

Upcoming Workshops/Conferences/Events

There is a wealth of information available for parents of children with special needs. Our responsibility is to provide a variety of resources so you can make informed decisions for your family. Partners for Success and Frederick County Public Schools do not endorse any group or point of view.

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Oct. 18, 2017

6:30 - 8:00 PM

Event: Family and Friends Support Group Meeting

Content: This free NAMI support group meeting is for family and friends of those with mental illness. This support group is a very relaxed, caring, and understanding environment. You can share your story or just listen to others, knowing that all discussions are confidential. The information discussed is ever so valuable. Membership in NAMI is not required.

Location: All Saints Episcopal Church 106 W. Church Street Frederick, MD US

Information: NAMI of Frederick County can be reached by calling (240) 379-6186 or supportgroups@namifcmd.org ; www.namifcmd.org

FREE

Thursday—Oct. 19, 2017

6:30-8pm

Event: A Time to Share (Support, Help And Really Encourage)

Sponsor: FCPS Partners for Success, FCDC Family Support, Frederick YMCA

Content: The Frederick County Public Schools Family Resource Center- Partners for Success, along with the Infants and Toddlers Family Support Network and the YMCA, supports a group that meets monthly in the evening at the Frederick YMCA. This will be an opportunity for parents of children with special needs to gather in an informal setting to both receive and give support, and to network with other parents who face similar parenting challenges. **Free childcare** will be provided by YMCA staff for a limited amount of children on a first come basis. **For childcare, you must pre-register 5 business day before the meeting.** To register for childcare, email Kelly Presnell at Kpresnell@frederickymca.org or call her at 301-663-5131, ext. 1248.

Location: Frederick YMCA, 1000 N. Market Street, Frederick, MD 21701

Information: call Susan Donoghue-Rick at 240-236-8744, email susan.donoghue-rick@fcps.org. If sign language or foreign language interpretation is needed, please call or e-mail susan.donoghue-rick@fcps.org at least 10 business days before the program.

Oct. 21, 2017

10am-2pm

Event: Parents' Day Out

Sponsors: The Arc of Frederick County

Content: Parents' Day Out provides much needed respite care to parents and guardians of children with developmental disabilities. At The Arc, the training room magically

evolves into a playroom full of toys, games, books and laughter where children can participate in a wide variety of activities including crafts, games and outdoor play while in a safe, supervised environment. The program is staffed by two Arc employees and young adults from local civic and church groups as well as other volunteers from the Frederick community. The program is open to children from ages 3-14, and requires pre-registration; space is limited and the list fills up quickly. Call in between the hours of 9am and 5pm after the first day of the month to reserve your spot.

Location: The Arc of Frederick, 620A Research Dr., Frederick, MD 21703

Information and to get a registration form: 301-663-0909, Karen Patterson ext. 142 or Emily Heiges ext. 163.

FREE

Oct. 21, 2017

11:30am-1pm

Event: Mothers' Support Group

Sponsor: The Arc of Frederick County

Content: Topics will include: Reflections of having a son or daughter with a disability; letting go of guilt: finding balance; first things first; wants versus needs; gratitude; isolation; boundaries; staying in the present; juggling competing demands.

Location: The Arc of Frederick County 620-A Research Court, Frederick MD 21703

Information: Bridget Patterson at 301-663-0909 x121 or bpaterson@arcfc.org

FREE

Oct. 21, 2017

5-7pm

Event: "Saturday Night Alive"—October will feature a photo booth with costumes

Sponsor: Haven Universe

Content: Open to all special needs individuals of all ages with families and friends.

"Saturday Night Alive" events are located at a central location in Montgomery County. We meet in a local gym-type facility to participate collectively in a variety of adapted, engaging "sports" and lively games, simple arts and crafts, and a pizza snack. A simple Bible lesson with contemporary Christian music and prayer is offered as an OPTION but not required so that people of all faiths (or no faith) will feel comfortable attending. It is a rare opportunity for the whole family to engage together with other families, caregivers and friends in an accepting, fun, high-energy, encouraging and supportive atmosphere. Our desire is to be an inspiring community of hope to all.

