

You're not alone

Connecting for Kids (CFK) provides education and support to families with concerns about their child. We serve all families, including those children with and without formal diagnoses. CFK offers educational programs, support groups, a Parent Match Program and numerous resources.

Registration is required for all programs. Register online: connectingforkids.org/register, via email: info@connectingforkids.org or call: 440-250-5563.

Meet and Greet

This is a free, public event where families can learn about local resources, therapies, after-school programs and summer camps for their child who is struggling (with or without a formal diagnosis). Attendees can visit with representatives from more than 70 organizations (see back cover for full participant list) to discuss services and explore program options.

Wednesday, April 12 from 6:30 to 8:30 pm, Don Umerley Civic Center, 21016 Hilliard Blvd., Rocky River

If you preregister and attend the Meet and Greet you will be entered into a raffle to win a \$100 Visa gift card!

Sponsored by:



Concerned about your child?

Whatever the reason...

Connecting for Kids can help.

Speaker Series

Join us for presentations on various childhood topics by local, pediatric professionals. Free, supervised children's activities are available, but adults and children must register separately. For more information, visit connectingforkids.org/speakerseries

Understanding the ABLE Act

What is the ABLE act and how can it benefit my family? How does it differ from a special needs trust? Who is eligible? Kathryn J. Bryan, Ph.D., of Skylight Financial Group, will help attendees understand the ABLE act, its rules, regulations and who is eligible. She will explain why a family would want to set up an ABLE account and how it can provide funds needed for qualified disability expenses such as education, housing, transportation, employment training, health and personal/financial services, without disqualifying your child from SSI, SSDI, or Medicaid. Dr. Bryan will also address how an ABLE account can fit into the overall planning for your child's future.

Saturday, April 8, 2:00 pm, Westlake Porter Public Library, 27333 Center Ridge Rd., Porter Room

Potty Training

Are you concerned because your child is not potty trained? Are you frustrated and could use some potty training tips from professionals? Are you wondering whether your child's inability to be trained could indicate a physical or emotional issue? Join Jessica Goetz Ambrose, MEd, and Holly Winterstein, MEd, from the Cuyahoga County Board of Developmental Disabilities to discuss how and when to potty train. Attendees will break into two groups to talk about the issues most relevant to their situation: 1) Toddlers/Preschoolers who are resisting attempts to train; 2) Elementary-aged children who are not yet potty trained.

Friday, April 28, 11:30 am, Westlake Porter Public Library, 27333 Center Ridge Rd., Porter Room

Register at connectingforkids.org/register

Email: info@connectingforkids.org | Phone: 440-250-5563

Spring Programs 2017

Elementary ExperiencesSM

For families and their children (ages 7-12 years) who are struggling in an area of development. For more information, visit connectingforkids.org/elementary



Coffee and Chat

Join our interactive support group and meet other families facing similar struggles. Free, supervised children's activities are available, but adults and children must register separately. For more information, visit connectingforkids.org/support



Marriage Under Pressure: Parenting a Child who Struggles

Parenting a child who struggles can put extra challenges and stress on a marriage. What are some ways you can retain a strong marriage? Come join us as we discuss five tips that can help your marriage thrive.

Tuesday, April 4, 7:00 pm, Westlake Porter Public Library, 27333 Center Ridge Rd., Porter Room

Coffee and Chat (cont.)

Grandparents Chat

Learn how to support and engage with a grandchild who struggles. This chat is for grandparents only. (Please note: There will be no supervised children's activities available during this program).

Tuesday, May 9, 7:00 pm, Westlake Porter Public Library, 27333 Center Ridge Rd., Porter Room

Connecting Parents of Young Children

Are you a parent of a young child (0-3 years)? Do you have concerns about your child's development? Are you overwhelmed by parenting or want help addressing certain behaviors? Come connect with other families in the community as we collectively brainstorm and share ideas on how to feel less overwhelmed by parenting a young child. We will discuss coping strategies, share local resources and learn ways to address your child's needs to improve behaviors at home.

Thursday, May 25, 6:00 pm, West River Branch of the Elyria Public Library System, 1194 West River Rd. N., A light dinner will be served.

