

News You Can Use

Dauphin County Department of Mental Health/Autism/Developmental Programs

Spring 2019

Charting the LifeCourse

The LifeCourse Framework

The LifeCourse Framework allows individuals with intellectual disabilities and families the opportunity to focus on a specific life stage and experience natural and positive opportunities while still having supports

The focus of traditional services and supports encourage health and safety of the individual as well as address the wants and needs they desire in an everyday life. However, the Life Course methodology, individuals and families begin at their current life stage and plan for the present and future. Individuals can build on their self-determination and community inclusion.

The LifeCourse refers to three “buckets” that connect each part of a person’s life such as jobs, family, friends, and housing situations. The 1st bucket is obtaining the information you need to go through life by learning about community resources. The 2nd bucket is learning to connect with others and those community resources. The third bucket is having tangible goods and utilizing services that all folks use.



PA Family Network

Want more information about the LIFECOURSE Principles?

The PA Family Network is a group of 20 family advisors who hold workshops across Pennsylvania, providing families with the opportunity to learn the LifeCourse principles and tools. PA Family Network assists families to fill their 3 buckets through individual mentorship, assist with resources,

To schedule a workshop in your area, contact pafamilynetwork@visionforequity.org or call 717-839-5437 or 1-844-PAFAMILY.

FUN FACT

The first day of spring is called the Vernal Equinox.



PA *autism.org*

ASERT (Autism Services, Education, Resources and Training) is a statewide initiative that helps individuals with Autism, families, providers, and communities improve access to services and information, provide support and train professionals in best practices. For information on events, resources, and trainings please visit www.paautism.org or call 877-231-4244.

Speaking for Ourselves (SFO): The Central PA Chapter of SFO is a local advocacy group that meets to discuss important issues and topics. Currently, the committee is in the process of developing a website for the local chapter. SFO meets on the 3rd Tuesday of each month at CMU (1100 South Cameron Street Harrisburg, PA 17104) from 5:00pm-6:00pm. If you are interested in learning about SFO, please email dsausman@cmu.cc or call (717)-441-7036.

Dauphin County Intellectual Disabilities Committee hosted a Spring Forum about “Guardianship” at the Giant Community Center in April. Marielle F. Hazen is an attorney and founder of Hazen Law Group located in Harrisburg, PA. Her specialties include estate planning, elder care, and disability planning. Marielle presented on the different types of Guardianship including Plenary v. Limited, Guardianship of the Estate, and Guardianship of the Person. She elaborated on the roles, documentation requirements, and expectations of a Legal Guardian. Marielle explained the powers and duties granted by the court, and the difference between Guardians and Power of Attorneys. Visit: www.hazenlawgroup.com for more information on her services!

Please join the Dauphin County Intellectual Disabilities Committee for its upcoming summer forum on *Special Needs Trusts* and *ABLE Accounts*. This forum will be located at the Giant Community Center on **June 24, 2019 from 1pm-3pm, and 6pm-8pm (2 sessions)**. We hope to see you there!

FUN FACT:

There's more daylight during spring because the earth's axis tilts toward the sun at this time of the year.