



RMU Trees Network June 2023 Newsletter

Special Education Conference

On Monday, October 9, 2023, the RMU Trees Network will be holding its annual Special Education Conference. It is being held virtually to allow for more participation from special educators, administrators, paraprofessionals, and related service staff looking for professional development on important topics in special education.

SAVE THE DATE

RMU Trees Network Special Education Conference Pathways of Possibilities

October 9, 2023

A free, virtual conference with sessions on:

- Updates from the PDE
- Technology Innovations
- STEM and Exceptional Learners
- Transition to Adulthood
- Unified Sports
- Children's Literature
- IEPs
- Lessons Learned in Autism

Registration begins in August

For additional information, contact: donne@rmu.edu or hiltzd@rmu.edu



Special Needs Consortium In-Person Event

On Wednesday, July 19, 2023, the RMU Trees Network volunteered to host July's Special Needs Consortium. Based in Cranberry, the Special Needs Consortium's mission is "working together to increase the awareness of resources available to the special needs community through networking, promotion, and advocacy." The meeting will begin at 9AM on RMU's campus. All organizations and people presenting will be sharing information, brochures, and fliers on upcoming events and

activities for families, caregivers, and individuals with disabilities. We will be sharing this information on our website and Facebook page.

September 11 Family Support Meeting

Mark your calendars! On Monday, September 11, 2023, we will have our first parent and family support meeting of the new school year. It will be FREE and held LIVE virtually from 7PM-8PM. Stay tuned for the topic and registration!



Family Engagement Activities



Looking for something fun to do and not sure where to look. As we get fliers and information on activities to do, we post them on our RMU Trees Facebook page <https://www.facebook.com/RMUtrees/> and on our RMU Trees webpage [RMU Trees Network Wix site](#). On the website, choose **Resources** and select **Family Fun Around the 'Burgh**. Let us know if you attend anything - we would love to hear from you and what you thought! Comment on the Facebook page or email Vicki Donne at donne@rmu.edu or Deanna Hiltz at hiltzd@rmu.edu.

Successful Transitions for ALL Workshop Recap

On Monday, June 5, the RMU Trees Network offered a FREE workshop on transitions. Emily Rusnak, Director of Adult Day Services at [Easter Seals](#), Tara Harvan, Transition Coordinator from [Glade Run Lutheran Services](#), and Dr. Erika Nail from [Butler County Community College \(BC3\)](#) presented on different transition services, supports, and programs available for students with disabilities. Thanks to all our presenters and for the questions from the audience. The handouts have been added to our website and as a separate attachment to this newsletter.



Resources for Parents and Educators

The Network provides resources for parents and teachers and these resources can be found at the [RMU Trees Network Website](#). Information on RMU Trees is also posted on the RMU website and the previous newsletters can be read and viewed at <https://www.rmu.edu/academics/provost/trees>. In each newsletter we try to provide links to resources of topics discussed in our parent meetings and workshops as well as other information that may be helpful to families, schools, and the community. Below are some links to resources for developing visual schedules and brain breaks.



Glade Run Lutheran Services - Glade Run has program sites located in Butler, Beaver Falls, Pittsburgh, Rochester, Wexford, Westview, Zelenople, and Utica. Programs

include, but are not limited to, mental health, outpatient therapy, intensive behavioral health, counseling, transition, and rehabilitation. <https://gladerun.org/>

Easter Seals - Easterseals promotes full equity, inclusion, and access through life-changing disability and community services. <https://www.easterseals.com/>

Butler County Community College (BC3) - BC3 wants all students to achieve academic success. They work to accommodate and serve students with disabilities so they may achieve their true potential. <https://www.bc3.edu/services/disability/index.html>

Community Living and Support Services (CLASS) - CLASS offers individualized services that foster community inclusion for people with disabilities. For additional information, go to <https://www.classcommunity.org/>
Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/classpgh/posts/pfbid02nRKDtpvpAP9Bop8kDVSYSUdifnBYeRHP4bTmfYvjw1b3ZAFz7fFs1RU6zxyGeVY11>
Instagram: https://www.instagram.com/p/CtcTnp-JPZ5/?utm_source=ig_web_copy_link&igshid=MzRIODBiNWFIZA==

PA Inclusive Higher Education Consortium (PIHEC) - A community collaborative designing, promoting, and supporting inclusive postsecondary education for students with intellectual disability. <https://pihec.com/>

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[RMU Trees Website](#)

<https://www.facebook.com/RMUtrees/>

