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REBECCA STANDRIDGE:   
Hello, I just 12 o'clock and we're going to be punctual and go ahead and get started. Thank you for joining us today on this episode of lunch and learn. Today will will understand resources available to you. I am Rebecca and I content specialist here at the district office for Brevard County. Primarily working with secondary schools. Just a few housekeeping issues, please make your microphone should the presentations. If you have questions put them in the chat box and I want to remind you that the session is being recorded so please be mindful in any of your comments do not mention children's names or specific school names.   
  
The webinar will be available on the BPS website as well as the F and G website. Close captioning is available as well as the interpreters for those who need that.   
  
I will go ahead and introduce today we have Kathy Powell with FND and I will hand it over to her and she will begin!   
  
KATHY POWELL:   
Hi there and welcome, as Rebecca share today's presentation is understanding resources available to you. I am a parent with the child with a disability, my son has just turned 19 and has Autism and some oppressive â€“- obsessive-compulsive disorder. As a parent, I found myself researching online on a wide range of matters. Legal, medical, educational and right now we are in the throes of you know, researching everything for transition and community resources and age of majority.   
  
As I'm sure you all out there are doing this as well because it is important that we learn about our child's rights and the school's responsibilities for your child. FND pulled together some key links to help and links that you can trust the love for information and resources.   
  
Really quick to want to share a bit more about our agency in case you're not familiar with FND. We are a 501C 3 which means we do not work for local, state or federal agencies or schools. We are funded in part by the US Department of Education and the US Department of Health. We are your statewide parent training information Center also known as your PTI. We are also your statewide family family health information Center.   
  
Typically states have one PTI and Florida, Texas and California have moreâ€¦ We have three. They are broken up into regions and I am the program director for profit which is a Family Network on Disabilities. There's a parent support network and parent education network as well. They are our sister programs.   
  
We are family driven, so founded in 1985, by parents with children with disabilities came together for mutual support and information sharing. One thing I love to share is that is unique to FND is the majority of our board members, management staff and field staff are members or persons with disabilities.   
  
Now, quick disclaimer, no attorneys, doctors or medical health professionals. So the following is not legal advice or medical advice. But we do share information and resources that I will share a lot of thought towards the end of the presentation where you can find some key information.   
  
We always make sure that we share research-based information so that websites I will share with you have all been vetted information. Lastly we also can encourage cooperation with schools and agencies and try to help facilitate that and help families understand processes and help them understand where maybe some communication might have broken down.   
  
So, our resources that I am going to share we have divided into these three categories three buckets. Educational, health and our own FND resources. We have included both federal government and state government states that provide supports to individuals with special needs.   
  
Let's start with educational! OSERS and OSEP. I'm going to clear up any acronyms and there are a lot of them in the world of special education. OSERS stands for the office of special education and rehabilitative services. OSEP is the office of special education programs. This is a great site to click on and I will click on some of these for you.   
  
The individuals with disabilities education act also known as Idea and they keep discretionary grants to education institutions of higher learning and other nonprofit organizations like us and support with research and demonstrations, technology and personal development. The PTI as well. You can take a look here and I will show you for example, I will click through to get you to some key information.   
  
If you look up here under reports and resources and then go to publications and products. And then go to memos down at the bottom. You will see what is called policy letters okay? Also known as dear colleague letters and those are written by OSEP to provide guidance and clarification regarding the implementation of IDA- Idea. If you click on these they will take you to quite a few of them now and if you go back to the homepage, you will see on the right maybe that's not the homepage that I wanted...   
  
Here we go. You will see along the right of that original page is the IDEA's that work in here you will find all kinds of toolkits, compilations of resources and highlighted evidence-based and promising practices, skills and interventions on a particular area, topical issues, archived webinars. Some examples you will find information on continuity of learning during COVID-19. A lot of parents of are interested in that. (inaudible) and family education.   
  
Another resource is a center for parent information and resources. Basically it is our parent Center hub that PTI has used for technical assistance. It also has a resource library the parents centers and parents can access. Okay? You can find all kinds of resources A through Z , very extensive. Click on any letters and we will try this one.â€¦ Let's try this is an example there is an example on least restrictive environment and placement. Going through the alphabet there is a section 504, self advocacy and quite a lot there just depends a lot U click on okay?   
  
That is a discretionary project of the office of special education programs. Here's another discretionary program called CADRE which is the center for appropriate dispute resolution in special education. They cover a broad array of topics, specifically preparing for and learning about dispute resolution processes. Their focus on the communication and collaboration, conflict resolution and problem-solving skills. On this site you will find FAQ sheets, resources etc. This is an example of a downloadable resource and I'm not going to click on it now because it will take future desktop to download it. But just to give you an example there are lots of great resources here. This is an e-book basically.   
  
