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PEAL'S 11TH ANNUAL INCLUSIVE COMMUNITIES CONFERENCE

We All Have a Voice: When We Raise Them Together We Are Stronger

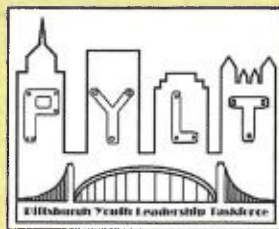
in conjunction with

State Representative Dan Miller's 4th Annual Children & Youth Disability & Mental Health Summit

Wednesday, Thursday, Friday

March 22-24, 2017

Beth El Congregation, 1900 Cochran Rd, Pittsburgh, PA



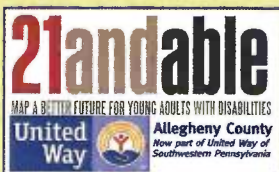
KEYNOTE SPEAKERS



Sue Swenson



Ted Dallas



FEATURED SPEAKERS

WEDNESDAY

Sue Swenson, *Inclusion International*

Sue Swenson is the volunteer president-elect of Inclusion International, the UN-recognized organization for children with disabilities, their families, and adults with intellectual and developmental disabilities. Sue served as acting assistant secretary for the Office of Special Education and Rehabilitative Services (OSERS) in the Obama administration and as commissioner for development disabilities in the Clinton administration. Her middle son Charlie had profound disabilities, was included in school, lived in the community, and loved his life. He died at age 30 in 2013.



KEYNOTE SPEAKERS

THURSDAY

Ted Dallas, *PA Department of Human Services (DHS)*

The DHS is the largest department in the state budget and covers a myriad of human service needs. Secretary Ted Dallas will give us an update on his efforts to lead DHS specifically in the areas of disability and mental health issues.



WEDNESDAY

Policy Panel

Join this panel to discuss the direction of the new administration in regard to Medical Assistance, employment, education, community living and transition.

- David Gates, Esq., PA Health Law Project
- Sue Swenson, Inclusion International
- Nancy A. Hubley, Esq., Education Law Center,
- Steve Suroviec, Rehabilitation & Community Providers Association
- Michael Stoehr, PaTTAN
- Amy Engbarth, Office of Vocational Rehabilitation

I Go Home Documentary Screening

Join Nancy Thaler, Deputy Secretary, PA Department of Human Services, Office of Developmental Programs, and Jim W. Conroy, PhD, Pennhurst Memorial & Preservation Alliance, to view *I Go Home*, the PBS documentary of the legacy of Pennhurst, the first American institution closed via Federal Courts order. The documentary is part of the Pennhurst History Traveling Exhibit: A Microcosm of the Disability Rights Movement in America.

CONFERENCE AT A GLANCE

Wednesday, March 22nd

- 8:00–9:00 Registration
- 9:00–10:15 Keynote: What is Inclusion For?
Main Sanctuary
- 10:30–12:00 Breakout Sessions
Main Sanctuary
Community Room
Balk Chapel
Sufrin Chapel
1. National & State Policies Impacting Individuals with Disabilities*
 2. I've Got It. Now What Can I Do With It?
 3. Friendship: Building a Good Life
 4. *I Go Home* Documentary Screening
- 11:00–2:00 Support Services Resource Fair
- 12:00–1:00 Lunch Buffet (only if pre-ordered)
- 1:15–2:45 Breakout Sessions
Community Room
Main Sanctuary
Sufrin Chapel
Balk Chapel
5. Ensuring Successful Outcomes for Transition-Age Youth in PA
 6. Going Over the "Cliff"
 7. Law, Policy and Practice: Inclusion in Early Childhood Education*
 8. *I Go Home* Documentary Screening
- 2:55–4:15 Breakout Sessions
Community Room
Main Sanctuary
Sufrin Chapel
9. For Youth, Families & Professionals: Youth Leadership, Self-Advocacy and Empowerment
 10. The Myth of IQ and Mental Age: Changing the Conversation
 11. Project MAX and the Statewide Parent Network

