



Family matters

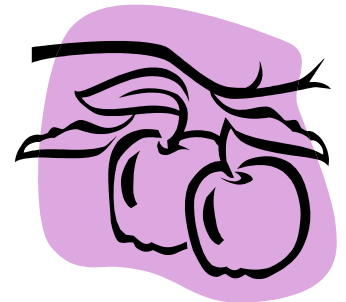
March for Virginians with Disabilities

**October 1, 2005
Richmond Virginia 10:00 a.m.
Mayo Island to the Bell Tower
on the Capitol-grounds.**

Please join The Arc of Virginia and its 22 affiliated chapters as we MARCH to show our elected officials and communities that Virginians with disabilities desire what all Virginians want: "A Life Like Yours!" A place to

call home, access to healthcare, transportation, an education, a job, recreation and a safe community. To make this happen we need long term supports in place and that takes commitment from our elected officials and communities to invest the resources

necessary to create and maintain community based services for Virginians with disabilities. For more information call 888-604-2677 ext. 2



Seeking a Regional Representative

The Arc of Virginia Family Involvement Project is seeking a Part-time Northern Virginia Regional Representative.

Have you experienced Early Intervention services through your child? Would you like to transfer those experiences as well as your everyday training

of raising a child with a disability or medical condition, into a fun and rewarding opportunity? Do you live in the greater, northern Virginia area? If so, the Arc of Virginia Family Involvement Project needs your insights and experience as a Northern Virginia Regional Representative.

Resumes will be accepted through October 12, 2005.

If you have questions or would like to submit a resume please contact:

Debra Holloway at 888-604-2677 x3 or dholloway@arcfip.org.

Special points of interest:

- *Overview of the Part C Program Under IDEA*
- *Candidate Responses*
- *Parent Focus Groups*

Overview of the Part C Program Under IDEA

Congress established the part C program in 1986 in recognition of "an urgent and substantial need" to:

- *enhance the development of infants and toddlers with disabilities;
- *reduce educational costs by minimizing the need for special education through early intervention;
- *minimize the likelihood of institutionalization, and maximize

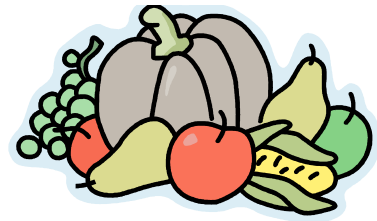
independent living; and, enhance the capacity of families to meet their child's needs

On December 3, 2004, President Bush signed legislation reauthorizing IDEA. Please see NECTAC's new web page on the [Individuals with Disabilities Education Improvement Act of 2004](#). The current [statute](#) and [regulations](#) for Part C contain many requirements states have to meet, including specifying the [minimum components](#) of comprehensive

statewide early intervention system.

To read more visit the National Education Technical Assistance website at:

www.nectac.org/partc/partc.asp



Candidate Responses

The members of the Virginia Coalition of Autism Support Groups are very concerned about the impact that the increase in autism is having on individuals with autism and their families across Virginia. We asked each of the 2005 gubernatorial candidates their

position on many issues facing the autism community. If you are interested in learning what candidates said to questions such as:

"What is your position/plan on increasing the number of funded DD and MR waiver slots for Virginia?"

Visit the Autism Society of America Central Virginia website (www.asacv.org) to read responses from candidates for Governor, Lt. Governor and the Attorney General.

Updated Website

The Family Involvement Project has launched a new and improved website! The site is easier to navigate and get up to date information. Take a minute to check it out!

www.arcfip.org

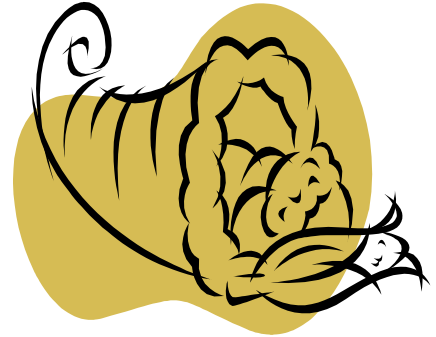


Parent Focus Groups

Virginia is currently working on a project to develop and enhance Part C state outcomes for children and families who are receiving early intervention services. We are in the process of scheduling parent focus groups where parents will be able to provide feedback on these outcomes.

Any parent that is interested in participating in a focus group (which will last approximately an hour) please contact the project coordinator, Wendi Wilson-John at wwilsonj@odu.edu or 757-683-5193 as soon as possible.

Times and dates are being planned for October a stipend for child care will be provided.



VICC Parent Representative Needed

Announcing a vacancy on the Virginia Interagency Coordinating Council (VICC) as a Northern Virginia Parent Representative.

If you live in this area and are interested, we are now accepting applications for this voluntary position. The Virginia Interagency Coordinating Council meets four times a year, the

second Wednesday in September, December, March and June. The Family Involvement Project will provide one night stay accommodations for the meeting and a \$75 per 8 hours stipend will be provided. The VICC's duties are to advise and assist the lead agency, the Department of Mental Health, Mental Retardation and Sub-

stance Abuse Services, with providing Early Intervention Services. This position is Governor appointed. If you are interested in more information contact Debra Holloway 888-604-2677 ext. 3 or dholloway@arcfip.org.



New VICC Regional Representatives

Congratulations and thank you to newly appointed Virginia Interagency Coordinating Council Parent Representative members!

[Dina Kirby](#)

Central Virginia Representative (540) 271-6207
kirbydx@jmu.edu.

[Jackie Myal](#)

South West Representative

(540) 643-0202

jfmyal@pcva.us

[Sheila Nelson](#)

Greater Richmond area Representative.



**THE ARC OF VIRGINIA FAMILY
INVOLVEMENT PROJECT**

2025 East Main Street,
Suite 120
Richmond VA
23223

Phone: 804-649-8481
Fax: 804-649-3585
Toll Free 888-604-2677

[www.arcfip.org]

Upcoming Events

*The Integrative Training Collaborative (ITC) is looking for family members to become a part of their group. They meet quarterly at the Kluge Center in Charlottesville. There is an opportunity to participate via conference call. Their work consists of providing consistent, coordinated training efforts for providers and families across Virginia. Some projects include the Early Intervention Conference, service coordinator training and web-based training for providers. If you are interested or have questions please contact:

Cori Hill

VA EI Training Specialist

(540) 943-6776

*Parent-to-Parent Training:

November 21st at the Infant and Toddler Connection Middle Peninsula Northern Neck. If you are interested in attending contact Debra Holloway.

*Early Intervention Techniques for Young Children with Suspected of Having Autism Spectrum Disorder.

October 5th

Brickhouse Auditorium, Sentara Norfolk General Hospital

For more information contact sduncan@odu.edu

*Using Verbal Behavior to Analyze Language and PECS to Achieve Better Understanding

October 19th

JMU

For more information contact: www.autismva.org

*I have a New Student With Autism . What Do I know?

October 20th

Holiday Inn Fredericksburg

Contact: sduncan@odu.edu

*Overview of Autism and Effective Inclusion

October 22nd

Woolridge Road Church, Mosley, VA

If interested contact: www.uniquekids.net

*December 14th VICC Meeting