

The Family Support Cooperative

THE COOPERATIVE IS AN AWARD-WINNING COLLABORATION OF:

The Arc of the Capital Area
Austin Independent School District
Austin Travis County MHMR Center



Spring 2005 Schedule: February 1– May 3

Activities for the whole family!

Purpose: To inform and support families with children of all ages and all disabilities

FREE PIZZA!

FREE CHILDCARE!

Family Support Cooperative Meetings:

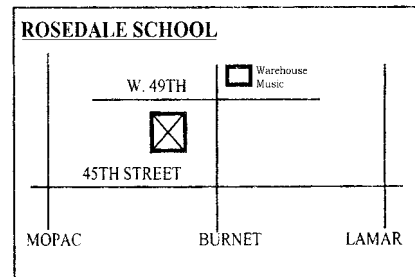
Where? Rosedale School, 2117 W. 49th St.

When? Tuesdays, 6:30-8:30 p.m.

Supper: 6:30-7:00 p.m. Meetings: 7:00 to 8:30 pm

For more information call 414-2049 or 476-7044.

The views and opinions expressed by our speakers are not necessarily shared by the Family Support Cooperative Committee.



Special Events:

March 1: Special Education Parent's Night

March 8: Camp Fair

May 3: Resource Fair and Fund Raiser

(All 3 events will be available in English and Spanish)

A translator is available each night for Spanish speakers.

We are committed to compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act. Reasonable modifications and equal access to our building and meetings will be provided upon request; call 414-2049.

February

1

- ❖ **Pathways to Adulthood:** Post Secondary Options: How to Approach College, Junior College, Certification Programs, and the Military, *AISD Transition Team*
- ❖ **Special Ed:** The ABCs of the ARD Process, Part 1, *Pat Alvarez, Regional Director, Partners Resource Network, Inc*
- ❖ **Special Ed in Spanish:** Special Education Law: Your Rights and Responsibilities, *Nancy Gutierrez, Senior Advocate/Intake, Advocacy, Inc.*
- ❖ **Resources for Parenting and Autism Issues translated into Spanish:** Growing up Male, *SafePlace*
- ❖ **Mental Health Issues:** New Programs and Latest Information on Children's MH Services through Austin Travis County MHMR, *Katy McElroy, LMSW-ACP, Associate Director, Child and Family Services, Austin Travis Co. MHMR* (This series is relevant for families of children with ED labels such as depression, anxiety, schizophrenia, bi-polar, behavior and relationship issues, OCD, ODD, and like conditions and/ or ADHD.)

February

8

- ❖ **Pathways to Adulthood translated into Spanish:** Empowering our Kids through Self-Advocacy and Student-Led ARDs, *Renee Borders and Tammy Smith, AISD Transition Team*
- ❖ **Special Ed:** The ABCs of the ARD Process, Part 2, *Pat Alvarez, Regional Director, Partners Resource Network, Inc*
- ❖ **Special Ed in Spanish:** How to Develop an Effective IEP, *Nancy Gutierrez, Senior Advocate/Intake, Advocacy, Inc.*
- ❖ **Resources for Parenting and Autism Issues translated into Spanish:** Growing up Female, *SafePlace*
- ❖ **Mental Health Issues:** Support group for parents facing the daily stress of raising a child who has a mental health diagnosis, *Staff from Child and Family Services, Austin Travis Co. MHMR*
- ❖ **Dyslexia and other Learning Disabilities:** Empowering Parents of Struggling Readers: Resources and Contacts, *Allyson Frost, Dyslexia Support Specialist, Austin ISD*
- ❖ **AD(H)D and CHADD Meeting translated into Spanish:** Support and Information for those challenged with Attention Deficit/Hyperactivity Disorder and their families, *Linda Classen, MEd, LPC, Private Consultant*

