

2005
Infant and Early Childhood Conference
Meydenbauer Center Bellevue, WA
May 4, 5, and 6

It's time to register for the Infant and Early Childhood Conference! This conference is a great opportunity to attend excellent workshops designed for parents, teachers, social workers, health professionals, therapists, childcare providers and others who provide care and services for young children.

The purpose of the Infant and Early Childhood Conference {IECC} is to provide opportunities for families and service providers to come together to learn, share and advocate on behalf of all young children, especially those with developmental delays, disabilities and/or other special health care needs. I have found this conference to be of a consistent high quality and as a parent, always inspirational and fortifying!

We are pleased to announce that Senator Patty Murray will be speaking on Thursday, May 5, at the Infant and Early Childhood Conference.

For additional information please visit the conference website: <http://www.ieccwa.org>. You may also click on the program link at the website for detailed descriptions of each session. You may take advantage of special online registration pricing by completing your registration online before March 31, 2005.

Classes will be filled on a first-come, first-serve basis and based on previous years - many will be full - please register early. **Parent scholarships are available.**

**Spring Family Retreat
For Families with Deaf or
Hard of Hearing Children
May 7-8, 2005**

**Lazy F Camp and Retreat Center
Ellensburg, WA**

Thanks to funding from Washington State Department of Health, we have a special strand of sessions for families with infants and toddlers with hearing loss.

A family retreat with workshops for parents and a program for children. Come make new friendships and gain knowledge in a fun environment.

For registration information contact:
Nancy Graham, WSDS, (509) 963-1670,
grahamnan@cwu.edu.

For birth to three registration packets upon request.

Call Irene Fournier at: (206) 439-6925 or
(800) 572-7000. E-mail: Ifournier@psed.org
Registration Deadline - April 8, 2005

**Autism Society of Washington
Whatcom and Skagit Chapter
(ASWS)**

Autism Spectrum Disorders
Asperger's Syndrome, Pervasive
Developmental Disorders And other ASD's

Meeting every 3RD Thursday of the month
Health Education Center
3333 Squalicum Pkwy
Bellingham, WA
7:00 pm

Guest Speakers, Information,
Guidance, Support, and Q & A

E-mail: aswwsc@autismsocietyofwa.org or
<http://health.group.yahoo.com/group/aswsc>



Parent to Parent Family Swim Social for Families with children who have special needs.

When: Friday, April 29th, 2005
Time: 6:30 - 7:30 pm
Where: Arne Hanna
Aquatic Center
1114 Potter Street., Off Lakeview
Cost: Free



Come join us for fun and friendship! We have the pool to ourselves for one hour. It is not necessary to RSVP, however if you know you will attend, please call Parent to Parent and let us know how many will be swimming. This will help us let the pool know how many people to expect. If you need an extra set of hands in the water, call for a Super Sitter list. We hope to see you there. For more information or to RSVP, Call Parent to Parent at 255-2056.

Family Fitness Day & 5K Run/Walk

*(promoting fitness and recreation
opportunities for everyone's abilities)*

Ages: Families of all ages

Date: Saturday April 30, 2005

Time: 9:00 - 1:00 pm

**Location: Zuanich Park Point
Bellingham**



If you are looking for ways to incorporate more fun and recreation in your families lifestyle, please come to this fun and exciting community event! Activities include a scenic 5K Fun Run/Walk, a kid fun fair featuring activities for ages 2 - 12, adaptive cycling, kayaking, live music, booths with lots of information about local businesses whose focus is on offering you and your family fitness and recreation opportunities and more! Sponsored by The Bellingham Herald, Port of Bellingham, Bellingham Parks and Recreation, St. Joseph Hospital Center for Rehabilitation Medicine. For more information or to register for the Fun Run, contact The Bellingham Herald at 676-2600 or www.bellinghamherald.com. Be sure to stop by the Parent to Parent table, there will be a sensory table, spin art, bubble wands, and temporary tattoos for the kids.

Pajama Sing A -Long Preschool Concert*



Thursday April 7, 2005
6:00 - 7:00 pm
Whatcom Center for Early Learning
2001 H Street, Bellingham
Cost: FREE

Bring your kids in their PJ's, your favorite stuffed animal or blanket and enjoy snacks, fun, and songs. For more information contact Parent to Parent at 255-2056.

Good - Bye Karuna



Karuna Arnold has been the Parent to Parent Hispanic Coordinator for the past two years. It has been mine and Pam's pleasure to work with her. She has been an asset to the Hispanic community and our program. She has accepted a full time position and will be moving on to different horizons. I would like to thank her for her time with Parent to Parent Program, her dedication and all of her hard work. The Hispanic Program has grown by leaps and bounds. Thank You Karuna! You will be missed!! *Submitted by Kerry Hodgkinson*

Spring Sibshop

Sibshops: A program just for brothers and sisters of children with special needs. An Afternoon of soap making, food and fun will be held:

Saturday May 14, 2005
11:00 am - 1:00 pm
For children ages 7 - 13 years
Otion
1427 Railroad Avenue
Downtown Bellingham

A \$2.50 donation would be appreciated
To RSVP or to register call Parent to Parent at 255-2056 and leave a message for Pam Dakar.
Scholarships are available.