREN AND ADULTS WITH DISABILITIES AND SPECIAL NEEDS

PLUS FEATURED SESSIONS ON SATURDAY SPECIFICALLY FOR YOUTH AND ADULTS WITH DISABILITIES

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 28 AND SATURDAY, MARCH 1, 2014

MURRAY HIGH SCHOOL, 5440 SOUTH STATE STREET, MURRAY, UTAH

FRIDAY'S KEYNOTE SPEAKER – MATT TOWNSEND

PRESENTS:

THRIVING AS PARENTS OF CHILDREN WITH DISABILITIES:

KEEPING MARRIAGE AND FAMILY RELATIONSHIPS STRONG

READ MORE ABOUT MATT TOWNSEND'S KEYNOTE PRESENTATION ON PAGE 4.

SATURDAY'S KEYNOTE SPEAKER – JUDITH SNOW

PRESENTS:

INCLUSION:

RECOGNIZING GIFTEDNESS AND VALUING DIVERSITY

READ MORE ABOUT JUDITH SNOW'S KEYNOTE PRESENTATION ON PAGE 5.

THIS CONFERENCE WILL ALSO FEATURE: SATURDAY KEYNOTE, BREAKOUT SESSIONS, AWARDS, PRIZE DRAWINGS, AN EXHIBITOR FAIR AND MUCH, MUCH MORE!

FRIDAY DINNER AND KEYNOTE	FRIDAY KEYNOTE ONLY	SATURDAY ONLY	FRIDAY AND SATURDAY DISCOUNT PRICE
$20.00	$10.00	$20.00	$35.00

PRE-REGISTRATION DEADLINE: SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 23, 2014

MORE INFORMATION ONLINE AT www.utahfamilylinks.org

REGISTER ONLINE NOW AT: http://conta.cc/KE75Cq

BROUGHT TO YOU BY:

UTAH PARENT CENTER

AND CO-SPONSORED BY:

Allies with Families
Autism Council of Utah
CHADD of Utah
Division of Services for People with Disabilities
Easter Seals Goodwill Northern Rocky Mountain
Envision Quality Supports
Family-to-Family Network
Learning Disabilities Association of Utah
Murray School District
Utah DeafBlind Project
Utah Developmental Disabilities Council
Utah Down Syndrome Foundation
Utah Family Partnership Network
Utah Family Voices
Utah Fetal Alcohol Coalition
Utah Prader-Willi Syndrome Association
Utah PTA
Utah State Office of Education
Utah State Office of Rehabilitation

Click here to LIKE Family Links Events on Facebook! And stay up-to-date with everything that is happening with the Family Links Conferences!

FAMILY ★ LINKS

GENERAL INFORMATION

REGISTRATION DEADLINE: The deadline for pre-registration is

Sunday, February 23.

SESSION PRE-REGISTRATION: Please help the conference planners and presenters properly prepare for the conference by pre-selecting the sessions you would like to attend. The program includes session information (session titles, descriptions and target audiences). Please use the information found in this packet and **make your session selections prior to registering** and choose the session in the appropriate fields on the online registration form.

AT-THE-DOOR REGISTRATION: We do allow at-the-door registration on the day of the conference. Participants that register at the door may not receive meals. If possible, we advise that you pre-register for this conference.

FACILITATORS: If you are interested in volunteering as a facilitator for one of the breakout sessions please email Esperanza at esperanza@utahparentcenter.org

NO REFUNDS: Family Links has a No Refund policy. All conference plans are based on pre-registration numbers. If you must cancel, we regret that we cannot offer refunds or release purchase orders.

CHILD CARE IS NOT AVAILABLE AT THIS CONFERENCE. Please make arrangements for the care of your children for the duration of the conference.

INTERPRETATION AVAILABLE UPON REQUEST: Interpretation services (e.g. Spanish, Sign Language) are available by request. **Requests must be received by Friday, February 14.** Please indicate the need for this service on your registration under "Accommodations".

SLIDE/VIDEO SHOW: Send us photographs or short videos that showcase individuals with disabilities – at work, at school, at play! All photographs will be featured in a slide show that will be shown during the conference. All photographs become property of Family Links and the Utah Parent Center. Once you send a picture to us, you will receive a link to a simple form that you will need to fill out that will give us permission to use your picture. Please email all photos and videos to cassandra@utahparentcenter.org
All submissions are due by Friday, February 14.