Next, is IES and that stands for Institute of educational sciences. It has a compilation of different sites. So, for example ERIC that needs to be smaller than thought, hold on. And a little smallerâ€¦ So Eric stands for education resource information Center. It has all kinds of resources and research in easy to use fulltext database, bibliography and educational research. For educators, researchers, parents and basically the general public.   
  
Ask a REL they work with policymakers as a laboratory to develop and use research that improves academic outcomes. Some good information there as well as what Works clearinghouse and that basically also has research on different programs, products and practices. A lot of stuff you could get lost in there! The presentation here has everything hyperlinked and I am sharing it via PDF so you will be able to go back and click on all of these links at your leisure. Okay?   
  
Next is the IRIS center which is a national center sharing effective based practices and interventions. This is actually one of my favorite. It houses so much information, so easy to find, modules and case studies, examples of accommodations, self-determination skills, determination and everything in between. I will show you what I mean this resource locator really helps you filter down. You can type it or you can click on things.... So much and you can filter it by age, elementary, middle or high school. And then what kinds of resources, all kinds and even what languages they translate into. I encourage you to spend some time in that one.   
  
Okay, next and now we are into state resources. This is the and I will show you the website for the Florida Department of Education. This was probably updated a year or two years ago. If you have not visited it in a little while, you will notice information is easier to access and more organized. If you click on it, you can see across the top and I might need to back out a little if I can, there we go. You can see across the top are featured topics, academics, accountability and if you scroll down it is broken down different ways here as well. This is where you can find exceptional student education. This is also known as BESE.   
  
That is where you will also find the resources and information within BESE and we will get to that on the next slide. Basically here, you will see eligibility so any questions the families might have related to early education, some more dispute resolution, program accountability and a lot of data if you are interested in that. Policies and procedures, and you will see staff information, contacts. And then some topics of special interest, state and federal laws. Okay?   
  
Let me go back out. This is where I want to take you where it said BESE publications. That is this. This also has A to Z, you do not want to miss these resources and I can even highlight some of my favorites. There are accommodations for students with disabilities that is right here. There is a great e-book that walks you through all different types of accommodations broken out by disability. Let me see if I can get back, yes good. Information on assessments, behaviors, positive behavior intervention plans and you can learn about that. Career and technical, lots and lots of information. More on BESE and extended school year. Okay?   
  
And then if you do not want to get lost in something specific to find of course, there is a search component if you go right up here. Okay? One thing that I want to share is what is called technical assistance papers. Let me see if I can click on it but you can also type it in here. Technical assistance papers, and what those are are very similar to the dear colleague letter so they should you want ODSP websites these are for guidance and clarification. They are a little bit scattered throughout this BESE site so going into search is probably your best that and that's where you can access them. These are great as well if you're not sure how to share information or convey something in an IEP meeting these papers might help you and help you better explain whatever concerns or information that you're trying to share with the team.   
  
Okay? The next you can also access any kind of district staff so district ESE directors are in there, community partners are in their and I will let you click on that at your leisure. There are also these links for parent information and these will get you to disability history for example for those who may not be aware. The schools designate the first two weeks of October as disability history and awareness week and they also promote instruction for students to expand students knowledge of that understanding and awareness. Of individuals with disabilities the histories, and the disability rights movement. There is also a link to the parent ESE survey.   
  
The surveys parents of children with disabilities on how well Florida schools are promoting parent involvement and collaborating and would recognize it. It comes home to you or the link is shared, depending on whether you are getting paper or electronic. Basically, it asked you all sorts of questions. The results of those, they put them in this webpage as well. You can access that information.   
  
There is also parents consent model forms and you can see what they might look like when you are signing consent on various things. You can look through there. Here is the BESE weekly. You can subscribe to different list serves at the bottom of this page when you link on it and it will send you notifications as well for the newsletters.   
  
Next are the BESE discretionary projects. Just like the Department of Education and OSEP, the state has discretionary projects. And so clicking on here will get you to a PDF of all of the projects and their descriptions. For example okay? It is an extensive list of projects you can take some time to look through this later, and I am including a link to that as well. It gives you an interview â€“- an overview of state-supported initiatives. There is also a presentation that gives you a sampling as well. Whatever your learning style and that breaks it up in different ways as well.   
  
Also, I found a great acronyms and abbreviations list in here. You will find this helpful. Print that and bring back to your IEP meetings! If you like. Okay, a couple that I want to spotlight of those discretionary projects because we collaborate with some community partners more than others and project 10 is one of them.   
  
