



GRANDPARENTS RAISING AND NURTURING DEPENDENTS WITH DISABILITIES

VOLUME 13/ISSUE 3 September 2019

September Project GRANDDD Support Groups

Fulton County Daytime Session

Third Tuesday of Every Month from 10am to 12:00pm

Please Note Location Change

**Martin Luther King Jr. Recreation Center
110 Hilliard St SE, Atlanta, GA 30312**

This month: **Tuesday, September 17th, 2019**

Topic: **Legal Issues for Relative Caregivers**

Presented By Atlanta Legal Aid



DeKalb County Daytime Session

Second Thursday of Every Month from 10:30am to 12:30pm

Covington Branch of DeKalb Public Library
3500 Covington Hwy, Decatur, GA 30032

This month: **Thursday, September 12th, 2019**

Topic: **Healthy Sleep**

Presented by Roland Dawkins of Humana



GRANDDDS and KIDS Evening Support

Join us for an Evening Support Group for Grandparents Raising Grandchildren with Special Needs & Children's Support Groups



Monday, September 23rd, 2019 from 6:00pm to 8:00pm

- Dinner Served 6:00 to 6:30

Metropolitan Library 1332 Metropolitan Pkwy SW

Topic this month: Support and Sharing

All are invited to attend an evening support group for grandparents raising grandchildren with special needs and **separate mental health support groups for children aged 8-18**. Childcare will be provided for children under 8. **Register to attend by email to asiaw@isdd-home.org or call 470-310-3458 by September 20th.**

Kinship Summit

The Kinship Care Summit is dedicated to educating, supporting and celebrating the remarkable work being done every day by unsung heroes.

The Summit is FREE for the entire family; there will be activities for children such as arts & crafts, caricatures, face painting, movies, and buffet lunch. Breakfast, lunch, and snacks will be provided.

Transportation is provided. If you have any questions, feel free to contact **678-984-5880**.

Register at <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/georgia-kinship-care-summit-tickets-65456118011>

**Need Help?
Have a Question?
Contact Us**

ISDD OFFICE

**4282 Memorial Drive Ste. B
Decatur, GA 30032
404-600-3332 ext. 104 Office**

Rainie Jueschke, Executive Director
rainiej@isdd-home.org
404-551-5258

Laura Wells, Program Director
lauraw@isdd-home.org
470-310-3452

Sherri Feliccia, Case Manager
sherrif@isdd-home.org
470-310-3459

Cindy Stroud, Case Manager
cindys@isdd-home.org
470-798-3025

Asia Wilkerson, Program Assistant
asiaw@isdd-home.org
470-310-3458



KINSHIP SUMMIT

FREE EVENT

September 21
Stone Mountain

Register **NOW!**



Annual ISDD Holiday Drive starting now!

Every year, Project GRANDD and ISDD staff partner with sponsors in the community to provide grandfamilies with food, clothes/coats and gifts for the December holidays. Even though it's only September we have to start early for such a large project. You have to be an active Project GRANDD member to be sponsored. We cannot sponsor every family that requests it, so we have an application process. Please pick up your application at a September or October support group meeting, request one by email or call Laura, Sherri, or Cindy for assistance in getting an application. The deadline to be considered for sponsorship is **October 31st**.



HEALTH CORNER

Working With the Schools Around Students' Behavioral Issues

Article from www.wrightslaw.com

“My son is in the 10th grade. He has a behavior disorder and he cannot control himself at times. The school does not understand when he gets agitated and angry. They just suspend him and deprive him of his education.”



You say your son has a behavior disorder. Many kids with learning disabilities develop behavior problems. If the school doesn't teach

- Is he under the care of a mental health professional?

If not, he needs this right away.

By suspending him repeatedly, the school is putting him at high risk for dropping out.

- Does he have an IEP?

If yes, what services is the school supposed to provide? Are they providing these services?

- If he does not have an IEP, you should get an evaluation by an independent evaluator.

The evaluator will determine what his needs are and what type of educational program he needs. The evaluator can help advocate for him with the school. A mental health person can also help **you** learn how to advocate **for him**.

At this point, you have educators who have little or no training in mental health and behavioral problems dealing with him, mainly by suspending him (which is not a punishment for many kids).

- Is he under the care of a child psychiatrist?

If not, that is your first step. You also need to get a comprehensive evaluation to find out what is going on with him, why he cannot control himself, and how to help him get himself under control. The child psychiatrist should be able to recommend a good child or neuro-psychologist.

Bottom line: You cannot tackle these problems successfully unless or until you have good diagnostic testing and data.

You will find more information and resources on [Behavior Problems and Discipline](http://www.wrightslaw.com/info/discipl.index.htm) at <https://www.wrightslaw.com/info/discipl.index.htm>

RESOURCE CORNER

New Relative/Caregiver legal hotline--get questions answered by an Atlanta Legal Aid attorney by leaving a voice mail at 855-357-6566. You will receive a call back in 24-48 hours.

Georgia Appleseed Toolkit

Georgia Appleseed has a resource for advocating for your child with behavioral challenges in the school system. Here is a link to the online resource guide:

<https://gaappleseed.org//media/HelpGuides/HelpGuideStateofGeorgiav.1.pdf>

PROJECT GRANDD
A program of Innovative Solutions for
Disadvantage & Disability
4282 Memorial Dr. Ste. B
Decatur GA 30032