

SPRING 2011

THERAPY CENTER:
2075 MAX LUTHER DRIVE
HUNTSVILLE, AL 35810
(256) 852-5600

TRAINING & TECHNOLOGY CENTER:
1856 KEATS DRIVE
HUNTSVILLE, AL 35810
(256) 859-4900



COMING EVENTS:

- T.A.S.C. Plant Sale, April 7, 10 a.m.-6 p.m., Therapy Center
- Parent Groups, Mondays 9-10:15 a.m. or 10:30-11:45 a.m., Therapy Center
- Art Stops, 2nd and 4th Thursday 2:30-4 p.m., Therapy Center
- Benefit Rummage Sale for T.A.S.C., May 14, 7 a.m., Corner of Max Luther and Keats
- June/July Preschool Readiness Summer Program, Therapy Center
- Camp "I Can" Session One, June 6-10, 9 a.m.-Noon, Therapy Center
- Camp "I Can" Session Two, July 11-15, 9 a.m.-Noon, Therapy Center
- Paint the Streets 5k & Carlene Memorial Mile, July 23, 7 a.m., SAIC

T.A.S.C. PLANT SALE

NEW LOCATION: United Cerebral Palsy, 2075 Max Luther Dr., Huntsville. Pre-orders have ended, but a variety of quality Bennett Nurseries plants will be available for sale April 7 at UCP. All proceeds benefit UCP T.A.S.C. services and half of your total purchase is tax deductible.

T.A.S.C. is committed to helping individuals with disabilities, birth through adulthood, to obtain and use technology to level the playing field at school, work and home. For more information about T.A.S.C. services, call 256-859-8300.

Newsletter for our Families and Friends

For further information and updates, please visit www.ucphuntsville.org

SUMMER PROGRAMS AT UCP

With summer coming, it's time to start thinking about summer programming at UCP! Our Children's Therapy Services therapists are ready to continue your child's **Physical Therapy, Occupational Therapy, and Speech Therapy** that may be provided through your child's school. UCP is also gearing up for the **2011 Camp "I Can": Outdoor Adventure** for ages 5-10, to be held at our Therapy Center. Camp dates are June 6-10 for children with physical disabilities or gross motor delays, and July 11-15 for children with Autism Spectrum Disorders. Each week is staffed with teachers; a Physical Therapist,

Occupational Therapist, Speech-Language Pathologist, Technology Specialist; and caring volunteers. The cost for each week of camp is \$200 and includes gross and fine motor activities, sensory opportunities, arts and crafts, computer tasks, outdoor play and more! Medicaid primary accepted for payment. Special summer sessions for our **Preschool Readiness Playgroup** will also be offered for June and July. This group is designed for ages 2 1/2 to 4 years and is open to UCP clients and the community. This group typically meets one day a week from 9-11 a.m.; however, two days a week



may be available based on interest. The cost for the two month summer session (7 weeks) is \$75 for the one day a week program. **Art Stops** sessions will also continue during the summer.

Visit our ucphuntsville.org for updated information. To register for any summer programs, call UCP at 256-852-5600.

2ND ANNUAL PAINT THE STREETS

Registration is under way for the second "Paint the Streets" 5k & Carlene Hall Memorial Mile on Saturday, July 23, 7 a.m. at SAIC in Research Park. Early registration at imAthlete.com is \$20 for the 5k and \$15 for the mile walk. Team competition will be offered this year. For



complete details, visit ucptasc.org/carlenehall.org or ucphuntsville.org.

BENEFIT RUMMAGE SALE

A rummage sale to benefit T.A.S.C. spinal cord injury services at UCP, sponsored by the 2011 Paint the Streets 5k & Carlene Hall Memorial Mile committee, will be Saturday, May 14, 7 a.m. at the corner of

Max Luther Drive and Keats Drive NW in Huntsville (located between both UCP Centers). **Item donations will be accepted M-F, 8 a.m.-4:30 p.m., May 2-6 and May 9-13, as well as Saturday, May 7, 9 a.m.-1 p.m.**, at the UCP Technology & Training Center, located at 1856 Keats Drive, Huntsville, 35810. All donations are tax deductible. For more info, contact the Paint the Streets committee at paintthestreets5k@gmail.com.

AN IRISH EVENING

UCP's 13th annual "An Irish Evening" event, presented by Redstone Federal Credit Union was Friday, March 11, at the Jackson Conference Center. All proceeds from this annual fundraiser directly benefit UCP client services in North Alabama. One of Huntsville's best silent auctions once again took place throughout the evening. Offerings included vacation packages, fine dining, entertainment, jewelry, unique home décor and much more and for bidding enjoyment. Thanks to all of those who came out to support UCP as well as sponsors, donors, and volunteers.



EQUIPPING FAMILIES FOR SUCCESS

Raising a child takes a lot of work, especially a child with special needs. Through our **Equipping Families for Success** program, Licensed Professional Counselor Marilyn Lands leads two parent groups on Monday mornings at the Max Luther Drive Center. These groups are open to all parents or caregivers of a child with special needs, regardless of age. Come, share and learn!

