

BELIEVING IN THE POTENTIAL OF ALL

Imagine! That

THE IMAGINE! NEWSLETTER

VOLUME 21, ISSUE 1

WINTER 2012

KEEP UP WITH IMAGINE! USING SOCIAL MEDIA

To help keep you informed with current information about what is going on at Imagine! and in the field of developmental disabilities, we encourage you to use the following simple online tools to keep you up-to-date, while also allowing you to become part of the conversation. The best way we have to keep you current on events or noteworthy happenings, especially between newsletters, is through Imagine!'s social media sites.

Whether you are new to social media or a longtime user, there is a platform out there for you. Below are some options for you to "get in the know" using social media.

Become a fan of the Imagine! Facebook page:

www.facebook.com/pages/Imagine/268474025494

Become a fan of the SmartHomes Facebook page:

www.facebook.com/pages/ImagineSmartHomes/86609388388?ref=nf

Become a fan of the Dayspring Facebook page:

www.facebook.com/pages/Dayspring/235111009063

Become a fan of the Imagine! Behavioral Health Services Facebook page:

www.facebook.com/pages/Imagine-Behavioral-Health-Services/253730855681

Become a fan of the Labor Source Facebook page:

www.facebook.com/pages/Labor-Source/131627900206322

Follow Imagine! CEO Mark Emery's blog: <http://mark-thenagainwhatdoiknow.blogspot.com/>

Follow the SmartHomes blog: <http://imaginessmarthomesblog.blogspot.com/>

Follow the Imagine! Foundation blog: <http://imaginefoundation.blogspot.com/>

Follow Imagine! on Twitter: <https://twitter.com/#!/ImagineCOinfo>

Follow the SmartHomes on Twitter: <https://twitter.com/#!/ImagineColorado>



BVSD AND ACL PRESENT TRANSITION TO ADULTHOOD EDUCATION SERIES

“On the Road: Transition to Adulthood Series,” sponsored by the Boulder Valley School District (BVSD) and the Association for Community Living, continues to provide information, dialogues, and opportunities for youth! Attendance is free of charge.

This series is intended for parents of children with disabilities who are 13 years of age and older, to help the parents prepare and plan with their child for transition into adulthood. All children should expect their adulthood to include employment, authentic relationships, and meaningful activities. The series seeks to provide families with the supplies, maps, and goals they need to send their child on the road to success.

Youth are invited to attend. Some concurrent sessions for youth will be held in the next room, led by staff from the Center for People with Disabilities.

Upcoming events are scheduled for 6:00 - 8:00 PM at the BVSD Education Center at 6500 Arapahoe in Boulder, and include:



February 2: Employment 2

February 16: Recreation, Volunteering, and Citizenship

March 15: College Life

April 19: Adult Services

May 17: Financial Planning



For more information or to RSVP, contact BVSD Parent Liaison Anna Stewart at 720-561-5918 or anna.stewart@bvsd.org, or the Association for Community Living at 303-527-0888, ext. 400.

INTERCAMBIO OFFERS ENGLISH CLASSES AND INTERACTIVE WORKSHOPS

Local non-profit Intercambio strives to build understanding, respect, and friendship across cultures through educational and intercultural opportunities. Intercambio serves Boulder County and offers low-cost



English classes and interactive workshops. Intercambio has helped more than 7,000 people in the community and plans to add to the number of classes offered. For more information, please contact 303-996-0725, or visit www.intercambioweb.org.

CENTER FOR PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES HAS A GROUP FOR TEENS AND YOUNG ADULTS

The Center for People with Disabilities, located at 1675 Range Street in Boulder (near Arapahoe and 55th Avenue), has started a free Teen and Young Adult (TAYA) group examining various topics surrounding life after high school and what transitioning/independence mean. Along with discussing life transitions, the group explores leadership opportunities and encourages social integration within the community. Teenagers and young adults with disabilities, ages 13 – 25, are welcome to check out and join the TAYA group to learn, socialize, and have fun. For more information, please phone Sara Widener, Independent Living Skills Instructor, at 303-442-8662, ext. 129, or email her at sara@cpwd.org.



BECOMING A C.N.A. COULD BENEFIT YOU AND YOUR FAMILY

A Certified Nursing Assistant (or C.N.A.) is a state licensed position that may allow a family member or friend to become a trained, paid professional in support of a person with special needs (if that person qualifies through Medicaid for skilled supports).

The local Home Healthcare Agency that trains and bills for this is Personal Assistance Services of Colorado (PASCO). PASCO works with several C.N.A. schools in the Denver metro area to help family members of children and adults with special needs to become certified to provide the care that is needed. PASCO trains people without cost. The course takes three to four weeks of classroom study, and then there are about two weeks of practicals at a nursing care center.

