

Idaho Parents Unlimited, Invites you to join us for our Annual Conference



Twenty Years of Weaving Lives Together

This year's conference is dedicated to the celebration of our twenty years as a non-profit organization serving Idaho families that have a child with a disability. During those years we have worked to bring together parents and professionals to educate each other and share resources for the support of Idaho's Children with Disabilities.

**The conference is sponsored by:
US Department of Education – Office of Special Education Programs
Idaho State Department of Education, Bureau of Special Education
Idaho Department of Health and Welfare, Infant and Toddler Division
Idaho Assistive Technologies Project
And VSA arts Headquarters, Washington, D.C.**

WHAT IS IPUL?

The mission of Idaho Parents Unlimited, Inc. is to enhance the quality of life for individuals with disabilities and their families. We are a statewide organization founded in 1985 to provide support, information and technical assistance to parents of children and youth with disabilities. IPUL has been designated as Idaho's Parent Training and Information Center (PTI) since 1989. The U.S. Department of Education provides funding for its programs. In 2002 IPUL received a Community Parent Resource Center (CPRC) grant to expand those same services to Spanish speaking families in Idaho. We adopted VSA arts of Idaho in 2003. This program provides art opportunities to people with disabilities. IPUL's activities are also supported through funding from various state agencies, by fund raisers, and through parent memberships.

IPUL is headquartered in Boise, Idaho, with regional staff throughout the state. IPUL is governed by a Board of Directors comprised primarily of parents of children and youth with disabilities, and others who serve the interests of children with disabilities. The programs are run with the assistance of advisory councils. IPUL is a 501(c)3 non-profit corporation in the state of Idaho.

CONFERENCE KEYNOTE SPEAKERS

RICHARD J. ROBISON, Rich Robinson is the Executive Director of the Federation for Children with Special Needs in Boston, Massachusetts. Dr. Robison has over 20 years experience with the management of nonprofit volunteer organizations as well as six years experience in state government as a senior policy analyst to the Commissioner of the Massachusetts Department of Mental Retardation. The parent of three children, two of whom have Down syndrome, he is knowledgeable in a broad range of relevant content areas. In the spring of 1997, he was appointed by Secretary of Education Richard Riley to serve on the Goals 2000 "America Goes Back to School" Steering Committee. Rich will be speaking on the Individual with Disabilities Education Act, its history, the original intent of the law and how that intent was challenged during the recent re-authorization of IDEA.

HOGAN HILLING Hogan knows what it is like to be the parent of a child with special needs. One of his sons has Angelmans Syndrome. Hilling is the author of "The Man Who Would Be Dad". He has appeared on the Oprah Winfrey Show, ABC's Fathers and Sons Documentary, and NBC's The Other Half. He was a featured speaker at the 2003 Lamaze International Conference. In 1995, Hilling received the California Courage to Care Award for helping to strengthen California families. He lives in Irvine, California with his wife, Tina, and three boys, Grant, 15, Wesley, 13, and Matthew, 9.

DAVID ROCHE David Roche has transformed the lessons of lifelong facial disfigurement into a compelling message that leaves audiences entertained and encouraged to face their own personal challenges. The story of his heroic journey from shame to strength opens hearts to courage, laughter and inspiration. David's performances and presentations have won standing ovations across the United States (including at the White House!), in Canada, England, Australia, Russia and New Zealand.

JAN MOSS Jan is the mother of two children with developmental disabilities. The experience of raising children with disabilities or being a care provider of one involves the development and use of coping strategies. Families must cope with issues in a variety of environments, health-care, education, community and vocation. Families are required to use effectively a host of skills, negotiation, communication and advocacy to name a few. Often families learn to cope in ways that are disabling and not strengthening to their members. Current interdisciplinary research and mainstream literature tells us that being able to see the humor in a situation is an effective coping strategy that is positive in the lives of it's practioners. It can be a win-win choice for families to use humor as a coping strategy. She directs the Community Leadership project for the UCEDD in Oklahoma. Jan is a frequent national presenter, she coordinates training and inclusion of family members as faculty. She is a consultant on and is committed to achieving family-supportive practices.