Location: Lakelands Park Middle School, 1200 Main Street, Gaithersburg, MD 20878

Information: 301-343-7283 or hu@havenuniverse.org; www.havenuniverse.org

FEE

Oct. 28, 2017

8am-3pm

Event: 10th Annual Frederick Community Health Fair

Sponsors: Asian American Center of Frederick, Frederick Memorial Hospital, HMART,...

Content: Health and wellness services and activities such as: Clinic/Social Workers/Community Health Workers, DEXA (Bone density scanning), Flu Vaccines for all ages, Medical Doctor Exam, Mental Health Referral, Medical Screenings for: Blood Pressure, Cholesterol/Diabetes, Hearing, Heart Disease, Hepatitis B, Hepatitis C, HIV/AIDs, Lung Disease, and Vision. And more.

Location: Great Frederick Fairgrounds, 797 East Patrick Street, Frederick MD

Information: 301-694-3355 or healthfair@aacfmd.org

FREE

Oct. 30, 2017

6-8pm

Event: Frederick SECAC (Special Education Citizens Advisory Committee) Meeting

Sponsors: Maryland State Department of Education, Frederick County Public Schools

Content: The Frederick County SECAC meets to collaborate with and provide input to the Special Education Office. Membership includes parents, community representatives, students and FCPS staff. Meetings are open to the public and are full of interesting information on a variety of topics, such as transportation, testing, new programs, 504 plans, and much more.

Location: Central Office Building, 191 South East Street, Frederick, MD Board Room

Information: 301-644-5281

FREE

Nov. 1, 2017

11am-12noon and also

6:30-7:30pm

Workshop: Guardianship and the Available Alternatives

Sponsor: The Arc of Frederick County

Content: Guardianship of your child may not be necessary once you know of the other alternatives that are available.

Location: 555 South Market Street, Frederick MD 21701

Information: contact Anjela McNally at 301-663-0909 ext. 153 or amcnally@arcfc.org or Becky Smock at 301-663-0909 ext. 148 or bsmock@arcfc.org. RSVP if you need care for your child during the workshops.

FREE

Nov. 2, 2017

7 - 8:30 PM

Event: Family and Friends Support Group Meeting

Content: This free NAMI support group meeting is for family and friends of those with mental illness. This support group is a very relaxed, caring, and understanding environment. You can share your story or just listen to others, knowing that all discussions are confidential. The information discussed is ever so valuable. Membership in NAMI is not required.

Location: Good Shepherd Church, 1415 W. 7th St., Frederick, MD

Information: NAMI of Frederick County can be reached by calling (240) 379-6186 or supportgroups@namifcmd.org ; www.namifcmd.org .

Catoctin Creek Nature Center Open House For Families of Children with Special Needs

Saturday-Nov. 4, 2017

10am-2pm (Lunch on your own)

**Location: 2929 Sumantown Rd.
Middletown, MD 21769**

Come join the Catoctin Creek Nature Center staff for a fun day complete with senses-themed interactive stations and meeting some of the resident critters, all at your own pace! Experience any or all of the following:

- Indoors visit with the live animals and enjoy hands-on Discovery Cove where children can explore and learn about the natural world.
- Outside explore the Sensory Trail, which includes twelve interactive touch, smell and listening stations, with a guide rope which was specially designed to lead children with vision impairments, autism, and other special needs up and down gradual hills.
- Fun craft tables!
- Have your picture taken with some of the resident critters.
- Able to touch furs and bones!
- Picnic tables in a pavilion, the Music Garden, and the playground will also be available to use.

If you want, bring packed lunches and/or snacks; food is not sold in the area.

Registration is requested; call Susan Donoghue-Rick at 240-236-8744 or email susan.donoghue-rick@fcps.org or call Julie DeRoner at 301-600-1617 or email jderoner@frederickcountymd.gov.

If sign language or foreign language interpretation is needed, please call or e-mail susan.donoghue-rick@fcps.org at least 10 business days before the program.

Sponsored with Frederick County Infants and Toddlers Family Support Network.

Nov. 8, 2017

12noon-2pm

Workshop: Making Social Skills Less Frustrating for Children with Autism

Sponsors: FCPS Partners for Success, Pathfinders for Autism, FCDC Infants and Toddlers

Content: Children with Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD) experience difficulty with social skills, both in creating and maintaining long term relationships and in interacting with people throughout daily life. Heather Hinkle will discuss the underlying reasons for

these difficulties and outline specific ways to help decrease the frustration that children with autism experience when relating to others. Presenter is Heather Hinkle, M. ED., the Education Program Coordinator of Social Sciences - Arts & Sciences - Academic Affairs at Frederick Community College.