PASCO specializes in serving adults and children with severe disabilities needing assistance with activities of daily living, such as dressing, bathing, bowel/bladder care, and more. PASCO tries to promote a family's choices in selecting aides and taking on more responsibilities in directing their family member's personal care.

If you are interested in this program and want more information, including finding out if your family qualifies or where to attend school, please visit the PASCO website at www.pascohh.com or call the PASCO office at 303-233-3122.



AUTISM SOCIETY AND AMC THEATRES CONTINUE TO OFFER SENSORY FRIENDLY FILMS

The Autism Society and AMC Theatres continue to offer sensory friendly films for people who are not comfortable sitting quietly through a full length feature film. Tickets are \$4-\$6 depending on location, and can be purchased on the day of the event. Visit www.autism-society.org/get-involved/events/sensory-friendly-films/ for theater information.

As with all sensory friendly films, the lights will be turned up, the sound turned down, and audience members are welcome to get up and dance, walk, shout, or sing in order to provide a more accepting and comfortable setting. Individuals may bring in their own gluten-free or casein-free snacks, and no previews or advertisements will be shown before the movie.

Upcoming films and their scheduled dates are:

February 25 - *The Secret World of Arrietty*

March 10 - *Dr. Seuss' The Lorax*

April 7 - *Pirates! Band of Misfits*



IMAGINE!'S WEBSITE COMMUNITY CALENDAR IS DESIGNED TO HELP YOU

Much of the information we receive that may be of value to you comes to us in between newsletters, so we urge you to regularly check the Community Calendar on the Imagine! website. You can find out about upcoming events, trainings, seminars, and other information at www.imaginecolorado.org/Calendar.htm.

DADS ON SUNDAY MORNINGS IS FOR DADS OF KIDS WITH SPECIAL NEEDS

On the second and fourth Sundays of each month, Dads on Sunday Mornings, for dads of kids with special needs, meets for breakfast at 8:00 AM at the Association for Community Living, 5744 North 71st Street, Longmont. Call Jeff Johnson at 720-366-0360 to RSVP or for more information.



PARENTS ENCOURAGING PARENTS HOSTS CONFERENCES IN FEBRUARY AND APRIL

Parents Encouraging Parents (PEP) Conferences are family-centered events designed to offer support, information, and education to both parents and professionals who work with children with disabilities across Colorado. PEP promotes the partnerships between parents and professionals that are essential in supporting and including children with disabilities in schools and communities.

The 2012 PEP Conferences will be held:

- February 2-4, 2012 in Colorado Springs, Colorado
- April 26-28, 2012 (Location to be determined)

Here is what participants have said about their PEP experiences:

“I was truly inspired with this conference! The amount of information and resources made available to us was so valuable. I could not be more grateful for the opportunity. My daughter will benefit big time!” - Parent

“It is probably the best educational conference I’ve been to because of the content and participants.” - School Professional

For more information about PEP and to complete the preliminary application, please visit www.cde.state.co.us/cdesped/PEP.asp. You may also call 303-866-6846 or 1-877-834-0588 toll-free for general information.

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**Imagine! That
is the newsletter of Imagine!**

**1400 Dixon Street
Lafayette, CO 80026-2790**

Phone: (303) 665-7789

Fax: (303) 665-2648

www.imaginecolorado.org

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THE MISSION OF IMAGINE! IS TO CREATE AND OFFER INNOVATIVE SUPPORTS TO PEOPLE OF ALL AGES WITH COGNITIVE, DEVELOPMENTAL, PHYSICAL, AND HEALTH RELATED NEEDS SO THEY MAY LIVE FULFILLING LIVES OF INDEPENDENCE AND QUALITY IN THEIR HOMES AND COMMUNITIES.

Imagine!
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Lafayette, CO 80026-2790

CHANGE SERVICE REQUESTED

Dads on Sunday Mornings is
for dads of kids with special
needs.

**Read more inside on
page 4.**

NONPROFIT ORG.

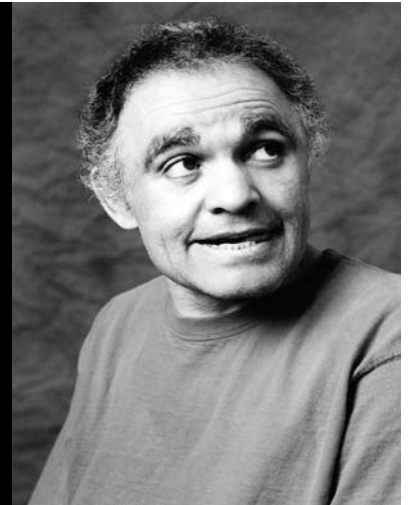
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*Innovative Resources For Cognitive and
Physical Challenges*

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