



Families for Families

Parent Leadership Training

Presenters

David McCluskey

Dave is a former 6 term, state representative from the town of West Hartford. During much of his tenure, Dave served in many key leadership positions including Deputy Speaker of the House, and Vice Chair of both the Human Services and Public Health Committees.

Kevin Graff

Kevin is the lobbyist for The Arc Connecticut and the founder of the lobbying firm, Graff Public Solutions, LLC. Prior to launching GPS, Kevin worked as the Chief of Staff for Senate President Pro Tempore Donald Williams and the Senate Majority Caucus of the Connecticut General Assembly.

Leslie Simoes

Leslie is the Executive Director of Arc Connecticut. For the past 22 years Leslie has worked in the I/DD field in many capacities - direct care, public policy, organizing & advocacy. Leslie fervently believes that building a powerful movement of parents & families is the single most important factor in rebuilding a service system that will genuinely meet the needs of ALL individuals with I/DD now and in the future.

When:

Saturday, November 16th, 2013

Where:

The Arc of Meriden/Wallingford
200 Research Parkway
Meriden

Time:

9:00am-12:00pm

Childcare available!

RSVP with Shannon Jacovino at
sjacovino@arcofct.org or at
860 246-6400, ext. 102

Are you a parent of a child with an intellectual or developmental disability?

Have you stayed awake many a night worrying about what the future will bring for your child?

Do you feel like the state has broken its contract with you & other CT families?

Are you tired of fighting alone?

Then join other Connecticut families on November 16th!!!

In 1952, families of children with intellectual and developmental disabilities (I/DD) were told to put their children into institutions, to walk away and to forget they existed. But many families refused to do this because *they had a better vision for their children's lives and for their future.*

The Arc Connecticut was born out of the determination of families and their refusal to walk away. Over the years, Arc Families fought to close institutions and to build a system of community supports. Arc families fought for full school inclusion, for Birth to 3 services and for so many other things that we all take for granted today.

Things are better now than they were 61 years ago, because
Arc families have never accepted the status quo!

But the services and the standards families fought so hard to create have slowly been eroded and starved for funding. **Too many families today are under served, waiting years and years for housing supports or worse, not being supported at all. Too many families are left wondering what will happen to their children when they are gone.**

Do you accept this as the status quo?

On November 16 you are invited to come together to give our struggle more power and more focus. Families will work together to learn the skills you need to take control, lead the way and fight for a better future for you children!