Location: FCPS Staff Development Center, 44 W. Frederick St., Walkersville, MD 21793

Information and Registration: susan.donoghue-rick@fcps.org or 240-236-8744

FREE

Nov. 11, 2017

10am-1pm

Event: Sibshops-Workshops for brothers and sisters of kids with developmental disabilities

Sponsor: The Arc of Frederick County

Content: Sibshops are a celebration of the many contributions made by brothers and sisters of kids with special needs. Sibshops reflect a belief that brothers and sisters have much to offer one another -- if they are given a chance. Siblings participate in a spirited mix of new games (designed to be unique, off-beat, and appealing to a wide ability range), participate in discussion activities, and get to know others who have something in common with them -- a sibling with a disability. Some of our sessions include crafts, cooking, discussion groups, and other lively activities. Sibshop provides opportunities for brothers and sisters, ages 5-11 years old, of children with developmental disabilities to obtain peer support and education while having fun! For information about location, please call Alicia at The Arc of Frederick County, 301-663-0909 ext.171.

Cost is \$10 per session.

Location: To be determined.

Information: Alicia at The Arc of Frederick County, 301-663-0909 ext.171. Must pre-register.

FEE

Nov. 14, 2017

12:00 pm - 1:30 pm

Workshop: Positive Behavior Supports

Sponsors: Howard County Autism Society and Pathfinders for Autism

Content: Join Pathfinders for Autism and the Howard County Autism Society for a Brown Bag workshop on November 14. Speaker Michael Muempfer, M.Ed., Lead Specialist for Student Behavior and School Climate at the Maryland State Department of Education (MSDE), will discuss positive behavior supports being implemented by MSDE, a move away from restraints and seclusion. FREE to attend, registration required at the link provided below.

Location: NonProfit Collaborative of Howard County, 9770 Patuxent Woods Drive (Training Room) Columbia, MD 21046

Information: Contact: Emily Metelski at 443-330-5370 or emetelski@pfamd.org
<http://www.pathfindersforautism.org/news/view/532>

FREE

Nov. 15, 2017

6:30 - 8:00 PM

Event: Family and Friends Support Group Meeting

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Location: All Saints Episcopal Church 106 W. Church Street Frederick, MD US

Information: NAMI of Frederick County can be reached by calling (240) 379-6186 or supportgroups@namifcmd.org ; www.namifcmd.org

FREE

Thursday—Nov. 16, 2017

6:30-8pm

Event: A Time to Share (Support, Help And Really Encourage)

Sponsor: FCPS Partners for Success, FCDC Family Support, Frederick YMCA

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Location: Frederick YMCA, 1000 N. Market Street, Frederick, MD 21701

Information: call Susan Donoghue-Rick at 240-236-8744, email susan.donoghue-rick@fcps.org. If sign language or foreign language interpretation is needed, please call or e-mail susan.donoghue-rick@fcps.org at least 10 business days before the program.

Nov. 17, 2017

7-8:30pm

Event: QUEST FOR L'ARCHE FRIDAY NIGHT GATHERINGS

Sponsor: Quest for L'Arche Maryland

Content: All are welcome to celebrate Valentin's Day! The events include fun activities and music for individuals with disabilities and their families and friends. . Light refreshments. L'Arche, French for "The Ark", was founded in 1964 by Jean Vanier, a Canadian Catholic layman to provide caring homes where people with and without disabilities choose to live together with comfort, spirituality and respect.

Location: St. Katharine Drexel Church, 8428 Opossumtown Pike, Frederick, MD

Information: call 301-416-0273 or questforlarchemd@gmail.com

FREE

Nov. 18, 2017

10am-2pm

Event: Parents' Day Out

Sponsors: The Arc of Frederick County

Content: Parents' Day Out provides much needed respite care to parents and guardians of children with developmental disabilities. At The Arc, the training room magically evolves into a playroom full of toys, games, books and laughter where children can participate in a wide variety of activities including crafts, games and outdoor play while in a safe, supervised environment. The program is staffed by two Arc employees and young adults from local civic and church groups as well as other volunteers from the Frederick community. The program is open to children from ages 3-14, and requires pre-registration; space is limited and the list fills up quickly. Call in between the hours of 9am and 5pm after the first day of the month to reserve your spot.

