



CASE Collaborative  
Family Support & Resource Pages  
*Week Ending of 7.10.20*



**CASE Collaborative Updates**

\*\* Please Note: The resources included in the subsequent pages are not intended to replace curriculum designed by your child's classroom teacher. Instead, are provided as enrichment opportunities and support for you and your family.

**Stay Calm and Keep Cool!**



Fondly,

Sue Campbell  
Resource Assistant  
CASE Collaborative

*"Nurturing and inspiring every child to learn and grow"*



## Community Workshops and Conferences



### **Kitchen Conversations, Summer Style: How do I keep my child on track all summer?**

This FREE webinar series is for parents and caregivers. It will describe how to add some FUN to your child's therapy, and use the strategies in your summer activities. Hear from therapists about their approach and expectations, and get your questions answered. Each session will be 15-20 minutes of presentation and 10 minutes for Q&A. Join us for a few sessions or all 3!

### **Kitchen Conversation, Summer Style: How to mix OT into summer fun**

**When: July 16 2020 | Thurs at 12:00pm**

**Format: Webinar**

Presenter Info: Carrie Alvarado, Ph.D., OTR, Chief Operating Officer, Autism Community Network (San Antonio, TX)  
Carrie Alvarado is the creator and director of the Earliest Connections Clinic and the DIRFloortime/PACT (Pediatric Autism Communication Therapy) Hands-on Family Empowerment program at Autism Community Network (ACN), a non-profit focused on provision of both interdisciplinary diagnosis and innovative intervention for young children with autism spectrum disorder. To register visit [https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN\\_Nlj4Flp8Sw-6V3yBbWcwDA](https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_Nlj4Flp8Sw-6V3yBbWcwDA)

### **Kitchen Conversation, Summer Style: Supporting mental health during summer fun**

**When: July 23, 2020 | Thurs at 12:00pm**

**Format: Webinar**

Presenter Info: Marcela Mota Aversa, clinician, Preschool Outreach Program, The Home for Little Wanderers (Boston, MA)  
Marcela Mota Aversa is a Clinician & Early Education Mental Health Consultant at The Home For Little Wanderers and a Gallery Educator at the Museum of Fine Arts. To register [https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN\\_VrJvwTOnTtKHVJtUAapc9g](https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_VrJvwTOnTtKHVJtUAapc9g)

### **Kitchen Conversation, Summer Style: How to mix speech therapy into summer fun.**

**When: July 30th, 2020 | Thurs at 12:00pm**

**Format: Webinar**

Presenter Info: Cindy Harrison, M.Sc., Reg. CASLPO, Speech Language Pathologist (Ottawa, CA)  
Cindy Harrison is a speech language pathologist practicing in Ottawa, Canada. Cindy's area of clinical focus is the assessment and intervention for children/youth and young adults with autism spectrum disorder and developmental disabilities. Cindy is also senior faculty with Profectum, a not for profit training institute that specializes in training clinicians in DIR/Floortime. To register visit [https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN\\_rlNsLiYqT3uYHekUR-TbPw](https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_rlNsLiYqT3uYHekUR-TbPw)



### **A Conversation with.....Wendy Fournier, President of The National Autism Association**

**When: July 15, 2020 | Wed 7:00 pm - 8:00 pm**

**Format: Zoom**

Wendy will speak on the Topic of Safety Issues for children, teens and adults with Autism Spectrum Disorder, including:

- \*Recent data on wandering incidents in the Autism community
- \*Environments & situations contribute to higher risk
- \*Why we believe our children wander or elope
- \*Effective prevention strategies across all settings
- \*And she will answer your questions!