15

- ❖ **Pathways to Adulthood translated into Spanish:** The Transition Process: Using the School Years to Prepare Your Child for Independence, *Panel: Renee Borders, AISD Transition Team, Teacher, Parent*
- ❖ **Special Ed:** The ABCs of Advocacy: Building a Team with your School, *Pat Alvarez, Regional Director, Partners Resource Network, Inc*
- ❖ **Special Ed in Spanish:** How to Advocate for Your Child in Special Education, *Nancy Gutierrez, Senior Advocate/Intake, Advocacy, Inc*
- ❖ **Mental Health Issues and Autism Issues translated into Spanish:** Teaching the Child/Teenager Who is Chronically Non-Compliant, Explosive, and/or Neurologically Impaired, *D. J. Powers, President, The Association for Neurologically Impaired Children*
- ❖ **Down Syndrome Support Group of Central Texas:** Information and Support meetings; check the website www.dsacentraltx.org for specific topic.

22

- ❖ **Pathways to Adulthood translated into Spanish:** Getting Ready to Work: Job Training through the School and Post-Graduation Job Assistance, *Renee Borders, Transition Coordinator, Austin ISD, John McCann, Transition Specialist, D.R.S., and Shelley Wells, Supported Employment Liaison, Austin Travis Co. MHMR*
- ❖ **Community Access in Spanish:** Understanding and Accessing Community Resources, *Sylvia Lopez, LSW, Bilingual Case Coordinator, Any Baby Can/Candlelighters of Austin*
- ❖ **Autism Issues:** Autism and the Family: How to “Be” with Your Child and Family, *Brad Mason, LSSP, LPC, LPL, LPA, Autism Clinic and Family Counseling*
- ❖ **Mental Health Issues:** Support group for parents facing the daily stress of raising a child who has a mental health diagnosis, *Staff from Child and Family Services, Austin Travis Co. MHMR*

March

1

- ❖ **Special Ed Parent’s Night translated into Spanish: Meet Your Special Education Staff:** Learn about AISD Special Education and give your input to AISD Staff, *Joan Altobelli, Director of Special Education and Steve Hamman, Assistant Director of Special Education, Austin ISD and the Special Education Citizens Advisory Committee (SECAC)*
- ❖ **Resources for Parenting translated into Spanish:** How Kids and Parents Can Identify Sensory Needs and Plan Strategies, *Cari Anderson, AISD Occupational Therapist and Lucy Byrom, AISD School Counselor*
- ❖ **Mental Health Issues:** Understanding and Helping the Child or Teen with Depression, *Katy McElroy, LMSW-ACP, Associate Director, Child and Family Services, Austin Travis Co. MHMR*
- ❖ **Teenagers who are Hearing Impaired:** Teen Group for Fun and Support, *Pamela Thomas, Parent Liaison, Childrens Partnership with Travis County Health and Human Services*

8

- ❖ **Camp Fair translated into Spanish:** Meet representatives, ask questions, take home handouts for camps and summer and recreation programs.
- ❖ **Mental Health Issues:** Support group for parents facing the daily stress of raising a child who has a mental health diagnosis, *Staff from Child and Family Services, Austin Travis Co. MHMR*
- ❖ **Resources for Parenting translated into Spanish:** Recognizing Sensory Integration Disorder, *Candy Bond, Occupational Therapist*
- ❖ **Dyslexia and other Learning Disabilities:** Strategies for Assisting your Struggling Reader, *Allyson Frost, Dyslexia Support Specialist, Austin ISD*
- ❖ **AD(H)D and CHADD Meeting translated into Spanish:** Support and Information for those challenged with Attention Deficit/Hyperactivity Disorder and their families, *Linda Classen, MEd, LPC, Private Consultant*