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Information and to get a registration form: 301-663-0909, Karen Patterson ext. 142 or Emily Heiges ext. 163.

FREE

Nov. 18, 2017

11:30am-1pm

Event: Mothers' Support Group

Sponsor: The Arc of Frederick County

Content: Topics will include: Reflections of having a son or daughter with a disability; letting go of guilt: finding balance; first things first; wants versus needs; gratitude; isolation; boundaries; staying in the present; juggling competing demands.

Location: The Arc of Frederick County 620-A Research Court, Frederick MD 21703

Information: Bridget Patterson at 301-663-0909 x121 or bpaterson@arcfc.org

FREE

Nov. 18, 2017

5-7pm

Event: "Saturday Night Alive"

Sponsor: Haven Universe

Content: Open to all special needs individuals of all ages with families and friends. "Saturday Night Alive" events are located at a central location in Montgomery County. We meet in a local gym-type facility to participate collectively in a variety of adapted, engaging "sports" and lively games, simple arts and crafts, and a pizza snack. A simple Bible lesson with contemporary Christian music and prayer is offered as an OPTION but not required so that people of all faiths (or no faith) will feel comfortable attending. It is a rare opportunity for the whole family to engage together with other families, caregivers and friends in an accepting, fun, high-energy, encouraging and supportive atmosphere. Our desire is to be an inspiring community of hope to all.

Location: Lakelands Park Middle School, 1200 Main Street, Gaithersburg, MD 20878

Information: 301-343-7283 or hu@havenuniverse.org; www.havenuniverse.org
FEE

Nov. 27, 2017

6-8pm

Event: Frederick SECAC (Special Education Citizens Advisory Committee) Meeting

Sponsors: Maryland State Department of Education, Frederick County Public Schools

Content: The Frederick County SECAC meets to collaborate with and provide input to the Special Education Office. Membership includes parents, community representatives, students and FCPS staff. Meetings are open to the public and are full of interesting information on a variety of topics, such as transportation, testing, new programs, 504 plans, and much more.

Location: Central Office Building, 191 South East Street, Frederick, MD Board Room

Information: 301-644-5281

FREE

Save the Date!!!!
Sensory Holiday Celebration
At Pump It Up
Dec. 3, 2017

Dec. 7, 2017

7 - 8:30 PM

Event: Family and Friends Support Group Meeting

Content: This free NAMI support group meeting is for family and friends of those with mental illness. This support group is a very relaxed, caring, and understanding environment. You can share your story or just listen to others, knowing that all discussions are confidential. The information discussed is ever so valuable. Membership in NAMI is not required.

Location: Good Shepherd Church, 1415 W. 7th St., Frederick, MD

Information: NAMI of Frederick County can be reached by calling (240) 379-6186 or supportgroups@namifcmd.org ; www.namifcmd.org.

Dec. 9, 2017

10am-1pm

Event: Sibshops-Workshops for brothers and sisters of kids with developmental disabilities

Sponsor: The Arc of Frederick County

Content: Sibshops are a celebration of the many contributions made by brothers and sisters of kids with special needs. Sibshops reflect a belief that brothers and sisters have much to offer one another -- if they are given a chance. Siblings participate in a spirited mix of new games (designed to be unique, off-beat, and appealing to a wide ability

range), participate in discussion activities, and get to know others who have something in common with them -- a sibling with a disability. Some of our sessions include crafts, cooking, discussion groups, and other lively activities. Sibshop provides opportunities for brothers and sisters, ages 5-11 years old, of children with developmental disabilities to obtain peer support and education while having fun! For information about location, please call Alicia at The Arc of Frederick County, 301-663-0909 ext.171.

Cost is \$10 per session.

Location: To be determined.

Information: Alicia at The Arc of Frederick County, 301-663-0909 ext.171 or anunn@arcfc.org. Must pre-register.

FEE

Dec. 16, 2017

10am-2pm

Event: Parents' Day Out

Sponsors: The Arc of Frederick County

Content: Children with and without disabilities enjoy games, crafts, songs, and all-around fun while their parents have a few hours to run errands or spend time with other family members or friends. Must pre-register.

