



TOWNSHIP HIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT 211
Transition Services Department

PRESENTS:

Ninth Annual

The Future Begins Today

Tuesday, April 28, 2015

6:00-8:30

(registration begins at 5:45)

Palatine High School

1111 N. Rohlwing Road, Palatine, Illinois 60074

(Please use entrance #1-Altergott Auditorium)

The Future Begins Today event is an informational evening for parents and guardians of individuals with a wide-range of Developmental Disabilities. Information is being provided from over 50 adult service providers and community resource agencies.

- *Community Alternatives Unlimited (CAU)*
- *Department of Rehabilitation Services (DRS)*
- *Self-Advocacy*
- *Financial Planning*
- *Entitlement Programs (SSI/Medicaid)*
- *Guardianship Planning*
- *Job Skill Training*
- *Post-Secondary Education Options*
- *Independent Living*
- *Home-based Services*
- *Residential Options*
- *Recreation and Leisure Programs*
- *Transportation*
- *Mobility*
- *Important Funding Changes*

Please see reverse side for information about breakout sessions.

**For additional information please contact Patrick Abraham at 847-755-1848/pabraham@d211.org
or Diane Pfister at 847-755-1851/dpfister@d211.org.**

PRESENTERS

Room	Session 1 (6:15 – 7:00)	Session 2 (7:45 – 8:30)
Auditorium	<p style="text-align: center;">Regional Options for Post-Secondary Education</p> <p>Ready to continue learning after high school? Looking to develop career and independent living skills? You're in luck! Three excellent post-secondary education programs are available in the greater Illinois/Wisconsin region. Join representatives from Shepherds College, Elmhurst College's ELSA program, and the PACE program at National Louis University for a discussion about college options for young adults with developmental disabilities and/or learning disorders.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">THE ABLE ACT: A New Tool for the Special Needs Community</p> <p>Late in 2014, the ABLE ("Achieving a Better Life Experience") Act was signed into law. The purpose of the new law is to provide individuals with special needs a new way to save money for life's necessities without losing eligibility for public benefits such as SSI or Medicaid. Although tax exempt ABLE Accounts do not replace other tools, such as Special Needs Trusts, they do offer additional planning options for individuals. Attorney Kirsten Izatt will discuss the new law, when the use of an ABLE Account is appropriate, and how to maximize its use when a disabled individual works or receives an inheritance or gift from loved ones.</p>
Student Café	<p style="text-align: center;">Your Journey Through an Eight-Step Special Needs Planning Program</p> <p>Presented by Mary Anne Ehlert, President and Founder of Protected Tomorrows, Inc., and the family member of an individual with special needs. The presentation will be uplifting and entertaining, as well as provide a good basic understanding of some important facts. Participants will develop the foundation for their family's own, personalized Eight-Step Future Care Plan (TM), topics to be discussed:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hopes, dreams, and fears • Life plans • Family communication • Residential, education, employment, and recreation 	<p style="text-align: center;">Be a Prepared Parent – Ensure a Successful Transition!</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Know your rights so your student can be in a better position to benefit fully from DRS services, post-secondary opportunities and job success. • Include post-secondary outcomes and annual goals, based on your students' skills, interests and dreams, in the areas of employment, education, and independent living. • Write measurable and relevant transition goals that include reviewing data and tracking progress the student has made. <p>Presented by Equip for Equality.</p>
Faculty Lounge	<p style="text-align: center;">Planning for the Future: Children & Adults with Intellectual Disabilities, Developmental Disabilities and/or Mental Illness</p> <p>Attorneys Brian and Benji Rubin, the father and brother of Mitch Rubin, who has Autism, will present an overview of Special Needs Planning, including Special Needs Trusts, the new ABLE Account, Guardianship, and the alternative of Powers of Attorney.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">SSI, SSDI, DHS - Understanding the Alphabet Soup of Government Benefits</p> <p>This interactive informative presentation will cover the who, what, where, when, and why of benefits, how working affects benefits and how benefits change over a lifetime. Presented by Family Benefit Solutions.</p>
Room 193	<p style="text-align: center;">Independent Living with Epilepsy</p> <p>Tracy Schultz, Director of Education at the Epilepsy Foundation of Greater Chicago, will discuss independent living with epilepsy. Topics will include home and workplace safety, driving and transportation, epilepsy on a college campus, and EFGC services.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">NWSRA: Now and in Your Future</p> <p>Come learn about outstanding opportunities through recreation and leisure for your teenager as they transition to adulthood. The NWSRA staff will present a variety of options including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • adult day programming • afternoon programming • special events • social clubs • sports • trips and overnights <p>Your son or daughter's recreation needs do not end at age 21. NWSRA celebrates all ages of life and provides exciting opportunities to recreate and socialize with peers.</p>
Room 191	<p style="text-align: center;">Pace Bus-ADA Paratransit Service</p> <p>Pace is committed to providing quality transit services for all of our customers. We recognize that some customers' disabilities do not allow them to use conventional fixed-route bus and rail services. Pace's ADA Paratransit Service program provides transportation that is comparable to the service provided by the mainline system.</p> <p>Pace's ADA Paratransit Service provides origin-to-destination transportation to ADA Paratransit eligible individuals who are unable to use accessible mainline and rail service due to their disabilities. Pace's ADA Paratransit is a shared-ride program, meaning that multiple individuals' trips are grouped together in an effort to meet all trip requests and improve efficiency.</p>	

Township High School District 211 does not specifically endorse any agency or company not affiliated with the school system.