Each of the above keynotes will be presenting breakout sessions.

Notice of IPUL Membership Special Meeting

Friday March 11th, 2005 • 4:30 – 5:30 p.m.

A special meeting of the IPUL membership will be held. The agenda will include consideration of an amendment to Article II – Mission, Section (1) of the IPUL Bylaws.

The conference will provide several opportunities for you to come and network with other parents and professionals.

FOR THURSDAY NIGHT!

Silent Auction and the Annual Awards Ceremony
Join us for the evening reception Activities, Fun, Food, and Entertainment!
Silent Auction!

AWARDS CEREMONY

Help us Honor the 19th Annual IPUL Award recipients!

SOMETHING FOR EVERYONE

Bobby Ball, Director of the Idaho Task Force on the ADA - The ADA and Kids, Accessing the Community - Is your community park accessible? Learn how the Americans With Disabilities Act applies in community settings such as the local playground, in parks and recreation programs and in after school programs including libraries, day care settings, sports programs, etc.

Carol Covington-Hackney, The Brain Injury Association of Idaho – Steps Along the Road to Transforming Behavioral Trials into Triumphs. This workshop will explore three avenues for working with students, schools and programs to improve students' opportunities to succeed when they finish school. A discussion of executive functioning, self-regulation and self-determination will be held.

Karen Gillette, Boise City School District – Self-Advocacy in the Schools: A Student Perspective. A Panel of students with disabilities will share school experiences with the audience. They will discuss their experiences with inclusion, things that teachers do that are “helpful” to their success, things that are “hurtful” and hinder their success and how they advocate for themselves.

Robin G. Greenfield Ph. D., U of I Extension / Project for Deaf-Blindness – Transition Portfolios; Helping Students, Teachers and Families Handle New Settings. This session will provide informational strategies to help children and youth of all ages transfer to all types of new environments.

HOGAN HILLING, KEY NOTE SPEAKER WILL PROVIDE TWO BREAKOUT SESSIONS

Dad's Open Discussion: The dad's-only session is similar to the last two years of James May's open discussion. This workshop will expand on ways fathers can keep motivated, increase their success and get even more involved in lives of their kids with disabilities.

Mom's Workshop – What Dad's Want Mom's to Know. Answers for moms on why dads don't get more involved in helping and caring for a child. “What can mom's do to get husbands to be more involved?” This session will include lots of practical tips for moms on how to encourage a father's participation.

Britney Lanham, Terry Reilly Health Services - Teaching Your Child About Personal Safety – Preventing Sexual and Physical Abuse. Children with disabilities are at greater risk for abuse. This presentation takes on a topic that doesn't get enough discussion; it will give parents some simple tools that they can use with their children in the prevention of abuse.

Michael McGreaham, Esq. – Estate Planning with Special Needs Children.

Secure your child with special needs future with public and private resources. Michael is from Boise and is an attorney with Moffatt, Thomas, Barrett, Rock & Fields, Chtd.

JAN MOSS, KEY NOTE SPEAKER and the Director of Community Leadership Solutions - Utilizing Preference Indicators in Planning. Jan Moss will share how to use this friendly tool to involve families/students and educators in appropriate child/student specific planning and progress monitoring, utilizing preferences indicators.

RICH ROBINSON, KEY NOTE SPEAKER on the Reauthorization of the IDEA will go into further detail on what these changes mean for our children and how we can work with them to continue needed services.

DAVID ROCHE, KEY NOTE SPEAKER –Finding Your Voice. In this lively presentation, David Roche continues his keynote with a session on “telling your stories”. With warm humor rooted in deep understanding of human frailty, he explains his disability. His stories reveal that his face is unique, but his experiences and message are universal. Parents will have the opportunity to learn how to share their own stories in a productive manner.

TECHNOLOGY TO MEDICAID: KNOWING WHAT IS AVAILABLE AND GETTING TO USE IT

Bobby Ball, Director of the (IT) Idaho Task Force on the ADA - Section 508, What is Education-based Accessible Information Technology. Bobby will share information on Accessible IT along with the guidelines and standards. Learn about the importance of accessible IT Policy and the different types of accessible IT Policy. Technology can reduce barriers to learning. Parents can learn the methods for procurement and development, and begin to understand how to identify resources for accessible IT.