AWARDS: We would like to recognize outstanding individuals in the community. They may have overcome challenges themselves, made excellent contributions toward the improvement of lives of families of children and youth with disabilities, or made a difference in the life of you and others. Please take an opportunity to nominate someone that has touched your life. The four categories of awards that will be given this year are:

- Child with Special Needs
- Adult with Special Needs
- Parent
- Professional
- Open/Other

Nominations can be completed at https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/JRWGZWH Individuals that are chosen will be recognized during the Saturday morning keynote of the conference.
Award nominations are due by Sunday, February 9.

MEALS: Dinner will be served on Friday night. **There will not be breakfast served on Saturday.** Lunch on Saturday will be provided at no additional cost to registered participants. Light refreshments will also be available during some of the breaks. Please identify on your registration under "Accommodations" if you are a vegetarian or if you have other dietary restrictions or requests. Family Links will do our best to accommodate reasonable requests, made when registering.

DOOR PRIZES: Participants in the 2014 Family Links Conference will be eligible to win one of our GREAT door prizes!

SCHOLARSHIPS: The Family Links Planning Committee is working to generate scholarships, but funding sources are different than in previous years. We encourage you to look for support in your local community. Email sherriew@utahparentcenter.org for more information or assistance.

CREDIT OPPORTUNITIES:
Continuing Education Units (CEUs) will be available based on the clock hours of the conference agenda and will be given in the form of a certificate of attendance. The certificate will show the number of hours spent participating in the conference. If individuals participate in both days of the 2014 Family Links Conference, they will earn 10 hours. CEUs are designed to meet the requirement for Utah teachers renewing their teacher licenses. Determining whether or not the certificate of attendance meets the requirements of specific agencies or organizations is the responsibility of the participant. Certificates of Attendance will be available for ALL conference participants upon request.

2014 Family Links Conference-At-A-Glance

Times and topics are subject to change. We reserve the right to cancel sessions for which individuals don't pre-register.

Friday, February 28, 2014

5:00 – 6:00 p.m.	Registration	
5:30 – 7:00 p.m.	Dinner and Networking	
7:00 – 9:00 p.m.	**Keynote Presentation:**	
	Matt Townsend	**Thriving as Parents of Children with Disabilities: Keeping Marriage and Family Relationships Strong**

Saturday, March 1, 2014

8:00 – 8:30 a.m. **8:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.** **8:30 – 9:30 a.m.**	**Registration** ***Note: Breakfast will NOT be served.*** **Exhibitor Fair** **Keynote Presentation**	
	Judith Snow	**Inclusion: Recognizing Giftedness and Valuing Diversity**
9:30 – 10:00 a.m.	**Awards Presentation**	
10:15 – 11:30 a.m.	**Breakout Session A**	
A1: Adult Siblings Get Together with *Judith Snow* ***This session will begin at 10:30.***	**A2: Survival Without Services** *Panel Presentation*	**A3: Using Sensory Strategies for Participation in Daily Activities** *Madelyn Mauer*
A4: How to Make Reading Enjoyable and Beneficial for Children with Down Syndrome *Weber State University*	**A5: Plan for the Future: Employment and Postsecondary Education** *Robyn Chidester*	**A6: Dual Diagnosis : When Your Child Has a Disability PLUS a Mental Health or Behavioral Challenge** *Wendy Macey*
A7: Getting Help for Students with Learning Disabilities: How the Schools Can Help *Kim Fratto*	**A8: Meeting the Needs of Your Other Children: How to Help Siblings** *Karen Greenwell*	**A9: Finding Success in Higher Education; Accommodations at the College Level** *Steven Lewis*
11:30 – 12:00 p.m. **12:00 – 1:00 p.m.** **1:15 – 2:30 p.m.**	**Exhibitor Fair** **Lunch and Exhibitor Fair** - Food by Café Rio **Break Out Session B**	
B1: How Circles of Support Can Improve the Lives of People with Disabilities Throughout the Lifespan *Judith Snow*	**B2: Employment First** *Tricia Jones-Parkin*	**B3: The Many Ways You Can Use Brain Plasticity to Improve Function** *Dr. Judy Gooch*
B4: Special Needs Legal Planning: Creating a Special Needs Trust – Hands on Help for Families *Lisa Thornton*	**B5: Autism 101** *Cathy Longstroth*	**B6: Whose Decision Is It Anyway? Self-Determination and Helping Your Son or Daughter Make Good Decisions** *Linda Smith*
B7: The iPad as Assistive Technology – The Many Ways to Empower Children with Disabilities *Utah Center for Assistive*	**B8: Housing Options for Adults with Disabilities: What Are They and Where Do You Find Them?** *Debbie Stark*	**B9: ABC's of Special Needs** *Utah Family Voices*
B10: What Families Need to Know about Law Enforcement *Panel Presentation*		
2:45 – 4:00 p.m.	**Breakout Session C**	
C1: Dad's Pie Social *Mark Hansen*	**C2: Journey To Adulthood: What to Do About Maturation and Sexuality Issues** *Michelle Murphey*	**C3: Teaching Executive Functioning Skills for Successful Employment** *Jennifer Cardinal*
C4: Pathways to Careers – Two Programs to Help Students with High Functioning Autism or Asperger Syndrome	**C5: IEP Questions? Ask the Experts** *Panel Presentation*	**C6: Meet the Down Syndrome Experts – Starring YOU the Parents!** *Utah Down Syndrome Foundation*
C7: Survival Tips for Parents of Children with ADHD: How to Love Your Child at Any Age *Melanie Hatch*	**C8: Funding Special Needs** *Utah Family Voices*	**C9: Caregivers: Finding and Retaining** *Deb Bowman*
C10: Introducing Literacy to Learners with Significant Disabilities *Mary Alice Dredge and Nicole Holmstead*		

