

DISABILITY INQUIRY

The following is a question CICIL received from a college student who had participated in a disability awareness training program.

1. How do some people who have real difficulties communicating because of a speech disability function in their daily life? (Andro)

Answer: People who have speech disabilities often use alternative methods of communication. Devices such as augmented communication systems generate a computer like speech to communicate to others. Alternatively, a simple flip chart with pictures or hand writing can be used to communicate with others. Gestures and body language also work for people with speech disorders.

CICIL ELECTS NEW BOARD FOR FY 2008

The CIICL Board of Directors elected new board members during our annual meeting on September 11, 2007. The following is a list of CICIL's Board of Directors and their offices on the Executive Committee:

Christie Rushing, President FY 2010

John Lee Egan, Vice President / Secretary FY 2010

Terry Anderson, Treasurer FY 2010

J.W Hughes, FY 2010

Anthony Shaffer, FY 2010

FREE FRIDAY MOVIES!

Projected on Wall @ 7'x 4 1/2' Size

Each Friday CICIL is presenting a free movie! The movies begin at 1:00 and all are encouraged to join in the fun.

We have a wide variety of movies and want to provide more social / recreational opportunities to those whom we serve. Here is a list of up coming movies:

- Jan 4 The Bear
- Jan 11 Lord of the Rings
- Jan 18 Lord of the Rings II
- Jan 25 Lord of the Rings III
- Feb 1 Star Wars - Black Sheep
- Feb 8 Deep Blue Sea
- Feb 15 Dukes of Hazard
- Feb 22 Green Mile
- Feb 29 The Pacifier
- Mar 7 Miracle Dogs
- Mar 14 Flashdance
- Mar 21 10 Things I Hate About You
- Mar 28 Merlin



CICIL

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LEGISLATIVE BREAKFAST

CICIL's 2008 Legislative Breakfast at the Iowa State Capitol is scheduled!

For the eighth year, the Central Iowa Center for Independent Living is sponsoring a legislative breakfast at the Iowa State Capitol building in Beautiful downtown Des Moines!

The 2008 Legislative Breakfast will be presented in the Legislative Dining Room located on the ground floor of the Capitol Building. The Breakfast is scheduled from 7:00 a.m. until 9:00 a.m. on Thursday, January 24, 2008. The purpose of our legislative Breakfast is to promote the independence and empowerment of Iowans with disabilities.

In previous years, our legislative

breakfasts have attracted a large number of legislators and elected officials.

If your organization is interested in helping us promote independence and empowerment of Iowans with disabilities, please call to reserve a table. Table rental is \$100.00.

Your table rental will help us defray our food and beverage expenses. The breakfast will feature light snacks, coffee, and juice.

Table rental is limited. Please call or e-mail your reservation soon. Here is the contact information:



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CICIL BOARD OF DIRECTORS

PRESIDENT
Christie Rushing, 2010

VICE PRESIDENT
John Lee Egan, 2010

TREASURER
Terry Anderson, 2010

Anthony H. Shafer, 2010 J.W. Hughes, 2010

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(888) 503-2287 (TOLL-FREE OUTSIDE DES MOINES AREA)

INSIDE: Legislative Breakfast • CICIL Board of Directors Advocacy Spotlight • Disability Inquiry Calendar of Events • Free Friday Movie

PLEASE ADD MY NAME TO CICIL'S MAILING LIST:

Name: _____

Address: _____

Please select the format of your choice:

Standard Print _____ Large Print _____ Braille _____

Audio Cassette _____ E-mail _____

E-mail Address: _____

Other (please specify): _____

Please remove my name from the mailing list:

