

DDS WAIVER NEWSLETTER

A R K A N S A S D E P A R T M E N T O F H U M A N S E R V I C E S

DDS WAIVER

ADMINISTRATION STAFF

Carol Cromer, Asst Director Waiver Services:
501-682-8689

Ruby Jeffers, Waiver Program Director:
501-683-0575

Jerry Hodge, Waiver Policy Administrator:
870-972-1732x1512

Yvette Swift-Christopher, Waiver Program Administrator:
501-683-0571

Pearlie Hicks, Waiver Program Coordinator:
501-683-0569

Desiree' Grisley, Waiver Application Unit/
Business Manager:
501-682-8674

Carolyn Ford, Waiver Training Coordinator:
501-682-8705

WAIVER AREA MANAGERS

NW-Johnson Co., Laura Sherwood-479-754-2355 ext. 114

NE-Craighead Co., Pamela Bowers-870-972-1732 ext. 1511

NC-Faulkner Co., Alisa O'Neal -501-730-9917

Central-Pulaski Co., Linda Wilson-501-371-1383

SE-Ouachita Co., Michael Suttle-870-367-6835 ext.156

SW-Garland Co., Patricia White Co., 501-321-2583 ext. 246

Facts About Physical Disabilities

A very common symbol that you often come across in malls, restaurants, and other public places is one of the person sitting in a wheelchair. It is supposed to be an indication of space or facilities reserved for the physically impaired. But, how many times have you looked at this symbol and wondered about how badly affected these individuals are? Have you wondered about how they cope with their condition and how they have reached a situation wherein they are forced to seek for help for very basic day-to-day actions? There are many facts about the physically disabled and the condition that we remain unaware of.



First and foremost, it is important to understand what physical disability is. It is generally defined as a handicap that affects our physical ability to move one or more limbs, or our motor ability to perform basic functions. There are many different reasons that can result in physical disabilities. Prenatal causes can lead to disabilities that occur before the child is born. The reason for this form of disability can be physical illness suffered from the mother during the pregnancy and also any form of

important to know that physical disabilities can be either long term or short term.

Mobility and access to buildings has been a huge problem for people with physical disabilities. The disability rights movement has had a huge effect on bettering the situation. It is a movement that is fighting for physically impaired people to have the same rights and opportunities as others. Some of the main points of contention are better mobility and accessibility infrastructure, disability friendly architecture, equal rights in education, housing, employment, etc.

In a world where people tend to get occupied by their own problems, it is easy to turn a blind eye to others who have problems living a normal day-to-day life performing basic activities without the help of others. Hopefully, this article has helped you understand how a physical disability can turn a person's life upside down. ~Tulika Nair @ Buzzle.com

Information about waiver for physical disabilities can be found through the Division of Aging and Adult Services (DAAS) at 501-682-2441. For children with physical disabilities you may contact Children's Medical Services (DDS) at 501-682-2277.

genetic mismatch between the mother and the father. Postnatal causes refer to the entire gamut of causes that affect a person after birth. From accidents or illness, there can be a whole lot of causes that can lead to physical disability. A third cause can be disability that results during the birth process. Any damage caused to the respiratory system or the brain can cause physical or mental disabilities in babies.

Physical disabilities can affect your sense of sight, your sense of hearing, your ability to be mobile, or even your ability to perform even the most basic functions.

Medical practitioners often categorize physical disabilities under two brand types-skeletal and neuromuscular. The former consist of all those disabilities that affect our bones and our skeletal structure. The latter consists of all those disabilities that have an effect on our nervous system and our muscular system. It is also

Case Studies

Suggestions for case studies or inquiries, may be submitted for consideration by the 10th of the month.



Dates to Remember

“Rollin’ On the River”

Easter Seals 5K Run and 2K Family Fun Walk on Saturday August 25 at the Clinton Library. For more info go to www.eastersealsar.com.

Disabled Olympic runner says his mother didn't give him special treatment

So, kids, does your mom tell you to get up, get dressed and brush your teeth, and that she doesn't want to hear any complaining?

Before you say you have the toughest mom in the world, think about what South African Olympic runner Oscar Pistorius says about his mom.

Pistorius had to have part of both legs amputated (removed) when he was just a baby. But he says the way his mom raised him and his brother has helped him become an Olympic athlete.



"My mother said to us in the morning: 'Carl' — this is my brother — 'you put on your shoes, and Oscar, you put on your prosthetic legs, and that is the last I want to hear about it.' I grew up not really thinking I had a disability. I grew up thinking I had different shoes."

The sprinter will be the first double-amputee athlete to compete at any Olympics when he runs in the 400 meters in London, England.

Published: August 1 The Washington Post

Note: Oscar Pistorius placed second in a qualifying round for the men's 400m race in the London 2012 Olympics.



FROM THE GUEST WRITER'S PEN

NOTICE: WE ARE NOT THE PARENTS

This is a simple and obvious statement about staff, but, nevertheless, a very tricky one. Too easily we fall into a rut. We react to the same client behaviors day after day until we no longer have tolerance or patience to deal with recurring client behavior problems. We may need to step back and focus on that bold statement above. First, we are not the parents HERE. Instead, we hold the very important role of teacher. We teach appropriate behaviors/social skills, daily living skills, and basic work skills. We work with folks who have different levels of abilities. No single approach is going to work with everybody.

The reason that we are EFFECTIVE with our clients is primarily because we are NOT their parents. Yet, we often feel like frustrated parents with a bunch of unruly children. Nothing we do or say makes an impact on those "unruly children!" We often make assumptions that 'problem clients' generally don't have the right kind of support from home. Let's think about that in another way. We might be sending similar messages with our own reactionary behavior when the same old client behavior problems recur. (It's easy to do. I am guilty, aren't you?) Clients display the same behaviors because we haven't effectively changed those behaviors to something more acceptable. Our frustration builds and our tolerance declines dramatically. We are no longer impartial. We begin looking for and predicting "mess ups." We are quick to say, "I told you so." We react. We get stressed. Then the behavior recurs. We get uncomfortable when our action is a reaction and we realize we are no longer in control. At these times, we need to modify OUR behavior in order to modify the client's behavior. We are more effective in our jobs when we are calm and collected. We are better able to manage our own stress level by remaining calm. We are able to act, not react.

To be effective teachers, we (as individuals and as a team) must provide a structured learning environment with clear and consistent expectations. We must set the limits where clients cannot set their own. We must provide reinforcement and ongoing instruction to encourage learning and to maintain improved performance. Our job is to teach, praise, redirect, and to be actively involved with the client. We challenge clients to excel by teaching in a positive manner. We need to remember that 'ongoing training' is necessary for our clients to retain and practice what they learn. We will probably have to reinforce what we teach many times within a day, possibly with the same individual, but that's what most of our clients require. **Empower clients to make a positive choice by giving them a choice in their behavior.** Don't dictate and react like a parent. Teach and act like a teacher. Expect less and get less. **EXPECT MORE AND GET MORE.**

Linda Fayad, Texarkana Resources for the Disabled, Program Coordinator, August 2012