Thursday, March 23rd

- 8:00–9:00 Registration
- 9:00–10:00 Keynote: PA Department of Human Services Update
Main Sanctuary
- 10:15–11:15 Breakout Sessions
Community Room
Main Sanctuary
Sufrin Chapel
13. Eating Challenges and Resources
 14. Autism & Intellectual Disabilities Caucus Update*
 15. Youth Stories of Strength & Success with RENEW
- 11:00–2:00 Support Services Resource Fair
- 11:30–12:30 Breakout Sessions
Sufrin Chapel
Main Sanctuary
Community Room
16. Early Intervention Supports
 17. ABLE Savings Accounts - Planning for the Future*
 18. Mental Health Screens and SAP
- 12:00–1:00 Lunch Buffet (only if pre-ordered)
- 1:45–2:45 Breakout Sessions
Sufrin Chapel
Main Sanctuary
Community Room
19. Ten Things You Need to Know About Special Education*
 20. Family Stress - Strategies for Coping
 21. Anxiety in the Classroom
- 3:00–4:00 Breakout Sessions
Main Sanctuary
Sufrin Chapel
Community Room
22. Autism & the Family: Thinking Outside the Box
 23. A Home of My Own
 24. Mental Health and Medications
- 3:00–5:00 Free IEP/504 Consultation (Must pre-register at check in)
- 4:15–5:15 Breakout Sessions
Main Sanctuary
Sufrin Chapel
Community Room
25. Learning After High School
 26. Financial Planning*
 27. Warning - Harmful for Health! Stigma & Stereotypes Blocking Us From Seeking Care
- 6:00–8:30 28. 3rd Annual Survival Guide to Life After High School, a 21 and Able Program
Community Room

Friday, March 24th

- 8:00–9:00 Registration
- 9:00–1:30 29. Influence to Action: Advocacy, Leadership and Transition (PYLT)
Community Room
Transition-age students only
- 9:00–10:00 30. Congressman Tim Murphy, What's Next For the Helping Families in Mental Health Crisis Act*
Main Sanctuary
- 10:00–11:00 31. Senator Bob Casey's RISE Act, Helping Students with Disabilities Succeed in College*
Main Sanctuary
- 11:00–2:00 Employment and Transition Resource Fair
- 11:00–12:00 32. Promoting Independence for Students with Disabilities at Home and School
Main Sanctuary
- 12:00–1:00 Lunch Buffet (only if pre-ordered)
- 1:00–3:00 33. Legislative Panel: State Policies on Disability & Mental Health*
Main Sanctuary

* Session available for legal CLE credits

PEAL INCLUSIVE COMMUNITIES CONFERENCE SESSIONS

Wednesday, March 22nd
9:00 - 10:15 Keynote

What is Inclusion For?

Main Sanctuary

Sue Swenson, *Inclusion International*

This one is for your head and your heart.

Wednesday 10:30 - 12:00

1. National & State Policies Impacting Individuals with Disabilities*

Main Sanctuary

David Gates, Esq., *PA Health Law Project*

Sue Swenson, *Inclusion International*

Nancy A. Hubley, Esq., *Education Law Center*

Steve Surovic, *Rehabilitation & Community Providers
Association*

Michael Stoehr, *Educational Consultant Special Projects,
PaTTAN*

Amy Engbarth, *Vocational Rehabilitation Specialist,
Office of Vocational Rehabilitation, Labor & Industry*

This panel of experts will discuss the direction of the new administration in regard to Medical Assistance (MA), employment, education, community living, and transition.

2. I've Got It. Now What Can I Do With It?

Community Room

Scott A. Dougherty, *Educational Consultant, PaTTAN*

This session will explore features of common operating systems, tablets, and word processing tools that can be used to differentiate reading and writing supports for all students. Come learn ways to make use of those "hidden gems" in Microsoft Office, Google Docs, Adobe Acrobat, and iOS devices.

3. Friendship: Building a Good Life

Balk Chapel

Cecelia Belasco, *Parent & Educator*

This session will introduce the latest resource from The PEAL Center. The booklet entitled **Friendships: Building a Good Life** presents strategies for families, peers, communities and schools to support the development of friendships for all including children with disabilities. Friendships play an important role in everyone's life. This toolkit is based on the guiding principles:

- 1) everyone has a role to play in the development of friendships
- 2) friendships are important to all
- 3) everyone benefits when we support friendship development for kids with disabilities.

Come join the conversation about building a good life for all.

4. I Go Home

Documentary Screening

Sufrin Chapel

Nancy Thaler, *Deputy Secretary*

*for the Office of Developmental
Programs, PA Department of Human Services*

Jim W. Conroy, PhD, *Pennhurst Memorial & Preservation
Alliance*

For years, children with intellectual disabilities were not allowed in public schools and parents were told to send their children away to institutions. It was not until the late 1960s that a television exposé shed light on what was happening inside the walls of institutions. These facts fueled parents and the public to ignite change. Join Nancy Thaler and Jim Conroy in a viewing of *I Go Home*, the PBS documentary of the legacy of Pennhurst, the first American institution closed via Federal Courts orders. The documentary is part of the Pennhurst History Traveling Exhibit: A Microcosm of the Disability Rights Movement in America. After the screening, Nancy and Jim will respond to questions and engage in a discussion about disability rights in the United States.



