

## COMMUNITY GROUPS/WORKSHOPS/MEETINGS

**Every Tuesday—Full Circle Recovery Center Learn to Cope.** Learn to Cope (LTC) is a support group for parents, family members, spouses, and caregivers with a loved one who is struggling with addiction to opiates, alcohol, or other drugs. Meetings are held Tuesdays from 7 PM to 8:30 PM at Full Circle Recovery Center located at 3261 Georgia Road, Franklin, NC. LTC offers compassionate, experienced facilitators who have been there, support, resources, educational material, and guest speakers who are in long term recovery or professionals in the field. For more information, please contact Stephanie Almeida at 828-475-1920.

**Every Tuesday—Sober Mommies—**Motherhood group meeting every Tuesday (except holidays) at 10 am at First United Methodist Church located at 566 S Haywood St, Waynesville. For more information please contact Nicole Ross at 828-209-88220 or [Nicole.ross@sobermommies.com](mailto:Nicole.ross@sobermommies.com).

**Every Thursday—NAMI Connections.** Starting at 7 PM combination support group. Held at First Methodist Church Outreach Center located at the intersection of Harrison and W Main Sts, Franklin. This meeting is hosted by NAMI Appalachian South and a mixed group of family members and individuals with mental illness. The group focuses on support, education, resources, and advocacy. For more information contact Donita at or 828-526-9510 or Ann at 828-369-7385.

**Every Sunday—Addiction Recovery Program Group Meeting—**starting at 6:30 to 8 PM at the Waynesville Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints located 68 Foxwood Dr, corner of Foxwood and 209 (entrance to Foxfire Estates off of 209). For more information contact Mary Ann Widenhouse at 828-779-1923.

**Last Monday of each month—Rutherford County Chapter of the Autism Society of NC meeting.** Group meets from 6 pm – 7:30 pm. Provides a place for families of children and adults with autism to meet, share, and learn about autism. Held at Ellenboro Elementary School located at 813 Piney Mountain church Rd, Ellenboro. For planning purposes, an RSVP is requested however not required to [rutherford@autismsociety-nc.org](mailto:rutherford@autismsociety-nc.org).

**Last Tuesday of each month—Henderson County Chapter of the Autism Society of NC meeting.** Group meets from 6 pm – 7:30 pm. Provides a place for families of children and adults with autism to meet, share, and learn about autism. Held at Hendersonville Presbyterian Church located at 699 N Grove St, Hendersonville. For planning purposes, an RSVP is requested however not required to [hendersonchapter@autismsociety-nc.org](mailto:hendersonchapter@autismsociety-nc.org).

**First Thursday of each month—Cherokee County Caregiver Group Meeting.** Starting at 6 PM at Region A Partnership for Children's Murphy office located at 141 Peachtree St, Suite 5, Professional Building, Murphy. This group focuses on families raising a child with a special need. Caregivers share their experiences to help strengthen other caregivers. RSVP required. For more information contact Jody at [jody@regionakids.org](mailto:jody@regionakids.org) or 828-506-6111.

**First Thursday of each month—NAMI Haywood Support Group—**Group meets from 6:30 PM – 8 PM at Haywood Regional Medical Center, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor Classroom. This is a peer support group for individuals dealing with mental illness (such as depression, anxiety, bipolar, PTSD, schizophrenia, etc) and for family members and friends who have a loved one with these illnesses. Join us in a safe, confidential environment to share concerns, and gain insight, understanding and hope. For further information. Contact Mary Ann @ 828-779-1923.

**First Friday of each month—Jackson County Caregiver Group Meeting.** Starting at 10 AM at the Children's Developmental Services Agency located at 87 Bonnie Lane Sylva. This group focuses on families raising a child

with a special need. Caregivers share their experiences to help strengthen other caregivers. RSVP required. For more information contact Jody at [jody@regionakids.org](mailto:jody@regionakids.org) or 828-506-6111.

