

June 2015

Volume 4, Issue 6

**Project 10 Topical Briefs** are published on a monthly basis. Each issue focuses on a specific topic or theme. This month the *Topical Brief* is focused on **Community Involvement**



## AmeriCorps

### AmeriCorps Works



<http://www.nationalservice.gov/programs/americorps/join-americorps>

AmeriCorps engages more than 75,000 Americans in intensive service each year at nonprofits, schools, public agencies, and community and faith-based groups across the country. AmeriCorps programs do more than move communities forward; they serve their members by creating jobs and providing pathways to opportunity for young people entering the workforce. AmeriCorps places thousands of young adults into intensive service positions where they learn valuable work skills, earn money for education and develop an appreciation for citizenship.

### Corporation for National and Community Service: Disability Inclusion Resources

<http://www.nationalservice.gov/resources/disability-inclusion>

Service and volunteer programs need to be proactive to ensure that everyone,

including individuals with disabilities, have the opportunity to serve and to be active participants in their community. Often managers need more information about accessible and inclusive recruiting or want disability-related information to assist supervisors of members or volunteers with disabilities. The

newly developed e-courses and other materials on this website serve as a starting place for queries and to find training and technical resources related to inclusive practices.



## Florida Youth Council

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## National Aphasia Awareness Month

June is  
**National Aphasia Awareness Month**



[http://www.strokeassociation.org/STROKEORG/LifeAfterStroke/RegainingIndependence/CommunicationChallenges/June-is-National-Aphasia-Awareness-Month\\_UCM\\_464039\\_SubHomePage.jsp](http://www.strokeassociation.org/STROKEORG/LifeAfterStroke/RegainingIndependence/CommunicationChallenges/June-is-National-Aphasia-Awareness-Month_UCM_464039_SubHomePage.jsp)

June is National Aphasia Awareness Month, which is a national campaign to increase public education around the language disorder and to recognize the numerous people who are living with or caring for people with aphasia. The American Heart Association/American Stroke Association (AHA/ASA) is increasing aphasia awareness by sharing communication tips, the effects of having aphasia, assistive devices for those with aphasia and more.

## National Safety Month

### NATIONAL **SAFETY** MONTH 2015

<http://www.nsc.org/act/events/Pages/national-safety-month.aspx>

Everyone has something they live to see or experience. No matter what that passion is, it is important to engage in safe behaviors. The National Safety Council has chosen "What I Live For" for this year's theme. This website features personal stories and provides resources such as posters, tip sheets, safety checklists and an infographic. To download free National Safety Month materials, visit: <http://safety.nsc.org/nsm>



<http://www.floridayouthcouncil.org/>

The Florida Youth Council (FYC) is a group of youth and emerging leaders (age 15-30) with disabilities or special health care needs that live in Florida. The FYC is sponsored by The Family Cafe and is all about getting youth and emerging leaders involved in self-advocacy, peer mentoring and other activities that will improve the quality of life for youth and emerging leaders with disabilities in Florida. The program provides a means for youth and emerging leaders to decide what issues are important to their generation, to express those issues in their state and local communities and to develop strategies to solve them.

## Hurricane Season Began June 1st

<http://apd.myflorida.com/customers/disaster/>

It's Hurricane Season in Florida and the Agency for Persons with Disabilities Emergency and Disaster Information webpage offers resources and useful links for citizens with special needs to plan ahead for emergencies. This information includes lists of local shelters, contact information for the local emergency management office, instructions for creating an emergency kit and much more.



## Community Involvement Resources

### Best Buddies

<http://www.bestbuddies.org/>

The mission of Best Buddies is to enhance the lives of people with intellectual disabilities by providing opportunities for one-to-one friendships and integrated employment. People with intellectual disabilities are often excluded from society because of their differences. Best Buddies is determined to end the social isolation of people with intellectual disabilities by establishing meaningful lasting one-to-one friendships with their peers without intellectual disabilities. These friendships help increase self-esteem, confidence and the abilities of people with and without intellectual disabilities.

