



# Bridging the Gap

The newsletter of

Regional and Statewide Services for Students with Orthopedic Impairments

October • 2007

At RSOI, our mission is to help build the capacity of Oregon school districts and programs to better serve students and young children

with Orthopedic Impairments. Part of capacity-building is providing resources for the people who are busy serving children in educational programs each day. That's why the focus of this newsletter is on informational, material and training resources available from RSOI during the 2007-08 school year. You'll find information about library materials, conferences and workshops to assist you in your work with children who have significant physical or other learning challenges. In addition to the conferences

## VIEW from the BRIDGE

— Diana Roberts

and workshops featured here, please keep in mind that RSOI staff are available to visit your program to provide training on other topics related to special

education and related services. Last year, we presented a workshop on Educational Consultation which reached a total of 163 people throughout Oregon! If you did not have an opportunity to participate in a Consultation workshop last year, it is still available on request. Please contact us at the RSOI office to schedule a workshop on this or another topic of your choice. We hope that you will take advantage of the many offerings you find here to help make a good year a great one!

## 2007 Seminar for Feeding Teams!

This year's Seminar for Feeding Teams features a special, 2-1/2 day workshop with Dr. Kay Toomey and her team from Colorado, titled, ***"When Children Won't Eat: the Sequential-Oral-Sensory (SOS) Approach to Feeding"***. This workshop is a temporary departure from our traditional two-day seminar format. We are co-hosting this longer presentation with Providence Rehabilitation Center in order to create the opportunity for more intensive, in-depth training. The workshop will begin with a half-day afternoon session on Sunday, December 2, and run all day Monday and Tuesday, December 3 and 4. As in the past, the seminar will be held at the Holiday Inn Express in Wilsonville.

The "SOS Approach to Feeding" is a trans-disciplinary program for assessing and treating children with feeding and weight or growth difficulties. The program integrates sensory, motor, oral, behavioral/learning, medical and nutritional factors and approaches, in order to comprehensively evaluate and manage children with feeding problems. It is based on the normal developmental stages, steps and skills of feeding



found in typically developing children. The program utilizes these typical developmental steps to create a systematic desensitization hierarchy of skills and behaviors necessary for children to progress with eating various textures and with growing at an appropriate rate. In addition, physical and nutritional deficits are

considered, and referral for medical interventions sought as appropriate. Skills across all developmental areas are also assessed with regard to feeding.

To cover the additional costs of the full 2-1/2 days of training by Dr. Toomey and her team, the cost of registration for the workshop has been increased to \$175 per person. (That's only \$50 more than the normal cost for our 2-day conferences!) Because the presenters want everyone to receive the complete content in its entirety, no partial registrations will be allowed. Registration materials for the Seminar for Feeding Teams are enclosed with this newsletter.

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1871 NE Stephens • Roseburg, OR 97470 • 541-440-4791 • Fax: 541-957-4808 • [www.rsoi.org](http://www.rsoi.org)

Diana Roberts • OI Specialist • [diana.roberts@douglasesd.k12.or.us](mailto:diana.roberts@douglasesd.k12.or.us) • Gayl Bowser • Coordinator • [gayl.bowser@douglasesd.k12.or.us](mailto:gayl.bowser@douglasesd.k12.or.us)

## TIES 2007 News

A highlight of our annual spring, "Therapy in Educational Settings" Conference, known as TIES, is the announcement of the Judy Rowe Exemplary Therapist Award. Last year's awards ceremony was exceptional in that five Oregon therapists were honored! Marilyn Redwine, PT, Reynolds School District; Mary Devine, PT, Corvallis School District; Nancy Cave, PT, Eugene District 4j; Michelle St. Marie, PT, West Linn-Wilsonville School District; and Claire Halliburton, OT, Northwest Regional ESD, all were nominated by their peers for recognition of their outstanding skills and dedication to excellence. The five therapists each received a portfolio of letters and testimonials from peers and families supporting their nomination along with a plaque in their honor. A number of family members made a surprise appearance at the conference for the announcement of the awards. Eugene student, Joel Chapman provided wonderful piano music during the ice-cream social in honor of his long-time association with Exemplary Therapist honoree and new retiree, Nancy Cave. It is a pleasure to recognize these distinguished professionals for their professionalism, expertise and commitment to students and families!



