

### 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](http://connectingforkids.org/register), via email: [info@connectingforkids.org](mailto: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](http://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](http://connectingforkids.org/register)**

**Email: [info@connectingforkids.org](mailto:info@connectingforkids.org) | Phone: 440-250-5563**

## Spring Programs 2017

### Elementary Experiences<sup>SM</sup>

For families and their children (ages 7-12 years) who are struggling in an area of development. For more information, visit [connectingforkids.org/elementary](http://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](http://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 & More<sup>SM</sup>

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](http://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 Play<sup>SM</sup>

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](http://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](http://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](http://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](http://connectingforkids.org/register)**

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