Name: _____

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Let's join together to advocate
 for the rights and empowerment
 of Iowans with disabilities! for this
 training.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS FOR JANUARY TO MARCH 2008			
DATE	DAY	EVENT	TIME
1-Jan	Tuesday	New Year's Day	CLOSED
4-Jan	Friday	Free Afternoon Movie	1:00 PM
8-Jan	Tuesday	Job Finders Peer Support Meeting	2:00 PM
11-Jan	Friday	Free Afternoon Movie	1:00 PM
18-Jan	Friday	Free Afternoon Movie	1:00 PM
21-Jan	Monday	Martin Luther King Day	CLOSED
22-Jan	Tuesday	Peer Support Meeting	2:00 PM
24-Jan	Thursday	Legislative Breakfast (Capital Bldg)	7:00 - 9:00
25-Jan	Friday	Free Afternoon Movie	1:00 PM
1-Feb	Friday	Free Afternoon Movie	1:00 PM
5-Feb	Tuesday	Job Finders Peer Support Meeting	2:00 PM
8-Feb	Friday	Free Afternoon Movie	1:00 PM
15-Feb	Friday	Free Afternoon Movie	1:00 PM
22-Feb	Friday	Free Afternoon Movie	1:00 PM
26-Feb	Tuesday	Peer Support Meeting	2:00 PM
29 Feb	Friday	Free Afternoon Movie	1:00 PM
4-Mar	Tuesday	Job Finders Peer Support Meeting	2:00 PM
7-Mar	Friday	Free Afternoon Movie	1:00 PM
14-Mar	Friday	Free Afternoon Movie	1:00 PM
21-Mar	Friday	Free Afternoon Movie	1:00 PM
25-Mar	Tuesday	Peer Support Meeting	2:00 PM
28-Mar	Friday	Free Afternoon Movie	1:00 PM

ADVOCACY SPOTLIGHT ADAPT

ADAPT is fighting so people with disabilities can live in the community with real supports instead of being locked away in nursing homes and other institutions."

"I call for solidarity among all who love justice, all who love life, to create a revolution that will empower every single human being to govern his or her life, to govern the society and to be fully productive of life quality for self and for all." Justin Dart

The following article represents some of what people with disabilities face each day.

ADAPT YOUTH APPALLED AT PARENTS SURGICALLY KEEPING DISABLED DAUGHTER CHILDLIKE

Youth members of the national disability rights organization, ADAPT, today expressed shock and outrage on behalf of the entire national membership of ADAPT at the news of nine-year-old Ashley from Seattle, whose parents had her uterus, appendix and breast buds removed, in addition to having her under go hormone injections in order to minimize her height and weight as she grows older.

In their blog, Ashley's parents have rationalized these drastic measures to manipulate Ashley's size and physical maturity by saying it will be easier for them to care for her and involve her in family activities. "As a young woman with a disability, I am extremely disturbed on multiple levels by Ashley's situation," said Amber Smock of Chicago, Illinois. "I am angry that Ashley's parents, the medical establishment and society at large think it is acceptable to surgically and hormonally manipulate Ashley because the reality of her adulthood as a person with a disability is too "grotesque" for them. With these drastic measures, her parents and -doctors are physically reinforcing the disrespectful attitude held by many that people with disabilities are all "childlike," and can be treated like property or science experiments." Ashley has now become a modern day symbol of the long and dishonorable tradition of sterilizing people with disabilities. In 1927 the U.S. Supreme Court decision in Buck vs. Bell upheld that tradition as a way to "eliminate defectives from the gene pool." Today, parents and others rationalize sterilization by saying it will prevent any possibility of pregnancy from abuse. Ashley has not been reported to be at risk of either abuse or pregnancy, and her parents say that her only caretakers are them-

self and her grandmother. Ashley's parents also say in their blog that removal of her uterus will prevent her from having periods. For over two decades there have been far less invasive means of suppressing menstruation in women when medically indicated. It is not known why Ashley's parents resorted to the much more invasive procedure of a hysterectomy. "Perhaps even more distressing to those of us with disabilities," said Smock, "is that a medical ethics committee supports treating Ashley not as a human being, but as a "problem" to be managed in a way they wouldn't consider or allow for other children. We have enough difficulty with the medical establishments power over our lives, and its lack of recognition of disability as a social status and not a medical problem that must either be "cured" or "killed." "This case opens the door for other people with disabilities to be subject to mutilation and chemical castration, simply because we have a disability. The severity of Ashley's disability does not mean that it's okay to treat her as less than a full human being," continued Smock. "The impact of Ashley's situation is not limited to just her and her family. Ashley's mutilation has started us down a slippery slope where her case could very well be used as a precedent to damage one person

with a disability after another. Instead of mutilating children, we need to put our energy into assuring that people with disabilities and their families have the support they need to age naturally and live lives of quality in their own homes and plus communities."

On behalf of ADAPT, Youth ADAPT members encourage the Seattle Children's Hospital ethics committee that approved the invasive procedures to issue a statement acknowledging the socially and other harmful aspects of what Ashley's parents are now touting as the "Ashley treatment."

FOR MORE INFORMATION on ADAPT visit their website at : www.adapt.org