To register, please click HERE! <http://community-autism-resources.com/event/a-conversation-with-wendy-fournier-president-of-the-national-autism-association/>



## ***Transition (ages 14-22) and Beyond***



### **Teens Engaged as Mentors (TEAM)**

TEAM (Teens Engaged as Mentors), empowers diverse children and adolescents in a mentorship model that encourages strong leadership, self-confidence, and positive community relationships. In this unique program, teens with and without autism spectrum disorder (ASD) work together to mentor younger children on the autism spectrum. The TEAM program runs from September through June each year and hosts monthly events focused around social/recreational or community service-based activities. Mentors also participate in trainings in the fall and spring which prepare them to work with other mentors and mentees, as well as allows for their individual goal setting for the upcoming year. While the program participation requirements are fairly flexible, there are certain things that are important when deciding if the TEAM program might be a good fit. Learn more here <https://www.bmc.org/pediatrics-autism-program/services/teens-engaged-mentors-team>



Helping Youth on the Path to Employment  
HYPE

### **New HYPE Career Development Course for Young Adults available in Massachusetts!**

What is HYPE? Helping Youth on the Path to Employment (HYPE) provides flexible, solution-focused, career-oriented services based on your needs and preferences. This includes but is not limited to:

- \*Finding out what you want to do
- \*Getting a job
- \*Enrolling in and completing college or vocational-technical programs
- \*Helping you identify and pursue your school and work goals
- \*Work on things that get in the way of pursuing your goals, like low energy, feeling forgetful, or feeling stuck
- \*Getting organized for work and school success!

The HYPE Course is a modification of HYPE, the Helping Youth on the Path to Employment model (see “Home” page for more detail). The new Virtual HYPE course offering is aimed at meeting the career preparation needs of young adults with mental health conditions during the quarantine to stop the spread of COVID-19.

There are 3 Virtual HYPE Course Offerings at this time:

- \*Career Decision-Making
- \*HYPE Work Prep
- \*HYPE School Prep

Each course will be 6-7 weeks long, with one session per week per course, for up to 1.5 hours. The courses are FREE. Young adults will need access to a computer or tablet, a webcam, and a phone. Learn more here

<https://www.umassmed.edu/hype/hype-course-in-ma/>



## Community Support & Resources Related to COVID-19

disabilityscoop The Premier Source for  
Developmental Disability News

**ABLEnow**

### Stimulus Checks & ABLEnow Accounts

Millions of Americans are receiving a stimulus payment from the federal government. For individuals with disabilities, this payment may count as an asset and reduce means-tested benefits unless it is spent or put into an ABLE savings account within 12 months from receipt. ABLE-eligible individuals may want to consider saving all or a portion of their payment in a tax-advantaged ABLEnow account. If funds aren't needed immediately, the stimulus is an opportunity to build an emergency fund, invest for the future, and have money available on your ABLEnow Card when you need it most.

ABLEnow accounts:

- \*Do not affect eligibility for most benefit programs, such as Medicaid and SSI.
- \*Are tax-advantaged, so earnings grow tax free.
- \*Can accept contributions from anyone: the account owner, family and friends.
- \*Are available to eligible individuals in all 50 states.

In this time of uncertainty, funds in an ABLEnow account can provide financial peace of mind. Open and manage an ABLEnow account online from the comfort of home today. Visit <https://www.able-now.com/> to learn more.



### Treatment in the Emergency Department Survey

NAMI Mass is developing a training for emergency department staff to help improve the ways they respond to people in mental health and/or substance use crises. Please complete our brief survey below to share your experience. Your input will help inform the curriculum we are developing for this program.

In the past four years:

- \*Have you gone to an emergency department due to your mental health symptoms or a substance use crisis?
- \*Are you a peer specialist or recovery coach and have accompanied someone you support to the ED?
- \*Have you gone with a friend or family member to the ED because they were experiencing mental health or substance use issues?
- \*Are you the parent or guardian of someone under 18 who has been taken to the ED due to a behavioral health or substance use crisis?
- \*Do you have a psychiatric diagnosis or substance use history and feel that you were treated poorly when you went to the ED for an unrelated medical issue?
- \*Were you taken to the ED as a minor because you were having a mental health or substance use crisis?