March

15 **NO MEETING for spring break.**

- 22
- ❖ **Pathways to Adulthood translated into Spanish:** Funding the Future: SSI and Waiver Programs, *Louise Lynch, Austin Travis Co. MHMR and Jack Scruggs, SS Administration*
 - ❖ **Resources for Parenting translated into Spanish:** Strategies for Children with Challenging Behaviors, *Chris Purkiss, AISD Teacher*
 - ❖ **Special Education in Spanish:** Austin ISD's Bilingual Program for Children in Special Education, *Bilingual Coordinator, AISD*
 - ❖ **Mental Health Issues:** Support group for parents facing the daily stress of raising a child who has a mental health diagnosis, *Staff from Child and Family Services, Austin Travis Co. MHMR*
 - ❖ **Autism Issues:** PDD Parent Support Group, *Pamela Martin, SCORES/AU Itinerant Support Team, Austin ISD*
 - ❖ **Down Syndrome Support Group of Central Texas:** Information and Support meetings; check the website www.dsacentraltx.org for specific topic.
- 29
- ❖ **Pathways to Adulthood translated into Spanish:** Estate Planning: Protecting Your Child's Benefits, *Pat Barnes, Attorney, and Chris Oglesby, Manager, The Arc of Texas Master Pooled Trust*
 - ❖ **Special Education:** IDEA Reauthorized: How Special Education Law is Changing through Congressional Action, *Rona Statman, Director, Family Support Services, The Arc of Texas*
 - ❖ **Resources for Parenting and Mental Health Issues translated into Spanish:** Encouraging Positive Self-View in Children with Disabilities, *Jerry Webb, LPC, LMFT, AISD Special Education Counselor*
 - ❖ **Autism Issues:** PDD Parent Support Group, *Pamela Martin, SCORES/AU Itinerant Support Team, Austin ISD*

April

- 5
- ❖ **Pathways to Adulthood translated into Spanish:** The Guardianship Process, *Glen Rives, Attorney and Brian Power, CRISP*
 - ❖ **Resources for Parenting and Mental Health Issues:** Building Bully Barriers, *SafePlace*
 - ❖ **Autism Issues:** PDD Parent Support Group, *Pamela Martin, SCORES/AU Itinerant Support Team, Austin ISD*
 - ❖ **Teenagers who are Hearing Impaired:** Teen Group for Fun and Support, *Pamela Thomas, Parent Liaison, Childrens Partnership with Travis County Health and Human Services*
- 12
- ❖ **Pathways to Adulthood translated into Spanish:** Where am I going to live and what am I going to do with my day? *Jane Leifeste, Austin Resource Center for Independent Living, Sue-Ellen Woodlief, Disability Assistance of Central Texas and Rob Peak, Austin Travis Co. MHMR*
 - ❖ **Community Access translated into Spanish:** How to Access Travis County Health and Human Services, *Christy Moffett, LMSW, Social Services Manager, Palm Square Community Center*
 - ❖ **Mental Health Issues:** Support group for parents facing the daily stress of raising a child who has a mental health diagnosis, *Staff from Child and Family Services, Austin Travis Co. MHMR*
 - ❖ **Autism Issues:** PDD Parent Support Group, *Pamela Martin, SCORES/AU Itinerant Support Team, Austin ISD*
 - ❖ **Dyslexia and other Learning Disabilities:** Kid to Kid: Parents, bring your child who has reading difficulties to hear older students with dyslexia tell about their experiences, *Allyson Frost, Dyslexia Support Specialist, Austin ISD*
 - ❖ **AD(H)D and CHADD Meeting:** Support and Information for those challenged with Attention Deficit/Hyperactivity Disorder and their families. Connect with peers and experts to share information on how to manage ADHD issues successfully, *Linda Classen, MEd, LPC, Private Consultant*
- 19
- ❖ **Pathways to Adulthood translated into Spanish:** Putting It All Together: Planning Tools and Advocacy, *Rosemary Alexander, Parent and AISD Transition Team, Sue-Ellen Woodlief, Disability Assistance of Central Texas, Robert Edwards, Disability Advocate*
 - ❖ **Resources for Parenting and Mental Health Issues translated into Spanish:** How Parents Can Help their Kids Develop Social Skills, *Melissa Leech, Speech Pathologist, AISD and Cindy Isaacson, SCORES Teacher, AISD*
 - ❖ **Autism Issues:** PDD Parent Support Group, *Pamela Martin, SCORES/AU Itinerant Support Team, Austin ISD*
 - ❖ **Down Syndrome Support Group of Central Texas:** Information and Support meetings; check the website www.dsacentraltx.org for specific topic.