**First Saturday of each month—Macon County Chapter of the Autism Society of NC meeting.** Group meets from 4 pm - 5:30 pm. Provides a place for families of children and adults with autism to meet, share, and learn about autism. Held at Bethel United Methodist Church located at 81 Bethel Church Rd, Franklin. For planning purposes, an RSVP is requested but not required to [maconchapter@autismsociety-nc.org](mailto:maconchapter@autismsociety-nc.org) or 800-442-2762 ext 3030.

**Second Monday of each month—High Country chapter of the Autism Society of NC.** Group meets from 5:30 pm – 6:45 pm. Provides a place for families of children and adults with autism to meet, share, and learn about autism. For planning purposes, an RSVP is requested however not required to [highcountrychapter@autismsociety-nc.org](mailto:highcountrychapter@autismsociety-nc.org).

**Second Thursday of each month—Jackson/Swain/Qualla Chapter of the Autism Society of NC—Family Support Network of Region A Caregiver Group Meeting.** Starting at 6:00 PM at Sweet Thoughts located at 67 Bryson Ave Bryson City. This group focuses on families raising a child with a special need. Caregivers share their experiences to help strengthen other caregivers. RSVP encouraged. For more information contact Jody at [jody@regionakids.org](mailto:jody@regionakids.org) or 828-506-6111.

**Second and Fourth Thursday of each month—Grandparent & Kinship Support Group—10 am—**Join our support group and get some insight about raising children a second time around. We meet twice a month on the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Thursdays at 10 am in the large conference room. At The Crawford Senior Center located at 108 Wayah St, Franklin. Call 828-349-2058 and ask for Reesa Boyce for more information.

**Second Tuesday of each month—Caffeine and Autism—**From 9:30 am at the Daily Grind in Murphy. An Autism support group led by parents or family member volunteers who join together with other concerned individuals to create a welcoming and inclusive community of support for individuals with autism and their families. To learn more about this Autism Society of North Carolina Chapter contact [cherokeechapter@autismsociety-nc.org](mailto:cherokeechapter@autismsociety-nc.org) or [www.facebook.com/groups/asnc.cherokee](https://www.facebook.com/groups/asnc.cherokee).

**Second Tuesday of each month—Cherokee County Chapter of the Autism Society of NC meeting.** From 6 pm – 7:30 pm. Provides a place for families of children and adults with autism to meet, share, and learn about autism. Meeting objectives are to get answers to frequently asked questions and to provide resource to families. Held at Kids in Stride located at 2810 W Us Hwy 64, Ste 2, Murphy. For planning purposes, an RSVP is requested but not required to [cherokeechapter@autismsociety-nc.org](mailto:cherokeechapter@autismsociety-nc.org) or 800-442-2762 ext 3030.

**Second Saturday of each month—Haywood County Caregiver Group Meeting.** Starting at 11 AM at Haywood Regional Health and Fitness Center located at 75 Leroy George Dr, Clyde. This group focuses on families raising a child with a special need. Caregivers share their experiences to help strengthen other caregivers. RSVP encouraged. For more information contact Jody at [jody@regionakids.org](mailto:jody@regionakids.org) or 828-506-6111.

**Second Saturday of each month—Transylvania County Chapter of the Autism Society of NC meeting.** From 10 am – 11:30 am. Provides a place for families of children and adults with autism to meet, share, and learn about autism. Held at Quotations Coffee Café located at 147 e Main St, Ste 200, Brevard. For planning purposes, an RSVP is requested however not required to [transylvaniachapter@autismsociety-nc.org](mailto:transylvaniachapter@autismsociety-nc.org).

**Third Tuesday of each month—Haywood County Chapter of the Autism Society of NC meeting.** From 6 pm – 7:30 pm. Provides a place for families of children and adults with autism to meet, share, and learn about

autism. Held at Three Oaks Studio located at 59 Pigeon St, Waynesville. For planning purposes, an RSVP is requested but not required to [haywoodchapter@autismsociety-nc.org](mailto:haywoodchapter@autismsociety-nc.org) or 800-442-2762 ext 3030.

**Third Thursday of each month—Buncombe County Chapter of the Autism Society of NC meeting.** From 6:30 pm – 8 pm. Provides a place for families of children and adults with autism to meet, share, and learn about autism. Held at First Baptist Church located at 5 Oak St, Asheville. For planning purposes, an RSVP is requested but not required to [buncombechapter@autismsociety-nc.org](mailto:buncombechapter@autismsociety-nc.org) or 800-442-2762 ext 3030.

