

FRCD Newsletter

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ILLINOIS GOVERNOR QUINN ANNOUNCES MASSIVE BUDGET CUTS TO MEET STATE FISCAL CRISIS

Illinois Governor Pat Quinn has announced his proposal to meet the state's fiscal crisis by making cuts of \$2,856,000 in programs for the coming fiscal year, FY 2011.

Adopted General Funds Budget for FY 2010 and Preliminary General Funds Budget for FY 2011 (in \$ millions):

	FY 2010	FY 2011	Change	Pct (%) change
Health care	8,608	8,686	78	0.9%
Dep't of Healthcare & Families Services	7,761	_____	_____	_____
Department on Aging	656	_____	_____	_____
Department of Public Health	135	_____	_____	_____
Other	56	_____	_____	_____
Education	9,514	8,180	-1,334	-14.0%
State Board of Education	7,308	6,386	-922	-12.6%
General State Aid	4,616	_____	_____	_____
Mandated categorical grants	1,927	_____	_____	_____
Early Childhood Block Grant	342	_____	_____	_____
All other	423	_____	_____	_____
Higher education	2,206	1,794	-412	-18.7%
State universities	1,394	_____	_____	_____
IL Community College Board	358	_____	_____	_____
IL Student Assistance Commission	425	_____	_____	_____
Other	29	_____	_____	_____
Human services	5,017	4,631	-386	-7.7%
Department of Human Services	3,984	_____	_____	_____
Dep't of Children & Family Services	857	_____	_____	_____
Department of Juvenile Justice	110	_____	_____	_____
Other agencies	117	_____	_____	_____
Public safety	1,439	1,370	-69	-4.8%
Department of Corrections	1,097	_____	_____	_____
Illinois State Police	271	_____	_____	_____
Other agencies	71	_____	_____	_____
All other agencies	1,641	1,291	-350	-21.3%
Total (excluding pension costs)	26,204	24,158	-2,046	-7.8%

Source: Governor's Office of Management and Budget

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FRCD is seeking new staff, see page 3

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EDUCATION PROGRAM CUTS INCLUDE:

- **The Early Childhood Block Grant**, which funds preschool programs operated by local school districts and qualified community agencies, as well as developmental services for infants and toddlers (potential cut of 45% in FY 2011).
- **The Reading Improvement Block Grant**, which provides funds for research-based reading programs for students from kindergarten through sixth grade (potential cut of 45% in FY 2011).
- **Bilingual education programs**, which serve nearly 200,000 students with limited English proficiency (potential cut of 17% in FY 2011).

HUMAN SERVICES PROGRAM CUTS INCLUDE:

- **The Illinois Children's Mental Health Partnership**, which is leading efforts to build a comprehensive and coordinated system of services to promote the healthy social and emotional development of children.
- **Targeted Intensive Prenatal Case Management**, which serves women at risk of having premature births or low-birth-weight babies.
- **Teen REACH**, an after-school program that provides prevention-focused services for some 25,000 at-risk youth.
- **Healthy Families Illinois**, which is designed to reduce child abuse and neglect and promote healthy child development by providing home visiting services for families with infants and toddlers.
- **Parents too Soon**, which serves new and expectant teen parents in high-risk communities through home visits and parent support groups.
- **The Teen Parent Services program**, which covers a population of pregnant or parenting low-income teens who do not have a high school diploma or its equivalent.
- **The Homeless Youth program**, which is administered by community-based agencies across the state, providing transitional living support, emergency and interim housing, and outreach and referral services.
- **Comprehensive Community Based Youth Services**, which provides crisis assistance to youth ages 11 to 17 who have run away from home or have been forced to leave home.

Governor Quinn and the Governor's Office of Management and Budget (GOMB) project a cumulative General Funds (GF) deficit of \$13.5 billion for FY 2011, including a \$6 billion carryover deficit from FY 2010.

Illinois State revenues have been negatively impacted by the recession and resulting declining income from the state income tax and the state sales tax; and the federal ARRA (American Recovery and Reinvestment Act) funds have not generated sufficient income to bring substantial relief.

Governor Quinn has recommended a four-part strategy to address the Illinois fiscal crisis:

- Attempting to secure continued federal assistance during the recession;
- Utilizing short-term and intermediate-term borrowing to enable the state to pay its service providers on time;
- Continuing efforts to curb costs, including restructuring of state retirement systems;
- Generating new revenue, primarily from an income tax increase.

(Adapted from: Voices for Illinois Children, Budget and Tax Policy Initiative, March, 2010.)

