



May 16, 2013

Summer weather is finally here and school will be out before we know it!

As you start making your summer plans, be sure to keep ACS in mind as your caregiver needs may change.

Got an opinion about KanCare? You won't want to miss some thought-gathering meetings happening next week across Kansas.

As always, we hope you find this latest newsletter useful and we welcome you to share your opinions with us on Facebook.

All the best,
Jacque Clifton

ACS Ends Run as Finalist for Small Business Award

The Wichita Metro Chamber of Commerce hosted their Small Business Awards luncheon earlier this month to announce the 2013 winners. All of us at ACS enjoyed our run as a top-five finalist and are grateful for the opportunity to share our story with so many people.

[Take a look at the ACS video](#) that was shown at the awards luncheon.

Share Your Opinions About KanCare

Meetings held statewide next week

The Kansas Department for Aging and Disability Services (KDADS) is hosting several meetings next week across the state to gather opinions about KanCare.

Specifically, they want to hear your thoughts on:

1. What do you like most about KanCare?
2. What do you like least about KanCare?
3. What was important to you as you chose your KanCare health plan?

Two meetings will occur on the same day in each of the cities they are visiting, as outlined below. Meetings are in the afternoon (1-3 p.m.) and evening (6 to 8 p.m.). [Learn more here.](#)

Tuesday, May 21

Windsor Place Events Center
102 W. 8th Street
Coffeyville, KS 67337

SW Developmental Services, Inc.
1808 Palace Dr., Suite B
Garden City, KS 67846

Wednesday, May 22

ComCare Mental Health Center
635 N. Main
Wichita, KS 67203

Ft. Hays State University - Robbins Center
One Tiger Place
Hays, KS 67601

Thursday, May 23

Lawrence Memorial Hospital
330 Arkansas, Conf. Room A
Lawrence, KS 66044

Central Kansas Foundation
1805 S. Ohio St.
Salina, KS 67401

Planning for Summer

As you start making your summer plans, consider whether or not you may need extra caregivers to help your family.

ACS maintains a list of interested applicants and is happy to share the information with families needing help finding new caregivers. Since summer plans of care often change, please be sure to contact ACS or the case manager to make sure you know the correct amount of time available.

Don't forget the importance of planning a summer schedule for your family, too. As you plan the activities and care needs for your child, keep in mind that individuals with developmental disabilities crave structure and predictability in their day. While school may not be in session, surrounding your loved one with familiar friends, caregivers and activities can make everyone happier.

Self-Direction Success: What *not* to ask during an interview for a personal assistant

Conducting face-to-face interviews are part of the process of hiring a PA. As part of this step, it's important to note that there are certain questions that are NOT appropriate to ask. In fact, it's illegal to ask any of these during an interview:

1. How old are you?
2. What is your race?
3. Are you married?
4. Do you have any children?
5. Do you own or rent your home?
6. What country were you born in?
7. What is your credit rating?
8. Have you ever been arrested?
9. Do you belong to any religious affiliations?
10. Do you own a car?
11. Do you have any addictions?
12. Do you have a disability or medical condition?
13. What is your political affiliation?
14. What are your family members' names?
15. Where are your family members employed?
16. What is your star sign?
17. What is your native language?
18. Do you belong to any clubs or organizations?

Applications Now Accepted for Partners in Policymaking Training

The Kansas Council on Developmental Disabilities is accepting applications for the Partners in Policymaking training. This covers information about the disability movement, assistive technology, person-centered training, legislation and parliamentary procedures.

Free training is held one weekend a month for eight months. Travel expenses are reimbursed and room and meals are provided while at the training. There are some funds available for child care or attendant care if needed.

[Learn more at the KCDD's website.](#)

New ACS Friday Hours

Advocate Care Services will start closing at 3 p.m. on Fridays. We apologize for any inconvenience, but please feel free to leave us a message.