**Fourth Monday of each month—Adolescent Support Group for Chronic Medical Conditions 4 PM – 5 PM.** Are you a teenager with a medical condition? Do you wish that you could talk to others in similar conditions? This group will be a welcoming, non-judgmental, safe place for you to share your experiences and struggles, laugh with each other, and build a sense of community. Group will meet in the Reuter's Outpatient Building of Mission Children's Hospital, in the Chapel. Participants must have a current Mission Outpatient provider. For more information contact Sarah Kirkpatrick at 828-213-1869 or [Sarah.kirkpatrick@msj.org](mailto:Sarah.kirkpatrick@msj.org).

**Smart Start (SS) / Local Interagency Coordinating Council (LICC) Team Meetings**—Cherokee County meets the 1<sup>st</sup> Wednesday of each month starting @ 1:00 PM; Clay County meets the 1<sup>st</sup> Thursday of each month starting @ 1:30 PM; Graham County meets the 2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday of each month starting @ 9:30 AM; Haywood County meets the 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday of each month starting @ 10:30 AM; Jackson County meets the 2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday of each month starting @ 12 noon; Macon County meets the 4<sup>th</sup> Thursday of the month starting @ 12 noon; and, Swain County meets the 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday of each month starting @ 10:00 AM. For more details visit: <http://regionakids.org/sslicc-2>.

**February 1, 2018—Jackson County Family Support Network of Region A Caregiver Group—Autism Society of NC ToolKits Discussion**—Join the facilitators for a discussion on various topics. Advocacy 101-- Making your voice heard on public policy issues that are important to you is the focus of this handbook. Our toolkit will guide you through writing, calling, and visiting with your legislators; bullying-- The Autism Society of North Carolina strives to help all students with autism have a safe learning environment. This toolkit teaches parents and professionals about the signs of bullying, ways to prevent bullying, and how to stop it; accessing services-- The services and supports systems are complex and can be difficult to navigate. This toolkit helps parents and guardians understand the kinds of services and supports that may be available and how to obtain them; behavior and the IEP-- This toolkit reviews the school disciplinary process, suspension and removal, and how inappropriate behaviors may be addressed through a Functional Behavior Assessment (FBA) and a Behavior Intervention Plan (BIP); the IEP-- A strong Individualized Education Program (IEP) is an important part of ensuring your child's success at school. Empowering parents to be their children's best advocates is the guiding principle for this toolkit, which will walk you through the process; residential options-- This toolkit describes the residential options available from independent living to group living settings and helps parents begin planning for their child's future by exploring financial options and teaching independent living skills; and, health-- This toolkit helps individuals and caregivers organize their health information, share important information with their health-care provider, and prepare for appointments. It also provides information about the benefits of a medical home. As many topics as time allows will be discussed. Handouts will be available for each topic. Starting at 6 pm at DisAbility Partners located at 2775 Hwy 74 E Sylva. RSVP by one day prior to workshop with your name, phone number, email address, if available, and names of other attendees. For more information or to RSVP, contact Jody Miller at 828-631-3900 ext 126 or [jody@regionakids.org](mailto:jody@regionakids.org).

**February 4, 2019—Parents' Role in IEP Development webinar**—12 pm – 1 pm. Participants of this webinar will learn: parents' rights and roles in the IEP process; how to prepare for and participate in meetings; limitations to parent rights under some circumstances; and, how and when parents are informed of their

rights related to special education. Please register in advance at:

<https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/3046890053014994691>

Contact: Anne Johnston, ECAC Parent Educator. Email: [ajohnston@ecacmail.org](mailto:ajohnston@ecacmail.org). Phone: 8665455299.

