

THE PARENT MENTOR

MARCH 2025
MINUTE

A MONTHLY NEWSLETTER OF THE ESC LORAIN COUNTY PARENT MENTOR PROGRAM



MARK YOUR CALENDARS! LORAIN COUNTY RESOURCE FAIR

DATE

March 18, 2025

LOCATION

LCCC Spitzer Conference Center,
1005 Abbe Road North, Elyria ([parking map](#))

TIME

6:00 PM - 8:00 PM

This free, in-person event (with a drive-up grab-and-go option) offers resources for families concerned about their youth (ages birth-22) in Lorain County and surrounding communities.

The resource fair includes:

Adapted camps, adapted sports & recreation, alternative schools, behavioral health providers, disability services, educational advocates, funding sources, mental health providers, music therapy programs, occupational therapy, physical therapy, social skills programs, specialty legal services, speech-language therapy, support groups, transition services, tutors and academic programs and much more!

To register click [here](#).

LEARNERS WITH COMPLEX NEEDS

The Monarch Reader is a book-sharing platform that offers a vast digital library of thousands of accessible and adapted books specifically tailored for beginning readers of all ages. Whether you are a special educator, a beginning reader, a parent, or a literacy advocate, Monarch Reader is a resource for shared reading and independent reading. It is also a place where adults can create accessible and adapted books that engage and delight beginning readers. Access it [here](#).



Paula Drummer
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Lorain County: Elyria, Firelands, Keystone,
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Erie, Huron and Sandusky Counties: Bellevue, Norwalk
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Lorain County: Amherst, Avon, Avon Lake,
Columbia, Lorain, Midview, North Ridgeville,
Oberlin



PRESCHOOL

[Reading 101: A Guide for Parents](#) is a great resource for your early readers!

[Reading Tips for Families](#) has been highlighted before in our newsletters! Bookmark this link as it is regularly updated with new ideas and resources for Ohio families! They even have a Day-by-Day Ohio Literacy Calendar!

ELEMENTARY

SOCIAL SKILLS GROUP FOR GRADES 1-3

Location

DeLuca's North Ridgeville offices

Date

Tuesday's from 4:00 pm - 4:45 pm
March 11th through May 6th

This is a group-based skill-building opportunity using books, videos, games, role play, and other tools to introduce and practice social skills. For more information and to register call 440.327.1800.

TRANSITION AGE

The IRIS Center recently revised its training module Secondary Transition: Helping Students with Disabilities Plan for Postsecondary Settings.

This module focuses on helping students with disabilities successfully transition from high school to postsecondary settings. Among other topics, it discusses the various components of transition planning and the importance of engaging students in this process. To access the module click [here](#).

IEP TIP CORNER

Now is the perfect time to organize your student's IEP binder. These IEP tip sheets explain each section of the IEP. Click [here](#) to access it; don't hesitate to ask if you would like a printed copy.

LOCAL RESOURCES AND EVENTS



ADAPTIVE DANCE - AVON Converge Performing Arts Center

Professional instructors create a welcoming space where every child can express themselves through dance. No experience needed... Just come ready to move and have fun! The cost is free. To learn more explore details below or call 440.517.0075.

- Learn more about [Inspirations Dance Academy](#) - an adaptive dance program for individuals of all ability levels.
- Learn more about [Cavs No Limits](#) dance team - a fun, upbeat program with adaptive dance techniques where every child can express themselves through dance.



PET PALS ADAPTED STORYTIME - N. RIDGEVILLE March 25th at 6:30 PM

A pet-themed story time with licensed therapy dogs for children with varying learning styles and abilities. While content is geared for ages 3 to 7, all ages are welcome. To register click [here](#).



WORKSHOP: THE UGLY HOUR - N. RIDGEVILLE April 10th at 6:00 PM

Is your child a master at procrastination when it comes to bedtime? Does the process of putting on pajamas and brushing teeth take what seems like hours?

Join Ochanya McRoberts-Wells, MEd, as she discusses the ugly hour—that time before bed when chaos reigns and your little angel turns into a bedtime monster. Tools to support a smoother bedtime for the whole family will be provided. To register click [here](#). Childcare is provided as well.



DESSERTS AND DANCING - WESTLAKE April 11th from 6:00 - 8:00 PM

DATE

Friday, April 11th

Time

6:00 PM - 8:00 PM

LOCATION

Westlake High School (Ages 12 through adult)

COST

\$40

CONTACT

Angela Siciliano to register at [adaptedfyp.com](#)

For more information and to view the flier visit their website [here](#).



PARENT CAFES - ERIE COUNTY March 26th and April 23rd at 6:00 PM

Are you a parent in our near Erie County and would appreciate an opportunity to connect and draw support from other parents? Childcare and dinner are provided.

To learn more and register [here](#).

If you have any questions contact Sarah Puskas at 440-242-0413 ext. *227 or spuskas@ccrcinc.com

ONLINE RESOURCES WEBINARS AND VIRTUAL SESSIONS

CREATE A ONE-PAGE DESCRIPTION TOOL

Do you know someone who would like to create their own Charting the LifeCourse one-pagers? This is a great chance to explore and develop this powerful tool!

Sessions are held Mondays from 12:00-1:00 PM and will cover the following topics.

- March 10- My One Page for Work and Community
- March 17- My One Page for Doctor Visits and Hospital Stays
- March 24- My One Page for Social Life and Relationships
- March 31- My One Page for Advocacy and Engagement

Register [here](#).

SUMMER DIRECTORY by Connecting for Kids

It is not too early to begin researching summer camps and programs.

This resource brings together programs and providers from across Northeast Ohio, with an easy-to-use search by age, region, program length and more.

Get started now by [accessing the link provided here](#).

