# FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**Contact:**

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**Upcoming April Events**

**Registration is required for all programs. Register online:** [**connectingforkids.org/register**](file:///%5C%5CMININT-CPQ980S%5CLorilynn%27s%20Stuff%5CConnecting%20for%20Kids%5CRELEASES%20--%20REMOVE%20DEVELOPMENT%5CProgram%20Releases%5C2017%20Program%20Releases%5Cconnectingforkids.org%5Cregister)**, via email:** **info@connectingforkids.org** **or call: 440-250-5563.**

**Meet and Greet**

The Connecting for Kids 6th Annual Meet and Greet will be held on Wednesday, April 12, from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. at the Don Umerley Civic Center, 21016 Hilliard Blvd. in Rocky River.

The Meet and Greet is a free, public event where families can learn about local resources, therapies, after-school programs and summer camps for their child who is struggling (with or without a formal diagnosis).  Participants can visit with representatives from more than 70 organizations to discuss services and explore program options.

The event is sponsored by Abilities First, LLC, Building Blocks Therapy/Galvin Therapy Center, The Child & Family Counseling Center of Westlake, Meghan Barlow and Associates, Milestones Autism Resources, North Coast Education Services, Spectrum Resource Center & School, and State Support Team – Region 3. Desserts are donated by Buca di Beppo® and coffee donated by Starbucks Coffee Company.

For more information and to register, visit [www.connectingforkids.org/meetandgreet](http://www.connectingforkids.org/meetandgreet). For questions about the event, please contact Laurie Demchak at lauriedemchak@connectingforkids.org or 440-250-5563.

**Speaker Series**

During the presentations, free, supervised children’s activities are available, but adults and children must register separately.

**Understanding the ABLE Act**

**What is the ABLE act and how can it benefit my family? How does it differ from a special needs trust? Who is eligible? Kathryn J. Bryan, Ph.D., of Skylight Financial Group, will help attendees understand the ABLE act, its rules, regulations and who is eligible. She will explain why a family would want to set up an ABLE account and how it can provide** funds needed for qualified disability expenses such as education, housing, transportation, employment training, health and personal/financial services, without disqualifying your child from SSI, SSDI, or Medicaid. Dr. Bryan will also address how an ABLE account **can fit into the overall planning for your child’s future.**

**Saturday, April 8, 2:00 pm, Westlake Porter Public Library, 27333 Center Ridge Rd., Porter Room**

**Potty Training**

Are you concerned because your child is not potty trained?  Are you frustrated and could use some potty training tips from professionals? Are you wondering whether your child’s inability to be trained could indicate a physical or emotional issue? Join Jessica Goetz Ambrose, MEd, and Holly Winterstein, MEd, from the Cuyahoga County Board of Developmental Disabilities to discuss how and when to potty train. Attendees will break into two groups to talk about the issues most relevant to their situation: 1) Toddlers/Preschoolers who are resisting attempts to potty train; 2) Elementary-aged children who are not yet potty trained.

**Friday, April 28, 11:30 am, Westlake Porter Public Library, 27333 Center Ridge Rd., Porter Room**

For more information, visit connectingforkids.org/speakerseries.

**About Connecting for Kids**

Connecting for Kids (CFK) provides education and support to families with concerns about their child. We serve all families, including those children with and without formal diagnoses. CFK offers educational programs, support groups, a Parent Match Program and numerous resources.

For more information about Connecting for Kids, visit: [www.connectingforkids.org](http://www.connectingforkids.org), email: info@connectingforkids.org or call: 440-250-5563.

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