Individual and family counseling sessions are also available at no charge.

For more information, or to schedule an appointment, contact UCP at 256-852-5600.



EARN MONEY FOR YOURSELF AND UCP WITH Op4G

Op4G (Opinions 4 Giving) makes it possible for people to earn money for themselves and their favorite Non-Profits by participating in internet-based market research anonymously at a safe and secure website. Your identity is never known, can never be sold, and you're never inundated with SPAM as a result of Op4G Membership. Plus, all research activities

are determined by you at the myOp4G website, which is filled with a variety of fun information and activities.

Register today and help us reach 500 members by June 30, 2011, and UCP will be awarded \$15,000!

EARLY INTERVENTION TRAINING

The North Alabama Early Intervention Council and UCP's Childcare Enhancement with a Purpose Project (CCEP) present "It Takes a Village" April 28, 9 a.m.-1 p.m., at ADRS on Johnson Road. Topics include: choosing quality childcare, making inclusion successful, respite care, and behavioral strategies for daily living. There is no charge for parents or childcare providers. To register, contact Karri Franks at 256-650-1724.



Join us for Art Stops!


On every 2nd and 4th Thursday of the month, artist Renee Prasil hosts an afternoon of art exploration. Sessions are drop-in and run, 2:30-4 p.m., at UCP's Therapy Center. Free and open to children with special needs and their siblings.

Watch for information about special Art Stops Sessions during the summer!

DONATIONS NEEDED

Do you have any medical equipment that is not being used? Through Alabama's STAR program, Waste Not cleans, repairs, and recycles donated assistive technology and redistributes it free of charge. Donations accepted and redistributed include wheelchairs, scooters, walkers and canes, shower chairs, hospital beds, computers, and miscellaneous medical equipment and supplies.

For additional information, contact Missie Palat at 256-852-5600 ext. 100.



PRESCHOOL READINESS PLAYGROUP

Looking for a program to help your child prepare for pre-school? Look no further than right here at UCP! We offer a Preschool Readiness Playgroup every Wednesday from 9-11 am. The Playgroup is staffed by teachers with consultation and participation by Speech and Occupational Therapists. The goal of this group is to better prepare your child for preschool with the basic skills that they will need (coloring, cutting, listening to and following directions, using language to communicate wants and needs to others, etc.). It is also a great

opportunity for social interaction among same-aged peers. This group is open to any child ages 2½ to 4. We attempt to keep the group to around 8 peers at a time for more individualized attention. The cost is just \$60 per month. Special summer programs will also be offered.



If you would like more information, please contact Wendy Pittard at 852-5600 ext. 105.

CHILDCARE ENHANCEMENT WITH A PURPOSE (CCEP)

Free training for childcare providers! On-site training, consultation and technical assistance to preschools, daycares, and other childcare providers.

Assistance is also available through developmental screenings to identify special needs of children enrolled in area programs. Call CCEP for more information at 256-859-4900.

UCP WEBSITE

For more information about UCP programs, upcoming events, and pictures from past events, please keep checking our website at www.ucphuntsville.org.



APRIL IS CHILD ABUSE PREVENTION MONTH

The month of April is Child Abuse Prevention Month, and several activities are planned across the state. The community is invited to participate in a statewide project to “Build a Blue Ribbon Tree.” The Alabama Department of Child Abuse and Neglect Prevention (DCAP), Children’s Trust Fund (CTF), invites children to build a Blue Ribbon Tree, as blue ribbons are the international sign for child abuse prevention. These ribbons serve as a constant reminder that all of us have a responsibility to help keep children safe. Pictures of the trees and their sponsors will be displayed in the State House on April 14. Registration forms are available at the DCAP website (www.ctf.alabama.gov). The Children’s Trust Fund Rally at the State House in Montgomery is planned for Wednesday, April 13, at 10 a.m. Everyone is invited to come out to support, strengthen, and promote healthy families in our communities. Another campaign, “Pinwheels for Prevention,” initiated by the organization Prevent Child Abuse America, has introduced the pinwheel as a symbol of child abuse and neglect prevention nationwide. The pinwheel represents America’s efforts to change the way our nation thinks about prevention, focusing on community activities and public policies that prioritize prevention right from the start to make sure child abuse and neglect never occur.



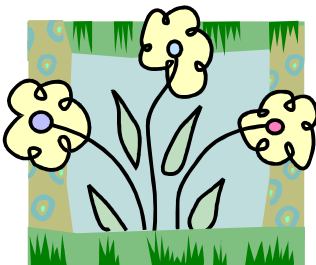
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YOUNG ADULTS CONNECTIONS

Young adults (ages 18 and older) are invited to join Marilyn Lands, Licensed Professional Counselor, on the first Wednesday of each month, 11:30 a.m.-1 p.m., for the Young Adults *Connections* Group held at the Therapy Center on Max Luther Drive.

