

Resource List for Advocacy

SSD Family & Community Resource Center

Parent Education & Diversity Awareness

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St. Louis, MO 63131

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Accessible IEPs for All: Gathering the Experts Around the Table. (DVD) (2007) (45 minutes)

Clear and candid DVD – ideal for staff professional development and for sharing with parents – will help IEP teams maximize every participant’s expertise and develop measurable and meaningful goals that improve child outcomes.

Accommodations in Higher Education Under the Americans with Disabilities Act; A No Nonsense Guide for Clinicians, Educators, Lawyers and Administrators. (1998)

This book is the perfect primer for lawyers who want to understand how the ADA applies to higher education and professional testing. It provides a crystal clear window into the identification of psychiatric, learning, and physical disorders, and should be in the library of every attorney involved with disability law

Aunt Katie's Visit. Katie Rodriguez Banister. (2003)

Katie Rodriguez Bannister survived a car accident in 1990. She began speaking to high school students about her life, and wrote this book about being a 'woman on wheels' This book is designed to help parents discuss a specific disability. Teachers can use it as a source of discussion about disability awareness

Autism: Asserting Your Child’s Right to a Special Education. David A. Sherman (2007)

Regardless of whether your child has autism or another disability requiring special education, this useful handbook provides significant legal advice and information to help you take on the school district, or maybe avoid a confrontation altogether.

Be Your Child’s Best Advocate. 100 Strategies for Children with Learning or Behavioral Issues. Peggy Schmidt

Helps parents understand and accept what is preventing their child from performing and interacting successfully in school and in social situations. This book is intended to be a voice of encouragement and direction to parents who have not yet found the courage for connections to get help and support for their child. Also contains guidelines for parents who want to improve their effectiveness in getting the right help for their child.

Because. (DVD)

Public service announcement that focuses on the important role that mentors and other influencers play in helping people with self esteem and acquire the skills to excel in school and to hold responsible and challenging jobs. (DVD and Discussion Guide)

Believe in My Child with Special Needs: Helping Children Achieve Their Potential in School. Mary A Falvey. (2005)

Handbook to help parents by demystifying complicated issues, celebrate their child's abilities and show them how to be successful advocates throughout their child's education.

Better IEP Meetings: Everyone Wins. Cynthia M Herr & Barbara D Bateman. (2006)

Helps you carefully consider how to make your IEP team meetings better. It presents a clear, three state framework: preparing for the meeting, conducting the meeting, and developing a legal and educationally sound IEP.

The Cage of the Different People: A Story of Brotherly Love. Benjamin Valdivia. (2012)

School Age. Little Carla does not move as fast as the other children in school. Instead of helping her, they separate her from the games. Soon she is forced to stay in a cage built by the school to keep her safe from the running and playing in the playground. This only makes her feel more left out. If all of us are different, why keep Carla apart? Can her brother Alex make the others see that everyone is different in his own way? (48 pages)

Certain Proof: A Question of Worth. (DVD) (2012) (60 minutes)

Feature documentary about three children living with significant communication and physical disabilities, who struggle against the public schools in an emotional battle to prove their worth.

Citizen Autistic: I am not a Puzzle, I am a Person (68 minutes) (DVD)

Offers an inside look at the activists on the frontlines of the autism war the fight for human rights and self-advocacy.

The Complete IEP Guide: How to Advocate for Your Special Ed Child – 5th Edition. Lawrence Siegel (2007)

Walks readers through the entire IEP process, explaining eligibility rules and assessments in plain language, and gives advice on developing the child's IEP each year, preparing for IEP meetings, and resolving disputes with the school district.

Creating A Win-Win IEP for Students with Autism: A How to Manual for Parents and Educators. Beth Fouse, PhD. (1999)

This book is intended to provide parents of students with autism with necessary information for the Individualized Education Program (IEP) process and includes relevant information from the 1997 Individuals with Disabilities Education Act.

Dear Diana: Diana's Guide to Independent Living for Adolescents and Young Adults with Different Learning Styles and Special Needs. Diana Bilezikian. (2014)

This practical resource is an outgrowth of a series of emails she sent to relatives and friends about her life and the skills she was learning. Backed by the president of Chapel Haven, Diana's original ideas have been expanded into a helpful collection of advice and support for how to live an independent and meaningful life.