How to Stay Calm when the Kids are Out of Control

Being able to stay calm even when you are angry or frustrated by your child's behaviors will make you a more effective parent. Join us as we discuss six techniques that will help you stay calm in the face of adversity.

Tuesday, July 18, 7:00 pm, Westlake Porter Public Library, 27333 Center Ridge Rd., Porter Room

Coffee at the Westlake Porter Public Library is donated by Starbucks Coffee Company and desserts are donated by Little Miss Cookies.

Music Therapy & MoreSM

For families and their children (ages 0-6 years) who are struggling in an area of development. Each session is 30 minutes. For more information, visit connectingforkids.org/music



West River Branch of the Elyria Public Library System

1194 West River Rd. N., Miller Room
Sessions begin at 6:00 pm. A light dinner will be served following each session.

Thursday, April 6
Thursday, May 11

Lakewood Public Library

15425 Detroit Ave., Toddlers' Story Room
Sessions begin at 9:30 am and 10:30 am.

Saturday, April 8

Middleburg Heights Branch of Cuyahoga County Public Library

15600 Bagley Rd., Meeting Room
Sessions begin at 6:30 pm.

Wednesday, April 5
Wednesday, May 10

Westlake Porter Public Library

27333 Center Ridge Rd., Dover Room
Friday sessions begin at 9:30 am and 10:30 am. Saturday sessions begin at 9:30 am, 10:30 am and 11:30 am.

Friday, March 31
Saturday, April 1
Friday, May 5
Saturday, May 6

All programs are FREE and open to the public. Registration required.

Teach Me to PlaySM

For families and their children (ages 3-6 years) who are struggling in an area of development. Free, supervised children's activities are available for siblings. For more information, visit connectingforkids.org/play

Thursday session begins at 6:30 pm and Friday sessions begin at 9:30 am and 11:00 am.

Westlake Porter Public Library, 27333 Center Ridge Rd., Dover Room

Thursday, May 18
Friday, May 19

Our Thanks

Programming is made possible in part by support from local organizations.

Elyria

Coffee and Chat and Music Therapy & More in Elyria is presented in partnership with the Elyria Public Library System and supported by Lorain County Children and Families Council through Help Me Grow funding provided by Ohio Department of Health.

Lakewood

Music Therapy & More at the Lakewood Public Library is supported by a grant from Community West Foundation.

Middleburg Heights

Music Therapy & More in Middleburg Heights is presented in partnership with Cuyahoga County Public Library.

Westlake

Coffee and Chat at the Westlake Porter Public Library is sponsored by The Child & Family Counseling Center of Westlake.

Music Therapy & More, Elementary Experiences and Teach Me to Play at the Westlake Porter Public Library are supported by a grant from The Nordson Corporation Foundation.

The Speaker Series in Westlake is presented in partnership with Westlake Porter Public Library.

Photos generously donated by The Therapeutic Lens Photography

Special Needs Library Programs

For more information, visit connectingforkids.org/library

Adapted Storytimes

Children with varying learning styles and abilities learn together in a safe, supportive environment where respect and appreciation for differences is encouraged. This 30 minute storytime, followed by a time for socialization, is designed for children who may not be successful in a typical storytime experience. Content is geared toward ages 3 to 7, but all ages are welcome. Siblings may also attend, but must register separately.

Cuyahoga County Public Library
Middleburg Heights Branch, 15600 East Bagley Rd., 440-234-3600

Saturday, April 22, 11:00 am
Saturday, May 6, 11:00 am
Saturday, July 15, 2:30 pm
Saturday, August 19, 2:30 pm

North Royalton Branch, 5071 Wallings Rd., 440-237-3800

Saturday, April 29, 10:00 am

Parma Branch, 6996 Powers Blvd., 440-885-5362

Saturday, March 4, 11:30 am
Saturday, April 15, 11:30 am
Saturday, June 24, 11:30 am
Saturday, July 22, 11:30 am

Solon Branch, 34125 Portz Pkwy., 440-248-8777

Saturday, March 18, 2:30 pm
Saturday, April 15, 2:30 pm
Saturday, May 13, 10:30 am
Saturday, June 24, 10:30 am
Saturday, July 8, 10:30 am
Saturday, August 5, 10:30 am

