

The Down Syndrome Advocacy Foundation (DSAFA)

2010 Suffolk County Monthly Meetings

Thursday, January 21st
(7:00 – 9:00 pm)

Math Skills/Touch Math

Presenter: Tracy E. Murphy B.A., M.S.

Touch Math is an evidence based program that uses its signature TouchPoints to engage students with a range of all abilities. This curriculum benefits students from Pre-K, K-3, and Secondary Education, both with and without disabilities. This multisensory approach covers: Counting • Addition • Subtraction • Place Value • Multiplication • Division • Time • Money • Fractions • Story Problems • Shapes • Sizes • Pre-algebra. Touch Math is an effective strategy that has been demonstrated to raise math scores in a variety of students. Use this intuitive system as a supplement to any curriculum or as a stand-alone program. It's easy to teach and easy to learn!

Thursday, February 25th
(7:00 – 9:00 pm)

CSE's & IEP's, What are they & Why do we have them?

Presenter: Michele Vilardi, Ph.D.

Executive Director

MJV Consulting LLC

A Community Based Disability Awareness Resource & Advocacy Center

The 7th Annual Conference On Best Practices in the Education of Children with Down Syndrome
March 11-13, 2010 ~ C.W. Post Campus of Long Island University

Thursday, March 18th
(7:00 – 9:00 pm)

Make Inclusion Successful at the Secondary Level

Presenter: Sanja Cale, Ph.D., BCBA

From "Get'em in" - to "Get'em through" - and now "Get'em ready!", the focus of IDEA and post-secondary transition for middle and high school students with disabilities has shifted to prepare students for life beyond high school. This shift now includes preparing students for further employment, post-secondary education, and independent, community-based living. This training will concentrate on how to best prepare high school students to meet such goals via appropriate transition planning, curriculum supports and modifications, and social skill training during adolescence.

Thursday, April 15th
(7:00 – 9:00 pm)

Planning for your Child's Transition:

**From Early Intervention (EI) to Preschool Special Education (CPSE)
and from Preschool to School Aged Services (CSE)**

Presenters: Christine McCauley

Parent Trainer, Early Childhood Direction Center

Val Kelly - Director, EDCC Suffolk

Thursday, April 29th
(7:00 – 9:00 pm)

New Parent Meeting**

Thursday, May 20th
(7:00 – 9:00 pm)

Panel of Educators who have Children with Down syndrome in their General Education Classes

Panel of professionals will provide information regarding implementation of curriculum modifications and fostering relationships.

Thursday, July 15th
(7:00 – 9:00 pm)

Sibling Panel

Siblings of individuals with Down syndrome will be discussing common issues and addressing questions.

Thursday, July 29th
(7:00 – 9:00 pm)

New Parent Meeting**

Thursday, August 19th
(7:00 – 9:00 pm)

Early Success: Preschool Inclusion

Presenter: Emily Jones, Ph.D., BCBA

An overview of the benefits of an inclusive preschool placement, including appropriate expectations, establishment of natural supports, the presence of appropriate models and optimal instructional opportunities, and an opportunity to demonstrate success in a general education placement will be discussed. Support strategies will be presented including adapting curriculum to address IEP goals across skill domains, enhancing social interactions, and decreasing problem behavior.

Thursday, October 21st
(7:00 – 9:00 pm)

Strategies for Including Students with Down Syndrome

Presenter: Diane Ripple, Inclusion Consultant, B.S., M.A.

Practical strategies for Including students with Down Syndrome

Information in the areas of home-school communication, modifications and social skill development will be provided.

Thursday, October 28th
(7:00 – 9:00 pm)

New Parent Meeting**

Thursday, November 18th
(7:00 – 9:00 pm)

An Overview of the Learning Characteristics of Children with Down Syndrome

Presenter: Nancy Harchuck MA, BCBA ~ Education Coordinator, DDI

Mary Newman MA ~ Education Coordinator, DDI

A discussion of learning in general will help lead to a better understanding of how our children learn. Teaching strategies such as discrete trials, task analysis, memory training and verbal behavior are valuable tools in helping children with Down syndrome overcome learning obstacles. Our discussion will include how to use these strategies to promote generalization and independence.

****Important: Due to space limitations, prior registration is required. Please call 516- 983-7008 or E-mail: dsaf2@optonline.net to register to attend.**

Suffolk County Meetings to be held at the Courtyard Marriott, Ronkonkoma

5000 Express Drive South, Ronkonkoma, New York 11779, Phone: 631.612-5000

From the East: West on LIE to exit 60, take Ramp (Right) onto Expressway Drive North. Turn Left (South) onto Hawkins Avenue, then immediately turn LEFT (East) onto Expressway Drive South.

From the West: East on LIE to exit 60, take Ramp (Right) onto Expressway Drive South.

****Please note...New Parent Meetings only will be held at 77 Arkay Drive, Hauppauge, NY 11788****

From the East: West on LIE to exit 55, take Ramp (right at light) onto Motor Parkway. Drive West to Adams Avenue, make a right. Take Adams Avenue to Arkay Drive, turn right, building is on the right.

From the West: East on LIE to exit 53, stay on service road – see exit for Wicks Road. Turn left onto Wicks Road at the light, go under overpass (LIE) and make a right at the light onto Motor Parkway. Head east to Adams Avenue, make a left onto Adams Avenue. Take Adams Avenue to Arkay Drive, turn right, building is on the right.

Individuals who would like to join DSAF will be asked to pay a nominal yearly membership fee.

Call Cathy Hoffman at 516-983-7008 for additional information/www.dsafonline.org