### Florida Disabled Outdoor Association

<http://www.fdoa.org/>

Florida Disabled Outdoors Association (FDOA) enriches lives through accessible inclusive recreation and active leisure for all. Since its inception in 1990, the FDOA has promoted accessible recreation to persons with disabilities as well as the general public through its hands-on recreation programs, newsletters and community outreach and education. FDOA has also assisted in compliance of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) and worked closely with many state, local and private organizations to develop, enhance and/or support recreation opportunities for the people with disabilities across Florida and beyond.

### Opening Doors: Project Adventure

[http://www.openingdoorsforyouth.org/images/stories/let\\_the\\_fun\\_begin.pdf](http://www.openingdoorsforyouth.org/images/stories/let_the_fun_begin.pdf)

This is a curriculum for training volunteers or staff to support children with special health care needs and disabilities in community recreation. Topics include adaptive recreation, behavior management, disability etiquette, professional conduct, and universal precautions.

### PACER's National Parent Center on Transition and Employment: Volunteer Experiences

<http://www.pacer.org/transition/learning-center/employment/volunteer-experiences.asp>

This webpage offers service learning and volunteer resources for parents and students. The webpage includes volunteer opportunity search engines, articles on service learning and information specifically for students with disabilities who want to volunteer.

### Special Olympics

<http://specialolympicsflorida.org/>

Through year-round sports training and competition, Special Olympics empowers individuals with intellectual disabilities in more than 180 countries. Special Olympics often is the only place where they have an opportunity to participate in their communities and develop belief in themselves. Transforming the athlete, Special Olympics sports are a gateway to empowerment, competence, acceptance and joy.

## FDOE Memo: Updated Guidelines for the Use of Animals by Students with Disabilities, 2015

The Florida Department of Education has provided a memorandum with updated guidance for the use of service animals by students with disabilities. For more information about the memo and the accompanying document, please visit:

<http://project10.info/FloridaGuidance.php>.

- FDOE Updated Guidelines for the Use of Service Animals by Students with Disabilities

Memo: <http://www.project10.info/files/dps-2015-60.pdf>

- FDOE Updated Guidelines and Template for School District Policy: <http://www.project10.info/files/dps-2015-60a.pdf>

## Upcoming Events



## 2015 Educational Strategies & Student Engagement Institute

September 21 - 23, 2015

Orlando World Center Marriott, Orlando, FL

<http://www.cvent.com/events/2015-educational-strategies-student-engagement-institute/event-summary-ea2e3a00a5b3482c8b6684cd746adfa7.aspx>

## The 69th Annual Florida Council for Exceptional Children (FCEC) Conference

October 1 - 3, 2015

Hilton Double Tree, Orlando, FL

<http://www.floridacec.org/>



WEBINAR

## Upcoming Webinars

### Save the Dates: FCIC's 2015 Employment Webinar Series and Archive

Third Wednesday of each month

5:00pm to 6:00pm EST

<http://flfcic.fmhi.usf.edu/resources/training/employment.html>

Join the Florida Center for Inclusive Communities (FCIC) for an opportunity to participate in a series of webinars geared to build capacity on an array of employment related topics. The FCIC is a University Center for Excellence in Developmental Disabilities Education, Research, and Service.

Employment Webinar Series Dates for 2015:

- **August 19, 2015:**  
Navigating the Workplace with Invisible Disabilities
- **September 16, 2015:**  
Coping with the Employment Process: Effective Relaxation and Stress Management Technique

[Join Our Mailing List](#)



### About Project 10 Topical Briefs:

Project 10 *Topical Briefs* provide short information summaries and resource links related to secondary transition.

**Have a question? Want to find or recommend a resource? Have some great news to share?**

Send us an email at  
[project10@stpete.usf.edu](mailto:project10@stpete.usf.edu)

For back issues of Project 10 Topical Briefs, visit the newsletter page on the Project 10 website at <http://www.project10.info/Newsletter.php>.

### Project 10:

#### Transition Education Network

assists Florida school districts and relevant stakeholders in building capacity to provide secondary transition services to students with disabilities in order to improve their academic success and post-school outcomes.

**Project 10: Transition Education Network**

**University of South Florida St. Petersburg**

Questions or comments?

Email us at  
[project10@stpete.usf.edu](mailto:project10@stpete.usf.edu)  
[www.Project10.info](http://www.Project10.info)