

# Michigan Alliance for Families

Michigan Alliance for Families is a statewide resource to connect families of children with disabilities to resources to help improve their children's education. We help facilitate parent involvement as a means of improving educational services and outcomes for students with disabilities.

Michigan Alliance for Families provides information, support, and education for families who have children and young adults (birth to 26 years of age) who receive (or may be eligible to receive) special education services.

## Return to School Webinars

Return to School recorded webinars for parents of children with IEPs are available on our YouTube channel: <https://www.youtube.com/user/MichiganAlliance>

## New Guidance

MDE-OSE has released new guidance: FAPE for Adult Learners to support adult learners with disabilities who did not graduate from high school. [https://www.michigan.gov/mde/-/media/Project/Websites/mde/specialeducation/iep/FAPE\\_AdultLearners.pdf](https://www.michigan.gov/mde/-/media/Project/Websites/mde/specialeducation/iep/FAPE_AdultLearners.pdf)

## Workshop Calendar

Check out our calendar of statewide virtual learning opportunities for the 2022-2023 schoolyear. Registration is open for dates from September to December. <https://www.michiganallianceforfamilies.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/08/2022-2023-MAF-Calendar.pdf> Michigan Alliance for Families Learning Opportunities Calendar 2022-2023

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## Upcoming Events: Learning Opportunities

Our goal is to increase the involvement of families in their children's education. To do this, Michigan Alliance for Families offers virtual learning opportunities. Visit <https://www.michiganallianceforfamilies.org/upcoming-events/> to register for all events.

### September 2022

In partnership with Disability Network Southwest Michigan, "[Paving the Way to Self Determination](#)" is a series of workshops for families and their children with developmental disabilities (ages birth-12) to develop skills that lead to self-determined lives. September topics include: Philosophy & Self-Directed Services (September 7), Supported

Decision Making (September 8), Rise Up! Disability History, Pride & Allyship (September 13, September 22), Social Security Benefits (September 15, September 27), Disability Pride and History (September 20), How to Ask for an Accommodation (September 28)

**September 7** IEP: A Closer Look with Stephanie Nicholls

**September 14** Understanding IDEA Procedural Safeguards with Michelle Driscoll

**September 27 & October 4, 11, 18, 25** IEP Course – A five-week course for parents of children with a current IEP. Registration opens September 6.

**September 28** Special Education Evaluation and Eligibility with Michelle Driscoll

## October 2022

In partnership with Disability Network Southwest Michigan, “Paving the Way to Self Determination” is a series of workshops for families and their children with developmental disabilities (ages birth-12) to develop skills that lead to self-determined lives.

October topics include: Disability Pride and History (October 4, October 20), Rise Up! Disability History, Pride & Allyship (October 5), Supported Decision Making (October 6), Philosophy & Self-Directed Services (October 10, October 19), How to Ask for an Accommodation (October 11)

**October 5** How to Develop and Maintain Trust in School-Family Partnership with Special Education Mediation Services

**October 6** IEP: A Closer Look with Stephanie Nicholls

**October 12** Assistive Technology for Trauma with Ajaune Thomas and Aimee Sterk, MI Disability Right Coalition

**October 14 & 21** Sensory Processing Disorders with Sally Burton Hoyle

**October 20** Collaborative Communication in Special Education: The Who, What, When, How of Special Education Mediation Services

**October 20** The Basics of Supported Decision-Making with Mary Shehan-Boogaard

**October 26** Assistive Technology to Support an Inclusive Classroom with Carolyn O’Hearn, Alt+Shift

**October 27** Positive Behavior Interventions and Supports with Stephanie Nicholls

## November 2022

**November 7** IEP: A Closer Look with Stephanie Nicholls

**November 9** Disciplinary Removals for Students with Disabilities: Counting the Days with Special Education Mediation Services

**November 10** Assistive Technology: More Than Checking a Box with Carolyn O’Hearn,

**November 14, 21, 28 & December 5** Youth Self Determination Series with Stacie Rulison

**November 15, 22, 29 & December 6** Building Parent Leadership Skills in Early Childhood Course with Stephanie Nicholls

**November 16** Disciplinary Removals for Students with Disabilities: Manifestation Determination Review with Special Education Mediation Services

**November 17** Tools to Explore Decision-Making at All Ages with Mary Shehan-Boogaard & Jake Schaafsma

## **December 2022**

**December 1** How to Develop and Maintain Trust in School-Family Partnerships with Special Education Mediation Services

**December 2 & 9** Behavior is Communication with Sally Burton Hoyle

**December 8** Mental Health is Essential! And Key to Success at School with Terri Henrizi, Association for Children's Mental Health

**December 12** IEP: A Closer Look with Stephanie Nicholls

**December 14** Special Education State Complaints with Michelle Driscoll

View previously recorded presentations available for viewing at [www.michiganallianceforfamilies.org/videos](http://www.michiganallianceforfamilies.org/videos)