

Outreach Newsletter

For Educators, Parents & Early Interventionists

Signing PlayGroups



Are you looking for ways to meet with other parents & children who sign? Do you want to increase your use & knowledge of ASL? Do you have a deaf or hard of hearing baby & are looking for ways to socialize with others like yourself? Then, a signing playgroup may be for you.

- Playgroups are held at the Indiana School for the Deaf & are hosted by staff from Outreach Services. The purpose of these groups is to have fun & to gain resources for ourselves & our children. All parents of deaf or hard of hearing children are welcome to attend regardless of communication choices. Two playgroups are offered & are sometimes combined. The first, held every other Friday from 9:00am-10:30am is for infants ages newborn to 18 months & their parents & siblings. The second group, meeting every ____- from 10:30-12:00pm is for toddlers ages 18-36mo & their parents & siblings. If you need more information
- Signing playgroups are also hosted by Karen Horvath, Hard of Hearing mother of 3 children, in northern Indiana. The purpose of these playgroups is to increase signing vocabulary & to have fun. This playgroup meets the first Saturday of each month at a variety of locations. The schedule is as follows:
 - September 2: (Picnic & Play) Location-Rose Park in Mishawaka. Bring- Swimsuit, towel, playclothes, outdoor toys (frisbees ect...) & a sack lunch for your family. 10-1 pm
 - October 7: (event to be decided)
 - November 4: (Mega Play) Location-Mishawaka. Bring- \$3.00 for Toddler area. Money for games for children. 10am-12pm
 - December 2: (University Mall Play Place) Location- University Mall, Mishawaka, IN. Bring- Your family.

ASL Posters

Carmel Flores, a Deaf photographer, has created posters that demonstrate the fingerspelled alphabet, signs for numbers, and signs for colors. Children from ISD were used in the creation of the posters. If you would like to view the posters or to order one, check out www.carmelfloresphotography.com/collages.html.

Research Project

Dear Parents & Professionals:

I am looking for participants to volunteer for a research study for my dissertation. The study will examine the quality of sibling relationships in sibling pairs where one sibling is deaf & the other sibling is hearing. The information gained from this study will help future counselors work with families with deaf children & will add to the current understanding of sibling relationships in families with a deaf child. The study would involve the hearing sibling filling out two (2) questionnaires about their relationship with their deaf sibling, & the parents filling out a demographic questionnaire for statistical analysis. The personal information gained in the study will be kept confidential. To qualify for the study the following criteria must be met:

1. The hearing sibling must be age 12 or above
2. All siblings must live in the home full-time
3. Siblings should be 5 years apart or less
4. All siblings must be able to communicate in a common language (American Sign Language or English.)

When I receive the completed questionnaires, each participant will be entered into a drawing for a chance to win one of several gift certificates for the amount of 25.00 to local restaurants. Please contact me, Kelly Dardeen, Ph.D. student in Counseling Psychology at Indiana State University at 812-841-1363 if you are interested in participating.

Classes & Trainings

• Sign Language Classes for Parents of Babies & Toddlers

Several different organizations provide baby sign language classes throughout the state of Indiana. For more information or to find out if classes are held in your area go to www.Sign2Me.com, then click on "Classes" on the left & then click on "Indiana".

• Teaching Latino Deaf & Hard of Hearing Students

This unique class will be taught online for 3 graduate credits through Gallaudet University. Dr. Barbara Gerner de Garcia will teach this course which addresses the education of Latino deaf and hard of hearing children within the context of the educational issues for all Latino children. The course will begin Sept. 5th, 2006 and end Dec. 15th, 2006. For more information or to register contact: Gallaudet University at (202) 651-5400 (V/TTY) or PST@GALLAUDET.EDU

Outreach Mission: To identify needs and find the resources to meet the needs of deaf and hard of hearing children and their families throughout the state of Indiana.