More Info: <https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/3046890053014994691>

**February 5, 2019—Part 1: IDEA and IEPs flash webinar**—12 pm – 12:30pm-- What is a flash webinar? It is a 30 minute webinar starting with a short instructional video (4-11 minutes) followed by discussion and Q&A with ECAC Parent Educators. PART 1: IDEA and IEPs. This is part 1 of a 5 part series designed to educate parents about the IEP team process and to empower families to be better prepared to effectively participate in their child's education. Professionals and other community members are always welcome to participate. Please register for Part 1 at: <https://register.gotowebinar.com/register/4223988718868337410>. Contact: Anne Johnston, Parent Educator. Email: [ajohnston@ecacmail.org](mailto:ajohnston@ecacmail.org). Phone: 866-545-5299. More Info: <https://register.gotowebinar.com/register/4223988718868337410>.

**February 5, 2019—Transition to Kindergarten Part 1 webinar**—8 pm – 9 pm-- This 3 part series will cover a variety of topics such as navigating the special education "maze" in Kindergarten and learning how you can more effectively participate in planning your child's educational program! We will discuss placement options, the least restrictive environment and inclusion. Participants will learn about communicating with their child's teachers and others at school, and how to provide information and share ideas before and during an IEP meeting. We'll also talk about what you can do at home between now and the start of Kindergarten to help your child be ready! Part 1: Challenges, Opportunities, and the Parent's Role. Please register at: <https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/5021951586238841602>. Contact: Aimee Combs. Email: [acombs@ecacmail.org](mailto:acombs@ecacmail.org). Phone: 704-892-1321. More Info: <https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/5021951586238841602>

**February 9, 2019—Haywood County Caregiver Group Meeting—Presentation on Transitioning through the Years with Julie Davis.** Starting at 11 am at Haywood Region Health and Fitness Center located at 75 Leroy George Dr, Clyde. RSVP is required by February 7, 2019. For more information and / or to RSVP, contact Jody at 828-506-6111.

**February 12, 2019—After the Diagnosis: Get Answers, Get Help, Get Going!**-- Please join ASNC Autism Resource Specialist Juliette Heim for this FREE informal workshop for parents and grandparents of children 8 years or younger recently diagnosed with Autism Spectrum Disorder. If your recently diagnosed child is older than 8, please contact Juliette to schedule a free appointment. Workshop objectives: to learn how autism may affect your child; to learn options that may help your child; and, to locate resources to support your family. Being held at the Autism Society of NC located at 306 Summit St Asheville from 10 am – 11:30 am. No fee. Register at <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/after-the-diagnosis-get-answers-get-help-get-going-tickets-46201707551>. For more information or to register, contact Juliette Heim at 828-236-1547 or [jheim@autismsociety-nc.org](mailto:jheim@autismsociety-nc.org).

**February 12, 2019—Part 2: The IEP Team flash webinar**—12 pm – 12:30pm-- What is a flash webinar? It is a 30 minute webinar starting with a short instructional video (4-11 minutes) followed by discussion and Q&A with ECAC Parent Educators. PART 2: The IEP Team. This is part 2 of a 5 part series designed to educate parents about the IEP team process and to empower families to be better prepared to effectively participate in their child's education. Professionals and other community members are always welcome to participate. Please register for Part 2 at: <https://register.gotowebinar.com/register/1181489411719186178>. Contact: Anne Johnston, Parent Educator. Email: [ajohnston@ecacmail.org](mailto:ajohnston@ecacmail.org). Phone: 866-545-5299. More Info: <https://register.gotowebinar.com/register/1181489411719186178>

**February 12, 2019—Transition to Kindergarten Part 2 webinar—8 pm – 9 pm--** This 3 part series will cover a variety of topics such as navigating the special education "maze" in Kindergarten and learning how you can more effectively participate in planning your child's educational program! We will discuss placement options, the least restrictive environment and inclusion. Participants will learn about communicating with their child's teachers and others at school, and how to provide information and share ideas before and during an IEP meeting. We'll also talk about what you can do at home between now and the start of Kindergarten to help your child be ready! Part 2: Special Education Basics for Kindergarten and Beyond. Please register at: <https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/1770613239533213186>. Contact: Jill Sirko, ECAC Parent Educator Email: [jsirko@ecacmail.org](mailto:jsirko@ecacmail.org). Phone: 866-740-4135. More Info: <https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/1770613239533213186>

