



# Resource Information from the 2024 Aaron's Acres Community Resource Fair & Family Fun Event

## Aaron's Acres

- Elaine Burnett, Program Director
- (717) 917-6101, ext. 103
- elaineburnett@aaronsacres.org
- aaronsacres.org
- Aaron's Acres provides individuals with disabilities ages 5-40 year-round therapeutically based age-appropriate recreational programs directed by specially trained and certified staff in a supportive environment that enhances socialization and communication skills. Emotional, educational, and recreational support is offered for the entire family.
- Playing with friends and engaging in fun, recreational activities with peers should occur for all children and young adults, those with or without a disability. At Aaron's Acres, we have year-round recreational programs, focusing on appropriate socialization and communication skills.
- **When exploring existing programs for your child, why choose a program at Aaron's Acres?**
- Our supervisory staff is comprised of professionals (special education teachers and other related fields)
- We maintain a 1:1 or 1:2 staff-to-child ratio
- A nurse is on staff at all times to address any medical needs that might arise
- Everyone is included in all activities, regardless of disability or challenge
- Scholarships are provided to families in need of financial support
- The Program Director meets with every new family as part of the application process, in order to become familiar with each child (strengths/weaknesses, likes and dislikes, capabilities, etc.)
- All staff attend intensive orientation and training sessions, focusing on each child's needs, planning age-appropriate activities, and becoming familiar with positive reinforcements, as well as behavioral interventions that could be implemented during year-round programs
- Individualized goals related to socialization and communication are set and progress is tracked for participants with the input of parents, teachers and therapists

## 3.21 For Life

- (717) 735-1920
- hello@321forlife.com
- 321forlife.com
- 3.21 for Life was created by a group of individuals in the Hershey, Pennsylvania area who have personal connections to individuals with Down syndrome.
- Their mission is to educate the world on the special attributes of those with Down syndrome and raise awareness on how people with Down syndrome play a vital role in the lives of everyone they meet and in the communities in which they live.
- The programs, activities and events that represent 3.21 for Life represent their goal to Advocate, Educate, Celebrate and Connect.

## Center for Autism and Developmental Disabilities (CADD)

- (717) 735-1920
- wellspanphilhaven.org/CADD
- To request services, complete CADD's Intake form at wellspanphilhaven.org/CADD
- CADD is a multidisciplinary team that provides office and community-based services to children, adolescents and adults with autism, intellectual disability and other neurodevelopment disorders. We address social, emotional and behavioral needs of our patients and their families.
- Services at CADD - All care at CADD begins with a multidisciplinary evaluation. This thoughtful assessment determines recommendations for subsequent care, which may include interventions that take place at CADD or in the community.

## **CHI St. Joseph's Health**

- (717) 397-7625
- [stjosephchildrenshealth.org](http://stjosephchildrenshealth.org)
- Dedicated to improving the health of children and families, CHI St. Joseph Children's Health improves access, linkage and coordination of local children's health services and programs while serving as a leading voice in collaborative efforts to improve the health and well-being of the Lancaster Community. Every child and family has a unique health journey, our goal is to serve as a supportive voice and companion on their path to growing up healthy and happy.

## **Community Services Group (CSG)**

- (717) 285-7121
- [csgonline.org](http://csgonline.org)
- Community Services Group (CSG) provides a range of services available to those living with mental health and intellectual and developmental disabilities. Our mission is to empower individuals to reach their full potential. Wherever you are on the journey, CSG can help.

## **DVB Financial, LLC**

- Kimberley Kuczawa
- (717) 652-6901
- [kimberley@dvbfinancial.com](mailto:kimberley@dvbfinancial.com)
- [dvwfinancial.com](http://dvwfinancial.com)
- DVB Financial is a wealth management firm that is dedicated to providing sound financial advice and guidance to individuals, families and small businesses in Central PA and beyond. Through our Independence & Beyond planning initiative, we partner with families who want a guide to help them navigate the complexities of the special needs' universe. Our planning process is designed to harmonize the aspirations of the family with the needs of their child. Kimberley, our SPN Family Coordinator, will work with the family from initial consultation to far beyond the completion of foundational planning. We strive to provide stability in your life as a core member of your family's team.

## **Empowered Financial Strategies**

- Joanna Craney, ChFC, ChSNC, WMCP
- (610) 771-1078
- [joanna@empowered-fs.com](mailto:joanna@empowered-fs.com)
- [empowered-fs.com](http://empowered-fs.com)
- Our mission is to help busy families, business owners, and professionals organize their financial assets, protect what is important, and reduce costs and taxes to create maximum efficiency to build long-lasting wealth and legacy.