FAMILY LINKS 2014 FULL CONFERENCE PROGRAM
FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 28, 2014

SOME INFORMATION NOT AVAILABLE FOR PUBLICATION. CHECK THE PROGRAM ON THE WEBSITE AT WWW.UTAHFAMILYLINKS.ORG FOR THE MOST CURRENT INFORMATION.

5:00 – 6:00 p.m.	**Registration**
5:30 – 7:00 p.m.	**Dinner provided by Smokehouse BBQ Pit**
	Smokehouse BBQ Pit in Orem featured by KUTV and Mountain American Credit Union's Pay It Forward section is owned by Paul Kuhn, the father of 10 children – 5 of them with disabilities. His main goal is providing jobs to individuals with disabilities. The Family Links Committee is pleased to have Paul and his crew provide dinner for our Family Links Friday night dinner. **Like their food? Visit them at 194 W Center St., Orem, Utah** **Like them on Facebook at: https://www.facebook.com/steakcenter**

7:00 – 9:00 p.m.	**Keynote Presentation – No Food or Drink Allowed in Auditorium**
	Suggested Audience: Parents and Family Members of Children of ALL AGES!!!

THRIVING AS PARENTS OF CHILDREN WITH DISABILITIES: KEEPING MARRIAGE AND FAMILY RELATIONSHIP STRONG

Presented by the Matt Townsend

This special evening session with Matt Townsend will be an inexpensive, fun, and educational way to improve your family relationships! A national speaker and relationship expert, Matt Townsend combines humor and wit with his unique gift of understanding relationships to create a powerful and lasting impact with audiences. Get great tips while laughing at Matt's hilarious insights into relationships. With the feel of stand-up comedy, Matt will share effective ways to improve and de-stress your relationship. Not only will you learn great skills but it's also tons of fun!

Dr. Matt Townsend is the founder and president of the Townsend Relationship Center, a relationship skills-building organization. He combines his talents as a coach, teacher and speaker to empower people and companies to connect and communicate more effectively. Through entertainment and humor, Matt teaches life-changing skills that help improve our most important relationships. His humorous speaking style helps him impact a wide range of people in various church and corporate events.

Matt trained for 9 years with the training industry leader Franklin Covey. He earned his Bachelors and Masters Degrees in the area of Communication as well as a second Master's degree in Human Development. He has recently earned his PhD in the field of Human Development.

Every Saturday morning from 11 to noon, Matt can be heard hosting his radio program, "The Matt Townsend Show", broadcast on KSL News Radio, where he talks about a variety of relationship topics. Matt is a weekly contributor to KSL TV's morning show "Studio 5". Matt also has a weekday radio show on BYU radio on Sirius XM 143.

Matt's greatest love in life is his wife Mardi. They have been happily married for 22 years and have 6 children: 1 girl and 5 boys, ranging in ages from 8 to 19.

SATURDAY, MARCH 1, 2014

Please be sure to grab yourself breakfast, including coffee and soda before you arrive.
Family Links will NOT be offering breakfast this year.

8:00 – 8:30 a.m.	**Registration**
8:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.	**Exhibitor Fair**

Each year the Family Links Conference provides an opportunity for parents to explore available organizations and agencies and the resources they provide during the Exhibitor Fair. We are expecting a great turnout of organizations and agencies. Plan to take advantage of this opportunity to visit each table to discover what is offered. You may want to bring a bag to college information from the exhibitors. Some for-profit exhibitors will also be in attendance accept debit/credit cards or checks so plan accordingly if you are interested in purchasing any items.

8:30 – 9:30 a.m. **Keynote Presentation – No Food or Drink Allowed in Auditorium**

Suggested Audience: Parents and Family Members of Children of ALL AGES!!!

