



TRANSITION TIMES

Volume 1, Issue 1

Spring, 2013

“People with disabilities want to be contributing members of society, and this new law will provide them the opportunity to gain employment.”

State Rep. Debra Hefernan on the Employment First Act

Employment First

July 2012, as the new chair of the National Governors Association, Governor Jack Markell announced his chair’s initiative, A Better Bottom Line: Employing People with Disabilities, which aims to increase employment among individuals with disabilities. The focus will specifically be on the employment challenges that affect individuals with intellectual and other significant disabilities and the role that both state government and businesses can play in facilitating and or advancing em-

ployment opportunities.

Governor Markell signed House Bill 319-the Employment First Act . The Employment First Act requires that state agencies that serve people with disabilities consider competitive employment for the disabled and establishes The Employment First Oversight Commission that will review measureable goals and objectives to ensure proper implementation of the act.



Governor Jack Markell

Did You Know... 41% of people with disabilities between the ages of 21 and 64 are employed.

Important Dates

| | |
|----------------------------------------------------------------|-----------|
| New Castle County Provider Fair | 5/8 |
| Kent County Provider Fair | 4/8 |
| Sussex County Provider Fair | 5/16 |
| Disability Awareness Month | March |
| Transition Conference | 4/15-4/16 |
| www.dati.org/events/ | |

E-Resources

Developmental Disabilities Council works to ensure that people with developmental disabilities enjoy the same quality of life as the rest of society. If you are interested in learning more about the council or would like to become a member contact the office: ddc.delaware.gov.

Looking to learn more about special education laws? Wrightslaw.com has information related to IDEA, IEP process, and much more!

Parent Information Center (PIC) of Delaware has resources to share. Take a peek picofdel.org/services/documents/resourcecentersintrosheet.pdf.

Looking for free apps? Sign up at smartappsforkids.com. You will receive an email alert when apps are free for a limited time. These freebies can assist with hand eye coordination, increase imagination, enhance speech &

language skills or just provide entertainment.

App highlight: Autism Apps
Find out what other parents and specialists are saying about apps that your child may benefit from before you buy. This app brings together a collection of applications and reviews.

Did you know that you can work and receive SSDI? Find out about the Ticket to Work program! Socialsecurity.gov/work/



For citizens who have special needs... Register with 911

Emergency Preparedness Voluntary Registry
Learn more & register online today!

For more information or to register please visit:
www.de911assist.delaware.gov

Upcoming Provider Fairs

Transitioning from school life to the adult world can be exciting, but also confusing.

DDDS hosts the Provider Fair to give those about to make the transition a chance to meet the service providers and view all their options.

New Castle County’s Provider Fair will be held on Wednesday, May 8 from 2:00 pm to 7:00 pm. It will be held on the second floor

of the Fox Run building at 2540 Wrangle Hill Road, Bear, DE 19701. For more information, contact Katie Howe at 836-2185.

Kent County’s Provider Fair will be held on Monday, April 8 from 5:00 pm to 8:00 pm at the Charlton School at 278 Sorghum Mill Rd Camden Wyoming, DE 19934. For more information, contact Shelley Neall at 741-9353.

Sussex County’s Provider Fair will be held on Thursday, May 16 from 5:00 pm to 7:30 pm at the Ennis School at 20346 Ennis Road Georgetown, DE 19947. For more information, contact Sharon Ralph at 933-3152.



“What lies behind us and what lies before us are tiny matters compared to what lies within us.”
- Ralph Waldo Emerson

Summer’s Coming, And So Is Camp

Kaleidoscope Summer Camp
Inclusive camp opportunity for adults and children! Five 3-hour classes. Camps will provide techniques that support each individual to create art independently for self-expression, communication and connection with peers. Call 302-995—7661 for more information.

Camp fires, friends, and sing-a-longs are just some of the things possible at Camp Fairlee Manor. For more information visit de.easterseals.com/site/PageServer?pagename=DMDR_campsummer.

Recharge and Relax at Camp Pecometh. This week long camp experience will be filled with fun and friends. For more information contact: pecometh.org/

Contact Day Transition Services

Marissa Catalon, Director of Day & Transition Services
741-9352 marissa.catalon@state.de.us

Katie Howe, Assistant Director of DTS (NCC)
836-2185 katie.howe@state.de.us

Mary Carol Beard, Transition Assistant (NCC)
836-2194 marycarol.beard@state.de.us

Sharon Ralph, Assistant Director of DTS (Sussex)
933-3152 sharon.ralph@state.de.us

Shelley Neall, Transition Assistant (Kent)
741-9353 shelley.neall@state.de.us

Greg Sweeney, Administrative Specialist
836-2119 greg.sweeney@state.de.us