Topics for discussion include: Stress Management, Job Readiness Skills, Job Placement Resources, Communication Skills, Managing Emotions, Dealing with Grief, Self-Esteem, and ideas from the group are welcome. A light lunch will be served and a drawing for prizes will be held.

Join us for camaraderie, sharing, guest speakers and stories. For more information, contact the UCP Therapy Center at 256-852-5600.



CCEP Trainings

CCEP will be offering a training on *Child Abuse and Neglect* April 21, 6:30-8:30 p.m. This training will identify increased risk factors of abuse and neglect, warning signs to be aware of, consequences of abuse, and protective factors linked to lower incidences of child abuse and neglect. On June 16, 6:30-8:30 p.m., another training on *Playground and Sun Safety* will be offered. This training will address how to protect children on playgrounds, as well as protecting children from the hot summer sun!

To register for classes, contact Stephanie Eger at 256-859-4900. There is no charge for the trainings, but registration is on a first come first served basis.



EARLY INTERVENTION COUNCIL MEETING

All parents of children served through Alabama’s Early Intervention program are invited to attend the quarterly council meetings. The next meeting is scheduled for Thursday, April 7, 10 a.m. at the Alabama Department of Rehabilitation Services (ADRS) building located on Johnson Road. For more information, contact District Early Intervention Coordinator Jill Stewart at 256-650-1727.

ALABAMA RESPITE

Alabama Respite has funding available for the spring and summer for families who care for loved ones of any age with intellectual disabilities. The respite funds can be used for summer camps or other planned activities. Please call Jennifer Formby at 256-859-4900 if you would like to receive additional information about how to apply for respite services.

PARENT RESOURCE

Mychildwithoutlimits.org is an early intervention resource for families of young children ages 0-5 with developmental delays or disabilities, and professionals looking for a single, trusted, aggregate source of information that relates to their needs and interests. This website offers information in three basic areas: Understand, Plan, and Act. We also offer a community section where parents can communicate with each other, ask questions of professionals and service providers, and receive support through the critical period of initial diagnosis.



H.E.A.R.T.S.

Need a break? HEARTS is a project funded by Children’s Trust Fund offering respite care for families of children under the age of 19 with any type of disability as well as parent education and support.

CPR training is available for parents and caregivers. Please contact Stephanie Wright at 256-852-5600 ext. 102 for more information or to register for CPR.



UPCOMING COMMUNITY EVENTS

Huntsville Futbol Club

TOPSoccer Season

March 27-May 22

Brahan Spring Park

Ages 6-18 with special needs

www.naltopsoccer.com

nalatopsoccer@gmail.com

Autism Society of Alabama

Walk for Autism

April 2, 8:30 a.m.-noon

Milton Frank Stadium, Huntsville

877-482-8476

National Children's Advocacy Center

2nd Annual NCAC Block Party

April, 11 a.m.-2 p.m.

NCAC, 210 Pratt Avenue

Tours, music, free food and games,
child ID kits, moon bounces and face painting
and more!

256-533-5437

Family Voices of Alabama

2011 Partners in Care Summit

Marriott Legends at Capital Hill in Prattville

April 4-Family Celebration

April 5-Family/Professional Workshop

Strengthen networks with other families and care
providers, discuss current challenges and strategies
for care for children with special needs

www.familyvoicesal.org

877-771-3862

3rd Annual Children's Trust Fund Rally

April 13, 10 a.m.

Alabama's State House

Montgomery

9th Annual Child Safety Conference

Protecting Our Children and Teens

April 19, 8 a.m.-3:30 p.m.

Decatur Baptist Church, Decatur

Mental Health Association of Morgan County

C.A.S.T. for Kids

May 7, Lake Guntersville State Park

One day outdoor fishing event for children with
special needs

Ages 6-18

Castforkidsalabama.org/Blog/

Premier Collaborations

Child Development Center

Preschool Specialized Instruction

Summer Camp 2011 Program

Ages 2 1/2-5

June Session one: June 6—July 1

July Session two: July 7—August 5

Contact: Carol Vancil 256-464-8405

premiercollaborations.net

appliedbehavioralconcepts.net

Mothers' Club of Madison County

Meetings take place during the school year

For mothers of children who have special needs

256-830-1631

Merrimack Hall

Dance Your Dreams!

Dance program for children who cannot
participate in mainstream dance education due to
physical, mental, or emotional disabilities

256-534-6455

Miracle League of North Alabama

Spring basketball April-June

Volleyball-July

For ages 5 and up with all disabilities

256-679-7447

www.huntsvillemiracleleague.org

This is not a comprehensive list! Please check
UCP's website or contact the Therapy Center for
additional community opportunities.

www.ucphuntsville.org

256-852-5600

**UCP makes no recommendations regarding community programs.
This is provided as a community service for informational use only.**