Deciphering the System: A Guide for Families of Young Children with Disabilities. Paula J. Beckman & Gayle Beckman-Boyes (1993)

Provides basic information for parents and families of children with disabilities from birth on, with particular emphasis on those who are between birth and entering school age. Provides basic information about rights under recent legislation and the service system parents may encounter. Also includes the educational assessment process, how parents can work with multiple service providers to manage the large amount of information that accumulates, tips about handling the IEP meetings, due process and transitions.

Departing Rosewood. (DVD)

Film captures the challenges, hopes and transformations that occur as Steven departs the Rosewood Center and creates a life in the community with new opportunities and new experiences.

Disability & the Media: Prescriptions for Change. Charles A Riley II. (2005)

Illuminates the extent of the problem of how disabilities are portrayed by the media while pinpointing how writers, editors, directors, producers, filmmakers, advertisers and the executives who give their marching orders go wrong, or occasionally get it right.

Disability is Natural. Kathy Snow (DVD) (2007) (7 minutes)

Explores new ways of thinking about people with disabilities. When we think differently, we'll act differently: we can focus on ensuring children and adults with disabilities live natural lives as citizens in their communities, instead of clients in the service system.

Disability is Natural: Revolutionary Common Sense for Raising Successful Children with Disabilities. Kathie Snow. (2001)

Disability, like gender, ethnicity and age- are simply one characteristic of being human. There have been people with disabilities in the world, and there will always be. When we recognize that disability is a natural condition of the human experience, new attitudes will lead us to new actions!

Disabled, Female and Proud! Stories of Ten Women with Disabilities. Harilyn Russo, et al (1988)

Offers young women with disabilities empowering role models and the powerful message that they do not have to be or become any one thing because they are disabled and female. Gives parents and educators a unique way to help young people learn that making choices is what being disabled, female and proud is all about.

Empowering Students with Hidden Disabilities: A Path to Pride and Success. Margo Vreeburg Izzo & LeDerick Horne (2016)

Told with the authentic voices of adults with hidden disabilities, this encouraging, eye-opening book will help you guide students on the Path to Disability Pride and support their success in the classroom and community

Enabling and Empowering Families: Principals and Guidelines for Practice. Carl Dunst, et al (1988)

Book written for practitioner's who must work with families but who have insufficient training in family systems and assessment and intervention.

A Friend Indeed: The Bill Sackter Story. (DVD) (2008) (90 minutes)

Documentary of the transformation of Bill Sackter, from a neglected individual living in an institution into a national hero for people with disabilities.

From Emotions to Advocacy: the Special Education Advocacy Guide: 2nd Edition. Pam & Pete Wright (2008)

Practical and user-friendly book includes hundreds of strategies, tips, references, warnings and Internet resources. Appendices help to find contact information for hundreds of disabilities information groups, parent training and information groups, state department of education and legal and advocacy organizations.

Front of the Class. (DVD) (2009) (98 minutes)

Hallmark Hall of Fame film about the life story of Brad Cohen, a man with Tourette Syndrome who overcomes incredible obstacles to become a gifted teacher.

Front of the Class: How Tourette Syndrome Made Me the Teacher I Never Had. Brad Cohen & Lisa Wysocky.

Story of Brad Cohen and his personal challenges and unwavering determination. Includes motivational tips on living with a disability.

Getting to Yes: Negotiating Agreement Without Giving In. Roger Fisher & William Ury (1981)

Offers a concise, step-by-step, proven strategy for coming to mutual acceptable agreements in every sort of conflict – whether it involves parents and children, neighbors, bosses and employees, customers or corporations, tenants or diplomats.

A Guide to Collaboration for the IEP Teams. Nicholas Martin (2005)

Helps administrators, teachers, resource professionals, and parents work together to design, review and modify IEP's for children with special education needs. Includes checklists, outlines, diagrams and specific examples to make the complex simple.

Guide to Special Education Advocacy. What Parents, Clinicians and Advocates Need to Know. Matthew Cohen

Tells parents and professionals all they need to know to gain better provisions of special education in schools. (302 pages)

How to Compromise with Your School District Without Compromising Your Child. Gary Mayerson (2004)

Gary Mayerson has devoted his career in law to helping children with autism get the fair and appropriate education that they need and deserve. In this field guide, he brings parents up to speed quickly and efficiently on the ways educational bureaucracies work—or more importantly, don't—for children with special needs.