TIES 2007 Exemplary Therapists

## TIES 2008 Keynote to Feature Pre-Referral Intervention Strategies

IDEA '04 focuses attention on pre-referral interventions and encourages problem-solving strategies in order to provide early support to students in the general education classroom before they are identified as students with disabilities. What is the therapist's role in these "early intervening services"? Occupational and physical therapists need specific knowledge and skills in order to participate with school teams in identifying and implementing pre-referral strategies. TIES 2008 will feature keynote speaker

Mary Muhlenhaupt, OT/R, in a day-long session titled, "Pre-Referral Intervention Approaches: Strategies for Therapists". This presentation will cover a series of sequential steps that can serve as the foundation for therapists' evaluation and collaborative planning activities with school teams as they develop early intervening programs. The session will include opportunities to practice the application of concepts and strategies. The TIES Conference is scheduled for April 14 & 15, 2008, at the Valley River Inn, in Eugene. Mark your calendar now for TIES 2008!

## Web-based Trainings for Professionals and Families

"Exceptional Parent" magazine has a website with live as well as archived recordings of physicians and other medical professionals discussing issues related to disabilities. Current and upcoming offerings include:

- A Six Part Series for Health Professionals on the Evaluation and Management of Health Conditions Often Encountered in Persons with Cerebral Palsy
- The Need for a Seizure Preparedness Plan: Contemporary Issues in the Diagnosis and Management of Epilepsy in Children and Adults
- Gimme a Break! A Family Guide to Respite
- Seminars for the Military Community on Behavioral Disorders Commonly Encountered in Children and Adults with Developmental Disabilities: ADD/ADHD and Autism

The website address is [www.epliveonline.com](http://www.epliveonline.com). A simple registration process is required for access to the site.



## Resources from Linda Burkhart

Those who attended Linda Burkhart's marvelous workshop last year in Eugene, titled "*Four Secrets to Success for Students Who Face Severe*

*Challenges: Turning Barriers into Enablers*", came away with great new perspectives on assessing and communicating with students who are nonverbal. We're excited that Linda will be presenting in Eugene again on November 2 and 3. (See Coming Events.) Visit Linda's website at [www.lburkhart.com](http://www.lburkhart.com) where she provides printable masters of her workshop handouts and directions for building many of the adaptations she shares in her workshops.

# NEW IN THE RSOI LIBRARY

## NEW BOOKS

*Promoting Health Care Transitions for Adolescents with Special Health Care Needs and Disabilities:* Information and resources for coordinating the transition from pediatric to adult health care services. #564

*Teaching Motor Skills to Children with Cerebral Palsy and Similar Movement Disorders:* A resource for helping school staff and parents of young children to understand why daily intervention can help a child achieve greater motor potential and independence. #565



## RESOURCES FOR TEACHERS OF STUDENTS WITH SIGNIFICANT LEARNING CHALLENGES

*Strategies for Promoting Literacy with Students who have Physical Disabilities*, 3rd Edition, Kathryn Wolf-Heller, Mari Beth Coleman-Martin and Dawn Swinehart-Jones, Georgia State University, book and CD, 2006. This book and CD combination provides evidence-based strategies and adaptations to promote reading and writing skills in students with severe motor or other limitations, including students who are nonverbal. The CD includes video clips demonstrating the Nonverbal Reading Approach and literacy strategies. The print materials include a full explanation of the approach, plus instructions on how to use Power Point to teach decoding skills to students with physical disabilities, and to create onscreen interactive books! #553

*FACTER: Functional Assessment and Curriculum for Teaching Everyday Routines*, Joel Arick, Tera Hoffman, Gary Nave and David Krug, 2004. FACTER is an assessment and functional curriculum for students with moderate to severe developmental disabilities. FACTER addresses the ability to perform typical everyday "routines" while incorporating essential "related skills" for living. FACTER is useful for any student who needs to learn typical school, leisure, community, vocational, or career exploration routines. The curriculum has been specifically developed to address the needs of elementary and secondary age students. FACTER consists of two components: 1) a thorough student assessment across routines and related skills, and 2) a student instruction element which combines ongoing teaching and assessment on critical steps of selected routines. The assessment and instruction cycle repeats continually to document student progress over time and to identify new areas for instruction. Thus, FACTER provides a continuous cycle of student information from assessment to IEP planning to instruction. #566

## GOLDEN OLDIES

These VHS videos have been in the library for some time, but they remain excellent resources for training classroom staff in concepts and strategies for use with students who have severe learning challenges:

*Error Correction:* Excellent training resource for staff or parents on how to correct errors to maximize learning. Includes video and work book. #262