Lakewood Public Library
15425 Detroit Ave., Toddlers' Story Room, 216-226-8275

Sunday, April 9, 3:30 pm
Sunday, May 7, 3:30 pm
Sunday, June 4, 3:30 pm
Sunday, July 30, 3:30 pm
Sunday, August 27, 3:30 pm

Westlake Porter Public Library
27333 Center Ridge Rd., 440-871-2600

Monday, April 10, 6:30 pm
Friday, April 14, 10:30 am
Saturday, April 29, 10:30 am
Friday, May 12, 10:30 am
Monday, May 15, 6:30 pm
Saturday, May 27, 10:30 am
Friday, June 9, 10:30 am
Monday, June 12, 6:30 pm
Saturday, June 24, 10:30 am
Friday, July 7, 10:30 am
Monday, July 10, 6:30 pm
Saturday, July 22, 10:30 am
Saturday, August 19, 10:30 am

Sensation Stations

Drop in for sensory fun! Engage your child's senses by scooping, pouring and sorting a variety of materials. This session is for children with special needs and their typical peers. No registration required. Ages 3-6.

Friday, July 14, 10:00 am, Westlake Porter Public Library, 27333 Center Ridge Rd.

Kids in the Kitchen

Learn basic cooking skills with fast, simple, no-cook recipes! For students with special needs and their typical peers. If you have an allergy or special diet concerns, please contact the Youth Department at 440-250-5471 for a complete list of ingredients. Ages 8-12.

Wednesday, June 14, 3:00 pm, Westlake Porter Public Library, 27333 Center Ridge Rd.

Meet and Greet Participant List

For more information on the 2017 Meet and Greet, visit connectingforkids.org/meetandgreet

Abilities First, LLC	Dynamic Speech Therapy	North Coast Education Services
Accurate Speech Inc.	Easter Seals Northern Ohio	North Pointe Ballet
Achievement Centers for Children	The Emily Program	Partners for Community Connections
Adapted Fitness And Yoga Plus LLC	Empowering Epilepsy	Playhouse Square
Applewood Centers Inc.	Epilepsy Association	Positive Education Program
Bay Presbyterian Church Special Needs Ministry	FIT: Friendship In Teams	PsychBC
Behavior Consulting Services, LLC	Fit Mind Cleveland	Rainbow Babies and Children's Hospital
Beyond Words: Music & Dance Center	Galvin Therapy Center	Rec2connect
Building Blocks Therapy	The Gathering Place	Rec2connect Foundation
Camp I.D.E.A.S.	GiGi's Playhouse	RedTreehouse.org
Camp Imagine	Joel's Place for Children	The Shepherd's Well
Camp Nuhop	Kenneth A. De Luca, Ph.D. & Associates, Inc.	Skylight Financial Group
Catholic Charities Disability Services & Camp Happiness	Kick Buddies	Sky Zone Cleveland
The Centers for Families and Children	LakeShore Day Camp	Southwest General
The Child & Family Counseling Center of Westlake	Lakewood City Schools Community Recreation & Education Department	Special Stars of the North Coast
Children's Developmental Center	Lakewood Public Library	Spectrum Resource Center & School
Cleveland Clinic Center for Autism	Livespecial.com	Speech Spot
Cleveland Clinic Children's Rehab Therapy Services	Maximum Accessible Housing of Ohio	State Support Team – Region 3
Comprehensive Behavioral Specialists	Meghan Barlow and Associates	STEPS Academy
Cuyahoga County Public Library	Middleburg Early Education Center	St. Jude School
Daily Behavioral Health and the Building Behaviors Autism Center	Milestones Autism Resources	Summit Academy Schools
The Drugless Doctors-Chiropractic, Family Health & Wellness	The Music Settlement	UCP of Greater Cleveland - LeafBridge Therapy Services
	Music Therapy Enrichment Center (MTEC)	University Hospitals Department of Psychiatry - Research Division
	National Alliance on Mental Illness Greater Cleveland (NAMI GC)	The Vision Development Team
	Near West Theatre	Westlake Porter Public Library
	The Nord Center	

Desserts for the Meet and Greet donated by Buca di Beppo and coffee donated by Starbucks Coffee Company.

Printed at the expense of Cuyahoga County Public Library.

Register at connectingforkids.org/register

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