Outreach Services for Deaf/Hard of Hearing Children in the State of Indiana

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Upcoming Events



- ❖ **September 8 & 9, 2006: SIBSHOPS: Lifelong Issues Faced by Brothers & Sisters of Special Needs Siblings**
This event will be held at the Bloomington/Monroe county Convention Center & is sponsored by by the Indiana Resource center for Autism. The cost is \$25 & for more information, please contact IRCA/IIDC at 812-855-6508.
- ❖ **September 9, 2006: Reciprocity Through Learning Series: ASL Storytelling Workshop & Sexual Signs Workshop**
From 9:00 am – 12:00 pm, Christine Wood will teach us how to present a variety of children’s stories in ASL. In the afternoon, from 1:00-4:00pm, Evelyn Thompson will present a vocabulary list of sexual signs & participants will discuss the variety of meanings that accompany the list. Each workshop will be offered for .3 CEU’s in the area of Professional Studies. Indiana IIC/EIC holders will earn .3 CEU’s for each workshop in Category 1. For more information, contact Deaf Community Services at DCSterps@eastersealscrossroads.org
- ❖ **September 9, 2006: Inclusion Fest**
Inclusion Fest is a community festival that includes arts/crafts, an informational fair, recreational activities, live entertainment & many other activities & contests for all ages. Inclusion Fest will take place from 12:00pm-7:00pm at Garfield Park in Indianapolis & is free to the public. For more information, contact Marianna Kalli at (317) 926-1660 ext: 234 or mkalli@ircil.org.
- ❖ **September 18 & 19-November 20 & 21, 2006: ASL Classes provided by the Indiana Association of the Deaf**
The IAD will again be providing 10 week sessions of ASL classes for adults on Monday & Tuesday evenings from 6:30 to 8:15pm . Classes cost \$170 which includes an optional materials fee of \$70. For more information or to register for classes, contact Wanda Kirby at WKIRBY@ISD.k12.IN.US or WANKIR03@AOL.COM.
- ❖ **September 18- December 11, 2006: Signed Exact English Class**
This class is designed for the beginning signer & will be held at the Warren Early Childhood center & takes place from 9am-10am every Monday. Learn how to incorporate signing into your daily schedule & increase your vocabulary. Class size is limited to 16 participants & cost is \$45 for materials. Please call Sue Ann Bube at (317) 894-9099 for more information
- ❖ **September 23, 2006: Relationship Between Interpreters & the Deaf Community: Healthy or Not?**
Dr Dennis Cokely will present this workshop from 8am-4pm in the Newcomer Center, Room 17 at Goshen College. The cost is \$40 for RID, NAD or affiliate state chapter members & \$60 for non-members. Dr. Cokely will address the historic relationship between Deaf people & interpreters, the political & social forces that altered this relationship, & a variety of other aspects of the relationship between the Deaf Community & interpreters. For more information or to register for the workshop, please contact Myron Yoder at myronry@goshen.edu.
- ❖ **October 1, 2006: William Willard Banquet**
On October 1, 1843, The Indiana School for the Deaf was opened. The William Willard Banquet was established to honor the Deaf founder of the Indiana Deaf Community: William Willard. Guest speakers include Dr. David Geeslin, current ISD CEO/ Superintendent, Dr. Eddy Laird, former ISD Superintendent, & William Willard (portrayed by Darin Turner). Tickets are \$35/person (\$60/couple) payable in advance prior to September 22, 2006. Doors will open at 4:00pm, with dinner beginning at 5:00pm in the Indiana Deaf Heritage Museum on the second floor of Alumni Hall at ISD. To purchase tickets or for more information contact Norman Wilson at norjanwilson@comcast.net.
- ❖ **October 7, 2006: HearIndiana Talk Walk & Run**
HearIndiana, the Indiana chapter of the national A.G. Bell Association, is sponsoring this event that is taking place at Fort Harrison State Park in Indianapolis. The cost for the event is \$20 if registered in advance & \$25 at the door. Additionally, there are separate fees for entire families of runners/walkers. Registration begins at 7:30am & the Run/Walk begins at 8:30am. There is also a family picnic that will take place from 10am-2pm. For more information or to register check out www.hearindiana.org & click on “Programs.”