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Susan Hanks, Co-Ad, Inc. - Two sessions on Medicaid

In Part A - Medicaid: Good Information = Favorable Decisions. Parent will get an understanding of how the many faces of Medicaid can be valuable in getting services.

Part B - Medicaid Denials – Disagreeing Effectively. Participate in a discussion on maintaining services while disagreeing with Health and Welfare, and learn strategies for preparing for reconsideration and hearings.

Kathy Griffin, United Cerebral Palsy – Isn't there anything out there that I can afford? An overview of inexpensive and free software that can be used for learning.

Ron Seiler, Director of the Idaho Assistive Technology Project – Tools for Life: The emergence of assistive technology as a powerful force for children with disabilities. This session will introduce parents to the benefits of technology for their children.

FOR FAMILIES NEW TO DISABILITIES

Judy Baker Frederick, ADEC Certified Grief Educator – Embracing What Is: The journey through grief. She will talk on defining the often hidden journey of grieving the loss of the “perfect child” in order to embrace the child that is.

Ann Kirkwood – Red Flags Idaho Will Present Two Sessions

Recognizing Warning Signs of Mental Disorders in Children and Youth. Receive information on signs and symptoms of mental illness, suicide and trauma and how they affect a child's ability to learn, make friends and function at home.

Idaho Suicide Fact and Prevention Strategies for Parents. This session will focus on Idaho suicide statistics and best practices for suicide prevention among children and youth. Specific recommendations for parents on preventing suicide will be presented.

Laura Sandidge Ph. D. with Advocates for Inclusion - Positive Behavioral Supports: Strategies for Therapy. This session will give an overview of what is included in functional behavioral assessments, reinforcement inventory, behavioral square, and environmental analysis processes.

FOR THE YOUNGER ONES

Brenda Breindinger with the Idaho Association for the Education of Young Children (IAEYC) will present on- **How the Idaho STARS Professional Development Program Can Lead to Quality Child Care.** This presentation will assist parents in learning the importance of quality child care, how to obtain child care referrals to providers interested in caring for children with special needs, and how child care providers can access the Idaho STARS program. Brenda is from Boise and is the Statewide Project Director for Idaho STARS.

Theresia Muli and Kris Kilkenny -Introducing Inclusive Child Care: The benefits and impact of inclusive childcare will be discussed.

WITH ADDITIONAL SESSIONS FROM

IPUL staff member, Julie Cathers, on Understanding ADHD, The Idaho Department of Vocational Rehabilitation on using VR Services during Secondary Education and Transition to Adulthood. And more.....

MARCH 9TH SPANISH SPEAKING PRE-CONFERENCE PRESENTERS

Maria Andrade-Is a lawyer in Boise. She is speaking on immigration laws that affect parents of children with disabilities. She will also speak about special considerations for people with disabilities.

Cecilia Mercado – From the Festiva Educativa will present an inspirational message to teach parents how to keep high self esteem and how to help plan for the future of your child. Cecilia is a parent of a child with a disability. This presentation will cover all aspects regarding how to get more involved in child education and advocating for your child.

Kathy Griffin of United Cerebral Palsy - Useful Tools to Help Learning and Play. Kathy will, with the help of an interpreter, introduce assistive technology tools that will help children learn to play with adaptive toys. This session will provide parents with information about tools available to help their children learn and develop their capabilities.

Twenty Years of Weaving Lives Together

Registration Form & Payment Information

If your organization is sending more than one person, copy this form for each person.
Please print legibly and complete all information.