INCLUSION:
RECOGNIZING GIFTEDNESS AND VALUING DIVERSITY

Presented by the Judith Snow

Ability and Disability are ideas about people doing things as individuals. Contribution, Gifts and Capacity are ideas about people doing things together in ways that lead to abundant opportunity for everyone. Any difference is potentially a gift and therefore an opportunity. Judith will talk about some of the frequently available gifts and how to build on giftedness. She will show that people who are labeled disabled have an important relationship building role in Society. Come hear Judith's story, be inspired and build your enthusiasm.

Judith Snow, MA from Ontario Canada is an internationally recognized author, lecturer and organizer for the rights of all people to participate fully as citizens in society. She has been featured in many television and video programs - both as a fascinating person and as a leading thinker in her own right. Most recently, she is the co-author of a book entitled, The Inclusion Papers, which spells out some of the issues she is working on now.
Early in life Judith was "labeled disabled", lived at home and attended regular schools until she graduated from university. Tragically, she was forced to live in an institution for four years before escaping to a new life as a contributing member of the community, living in her own apartment with a personalized attendant care system designed to meet her unique needs. Judith has been a pioneer in developing social policy for attendant care needs of people with disabilities.

Judith was the founder and director of the first Centre for Handicapped Students at a York University (Toronto, Canada) and has served as a project coordinator with the Secretary of State Canada (Citizenship Branch). She is a frequent guest on radio and television shows on the issue of human rights. She has written many articles for educational and human service publications.

Jack Pearpoint's book about Judith's struggle (From Behind the Piano, Inclusion Press) tells the story of Judith and her support circle -- how they fought bureaucracy to win Judith's right to live fully, with dignity in the community.

Judith's work with families and her own stories give her a treasure chest of knowledge and experience to share.

Judith's formal education includes two degrees from York University, a BA in Mathematics and Psychology (1972) and a Master's Degree in Clinical and Counseling & Psychology (1976). She is presently a doctoral student at the Ontario Institute for Studies in Education (OISE), Univ. of Toronto.

9:30 – 10:30 a.m. **Awards**

Awards will be presented to individuals chosen by a committee in the following categories: Child with Special Needs of the Year, Adult with Special Needs of the Year, Parent of the Year, Professional of the Year and Open/Other Category for individuals or organizations that do not fall into one of the other categories. You many nominate an individual for an award at https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/JRWGZWH **Deadline for submission is Sunday, February 9, 2014.**

10:15 – 11:30 a.m.			Breakout Session A	
#	Target Audience Ages	Target Audience Disabilities	Title and Description	Presenter(s) and Bio
A1	Adults	Siblings of Disabilities	**Adult Sibling Get Together with Judith Snow** Siblings will likely have the longest relationship with their brother / sister with a disability. This breakout will be a place for sibs to get connected, share stories, and chat with Judith.	See page 5 for a bio of Judith Snow.
A2	All	DSPD Eligible	**Survival without Services** Many families struggle with supporting their family member with disabilities while waiting for funding from the Division of Services for People with Disabilities (DSPD), while the family members of other families do not even qualify for DSPD services. Get inspired by this panel discussion by parents who have developed or participated in supports to meet the needs of their family members without government funding. The options are only limited by your imagination – come and dream with us!	**Deb Bowman** Deborah Bowman has been an advocate for people with intellectual disabilities for 25+ years. She and her husband, Kent, have 4 children, one of whom has multiple disabilities resulting from a near-drowning. **Robyn Hall** Robyn Hall has been a volunteer, a part-time substitute in Special Education, and advocate for her son. Her son currently participates in a private pay program that has no DSPD requirements. **Michelle Holbrook, M.Ed. (Special Education)** Michelle is a parent of a 19 year old son with Prader-Willi Syndrome, secondary special educator and the founder and director of Just For Kids of Utah County, Inc. a non-for-profit company in northern Utah County. **Mark and Nancy Barton** Parents and founders of Lifelong Learning Center serving the needs of young adults with disabilities who have "aged out" of the traditional public school system. **More in-depth bios for this panel are available at utahfamilylinks.org**
A3	0-12	Children with Sensory Issues, Autism Spectrum Disorders	**Using Sensory Strategies for Participation in Daily Activities** What is Sensory Integration and how does it impact our lives? Topics will include: identification of an sensory processing difficulties, how sensory integration relates to self-regulation, and how sensory integration impacts participation in daily activities. We will also discuss practical, portable, and fun ways for you to help your child add sensory rich activities to their day.	**Madelyn Mauer** Madelyn graduated from Northern Arizona University with a Bachelor's degree in Sociology and Health Promotion, and graduated from the University of Utah with a Master of Occupational Therapy degree. Since then, I have worked in Pennsylvania and Utah, and have had experience working as a pediatric occupational therapist in elementary schools, early intervention, and both inpatient and outpatient settings at Primary Children's Hospital. I currently work in early intervention and at an outpatient pediatric clinic for Easter Seals-Goodwill.
A4	All	Autism Spectrum Disorders	**Autism 101** Individuals who want to learn the foundational information about autism or who want to learn how to explain autism to others will be interested in this session. Cathy will go over what we know, what we are learning, and how to locate useful resources.	**Cathy Longstroth, Utah Personnel Development Center** Cathy has had over 25 years of experience in Jordan and Murray District teaching students with autism. She has worked for the Utah Personnel development Center training teachers in Utah since 2007. She has created popular teacher resources and presented at national autism conferences. Cathy and her husband, Bruce, have six children and ten grandchildren.