If you answered yes to any of these questions then we need your help! Take survey here

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/namimass-edsurvey>



## Fun Activities and Recreation



### Schultz Family Kids Triathlon presented by Newton Athletes Unlimited

**When: July 27 - August 1, 2020**

**Format: Virtual**

Promoting youth fitness, inclusion, goal setting, sense of accomplishment, community spirit and joy! Learn about how you can participate in the Triathlon from home, plus hear from the directors of this wonderful event here

<https://www.schultzfamilykidstriathlon.com/event-details>



### 11 TV Shows for Kids Featuring Characters With Disabilities

When you're watching a television show, you may be pleasantly surprised when your community is represented. Back when I was a kid, seeing a character with a disability — Toph from "Avatar: The Last Airbender" — instilled the belief in me that people with disabilities are awesome. Even if you or your kids do not have disabilities, here is a good reason why you should watch shows with disabled characters — besides the fact that many of these kids' shows are great. According to a 2019 report from the U.K., the inclusion of disabled characters in kids shows can help lead to more disability inclusion in real life. The same study also found that 50% of characters with disabilities in kids' shows were villains or presented in a tokenizing way. So, we asked members of the disability community to tell us which TV shows for kids that feature characters with disabilities we should all watch. While there should be even more representation of disability in kids shows across the board, in the meantime, here are some great options you and the kids in your life can watch. Here is what the disability community recommends <https://themighty.com/2020/06/11-tv-shows-for-kids-featuring-characters-with-disabilities/>



### Special Olympics Live Zoom Fitness Class

**When: July 29, 2020**

**Format: Virtual**

Trampoline jumping for special needs in Massachusetts Virtual Recreation, July 29th, with Special Olympics Massachusetts (SOMA). Join SOMA every Wednesday for their Live Fitness Class via Zoom.

- \* The live classes look different each week (meaning the type of workout).
- \* Check SOMA's weekly blog to see what the class entails this week.
- \* Zoom links can be found on the weekly blogs.

Weekly Recreation Themes have included Sports Safety, Bingo, Fit 5, Good Hygiene, Live Fitness Wednesday, Virtual Summer Games Challenges, Hydration, Nutrition, Strong Minds, and more. To register or for more information visit <https://www.specialolympicsma.org/event/live-zoom-fitness-class/all/> or contact 508-485-0986 ext. 228, [vicky.dinatale@specialolympicsma.org](mailto:vicky.dinatale@specialolympicsma.org) \*information provided by [www.spedchildma.com](http://www.spedchildma.com)



## **Family Support & Special Interest**



**The 2020 Genesis Foundation Grant Cycle has opened! Now Accepting Applications July 1, 2020 – September 4<sup>th</sup>, 2020.** A limited number of grants available to fund clinical, educational, and therapy programs for children and young adults with genetic disorders, rare diseases, and intellectual and physical disabilities.

\* Funding decision notifications will be delivered by Dec. 31, 2020.

\* The therapeutic programs that will be approved for funding allow children and young adults with rare diseases or genetic disorders the opportunity to participate in various arts and recreational programs.

\* In addition to receiving therapeutic benefits from these fun activities, children also gain new and rewarding experiences from which they develop self-confidence. To register or for more information visit

<https://thegenesisfoundation.org/programs-services/grant-funding/> or contact (617) 367-7070 or [OFFICE@THEGENFOUND.ORG](mailto:OFFICE@THEGENFOUND.ORG). \* information provided by [www.spedchildma.com](http://www.spedchildma.com)



### **Statewide Zoom Support Group for Grandparents and Relative Caregivers!**

**When: 1st and 3rd Monday evenings/month 7:30 p.m.-8:30 p.m. &**

**1st and 3rd Tuesday mornings/month 9:30 a.m. - 10:30 a.m.**

In response to COVID-19, and in recognition of the importance of support during difficult times, members of the Commission will be hosting Zoom support groups for grandparents raising grandchildren and relative caregivers living in Massachusetts. Groups will be held bi-weekly and will be offered both in the morning and in the evening in order to accommodate busy schedules and needs. Guest speakers will be invited throughout the summer in order to provide the most updated information about services and resources for families or to address specific issues raised during meetings. In order to register for the meetings, please click on the button below. You will then receive a confirmation e-mail from the Commission with some basic intake questions (where do you live, how old are your grandchildren, any specific questions/concerns you would like to know more about, etc.).

<https://mail.google.com/mail/u/0/?tab=wm&ogbl&pli=1#inbox/WhctKJVzVGQSFFsHkMLCpWSxNtPLLHHMfPcdtqsTtGBWbQPBBcnnZWkDmqRzZdcccdbBhGG>

***Please Note: These resources are provided for informational purposes only.  
Please do your own due diligence and research.***