FRCD RECRUITING NEW STAFF

The Family Resource Center on Disabilities is now interviewing candidates for the following paid position:

BILINGUAL TRAINING AND INFORMATION SPECIALIST POSITION: Part-Time Position

Responsibilities include:

- * Providing special education rights information in Spanish and English, in response to phone requests.
- * Conducting special education rights sessions in Spanish and English, in the FRCD office, and at other Chicago area locations, (including Cook, Du Page, Grundy, Kane, Kendall, Lake, McHenry, and Will counties).
- * Providing individualized assistance in Spanish and English to parents in preparation for IEP meetings, and other special education meetings.
- * Other tasks as needed.

Qualifications include:

- * Knowledge of laws and rules related to the education of children with disabilities.
- * Experience in working with individuals in an advocacy role.
- * Good verbal and written communications skills, in English and Spanish.
- * Good computer skills, including knowledge of social networking.
- * Ability to keep good records and collect data for evaluation purposes.
- * Good public speaking skills.
- * Availability for work on evenings and weekends.
- * Owning and driving an insured car.

Flexible Hours Available

Bilingual Chicago parents of children with disabilities are especially invited to apply. Interested applicants should send their résumé to: Michelle Phillips, Executive Director, at FRCD, 20 E. Jackson Blvd., Room 300, Chicago, IL 60604, frcdptil@ameritech.net.

DID YOU KNOW?

The Southwest ADA Center, one of the ten National Network of ADA Centers is the producer of the publication, the Disability Law Handbook. The handbook is a 64-page guide to the basics of the Americans with Disabilities Act and other disability related laws. Written in a frequently asked questions (FAQ) format, the Handbook answers questions about the Americans with Disabilities Act, Social Security, the Air Carrier Access Act, the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act and more. To download a free copy of the handbook , visit:

www.southwestada.org/html/publications/dlh/index.html. Hard copies are available for \$5.00 (including shipping & handling at: www.southwestada.org/html/publications/dlh/purchaseform.html. For more information, contact the Southwest ADA Center at (800) 949-4232; (713) 520-0232 x125 (voice/tty), swdbtac@gmail.com, via email.

The Parent Education and Advocacy Training Center (PEATC), the Virginia Parent Training and Information Center, launched their new *Individualized Education Program (IEP) Checklist* iPhone application in January 2010. The checklist helps parents and students keep track of all the required components of IEPs and also cites the relevant Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) regulations. The application is free and available in English and Spanish. For more information, contact PEATC, 101 N. Washington St., Suite 234, Falls Church, VA.22046-4523, (703) 923-0010 (Voice/TTY), partners@peatc.org, via e-mail, or visit their website: www.peatc.org.

The Rural Institute at the University of Montana has developed a fact sheet that parents and transition-age students can use at Individualized Education Program (IEP) meetings to help determine if the student is eligible for SSI Plans for Achieving Self Support (PASS) plans. For more information and to obtain a copy of the publication, contact the University of Montana Rural Institute, 52 Corbin Hall, Missoula, MT 59812, (406) 243-5467 (Voice/TTY), rural@ruralinstitute.umt.edu (e-mail), or visit their website: www.ruralinstitute.umt.edu.

Youthhood.org is a free Web-based resource for teens. It is a place for teens where all youth are welcome. Designed by staff at the National Center on Secondary Education and Transition (NCSET), located at the University of Minnesota, it was created to help youth make the transition from childhood to adulthood. Aptly named rooms, such as The Hangout and The Community Center, help youth think about their future. This free resource contains one portal for students and another portal for adults. Most teens will use the site with an adult. This person is called the Youthhood Guide. Registration is not needed to visit places in the community; however, registration is needed to access personalized parts of the site such as the Life Map, a goal planning tool. For more information, visit NCSET's website: www.youthhood.org.

The Simon Technology Center (STC) of the Parents Advocacy Center for Educational Rights (PACER) Center, the national technical assistance to Parent Training and Information Centers, has an electronic newsletter available that provides information on assistive technology devices, services, and programs for children and youth with disabilities. For more information, visit the STC at: www.PACER.org.

The 2010 Census is a count of everyone living in the United States and is mandated by the U.S. Constitution. Census data are used to apportion congressional seats to states, to distribute federal funds to tribal, state and local governments and to make decisions about what community services to provide. The 2010 Census form will be the shortest in U.S. history, consisting of 10 questions, taking about 10 minutes to complete. Strict confidentiality laws protect the respondents and information they provide. For more information and if you need help completing your census form when it arrives, contact the Public Information Center at (301) 763-3691, or visit the website: www.2010.census.gov.

