



# NEXT STEPS UPDATE

MARCH 2009

Dear Parent Advisors,

Spring is here and for most of us that means our upcoming annual PPTs. I am attaching the Before, During and After the PPT [PDF] tip sheet which may help as you begin to prepare for your meeting. [http://www.sde.ct.gov/sde/lib/sde/PDF/DEPS/Special/Before\\_PPT.pdf](http://www.sde.ct.gov/sde/lib/sde/PDF/DEPS/Special/Before_PPT.pdf)

We will be busy supporting the many families who continue to need information and training to advocate effectively for their children. You may hear from us as we find families in need of even more support than we can give over the phone. Thank you in advance for being there to assist us in this cause.

Jane



## ***“Next Stepper” taking the next step...***

*CPAC values Next STEP Parent Advisors who use their knowledge to affect change and support parents in their communities. Linda Chamrad is an example of just that. Linda has been busy sharing information and supporting parents in and around her community. Additionally, she has designed and coordinated the opening of a unique overnight camp experience for girls, Camp Dragonfly. We recognize the time and effort she has undertaken to make this dream a reality.*

*The camp serves girls ages 11-15 diagnosed with Asperger's Syndrome, Nonverbal Learning Disorder, Pervasive Developmental Disorder-(NOS) or High Functioning Autism. Camp Dragonfly will be held at Camp Harkness and is designed to provide a positive, fun environment that supports girls with similar needs, in an atmosphere where they feel accepted and successful. For more information on Camp Dragonfly, please contact Linda at [Lchamrad@snet.net](mailto:Lchamrad@snet.net). For a registration package, contact Net Robbins at 860-769-3840 or [Robbinsn@ciboakhill.org](mailto:Robbinsn@ciboakhill.org).*



## **IEP CHANGES!**

The changes to the IEP forms concerning transition planning are now complete. The new forms are expected to be used on all IEPs released on or after October 1, 2009. The new pages can be found as attachments to the February '09 Bureau Bulletin on the SDE website [www.sde.ct.gov](http://www.sde.ct.gov). From there, follow the links to “Special Education,” then “Bureau Bulletins, Blogs and Updates.”

## **Featured Resource:**

### **[A Family Guide: Connecticut's Framework to RTI](#)**

As many of you know, the reauthorization of IDEA in 2004 brought changes to the way schools may identify a child as having a learning disability. In CT, the choice was made to discontinue the use of the former discrepancy model and adopt the process referred to as Response to Intervention.

In CT, that process will be referred to as Scientific Research-Based Interventions. For more information, you can visit the CT Department of Education website, [www.sde.ct.gov](http://www.sde.ct.gov), or call CPAC for a printed brochure.

Connecticut Parent Advocacy Center

338 Main Street, Niantic, CT 06357 • (800) 445-2722 • [www.cpacinc.org](http://www.cpacinc.org)

New Haven • (203) 776-3211





## Featured Trainings



### Becoming a Parent Leader

Next STEPs now offers a fourth session and it is **open to all former NS participants**.

The content will include national, state and district initiatives affecting all children. We will review the district data that is available to all families.

**The next session will be held on  
April 21<sup>st</sup> from 6-9 in Middletown.**

Anyone interested in participating in systems change efforts should not miss this!

***Please call CPAC to  
register for this session!***



### Helping Kids Succeed in School

Come and learn what Scientific Research-Based Interventions (SRBI) are and how they might help a struggling learner.

SRBI will be discussed as it relates to the changing guidelines for the identification of students with learning disabilities.



**Presented by CPAC and the  
State Department of Education**

**March 23, 2009**

**Wallingford Public Library**

Deadline for registration is March 19th,  
call CPAC to register.

1-800-445-2722

### **\*\* IEP CLINICS \*\***

*CPAC would like to hold 1 or 2  
IEP Clinics this spring.*

*Please email Jane if you are able to  
volunteer at this busy time. We will  
plan to hold it in the nearest city to the  
volunteers.*

***Thanks for your help.***

**[jhampton@cpacinc.org](mailto:jhampton@cpacinc.org)**



### **PARENT TRAINING OPPORTUNITY !**

**PATH Parent to Parent of CT  
Listener Training Opportunity**

*PATH's Listener program matches parents of children  
with special needs with "veteran" parents (Listeners)  
who have been through similar experiences. The  
"veteran" parent (Listener) provides emotional support  
as well as resources and helpful information by phone to  
referred parents.*

**1-800-399-PATH (CT Only)**

**1-203-234-9554**

**[www.pathct.org](http://www.pathct.org)**

**P.O. Box 117, Northford, CT 06472**

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