10:15 – 11:30 a.m.			Breakout Session A	
	Target Audience			
#	Ages	Disabilities	Title and Description	Presenter(s) and Bio
A5	12-22 Transition Age	All	**Plan for the Future: Employment and Post-Secondary Education** This class will help families to understand how vocational rehabilitation can be involved in your student's current IEP or Section 504 plan as you plan for the future and employment goals. Participants will also gain understanding about Vocational Rehabilitation programs and services as well as the services for students with disabilities who plan on attending a college/university or college of applied technology.	**Robyn Chidester, Utah Parent Center** Robyn Chidester and her husband Gene are the parents of five children and fifteen grandchildren. Their youngest son Matthew has Down Syndrome. Matthew has given them the opportunity to learn the value of the individual and to celebrate the joy of life's journey. She has served on various councils and committees on a local, county, and statewide basis. Robyn is currently employed by the Utah Parent Center as a parent consultant.
A6	All	Developmental Disability and Mental Health or Behavioral	**Dual Diagnosis: When Your Child Has a Disability and Mental Health or Behavioral Issue** *Watch for more information on this session as it becomes available.*	**Wendy Macey**
A7	School Age	Learning Disabilities	**Getting Help for Students with Learning Disabilities: How Schools Can Help** *Watch for more information on this session as it becomes available.*	**Kim Fratto, Utah State Office of Education**
A8	0-12	All	**Meeting the Needs of Your Other Children: Helping Siblings** Have you ever wondered how having a brother or sister with disabilities affects your other younger children? Have you ever struggled with how to manage the issues this raises in your family? We will discuss these challenges and questions and how parents can help their children manage these effectively.	**Karen Greenwell, Allies with Families**
A9	Teens and Young Adults	Learning Disabilities, ADHD, Mental Health	**Finding Success in Higher Education: Accommodations at the College Level** Many students who have had IEPs or Section 504 plans are able to enroll in colleges or universities and just need some accommodations to succeed. This session will give pointers about how to qualify for College and University Disability Resource Center Services and to set up the needed accommodations. Those with Learning Disabilities, ADHD, Mental Health Challenges and many other disabilities can benefit.	**Steven Lewis, M.S.** Steven is the Assistant Director at the Disability Resource Center at Salt Lake Community College.

11:00 a.m. – 12:45 p.m.	Exhibitor Fair
	Each year the Family Links Conference provides an opportunity for parents to explore available organizations and agencies and the resources they provide during the Exhibitor Fair. We are expecting a great turnout of organizations and agencies. Plan to take advantage of this opportunity to visit each table to discover what is offered. You may want to bring a bag to college information from the exhibitors. Some for-profit exhibitors will also be in attendance accept debit/credit cards or checks so plan accordingly if you are interested in purchasing any items.
11:45 a.m. – 12:45 p.m.	**Lunch and Exhibitor Fair** - Food by Café Rio