## **GiGi's Playhouse**

- (223) 529-6826
- [lancaster@gigisplayhouse.org](mailto:lancaster@gigisplayhouse.org)
- [gigisplayhouse.org/Lancaster](http://gigisplayhouse.org/Lancaster)
- GiGi's Playhouse is a national network of non-profit Down Syndrome Achievement Centers, with the only one in PA located in Lancaster County on Oregon Pike. GiGi's provides free, purposeful programming to children and adults with down syndrome.

## **Greystone Manor Therapeutic Riding Center**

- Contact Person: Stephanie Fleck, Program Director
  - (717) 615-9222
  - [sfleck@greystonemanortrc.org](mailto:sfleck@greystonemanortrc.org)
- [www.greystonemanortrc.org](http://www.greystonemanortrc.org)
- Mission: To enhance the lives of individuals with special needs through equine assisted activities.
- Overview of Services:
  - Horsemanship Lessons
  - Special Interest Groups
  - Community Collaborations
- Organization Overview: Greystone Manor Therapeutic Riding Center is a 501c3 non-profit organization that has been providing quality equine assisted programs for children and adults with disabilities since 1981.

## **Kathy's Circle of Friends - Creating Connections Despite Differences**

- Dustin Sload - Executive Director
- dsload@primitivesbykathy.com
- www.kcof.org
- (717) 874-4004
- Kathy's Circle Of Friends is a 501c3 nonprofit organization that hosts a variety of themed social events for adults (18+) with various mental and physical disabilities, as well their families, caregivers, employees, and guests.
- "Our mission is to encourage socialization, friendship, and a sense of community. This "play" time builds deeper connections between all involved. We are committed to treating each member with dignity and respect, making a positive impact, all while growing our circle of friends."

## **KidStrong**

- (717) 464-9888
- kidstrong.com
- KidStrong is a science-based kids training program designed to help parents raise strong, confident, high-character kids. Our program focuses on character, physical and brain development through weekly 45-minute, age-based classes and at-home practice assigned in our KidStrong parent app.

## **Lanco Federal Credit Union**

- (888) 318-4222
- lancofcu.com
- If you're ready to find a new financial institution, then Lanco Federal Credit Union in Lancaster, PA, is just what you need. Our generous dividends on banking services and competitive rates on lending products can help you achieve your financial goals and plan for a better future. Whether you're looking for personal or business banking, we still pride ourselves on the personal touch and invite you to join us!

## **Members 1st Federal Credit Union**

- (800) 237-7288
- members1st.org
- Members 1st is more than just a name—it's a mindset. Everything we do is in the best interest of all of us. We're here to help members thrive and better the communities we serve. Where others see dollars and cents, we see people and passions. And we offer a full suite of financial tools and services that help our members do more with their money.

## **Mental Health America of Lancaster County**

- (717) 397-7461
- mhalancaster.org
- Mental Health America of Lancaster County prides itself in its mission: to promote optimal mental health through advocacy, education, and support. As the premier resource hub for mental health resources in the county, we respond to the gaps in services by providing nine programs dedicated to helping members of our community along their journey of mental wellness. Our hope is that MHALC can bring transparency to those around us and generate conversations that will help those struggling with mental illness to feel empowered to get the help they need and deserve.

## **Now I Can - Pennsylvania**

- (717) 500-8608
- allison@nowican.org
- Now I Can stands apart from other physical therapy centers in many ways, including the use of the Intensive Model of Therapy (IMOT). Our therapists treat patients 4 hours a day, five days a week for intensive sessions. Now I Can physical therapists design a tailored program for each patient to help them reach their greatest level of independence. Over the course of a three-week intensive session, children reach their goals and gain developmental skills as therapists have the needed time to use repetition and all the tools at their disposal to help kids meet their potential. It's very common for patients to make more progress in three weeks of intensive therapy than they do in 12 months of traditional therapy! However, we also accommodate local patients for weekly PT visits!

## **Penn State Health/Penn State Milton S. Hershey Medical Center**

- Teresa Such-Neibar, DO
- Division Chief of Pediatric Rehabilitation
- (717) 531-7010
- [tsuchneibar@pennstatehealth.psu.edu](mailto:tsuchneibar@pennstatehealth.psu.edu)
- [pennstatehealth.org](http://pennstatehealth.org)
- Mission
  - Continually improve the health and well-being of the people of Pennsylvania and beyond
  - Provide excellent, compassionate, culturally responsive and equitable care
  - Educate and train health care professionals
  - Advance evidence-based medical innovation through research and discovery