How to Organize an Effective Parent/Advocacy Group and Move Bureaucracies. Charlotte Des Jardins (1991)

Gives information on how to become an effective advocate, get a state charter and tax-exempt status, train parents on their rights, reach out to other parents, lobby and get results, make headlines, open new services in the public schools, develop a newsletter, organize a conference, raise money and much more.

How to Qualify for Social Security Disability and Protect your Rights. David A Morton (1992)

Tells you the rules the Social Security Administration (SSA) uses to evaluate disability claims. The author discusses all major types of mental and physical disorders in plain language and explains what SSA is looking for.

I to I: Self Concept and People with Developmental Disabilities. Dave Hingsburger (1990)

Dave Hingsburger, therapist, author and friend to people with developmental disabilities, writes an engaging and philosophical manual of how to work respectfully and successfully with individuals who have intellectual disabilities.

It's My Choice. William T Allen, PhD. (2002)

Transition workbook for people with disabilities or those who advocate for them.

The Journey Through Assessment: Help for Parents with a Special Needs Child. Antonia Chitty & Victoria Dawson. (2013)

If you believe that there is something wrong with your child, but have yet to get a diagnosis, this book will help you through the period of uncertainty when you have to negotiate healthcare and education services.

Just Because I Can't Talk, Doesn't Mean I Don't Have Anything to Say. Holly Fiscus Forlenza. (2013)

The pages of this book feature words written by Holly. For almost twenty-two years, this beautiful, curious and silent woman had wisdom trapped in her body. For anyone who has ever felt silenced, oppressed, abandoned, scared and invisible, this book will bring you strength and encouragement

Leading for Social Justice: Transforming Schools for All Learners. Elise Frattura & Colleen Capper (2007)

A step-by-step process for raising the achievement of English language learners and students with special needs and for integrating schoolwide change through proactive support services that benefit all students.

Leading Successful IEP Teams: A Guide to Managing the People and the Process. Gerry Klor (2007)

Written by an expert in the field, this comprehensive guide gives you essential tools for facilitating effective IEP meetings.

Learning to Work Together: An Educator's Guide to Communicating with Parents and Colleagues. (2006)

Teaches educators a variety of techniques for handling the interpersonal challenges they face every day. Written for educators at all levels, this essential resource provides guidance on how to nurture successful relationships with parents, supervisors and peers.

Leaving the Door Open: Alternatives to Seclusion and Restraint. (DVD)

This training video has been developed to help facilities reduce and ultimately eliminate the use of seclusion and restraint practices in institutional and community settings.

The Lighter Side of IEP's. (1993)

This booklet offers a humorous perspective on important guidelines for developing Individualized Education Programs (IEPs) for students with disabilities, which respect the values of collaboration, student and family leadership, and full inclusion.

Lives Worth Living: The Great Fight for Disability Rights. (DVD) (2011) (54 minutes)

Traces the development of consciousness of disability rights pioneers who realized that in order to change the world they needed to work together to secure equal civil rights for all people with disabilities.

Lou Brown: Unplugged. (DVD) (Disc One 82 minutes, Disc Two 63 minutes)

Lou Brown tells stories that communicate important lessons accrued from over forty years of working on behalf of individuals with disabilities in classrooms, workplaces and courtrooms. The stories will make you laugh, cry and angry. Lou argues for the combination of integrated schooling, authentic assessment and instruction, and other rational instructional practices and individually meaningful experiences in real work settings.

Designed for people interested in facilitating a person-centered planning process called Personal Futures Planning.

Max Starkloff and the Fight for Disability Rights. Charles E Claggett. (2014)

Takes readers on an extraordinary odyssey of hope and resilience—from Starkloff's twelve years in a nursing home to his successful family life and career as a nationally prominent human rights leader.

Missouri Surrogate Parent Program Manual. (1991)

This manual presents Missouri state guidelines for its surrogate parent program, required by the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act.

The New IDEA for Special Education: Understanding the System and the New Law. (DVD) (2005) (50 minutes)

This insightful program will help both parents and educators better understand the recent changes to the law governing the Special Education System, The Individuals with Disabilities in Education Improvement Act (IDEA 2004).

Once Upon an Accommodation: A Picture Book for all Ages. Nina G. (2013)

Ages 8 and up. Matt finds out that he has a Learning Disability but doesn't know what that means. He soon finds out that he is smart and with the right accommodations, advocacy and support he can realize his dreams. (28 pages)

Out of Harm's Way: A Safety Kit for People with Disabilities Who Feel Unsafe and Want to Do Something About it. (1997)

This book is a unique tool to help people look at the places they live, work, study and play. It helps identify what is unsafe in the environment, in services, and in relationships. Written in straight-forward language, the Out of Harm's Way includes questions to help people think about their safety, and makes suggestions for way to go about changing their surroundings to a safer one.