1:15 – 2:30 p.m.			Breakout Session B	
	Target Audience			
#	Ages	Disability	Title and Description	Presenter(s) and Bio
B1	**All**	**All**	**How Circles of Support Can Improve the Lives of People with Disabilities Across the Lifespan**	**Judith Snow** See page 5 for a detail bio of Judith Snow.
B2	**Teens and Young Adults**	**All**	**Employment First** People who experience disabilities can and want to work! Join the discussion about how to make work a reality with discovery and customized employment strategies.	**Tricia Jones-Parkin**
B3	**All**	**All**	**The Man Ways You Can Use Brain Plasticity to Improve Function** Plasticity is the ability to change. The brain has plasticity throughout life. This is how we learn and develop. When we recover from an injury to the brain we are also using brain plasticity. Brain plasticity does not just happen without doing anything. Using the brain and body stimulates plasticity. For example, when a person has weakness in one arm from a stroke, restraining the strong arm forces use of the weak arm. This leads to permanent improvement in the function of the weak arm. So what can we do to help brain plasticity to improve function? We will give many examples of how use brain plasticity to improve. We will answer questions on how to use brain plasticity.	**Dr. Judy Gooch** Dr. Judy Gooch is board certified in adult and pediatric Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation, and has been in practice since 1986. She was the Medical Director of Rehabilitation Services at Primary Children's Medical Center and a professor in Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation at the University of Utah. She has written many articles and book chapters on rehabilitation, and spoken at national and international conferences. Recently, Dr. Gooch and her nurse practitioner, Beverly Krensky started Utah Neurorehabilitation. This is a medical practice aimed at using brain plasticity to improve outcomes in children and adults with disabilities.
B4	**All**	**All**	**Special Needs Legal Planning and Guardianship: Creating a Special Needs Trust – Hands On Help for Families** Come spend an hour with attorney Lisa Thornton and you will walk away with the tools to set your legal affairs in order for you and your child with disabilities. Lisa will outline the legal documents you need to protect your family and will provide	**Lisa Thornton** Lisa Broderick Thornton, an attorney for 26 years focusing on appellate practice and estate planning, is the owner of Lisa Thornton Law, P.C. Lisa has helped hundreds of families with special needs legal planning and with securing guardianship for their children. Lisa is first and foremost mom to her daughter Kate who has Prader-Willi

1:15 – 2:30 p.m.			Breakout Session B	
	Target Audience			
#	Ages	Disability	Title and Description	Presenter(s) and Bio
			you access to a special needs trust. Also, learn what legal guardianship is and why it is essential for your child with disabilities.	syndrome. Lisa has served as the president of the Utah Prader-Willi Syndrome Association for 8 years and sits on the advisory board for the national Prader-Willi Syndrome Association. She is a Church Service Missionary for the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, assisting in finding mission opportunities for people with special needs. Lisa has donated thousands of hours to helping Utah families.
B5	**All**	**Down Syndrome Specific**	**How to Make Reading Enjoyable and Beneficial for Children with Down Syndrome** We will be presenting ideas and strategies for students with disabilities to enhance comprehension and to increase a love for reading. Aimed specifically for parents and professionals of individuals who can decode, but there will be useful ideas for anyone helping children and adults with Down syndrome improve reading abilities.	**Alexis Bowen, Emilie Goodsell, Amber Johnson, Michael Leishman, and Jennifer Authors are students at Weber State University, Department of Special Education**
B6	**12 and up**	**All**	**Whose Decision Is It Anyway? Self-Determination and Helping Your Son or Daughter Make Good Decisions** Parents will learn how to effectively support their son/daughter with disabilities in the post-secondary years. Learn how to be a mentor to your young adult as they learn how to manage his or her own life. A self-determined person can set goals, make decisions, speak for him or herself and solve problems. Parents will gain skills to achieve this objective.	**Linda Smith, Utah Parent Center** Linda joined the Utah Parent Center (UPC) staff in September 2005. Previous to joining the UPC, Linda was employed by the Utah Department of Health, Work Ability Utah to focus on work incentives for youth and adults with disabilities. For 14 years Linda was a public policy specialist with the Legislative Coalition for People with Disabilities. Linda currently holds a Master's Degree in Rehabilitation Counseling from Utah State University. She is also a person with disabilities as well as a parent of successful adult sons with disabilities.
B7	**All**	**All**	**The iPad as Assistive Technology: The Many Ways to Empower Children with Disabilities**	**UCAT**
B8	**Young Adults and Adults**	**All**	**Housing Options for Adults with Disabilities: What Are They and Where Do You Find Them?** How to connect to the local Housing Authorities, information on alternative housing options, information on low cost housing apartments and Disability Rights in housing.	**Debbie Stark, Statewide Housing Coordinator, Division of Services for People with Disabilities** Debbie has worked for DSPD for 14 years. She was a waiting list worker and assisted people waiting for services from DSPD. She then went on to be a Supervisor's assistant doing various job assignments. Debbie then accepted the position of Statewide Housing Coordinator where she currently assists clients, co-workers, and support coordinators with all housing issues. She conducts inspections on apartments to assure compliance with DSPS certifications for health and safety. Debbie provides training on "Bridges Out of Poverty" throughout the State of Utah. Debbie represents the Division in enabling individuals to access safe and secure housing. Debbie has been married for 40 years in May to her husband Larry. They have 2 married children and 4 grandchildren that she is very involved with.