Project 10 focuses on transition, supports youth with disabilities and I wanted to show you just a couple of great resources. Here are where all of the publications and this is where they sit. They mostly work with educators but they have extensive resources the parents can access as well. This one is the family guide to secondary transition and I strongly recommend you check this out. And then the newest which is an amazing resource, the middle school transition map. In Florida, legislation passed that we are going to be looking at transitions sooner for our kiddos, as early as middle school. Helping and supporting them and teaching them how to self advocate, great resource and I love this one!   
  
Next is FDLRS who is hosting this webinar for us and lots of great resources and they also house Florida Inclusion Network and here is an ABC directory of all of the resource they share as well. There is lots of good stuff. For inclusion network collaborate, FLDR provides resources for agencies but important to share is they are where child find his house. They are tasked with locating, identifying and evaluating students with disabilities. They provide teachers with professional development opportunities as well as parent engagement opportunities. FIN stands for Florida inclusion network and they provide information and support to educators for inclusions for students with disabilities so I have links to them there as well.   
  
Okay? Now I will share some health resources because we do have a sister program called Family STAR that works with families with children of more medical needs and mental health as well. One of the health resources that I want to share is children's medical services also known as CMS. it is a collection of special programs for eligible children with special needs and they have a variety of services from Child protection and safety, Child and family information, early intervention, child development, newborn screenings and all of their services are provided by highly qualified physicians and nurses, social workers and other healthcare providers. They also house early steps which is funded by part C of the individuals in education act. This is where schools, pre-K-12 is part B.   
  
I will show you some of their websites and they have news and events, resources, and outcomes of quick links. Let me back a little, they haven't divided into families and providers. Next is family voices and this is a national family led organization of families and friends with children and youth with special needs. This is a long acronym CYSHCN, that is Family STAR technical assistance that they also have families as well. Children and youth with special healthcare needs are basically children and youth who have or are added and increased risk of chronic physical developmental behavioral or emotional conditions will also require health-related services. Beyond that is what is required by children generally. So those are the links to that.   
  
Now we will go into FND resources. We have over 40 different series of tip sheets or topics that are relevant to families and districts. What we do is take these tip sheets and retake basically the evidence-based information from resources and sites such as OSEP, the special education, the BESE and (unknown term) and let me show you. Each one of these links has its own series. Let me click on this one to show you. Today click on the wrong one? Let me go back. Okay, I do not think I hyperlinked this one, I am not sure. Here we go. Clicking on the slide instead of the actual link. I'm going to back it out okay? Now we're talking! Let's click on this one for example, each link has its own different tip sheets. Okay? These are great to print, put them in your folder to organize for an individual education program for a meeting, you know, bring them with you or study them up. Also information on different topics. Tips for boosting your mental health, procedural safeguards, special education tips and it has it on one page for easy reference and then it breaks them out for more information. These are provided in English and Spanish or other languages at request so we do have a service where we can translate them if needed. Okay?   
  
We also have separate ones for the healthcare resources and I do not think this is hyperlinked but I can go back and do that before I send the PDF because they have their own stuff. And then, as a result of water being a high-risk hurricane area and we had two back-to-back hurricanes of public a few years ago.   
  
We created these disaster readiness guides and these are electronic books on our site. I will add the links to that as well. These are basically guides for families to help them plan in advance in case of an emergency.   
  
That is basically here is her contact information if you ever need to get in touch with us, we take phone calls all day long from parents. Call our home office and they will connect you with the person that is in your area. Albeit phone or email. I welcome any questions if you have any now?   
  
SPEAKER:   
Please feel free to unmute and ask questions or you can use the chat box, whichever you are more comfortable with.   
  
KATHY POWELL:   
If you have any questions that you want to call about off line, by all means you can contact me. You know, we help parents understand the processes of special education and we help with any dispute to try to help to get you back to a cooperative relationship with your child's school. And we share these resources as well as well as any other resources I have shared on these sites. We can definitely pinpoint them and get you that information sooner, it is our job so we can do that for you!   
  
SPEAKER:   
If we do not have any questions, want to thank everyone for joining us this afternoon. Our next lunch and learn for K-12 will be on December 15 and I do have a question now, how will the PDF get to them?   
  
KATHY POWELL:   
I have created a some more document that has embedded PDF but I want to update the last two slides that did not seem to have the hyperlink and then I will share that with Patty again.   
  
SPEAKER:   
So then it will be shared on the FDLRS website and the recording of our presentation will be there as well. As I was saying our next K-12 lunch and learn is on December 15 and so if you are interested in attending that one we look forward to seeing you there and if we do not have any other questions, thank you for your time today and have a great holiday!   
  
SPEAKER:   
Thank you everyone   
  
SPEAKER:   
Goodbye.   
  
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