**February 14, 2019—Stepping Stones Triple P Seminar Series Seminar 2—Helping Your Child Reach Their Potential—**Getting off to a good start. Key steps for successful teaching. Behavior charts and rewards. Keeping track and reviewing progress. Problem solving. Workshop is tentatively being held at the Sweet Thoughts located at 67 Bryson Ave, Bryson City from 6 pm – 7:30 pm. RSVP by February 12, 2019 with name of attendees, phone number, email if available, age of the child (up to 12 years of age) and diagnosis or disability (so we can provide special information for your child). To RSVP or for more information contact: Jody at 828-631-3900 ext 126 or [jody@regionakids.org](mailto:jody@regionakids.org). Childcare is not available for these workshops.

**February 15, 2019—Autism 101--** This is the perfect workshop for anyone who wants to develop a basic understanding of Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD). This workshop explores the four core areas affected by ASD: communication, social interaction, sensory issues, and how an individual may think and learn. Basic strategies for interacting with individuals with ASD are discussed. Workshop objectives: to build a better understanding of what ASD is; to explore some of the possible reasons an individual with ASD may react differently; to develop a broader understanding of why and how information may need to be presented in a more structured way; and, to review some basic strategies that can be implemented that day. Being held at the Autism Society of NC located at 306 Summit St Asheville from 10 am – 11:30 am. No fee. Register at <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/autism-101-tickets-46201950277>. For more information, contact Juliette Heim at [jheim@autismsociety-nc.org](mailto:jheim@autismsociety-nc.org).

**February 15, 2019—Telling Your Story webinar--12 pm – 1pm--** Your experiences as a parent of a child with special needs are unique and important. Did you know that others will benefit from your story and need to hear it? Sharing your story is a powerful way to impact and improve outcomes for all children with disabilities. Tune in to learn more! Please register at: <https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/857777878777322753>. Contact: Aimee Combs. Email: [acombs@ecacmail.org](mailto:acombs@ecacmail.org). Phone: 7048921321 ext 325. More Info: <https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/857777878777322753>.

**February 19, 2019—Part 3: What's Included in the IEP flash webinar—12 pm – 12:30 pm--** What is a flash webinar? It is a 30 minute webinar starting with a short instructional video (4-11 minutes) followed by discussion and Q&A with ECAC Parent Educators. PART 3: What's Included in the IEP. This is part 3 of a 5 part series designed to educate parents about the IEP team process and to empower families to be better prepared to effectively participate in their child's education. Professionals and other community members are always welcome to participate. Please register for Part 3 at: <https://register.gotowebinar.com/register/2819876086314816770>. Contact: Anne Johnston, Parent Educator Email: [ajohnston@ecacmail.org](mailto:ajohnston@ecacmail.org). Phone: 866-545-5299. More Info: <https://register.gotowebinar.com/register/2819876>.

**February 19, 2019—Transition to Kindergarten Part 3 webinar—8 pm – 9 pm--** This 3 part series will cover a variety of topics such as navigating the special education "maze" in Kindergarten and learning how you can

more effectively participate in planning your child's educational program! We will discuss placement options, the least restrictive environment and inclusion. Participants will learn about communicating with their child's teachers and others at school, and how to provide information and share ideas before and during an IEP meeting. We'll also talk about what you can do at home between now and the start of Kindergarten to help your child be ready! Part 3: How Kindergarten May Look for Your Child. Please register at:  
<https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/3578052025922576642>

Contact: Karen Laughlin, ECAC Parent Educator. Email: [klaughlin@ecacmail.org](mailto:klaughlin@ecacmail.org). Phone: 800-782-2094. More Info: <https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/3578052025922576642>.

**February 21, 2019—Swain County Smart Start / Local Interagency Coordinating Council Team hosting a Children's Fair**—Starting at 4 pm to 6 pm at the Swain Rec Center (Old Pepsi Plant) located at 30 Recreation Park Dr, Bryson City. Activities for the children and information for the caregivers. Exhibitor space still available. For more information please contact Jody at 828-631-3900 ext 126 or Melissa at 828-488-7505.