1:15 – 2:30 p.m.			Breakout Session B	
#	Target Audience Ages	Disability	Title and Description	Presenter(s) and Bio
				Debbie enjoys sewing, reading, walking in the park and spending time with her grandkids.
B9	0-12	Newly Diagnosed	**ABC's of Special Needs** This presentation will inform families of children who are newly diagnosed with a disability or special need on how to build resiliency. Information will include understanding how the diagnosis can affect the family, strengthening the family, supporting siblings and creating a framework to support the child with special needs. This presentation will also include information on becoming an informed consumer of services for children with special needs.	**Utah Family Voices Staff** More in-depth bios for these presenters are available at www.utahfamilylinks.org
B10	All	All	**What Families Need to Know about Law Enforcement** Children and adults with disabilities may find themselves in a situation where the help of law enforcement personnel is needed. How can families be more prepared to work with law enforcement or to help their children to have a good outcome during interactions? How can families be proactive? A panel of experienced parents will share stories and give helpful tips.	**Panel including:** **Laura Anderson, Parent, Autism Council of Utah** **Ron Bruno, Salt Lake City Police Department**

2:45 – 4:00 p.m.			Breakout Session C	
#	Target Audience Ages	Disability	Title and Description	Presenter(s) and Bio
C1	Dads of All Ages are Welcome!	All	**Dad's Pie Social** The victories and challenges dads experience are often unique and only experienced by other dads. Come and make some new friends, talk openly, and most importantly…eat pie! **This is always one of our highest rated sessions by dads. Don't miss out on this great opportunity!**	**Facilitated by Mark Hansen** Mark Hansen in married and has two children. They are both in those crazy teen years. His oldest has been diagnosed with Asperger's tendencies and the younger one has multiple disabilities. Mark loves being a dad and his favorite activities include involving his boys. He loves to cook in the dutch oven and is found on the back porch most every Sunday evening cooking the families dinner. He has written some cook books on this. He loves playing computer games with the boys.
C2	Older Children, Teens and Young	All	**Journey to Adulthood: What To Do About Maturation and Sexuality Issues** This workshop will offer information on preparing and talking with your child, developing appropriate social skills,	**Michelle Murphey, Utah Parent Center** Michelle Murphy has worked as a parent consultant at the Utah Parent Center for the past eight years. Her primary role has been to work with families living the Granite School District area. She is also the proud

#	Target Audience		Title and Description	Presenter(s) and Bio
	Adults		and planning for adulthood.	mother of two boys ages 13 and 5. Michelle's oldest child has asked Asperger's syndrome but is also highly gifted. Michelle's passion for working with children with disabilities stems from her experience being the mother of a child with special needs. Michelle has a Bachelor's degree in psychology from Ashford University and strives to use that education to help parents help their children be successful.
C3	**Teens, Young Adults, and Adults**	**Developmental Disabilities**	**Do You Mind? Teaching Executive Functioning Skills for Successful Employment to Individuals with Developmental Disabilities** Executive functioning (EF) deficits make today's employees very vulnerable. How do we help those with serious EF disabilities develop the crucial skills skill needed to succeed in today's competitive environment?	**Jennifer Cardinal** Jennifer R. Cardinal, Ph.D., is a doctoral level psychologist specializing in neuropsychology, school psychology, and autism. She is a licensed psychologist and a nationally certified school psychologist. She has a Master's Degree in Educational Psychology Counseling and Guidance from Brigham Young University and a Doctorate Degree in Educational Psychology with an emphasis in Neuropsychology. She has been both a school counselor and a school psychologist. She completed post-doctoral work at the Neuropsychology Center of Utah and is in private practice at the Neurobehavioral Center for Growth in Bountiful where she focuses on assessment and treatment. Dr. Cardinal has experience assessing and treating children, adolescents and adults with a variety of brain based disorders such as ADHD, Autism, nonverbal learning disorders, learning disabilities, depression, anxiety, Tourette's, trichotillomania, bipolar disorder, traumatic brain injury and dementia. She also continues many research projects.
C4	**Young Adults and Adults**	**High Functioning Autism and Asperger Syndrome**	**Pathways to Careers- Two Programs to Help Students with High Functioning Autism or Asperger Syndrome** Despite the fact that those individuals with high-functioning autism: • Have average to higher-than-average intelligence • Have pronounced, often remarkable, strengths • Are uniquely qualified for many high-demand career fields The unemployment rate among this population is 85%. This joint presentation by Easter Seals-Goodwill PEER Connections staff and the First Ascent: Career Transition for Autism and Asperger's LLC staff aims to highlight two new programs funded through a partnership with the Utah State Office of Rehabilitation	**Crystal Emery and Clain Udy**