## **Reagan's Journey**

- Alicia Earnesty, Site Director
- (717) 940-5592
- [lancaster@reagansjourney.org](mailto:lancaster@reagansjourney.org)
- [reagansjourney.org](http://reagansjourney.org)
- Reagan's Journey exists to make life better for children with special needs in (3) ways.
- Pediatric Equipment & Supply Closet to make sure families/caregivers/therapists have access to the right equipment to help a child reach their full potential. Often times, insurance will only cover one piece of equipment every five years and the average wait time to receive a custom piece of equipment is 6 months. That is a hardship to families when children experience growth spurts and developmental changes. We've been able to partner with many local agencies, therapists, and hospital social workers to keep our closet full of equipment and supplies.
- Family Events that are meant to create an environment where each child's uniqueness is not only welcomed, but celebrated! We want families to be themselves and enjoy each other without reservation. These events become a fantastic springboard to facilitate friendships and create a sense of community.
- Resources: We've been operating our online resource group since 2012. The group has become a hub to share resources and information as well as link arms with families facing similar experiences with disability. It has doubled in size from 2022-2023. We also pride ourselves in offering a "Resource Sheet" during our in-person appointments and with social workers/therapists.

## **Revival Athletics**

- Danielle Brumm
- [dbrumm.revival@gmail.com](mailto:dbrumm.revival@gmail.com)
- [revival-athletics.com](http://revival-athletics.com)
- We strive to provide a mentally and physically safe environment for our athletes! We offer many classes and competitive opportunities for all ages! We aspire to help our athletes succeed no matter their age or ability. We understand the importance of a well-rounded athletic, educational, and social lifestyle as we work with many of our athletes to do multiple extracurricular activities. We offer a unique experience for our special needs program that focuses on implementing inclusion throughout the program. Our HUGS Team works alongside our travel team while providing any additional support needed.

## **Rhyming Fun Books**

- Patrice Gilbert
- [RhymingFunBooks@gmail.com](mailto:RhymingFunBooks@gmail.com)
- [rhymingfunbooks.com](http://rhymingfunbooks.com)
- The Rhyming Fun – Learning Made Easy Series is written using concise repetitive text and simple rhyming phrases to enable children of all ages to enjoy engaging with the book and colorful illustrations as they have fun learning.
- The Rhyming Fun books can be used to teach vocabulary, concepts, rhyming, pronouns, sentence structure, and more. Learning pages are included in the books to provide ideas for answering questions about the text, identifying and naming pictures, asking questions, retelling the story, and thinking up new rhymes of your own.

## Special Olympics Lancaster

- [SOPATeamLancaster@gmail.com](mailto:SOPATeamLancaster@gmail.com)
- [sites.google.com/view/sopa-team-lancaster/](https://sites.google.com/view/sopa-team-lancaster/)
- The mission of Special Olympics PA is to provide year-round sports training and competition in a variety of Olympic-type sports for children and adults with intellectual disabilities, giving them continuing opportunities to develop physical fitness, demonstrate courage, experience joy, and participate in a sharing of gifts, skills, and friendship with their families, other Special Olympics athletes, and the community.
- All training and competition opportunities are provided free of charge to the athletes and their families, enabling everyone to experience the benefits of Special Olympics that extend well beyond the playing field.

## The Arc Lancaster Lebanon

- (717) 394-5251
- [info@theArcLancLeb.org](mailto:info@theArcLancLeb.org)
- [thearclancleb.org](http://thearclancleb.org)
- The Arc Lancaster Lebanon assists people with Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities (I/DD) and Autism and their families to navigate an often complex system by coming alongside and asking what makes a meaningful life and helping identify what is needed to make that life happen. We believe a person with a disability has value and equal worth, and it benefits our community when people with disabilities are included. We work to counter the stigma that people with I/DD come upon daily and help overcome barriers to inclusion and achievement.
- Our staff are experienced in the qualifications of funding, the rules related to school Individualized Education Program (IEPs) or adult Individual Support Plan (ISPs), and are knowledgeable about the community service providers.
- We work closely with Lancaster County Behavioral Health & Developmental Services, Lebanon County Mental Health/Intellectual Disabilities/Early Intervention, Supports Coordinators and local service providers. We participate on local and statewide coalitions and committees (such as housing and transportation) to bring the voice of those we serve to the discussion making sure their needs are represented.

## Touchstone Foundation

- Shanece Bowman, MSW
- Program Manager
- (717) 397-8722
- [sbowman@touchstonefound.org](mailto:sbowman@touchstonefound.org)
- [touchstonefound.org](http://touchstonefound.org)
- Vision - All children and youth in Lancaster County experience mental wellness.
- Mission - Touchstone Foundation elevates the mental well-being of youth in Lancaster County.
- Values - A whole-person approach, Caring, Collaboration, Advocacy, and Visibility

## Wonders Within Reach

- Jennifer Allen - founder
- [Jennifer@wonderswithinreach.com](mailto:Jennifer@wonderswithinreach.com)
- [wonderswithinreach.com](http://wonderswithinreach.com)
- Wonders Within Reach is a travel resource for families with disabilities. The blog and social media sites share wheelchair accessible destinations, free and discounted travel opportunities for families with disabilities, respite options, and planning resources.