*Job Design Strategies for Persons with Physical and Multiple Disabilities:* This excellent resource presents job adaptation strategies to enable supported employment training for individuals with disabilities. #253

*Partial Participation:* Video and workbook illustrate the "partial participation" approach to instruction of students with significant learning challenges. #260

*People with Physical and Multiple Disabilities Supported Employment Demo:* This video illustrates job adaptations to facilitate access to employment training in community settings for individuals w/ significant disabilities. #254

*Prompting:* Video & workbook illustrate the correct use of prompting to teach independent functioning. #261

*Providing Work Experiences for Students with Physical and Multiple Disabilities:* Explores the role of the school program in training students with significant disabilities for post-high school supported employment in community settings. #272

*Reinforcement:* Explains the role of reinforcement in managing behavior. Includes video and book. #263

*Tangible Symbol Systems:* Video and book describe the use of pictures or objects to develop communication systems for children with multi-sensory impairments. #250

*Task Analysis:* Video and workbook illustrate how to break tasks into teachable components for instruction to students with significant learning challenges. #259

*Items in the RSOI Loan Library are available for loan for a period of four weeks. If there is no waiting list for an item, it may be renewed for an additional month. The searchable library database may be accessed at [www.rsoi.org](http://www.rsoi.org). Library catalogs are available upon request from the RSOI office. A signed loan agreement form is needed in order to borrow from the Loan Library. To order items from the RSOI Loan Library, print out a loan agreement form at [www.rsoi.org](http://www.rsoi.org) and fax (541-957-4808) or mail to the RSOI office.*

# Coming Events

**Ed+Med Conference 07** • October 12,  
2007 *St. Charles Medical Center, Bend.*  
\$100. For information and registration  
go to [www.edmedconference.org](http://www.edmedconference.org) or  
call Sylvia at 541-312-1961.



**Basic Oral Motor Feeding Workshop**  
Oct 25, 26 & 27 • *Providence Child  
Center, Multi-purpose room, 830 NE 47th  
Ave., Portland.* Presenter is Gay Lloyd Pinder. Contact  
Vickie Kerr, Providence Child Ctr, 253-854-5660.

**Multi-Modality Supports for Communication and  
Cognition: Strategies for Students on the Severe  
End of the Autism Spectrum** • November 2-3, 2007 •  
*Lane Community College, Eugene.* Linda Burkhart  
presenting. \$125 per person. Contact Carol Skondin,  
Lane ESD, 541-461-8251.

**UCP's 12th Annual Family Conference on  
Cerebral Palsy and Related Disabilities** • November  
2 • *Red Lion Jantzen Beach Hotel, Portland.*  
Registration available at [www.ucp.org](http://www.ucp.org).

**First Strokes Multi-Sensory Handwriting Workshop**  
November 7 • *Embassy Suites Airport, Portland.*  
Appropriate for teachers and therapists. Sponsored by  
the Handwriting Clinic. \$195, discounts available for  
groups. Register at [www.firststrokeshandwriting.com](http://www.firststrokeshandwriting.com).

**Yoga for the Child with Developmental  
Challenges** • November 9 & 10 •  
*Providence Neurodevelopmental Center  
multi-purpose room, Portland.* Co-  
sponsored with Education Resources, Inc.  
\$395 per person. Register at  
[www.educationresourcesinc.com](http://www.educationresourcesinc.com) or call  
508-359-6533.

**Seminar for Feeding Teams, featuring the SOS  
Approach to Feeding: Sequential-Oral-Sensory** •  
December 2 - 4 • *Holiday Inn, Wilsonville.* Presented by  
Kay Toomey & Associates. 2-1/2 days, \$175.  
Registration materials available with this newsletter and  
online at [www.rsoi.org](http://www.rsoi.org).

**TASH Conference** • December 6 - 8 • *Washington  
State Convention and Trade Center, Seattle.* Information  
and registration at [www.tash.org](http://www.tash.org).

**TIES Conference: Therapy in Educational Settings**  
April 14 & 15, 2008 • *Valley River Inn, Eugene.* Keynote  
presenter, Mary Muhlenhaupt, OTR/L, Pre-referral  
Intervention Approaches: Strategies for Therapists. \$125  
for two days/\$100 for one day. Registration materials  
available in February from RSOI at [www.rsoi.org](http://www.rsoi.org).



## **Regional and Statewide Services for Students with Orthopedic Impairments**

*Douglas ESD*  
1871 NE Stephens  
Roseburg, OR 97470