**February 26, 2019—Part 4: Getting Ready for the IEP Meeting flash webinar**—12 pm – 12:30 pm-- What is a flash webinar? It is a 30 minute webinar starting with a short instructional video (4-11 minutes) followed by discussion and Q&A with ECAC Parent Educators. PART 4: Getting Ready for the IEP Meeting. This is part 4 of a 5 part series designed to educate parents about the IEP team process and to empower families to be better prepared to effectively participate in their child's education. Professionals and other community members are always welcome to participate. Please register for Part 4 at:

<https://register.gotowebinar.com/register/5688244637461555458>. Contact: Anne Johnston, Parent Educator  
Email: [ajohnston@ecacmail.org](mailto:ajohnston@ecacmail.org). Phone: 866-545-5299. More Info:  
<https://register.gotowebinar.com/register/5688244637461555458>.

**February 28, 2019—Transition to Adulthood Part 1 webinar**—12 pm – 1:15 pm-- This 3 part series on the Transition to Adulthood will help parents and students to prepare for life after high school. We will cover a variety of topics regarding independence, self-advocacy, post-secondary options, employment, supported decision making, and more! Part 1: Growing Up and Self-Determination. Becoming an adult actually starts in childhood. We will discuss ways to help your child develop "soft" skills that will help them better manage their lives as adults. Age of majority considerations will also be covered. Please register at:

<https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/6403306527272308482>. Contact: Debra Pickens. Email:  
[dpickens@ecacmail.org](mailto:dpickens@ecacmail.org). Phone: 7048921321. More Info:  
<https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/6403306527272308482>.

**March 1, 2019—Stepping Stones Triple P Seminar Series Seminar 1—Positive Parenting For Children with a Disability**—Bring out the best in your child. Teach important functional skills and behavior. Manage misbehaviors. Plan ahead to ensure a successful routine/outing/activity. Willing to try new approaches to parenting. Workshop is tentatively being held at the 10 AM at the Children's Developmental Services Agency located at 87 Bonnie Lane Sylva. RSVP by February 25, 2019 with name of attendees, phone number, email if available, age of the child (up to 12 years of age) and diagnosis or disability (so we can provide special information for your child). To RSVP or for more information contact: Jody at 828-631-3900 ext 126 or [jody@regionakids.org](mailto:jody@regionakids.org). Childcare is not available for these workshops.

**March 5, 2019—Part 5: The IEP Meeting flash webinar**—12 pm – 12:30 pm-- What is a flash webinar? It is a 30 minute webinar starting with a short instructional video (4-11 minutes) followed by discussion and Q&A with ECAC Parent Educators. PART 5: The IEP Meeting. This is part 5 of a 5 part series designed to educate parents about the IEP team process and to empower families to be better prepared to effectively participate in their child's education. Professionals and other community members are always welcome to participate.

Please register for Part 5 at: <https://register.gotowebinar.com/register/1790494608693438466>. Contact: Anne Johnston, Parent Educator. Email: [ajohnston@ecacmail.org](mailto:ajohnston@ecacmail.org). Phone: 866-545-5299. More Info: <https://register.gotowebinar.com/register/1790494608693438466>.

**March 14, 2019—Stepping Stones Triple P Seminar Series Seminar 3—Changing Problem Behavior into Positive Behavior**—Tracking behaviors. Why is the behavior occurring? Ways to prevent the behavior. Encouraging cooperation. Put a plan into action. Workshop is tentatively being held at the Sweet Thoughts located at 67 Bryson Ave, Bryson City from 6 pm – 7:30 pm. RSVP by March 12, 2019 with name of attendees, phone number, email if available, age of the child (up to 12 years of age) and diagnosis or disability (so we can provide special information for your child). To RSVP or for more information contact: Jody at 828-631-3900 ext 126 or [jody@regionakids.org](mailto:jody@regionakids.org). Childcare is not available for these workshops.

**April 5, 2018— Jackson County Family Support Network of Region A Caregiver Group--Autism Society of North Carolina**—Regional Chapter Coordinator West, with the Autism Society of North Carolina will share with the group the services available through the Autism Society. Starting at 10 AM at the Children’s Developmental Services Agency located at 87 Bonnie Lane Sylva. RSVP by one day prior to workshop with your name, phone number, email address, if available, and names of other attendees. For more information or to RSVP, contact Jody Miller at 828-631-3900 ext 126 or [jody@regionakids.org](mailto:jody@regionakids.org).