#	Target Audience		Title and Description	Presenter(s) and Bio
C5	All School Age	All	**IEP Q and A: Ask the Experts** Bring your IEP Questions or come and learn from the questions of others.	**Louise Ogden, Utah Parent Center, Tiffanie Owens, Utah State Office of Education, Susan Loving, Utah State Office of Education and Disability Law Center**
C6	All	Down Syndrome	**Meet the Down Syndrome Experts – Starring YOU the PARENTS!** Join us for small group discussions on the topics you would like to talk about. This group will be facilitated by the Utah Down Syndrome Foundation with Ann Marie Christensen (UDSF Board President), Judy Hall (UDSF President), Steve Phelps (Dads Supporting Down Syndrome-DADS), and others. As a group we will choose some topics and then divide attendees into small groups to address these topics. It will be a great chance to interact with parents of kids of all ages with DS and learn some of their successes and failures. You are welcome to bring a picture of your child and/or family.	
C7	All	ADHD	**Survival Tips for Parents of Children with ADHD: How to Love Your Child at Any Age** We will discuss how ADHD affects the daily life of our children and what we can do as parents to help them handle the challenges they face. Knowing the right information helps us as parents to give our children the help they need.	**Melanie Hatch, CHADD of Utah** Melanie Hatch is a parent of 3 children with ADHD as well as having it herself. She is the Coordinator of CHADD of Utah, which is an all-volunteer organization that helps families understand and deal with the challenges of ADHD. She has been an advocate in the ADHD world for over 20 years with a passion for helping families and individuals cope with the challenges of ADHD.
C8	All	All	**Funding for Special Needs** This will be an interactive session on health care and community supports for children and youth. The overall goal of this session is to help parents identify services that will benefit their children and families. Resource information about programs that help fund special needs such as Medicaid, SSI, private insurance, etc. will be given. Information presented will also help to build effective parent/professional partnerships in efforts to navigate a system where children and families have adequate sources of financing for the services they require.	**Utah Family Voices Staff** More in-depth bios for these presenters are available at www.utahfamilylinks.org
C9	All	All	**Caregivers: Finding and Retaining** *Watch for more information on this session as it becomes available.*	

#	Target Audience		Title and Description	Presenter(s) and Bio
C10	**Early Childhood, School Age**	**Significant Disabilities**	**Introducing Literacy to Learners with Significant Disabilities** All children must build concepts about books, symbols, print, and writing through repeated exposure to meaningful literacy activities long before they are able to independently read or write. This presentation will discuss ways to engage beginning literacy learners in meaningful reading and writing activities. New ideas for introducing reading and writing to your child, as well as ways to modify books for easier access will be shared.	**Mary Alice Dredge and Nicole Holmstead** Nicole and Mary Alice are both Deaf-Blind Specialist for the Utah Schools for the Deaf and the Blind and are working on the Utah Deaf-Blind Project. **More in-depth bios for this panel are available at utahfamilylinks.org**

FAMILY ★ LINKS

2014 Statewide Conference Registration Form

Registration Deadline: Sunday, February 23, 2014

Register online at:

ONE FORM PER PERSON! PLEASE PRINT LEGIBLY.

Session selection for each breakout is required for each individual.

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ ZIP: _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

Role: ☐ Family Member ☐ Professional ☐ Educator ☐ Other: _____

Organization Affiliation, if any: _____

☐ Please add my information to the Utah Parent Center's mailing list to receive newsletters and information.

Accommodations: ☐ Vegetarian Meals ☐ Interpreter ☐ Other: _____

Breakout Session Registration

Please refer to the numbers next to the session titles found on the Conference-At-A-Glance or Session Description pages. Place the number of the session you would like to attend at each time on the lines below.

SAMPLE

Sat – 8:30 a.m..: __X3__

Breakout Session Selection

A: Sat – 10:15 a.m.: _____

B: Sat – 1:15 p.m.: _____

C: Sat – 2:45 p.m.: _____

Payment Method:

☐ Discover ☐ MasterCard ☐ VISA

Card Number:

_____

Exp. Date: _____

☐ Check #: _____

☐ Other: _____

★ **SAVE TIME! REGISTER ONLINE BY VISITING: WWW.UTAHFAMILYLINKS.ORG**

Online registration OR completed forms and payment MUST be received by SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 23:

Mail: Utah Parent Center
230 West 200 South, Suite 1101;
Salt Lake City, UT 84101
Fax: (801) 272-8907
Email: familylinks@utahparentcenter.org

Event Registration – Please check ONE box.

Friday Keynote Only ..... ☐ $10
Friday Dinner and Keynote .. ☐ $20
Saturday Only ..... ☐ $20
Friday and Saturday..... ☐ $35

Total Fees Due: $ _____