COMING EVENTS

The **Autism Society of Illinois** present “Using the Latest to Learn: iPod Touch, iPhone, and Computer” presented by Patricia Black, **on Saturday, April 10, 2010, Registration, 8:15 a.m.-9:00 a.m.; Workshop, 9:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m.**, at the NIU Naperville Campus, 1120 E. Diehl Rd., Naperville, IL. **For more information, call (630) 991-1156, prouddparents@aol.com, or visit the website: www.proudd1.webs.com.**

The **Illinois Respite Coalition (IRC)** present, “Get “Linked” to Respite ”, on **Thursday, April 22, 2010, 8:30 a.m.-9:00 a.m., Registration; 9:00 a.m.-4:30 p.m.**, Conference, at the Hilton Springfield, 700 E. Adams St., Springfield, IL. The Summit features presentations from national, state, and local leaders including, Greg Link, Aging Services Program Specialist at the U.S. Administration on Aging. **For more information and to register contact, Julie Pandya, IRC Coordinator, IRC, 164 s.Pprairie Ave., Bloomingdale, IL 60108, (630) 529-2871 x3242 (voice), (630) 529-3266 (fax), or visit their website: www.illinoisrespite.org.**

The **Chicagoland Autism Connection**, a local chapter of the Autism Society of Illinois, present “The 11th Annual Spring Fling for Autism Awareness Resource Fair”, on **Saturday, April 24, 2010, 9:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m.**, at the Chicago High School for Agricultural Sciences, 3857 W. 111th St., Chicago, IL. **For more information, contact the Chicagoland Autism Connection, 1803 W. 95th St., Chicago, IL 60643, (773) 329-0375 (voice), chicagoautism@chicagoautism.org (e-mail), or visit their website: www.chicagoautism.org.**

The **ARC of Illinois and the Autism Program** present the ARC’s 60th Annual Convention titled, “The New Reality: Energize and Reboot”, **April 28-29, 2010**, at the Hilton Hotel, 3003 W. Corporate West Dr., Lisle, IL. The Convention will feature breakout sessions, a silent auction, an art exhibit, and keynote speaker, entrepreneur, best-selling author and motivational speaker, Stedman Graham. **For more information and to register, contact Janet Donahue, ARC of Illinois, 20901 S. La Grange Rd., Suite 205, Frankfort, IL 60423, (815) 464-1832 voice; (815) 464-5252 (fax), or visit the ARC’s website: www.thearcoil.org.**

IS YOUR CHILD HAVING DIFFICULTIES WITH BEHAVIOR/DISCIPLINE?

- Do you need help understanding how to help your child with ED/BD?
- Do you know how to explain your child’s issues to service providers?
- Do you know what ED/BD services are available and where to find them?

Join the Family Resource Center on Disabilities at its FREE Monthly Parent group for parents of Children with Emotional and Behavioral Disorders.

When: Thursday, March 18, 2010, 6:00 p.m.-8:00 p.m.

Where: Family Resource Center on Disabilities’ office
20 East Jackson Blvd., Room 300
Chicago, IL 60604

You will receive: information to help your child; knowledge on how to work effectively with service providers and FREE materials

Conducted by Elliott Marks, Information and Training Specialist & Parent

For more information, contact FRCD, (312) 939-3513 (voice); (312) 939-3519 (TDD) info@frcd.org

COMING EVENTS *(continued)*

Does Your Child Have Special Education Needs? Do You Know Your Rights?

FREE

FREE

Do you need help in...

- Understanding your rights under IDEA (Individuals with Disabilities Education Act) and Section 504 (of the Rehabilitation Act)?
- Obtaining appropriate special education services for your child?
- Accessing and understanding your child's evaluation?
- Preparing for your child's Individualized Education Program (IEP) meeting/annual review?
- Accessing your child's school records?
- Preparing for a mediation or due process hearing?

You can get the help you need at a free training seminar on Special Education Rights

Saturday Mornings
(except holidays and
special conferences)
10:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m.

Rights Training Seminar
in Spanish ONLY
The Second Wednesday
of each month
10:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m.

The First Tuesday
Morning
of each month
10:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m.

Pre-registration is required for all seminars

For more information, call FRCD at (312) 939-3513 (voice); (312) 939-3519 (TDD); (312) 939-7297 (fax)

A complimentary copy of the Educational Rights and Responsibilities published by the Illinois State Board of Education will be distributed to all participants.

Announcing an FRCD training on NCLB

FREE

FREE

No Child Left Behind

- What is No Child Left Behind?
- How do you know if your child's school has met adequate yearly progress (AYP)?
- How do you know if your child's teacher is highly qualified?
- How do you know if your child might qualify for supplemental instruction?
- Do you know how NCLB works with IDEA?

Sponsored by the
Family Resource Center on Disabilities
Saturday, April 3, 2010 at 1:30 p.m.
20 E. Jackson Blvd., Room 300
Chicago, IL 60604

Pre-registration is required for all seminars

For more information, call FRCD at (312) 939-3513 (voice); (312) 939-3519 (TDD); (312) 939-7297 (fax)