Outliers: The Story of Success. Malcolm Gladwell. (2011)

The lives of outliers-people whose achievements fall outside normal experience- follow a peculiar and unexpected logic, and in uncovering that logic, presents a fascinating and provocative blueprint for making the most of human potential.

Parallels in Time & The Learning Center. (CD-ROM) (1996)

Two-volume cd-rom was produced to preserve in a usable and educational format, the history of people with disabilities and the Council's 25 year history.

Quality Supports, Quality Lives. (DVD) (9 minutes)

Explores the status of direct support professionals (DSPs) and provides evidence of the urgent need for systemic workforce development, including high quality training and fair compensation.

The School Leaders Our Children Deserve: Seven Keys to Equity, Social Justice, and School Reform. George Theoharis. (2009)

Portrays how real school leaders seek, create, and sustain equitable schools, especially for marginalized students.

Section 504 and the Public Schools: A Practical Guide for Determining Eligibility, Developing Accommodation Plans and Documenting Compliance. Tom E. Smith & James Patton (1998)

A Practical Guide for Determining Eligibility, Developing Accommodation Plans, and Documenting Compliance

Section 504 in the Classroom: How to Design and Implement Accommodations Plans. Lynda Miller & Chris Newbill (1998)

This book is a guide to provisions of Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 relevant to educational settings. Emphasis is on using Section 504 plans to design accommodations and modifications for students with disabilities that address individual strengths and needs.

That All May Worship – An Interfaith Welcome to People with Disabilities. National Organization on Disability

The purpose of the handbook is to assist congregations, denominational groups and seminaries in welcoming people with disabilities.

Unequal Justice? What Can Happen When Persons With Retardation or Other Developmental Disabilities Encounter with Criminal Justice System. Robert Perske (1991)

Cites incidents from the criminal justice system to demonstrate that people with disabilities, whether guilty or innocent, are often defenseless.

Unforgotten: Twenty-Five Years After Willowbrook (DVD) (2002)

A critically acclaimed, award-winning documentary that examines the impact of the horrors of the notorious Willowbrook State Institution for the developmentally disabled on the survivors and their families, Unforgotten features eloquent testimonials of family members and focuses on the lives of survivors, 25 years after Geraldo Rivera's historic television expose.

Valuing Lives: Wolf Wolfensberger and the Principle of Normalization. (DVD) (56 minutes)

Through archival images and footage, and dozens of interviews, "Valuing Lives" explores the principle of normalization, an idea that challenged our fundamental assumptions about people with intellectual disabilities, and the iconoclastic professor whose intense, multi-day workshops trained thousands of human services professionals in the theory and practice of this idea

We Can Shine: From Institutions to Independence. Adrian Esposito (DVD) (2010)

In his search to understand his own disability, Asperger's Syndrome, the filmmaker explores what it would have been like for him had he been born in 1944. This documentary is about the state of institutions for the developmentally disabled in New York State

What Do I Do When...The Answer Book on Discipline. Susan Gorn (1999)

Presented in a question-and-answer format, this book provides information related to how schools can effectively discipline students. It reviews in detail the controlling directives of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act 1997 as it concerns students with disabilities

When the School Says No... How to Get the Yes: Securing Special Education Services for Your Child. Vaughn K Lauer. (2014)

Offers parents of children with autism and other disabilities a unique way of approaching and tackling the problems that can arise relating to the provision of special education services.

Wretches & Jabberers. (2010) (DVD) (94 minutes)

Two men with autism embark on a global quest to change prevailing attitudes about disability and intelligence.

Wrightslaw: IDEA 2004. Peter Wright, ESQ & Pamela Darr Wright (2006)

Includes the full text of Parts A and B of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Improvement Act of 2004 (IDEA 2004) with commentary, cross-references, strategies, and resources.

You, Your Child, and "Special" Education: A Guide to Dealing with the System. Barbara Coyne Cutler. (2010)

Packed with sample letters and dialogues, realistic vignettes, and solutions to large and small problems, this practical survival guide will help parents become strong, independent, and effective advocates - so that their children will get the education they need to reach their full potential.