Name _____

(As you want it to appear on your name badge)

Title and Organization (if appropriate) _____

Address _____

City, State Zip _____ County _____

Email _____

Daytime Phone _____ Nighttime Phone _____

Child's Disability _____ Age _____ Birth Year _____

Please add any additional children with a disability _____

Ethnicity of Parents: Caucasian African American Hispanic American Indian Other

IPUL may include my name and address on a Conference attendance list to be distributed to other participants: Yes No

I plan to attend the Evening Reception: Yes No

Accessibility and Conference Requests

Check if you need: Vegetarian meals Kosher meals, Spanish Translator, ADA Other

Do you need any special accommodations? Please, describe: _____

2005 CONFERENCE REGISTRATION FEES

For Parents and Family Members of a Child with a Disability:

\$ _____ \$85 individual / \$125 couple if postmarked before Feb. 25th

\$ _____ \$95 individual if postmarked after Feb. 25th

\$ _____ Scholarship Application: a \$10 processing fee must accompany this request form.

\$ _____ \$10 IPUL, INC parent membership dues

\$ _____ Tax deductible contribution to IPUL, INC

\$ _____ Total Enclosed

For Service Providers, Educators, Administrators, Others: (Groups of 4 or more - register before February 25th and receive a 10% discount to the total costs of registration.)

\$ _____ \$100 individual if postmarked before Feb. 25th

\$ _____ \$110 individual if postmarked after Feb. 25th

\$ _____ \$25 IPUL, INC professional membership dues

\$ _____ Tax deductible contribution to IPUL, INC

\$ _____ Total Enclosed

Make check, money order or purchase order payable to: IPUL, INC.

Only registration forms accompanied by payment or scholarship (with processing fee) application will be processed.

Return completed forms and applications to:

IPUL, Inc. 600 N. Curtis Rd. Suite #145, Boise Idaho 83706 or FAX: (208) 342-1408

PARENT SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION

IPUL, Inc. provides partial scholarships to parents on a first come, first served basis in order to help them attend our conference. To be considered for a scholarship, the following questions must be answered and you must include a \$10 scholarship processing fee with this application. IPUL will review your application and you will be notified either in writing or by telephone shortly following the receipt of your application.

Are you the parent of a child with a disability? Yes No

Have you received an IPUL Conference Scholarship previously? Yes No
What years? _____

Do you need a scholarship for: Registration Lodging

How will you share the information you gain? _____

Those requesting a scholarship including a room, will need to share with another conference attendee or pay 1/2 of the total room costs. If you elect to share a room please write the name of the person you desire to room with below. If not, our staff will assign another attendee to share the room. Please indicate your preference below.

I will be paying for _____ of the cost of the room. Yes No

I wish to share my room with: _____

Please find me a room mate. Yes No

ALL APPLICATIONS MUST BE POSTMARKED BY FEBRUARY 25TH

REGISTRATION INFORMATION

Location: Check with the Red Lion on special room rates for conference participants.
**Red Lion Downtowner, 1800 Fairview Avenue,
Boise, ID 83702, (208)344-7691**

Registration: Limited space is available for the workshops. We expect a good response, so please submit your registration early. All participants must pre-register and payment must accompany the registration.

Scholarships: Limited scholarships are available. Please submit your application with your registration.

Confirmation: Postcards will be sent for registration and scholarship decisions.

Check-In & Packet Pick-up: Early check-in and packet pick up are available in the Red Lion Downtowner lobby on Wednesday, March 9th from 5:00-7:00 p.m. Packets may also be picked up Thursday, March 10th from 7:30 – 9:00 a.m. We encourage you to check in early.

Cancellation Policy: Registration cancelled prior to March 1st will receive a full refund. No refunds will be made after that date.

Assistive Technology Lab: Visit the lab and try out the equipment

Resource Room: Display tables will be available with over 20 vendors.

GENERAL CONFERENCE SCHEDULE:

Wednesday – Spanish Speaking Session

9:00 - 5:30 Workshops and Presentations

Thursday March 10th:

9:00 - 4:30 Workshops and Presentations

4:30 - 5:30 IPUL Membership Special Meeting

5:30 - 8:30 Evening Reception, IPUL Annual Awards and Silent Auction

Friday March 11th:

9:00 - 4:30 Workshops and Presentations

**Twenty Years of
Weaving Lives
Together**
**Join us at the Red Lion
Downtown
Boise, Idaho
March 9, 10 & 11, 2005**



Idaho Parents Unlimited, Inc

**600 North Curtis, Suite 145
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