Wednesday 1:15 - 2:45

5. Ensuring Successful Outcomes for Transition-Age Youth in PA

Community Room

Michael Stoehr, *Educational Consultant Special Projects,
PaTTAN*

Amy Engbarth, *Vocational Rehabilitation Specialist,
Office of Vocational Rehabilitation, Labor & Industry*

During this session, learn about the Pennsylvania Bureau of Special Education's and Office of Vocational Rehabilitation's secondary transition projects, programs, and activities designed to ensure successful post-secondary education, employment and independent living outcomes for youth and young adults with disabilities.

6. Going Over the "Cliff"

Main Sanctuary

David Gates, Esq., *Senior Attorney, PA Health Law Project*

Youth often face a "cliff" when turning 21 as their eligibility for many of the services and supports they relied upon (such as special ed, wraparound and in-home nursing) comes to an end. This workshop will explain many of the support programs available to those age 21 and older. This will include information about eligibility for and services provided under all the waiver programs for adults as well as the many changes to those programs coming in the next 2 years.



KEY: Symbols identify the organizer for each session:



PEAL
Center



Rep
Dan Miller



Pittsburgh
Youth
Leadership
Taskforce



21
and
Able



Allegheny
Family
Network

8. Law, Policy and Practice: Inclusion in Early Childhood Education*

Sufrin Chapel

Nancy A. Hubley, Esq., *Pittsburgh Director, Education Law Center*

Through interactive discussion and activities, we will learn about the law and policies that govern inclusion and prohibit exclusionary discipline in early childhood education program.

8. I Go Home

Balk Chapel

This is a reprise showing of the PBS documentary *I Go Home*. For years, children with intellectual disability were not allowed in public schools. Parents were told to send their children with intellectual disability away to institutions. It was not until the late 1960s that a television exposé shed light on what was happening inside the walls of institutions. It was that knowledge that fueled parents and the public to ignite change. *I Go Home*, the PBS documentary on the legacy of Pennhurst, the first American institution closed via Federal Courts orders is part of the Pennhurst History Traveling Exhibit: A Microcosm of the Disability Rights Movement in America.

Wednesday 2:55 - 4:15

9. For Youth, Families & Professionals: Youth Leadership, Self-Advocacy and Empowerment

Community Room

Katie Smith, *Youth Leadership Coordinator, PEAL Center*

This session will help parents and professionals understand the importance of empowering youth with disabilities by promoting self-advocacy. The presenter will discuss the importance of presuming competence and utilization of strength-based vs. problem-centered approaches. The session will highlight ways that adults can support the development of self-awareness and self-acceptance by youth. We will review ways to effectively teach self-advocacy strategies and provide youth with the

opportunities to practice those skills. Finally, the session will show how promoting self-advocacy for youth with disabilities results in empowerment of youth to become leaders in their schools and communities.

10. The Myth of IQ and Mental Age: Changing the Conversation

Main Sanctuary

Pat Amos, *Trainer & Consultant*

Important decisions about a child's education, future, and quality of life are too often made on the basis of IQ and "mental age" (MA). These numbers may be used to "explain" a child's behavior and to predict what a child will or will not be capable of learning and doing. Yet this process of prediction is circular: the more it impacts what is said to and done with a child, the more our belief system itself increases the likelihood that the prediction will come true. The purpose of this presentation is to consider why IQ and MA are not meaningful planning tools, and to help parents and teachers move decisively away from using them. Instead, they will be encouraged to focus on communicating with, building a reciprocal relationship with, and interacting age-appropriately with the person they are supporting.

11. Project MAX and the Statewide Parent Network

Sufrin Chapel

Lorie Brew, *Project MAX Coordinator, East, PEAL Center*
Tammi Morton, *Project MAX Coordinator, West, PEAL Center*
Jeannine H. Brinkley, *Executive Director, PEAL Center*

Project MAX is an initiative that ensures that all students have access to the general education curriculum. Explore the principles of this project, its implementation, and the development of the Statewide Parent Network.



IMPORTANT INFORMATION

Lunch Buffet

- The Lunch Buffet is for individuals who have pre-ordered lunch. Individuals who pre-ordered lunch will receive a lunch ticket for each day which must be handed in at the lunch buffet.
- NO outside food is permitted inside the Synagogue as Beth El's catering department is providing lunch for the event and works under strict guidelines to ensure that all meals are certified kosher.
- If you did not pre-order lunch there are several local restaurant options. We ask that you finish your lunch before returning to the conference in respect of our hosts. Thank you for your cooperation.

Lunch & Learn Wednesday, March 22nd

Project MAX Statewide Parent Network

Learn about the network and how it's raising awareness, empowering families and leading change. Look for the Parent Network banner to find our table during the lunch hour, and share experiences!

Medical Home Initiative: A Medical Home is an approach to healthcare where family and professionals work together as a team. If your child has special healthcare needs, is your pediatrician a member of the PA Medical Home Initiative? Stop by our table during the lunch break to learn more about how the Medical Home team can coordinate care and services.