Location: The Arc of Frederick County 620A Research Court Frederick, MD 21703

Information and to get a registration form: Emily Heiges at EHeiges@arcfc.org or 301-663-0909 x163 or Karen Patterson 301-663-0909 ext. 142.

FREE

Dec. 16, 2017

11:30am-1pm

Event: Mothers' Support Group

Sponsor: The Arc of Frederick County

Content: Topics will include: Reflections of having a son or daughter with a disability; letting go of guilt; finding balance; first things first; wants versus needs; gratitude; isolation; boundaries; staying in the present; juggling competing demands.

Location: The Arc of Frederick County 620-A Research Court, Frederick MD 21703

Information: Bridget Patterson at 301-663-0909 x121 or bpaterson@arcfc.org

FREE

Dec. 16, 2017

5-7pm

Event: "Saturday Night Alive"

Sponsor: Haven Universe

Content: Open to all special needs individuals of all ages with families and friends.

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not required so that people of all faiths (or no faith) will feel comfortable attending. It is a rare opportunity for the whole family to engage together with other families, caregivers and friends in an accepting, fun, high-energy, encouraging and supportive atmosphere. Our desire is to be an inspiring community of hope to all.

Location: Lakelands Park Middle School, 1200 Main Street, Gaithersburg, MD 20878

Information: 301-343-7283 or hu@havenuniverse.org; www.havenuniverse.org

FEE

Dec. 17, 2017

11:00 am - 1:00 pm

Event: Sensory Friendly Performance of Charlotte's Web

Sponsor: The Imagination Stage

Content: Our Sensory-Friendly performances aim to provide a safe and welcoming environment where families can simply relax and be who they are. Tickets to Sensory-Friendly Performances are \$12-\$25 and 100% refundable up until the show begins. In this beloved classic (now infused with live music!), Fern, a soft-hearted farm girl, forms an unlikely bond with Wilbur, a charismatic pig. At the Zuckerman Farm, Wilbur meets a silly goose, a moody sheep, a selfish rat, and Charlotte, a clever spider. In an effort to save her friend, Charlotte weaves flattering messages about him into her web that cause a sensation in the small town. Fall in love with your favorite characters all over again as they bring this "radiant" tale from page to stage this holiday season!

Location: The Imagination Stage, 4908 Auburn Ave, Bethesda, MD 20814

Information: 301-961-6060 or info@imaginationstage.org or <https://imaginationstage.org/shows-tickets/accessibility/>

FEE

Dec. 20, 2017

6:30 - 8:00 PM

Event: Family and Friends Support Group Meeting

Content: This free NAMI support group meeting is for family and friends of those with mental illness. This support group is a very relaxed, caring, and understanding environment. You can share your story or just listen to others, knowing that all discussions are confidential. The information discussed is ever so valuable. Membership in NAMI is not required.

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FREE

Jan. 4, 2018

7 - 8:30 PM

Event: Family and Friends Support Group Meeting

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Jan. 10, 2018

6:30-7:30pm

Workshop: Understanding Government Benefits

Sponsor: The Arc of Frederick County

Content: Learn about Medicaid, Medicare and Supplemental Security Income and how they can affect your child's future.

Location: 555 South Market Street, Frederick MD 21701

Information: contact Anjela McNally at 301-663-0909 ext. 153 or amcnally@arcfc.org or Becky Smock at 301-663-0909 ext. 148 or bsmock@arcfc.org. RSVP if you need care for your child during the workshops.

FREE

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6:30 - 8:00 PM

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FREE

Jan. 20, 2018

10am-1pm

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Information: Alicia at The Arc of Frederick County, 301-663-0909 ext.171, or anunn@arcfc.org. Must pre-register.

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Information: 301-343-7283 or hu@havenuniverse.org; www.havenuniverse.org

FEE

Feb. 6, 2018

6:30-7:30pm

Workshop: Supported Decision-Making

Sponsor: The Arc of Frederick County

Content: Learn how to help your child build decision-making skills to make their own informed decisions.

Location: 555 South Market Street, Frederick MD 21701

Information: contact Anjela McNally at 301-663-0909 ext. 153 or amcnally@arcfc.org or Becky Smock at 301-663-0909 ext. 148 or bsmock@arcfc.org. RSVP if you need care for your child during the workshops.

FREE