**April 11, 2018— Jackson/Swain/Qualla Autism Chapter—Family Support Network of Region A Caregiver Group—Parents Rights in Special Education.** Participants will understand the rights that they have under federal and state special education laws. The points in the special education process where particular rights play an important role. Limitations to parent rights under some circumstances. How and when parents are informed of their rights related to special education. Starting at 5:30 PM at Sweet Thoughts located at 67 Bryson Ave Bryson City. RSVP by one day prior to workshop with your name, phone number, email address, if available, and names of other attendees. For more information or to RSVP, contact Jody Miller at 828-631-3900 ext 126 or [jody@regionakids.org](mailto:jody@regionakids.org).

**May 3, 2019—Stepping Stones Triple P Seminar Series Seminar 2—Helping Your Child Reach Their Potential**—Getting off to a good start. Key steps for successful teaching. Behavior charts and rewards. Keeping track and reviewing progress. Problem solving. Workshop is tentatively being held at the 10 AM at the Children’s Developmental Services Agency located at 87 Bonnie Lane Sylva. RSVP by April 29, 2019 with name of attendees, phone number, email if available, age of the child (up to 12 years of age) and diagnosis or disability (so we can provide special information for your child). Seminar 3 will follow. To RSVP or for more information contact: Jody at 828-631-3900 ext 126 or [jody@regionakids.org](mailto:jody@regionakids.org). Childcare is not available for these workshops.

**May 3, 2019—Stepping Stones Triple P Seminar Series Seminar 3—Changing Problem Behavior into Positive Behavior**—Tracking behaviors. Why is the behavior occurring? Ways to prevent the behavior. Encouraging cooperation. Put a plan into action. Workshop is tentatively being held at the 10 AM at the Children’s Developmental Services Agency located at 87 Bonnie Lane Sylva. RSVP by April 29, 2019 with name of attendees, phone number, email if available, age of the child (up to 12 years of age) and diagnosis or disability (so we can provide special information for your child). To RSVP or for more information contact: Jody at 828-631-3900 ext 126 or [jody@regionakids.org](mailto:jody@regionakids.org). Childcare is not available for these workshops.

**May 9, 2018—Jackson/Swain/Qualla Autism Chapter—Family Support Network of Region A Caregiver Group—Autism Society of NC Webinar—Guardianship: What You Need to Know**--This workshop presents basic information about guardianship: What is it? Who needs it? How do you set it up? What are the alternatives? This workshop is designed to help parents in making this decision about their family situation.

Objectives: to understand guardianship and who may need it; to review the process of guardianship; and, to become familiar with types of guardianship and alternatives to guardianship. Starting at 6:00 PM at Sweet Thoughts located at 67 Bryson Ave Bryson City. RSVP by one day prior to workshop with your name, phone number, email address, if available, and names of other attendees. For more information or to RSVP, contact Jody Miller at 828-631-3900 ext 126 or [jody@regionakids.org](mailto:jody@regionakids.org).

**June 13, 2018—Jackson/Swain/ Qualla Autism Chapter—Family Support Network of Region A Caregiver Group—Autism Society of NC Webinar—Safety Considerations for Caregivers--** This workshop covers general safety considerations for parents, family members, and community caregivers of individuals with autism. The content covered is beneficial regardless of where the individual is on the spectrum or their age. How autism can affect safety, how to be proactive, and safety--related resources are discussed. Objectives: to understand how autism can affect the safety of an individual with autism; to learn how to be proactive in maintaining community safety for people with ASD; and, to become more aware of other resources related to community safety for people with ASD. Starting at 6:00 PM at Sweet Thoughts located at 67 Bryson Ave Bryson City. RSVP by one day prior to workshop with your name, phone number, email address, if available, and names of other attendees. For more information or to RSVP, contact Jody Miller at 828-631-3900 ext 126 or [jody@regionakids.org](mailto:jody@regionakids.org).