- ❖ **Pathways to Adulthood *translated into Spanish*:** Putting It All Together: Building Community and Collaborations for A Good Life, *Rosemary Alexander, Parent and AISD Transition Team*
- ❖ **Autism Issues:** PDD Parent Support Group, *Pamela Martin, SCORES/AU Itinerant Support Team, Austin ISD*
- ❖ **Resources for Parenting:** Dealing with Stress: is it really possible? *Laura Warren, Texas Parent to Parent*
- ❖ **Community Access *translated into Spanish*:** Creating a System of Support for Families in High-Need Situations, *Naomi Tafoya, Austin ISD Behavioral Specialist and Children's Partnership Wraparound Services Representative for AISD and Kate Amerson, LCSW, School to Community Liaison, Austin ISD*
- ❖ **Mental Health Issues:** Support group for parents facing the daily stress of raising a child who has a mental health diagnosis, *Staff from Child and Family Services, Austin Travis Co. MHMR*

- ❖ **May 3: Resource Fair, Fund Raiser and Party!**
Talk to representatives of community agencies and help us raise funds for our pizza and childcare. (Donations of auction items and baked goods are appreciated.) *Translated into Spanish*

EMOTIONAL SUPPORT GROUPS

Parent - to - Parent Support Group

February 1-April 26

A support group that focuses on creating a welcoming environment, where parents can share their experiences and problem-solve their parenting issues involved in raising a child with special needs. *Facilitated by experienced parents*

Parent - to - Parent Support Group in Spanish

March 1, April 5, May 3

A support group that encourages parents to share their experiences and problem-solve their parenting issues involved in raising a child with special needs. *Pat Alvarez, Regional Director, Partners Resource Network, Inc.*

Down Syndrome Support Group of Central Texas

February 15, March 22, April 19

Information and Support meetings; check the website www.dsacentraltx.org for specific topic. Call Christi Marrufo for more information at 282-4765 or email at info@dsacentraltx.org

Casual Dads

February 1, 15, March 1, 22, April 5, 19, May 3

Join other dads for casual conversation about parenting a child with special needs and other topics.
Call Tom Prior for more information at 448-2564.

PDD/Autism Individual Consultation

6:30-7:00 pm every Tuesday night

Meet individually with an Autism Support Team representative to address concerns before the large group meets.

PDD/Autism Support Group

March 22-April 26

Call Pamela Martin for more information at 414-0118.

CHADD--Children and Adults with Attention Deficit Disorders

February 8, March 8, April 12

CHADD provides research-based information on AD(H)D and support. Connect with peers and experts to share information on how to manage ADHD issues successfully. This group meets year round at Rosedale, including months when the Coop does not have meetings (no childcare, no pizza). Call Emily Wethington at 323-0055 for more information.

Support for Families of Children with Dyslexia

February 8, March 8, April 12

Call Allyson Frost for more information at 414-9741.

Group for Teenagers who are Hearing Impaired

March 1, April 5

Teen Group for Fun and Support. Call Pamela Thomas for more information at 854-3723.

Pamela Thomas, Parent Liaison, Childrens Partnership with Travis County Health and Human Services

SIBLING SUPPORT GROUP

Registration: February 1

Meetings: February 8, 15, 22, March 1, 8, 22

Support for children ages 7-13 who have a brother/ sister with a disability.

Children explore the joys and challenges of this unique experience through a variety of recreational and educational activities. Hands-on activities. Call Kathy at 414-0166 if your child wants to come and is under 7 or over 13.

Katherine Owen Peavey, LPC, Austin ISD