

## Program Description

One-day special education law and advocacy programs focus on four areas:

- ◆ Special education law, rights and responsibilities
- ◆ Tests and measurements to measure progress & regression
- ◆ SMART IEPs
- ◆ Introduction to tactics & strategies for effective advocacy

## About our Guest Speakers

**Pete Wright** is an attorney who represents children with special educational needs. His advocacy grew out of his personal educational experiences. Pete represented Shannon Carter before the U. S. Supreme Court in *Florence County School District Four v. Shannon Carter*, 510 U.S. 7 (1993) - the Court issued a unanimous decision on Shannon's behalf.

Pete is the co-author of *Wrightslaw: Special Education Law*, *Wrightslaw: From Emotions to Advocacy*, and *Wrightslaw: No Child Left Behind*. He recently appeared in the award-winning DVD video, *Surviving Due Process: When Parents and the School Board Disagree* - Stephen Jeffers v. School Board as the parents' attorney.

**Pam Wright** is a psychotherapist who has worked with children and families since the early 1970's. Her training and experience in clinical psychology and clinical social work give her a unique perspective on parent-child-school dynamics, problems, and solutions. Pam has written extensively about raising, educating and advocating for children with disabilities.

She is the co-author of *Wrightslaw: Special Education Law*, *Wrightslaw: From Emotions to Advocacy*, and *Wrightslaw: No Child Left Behind*. She is also the editor of *The Special Ed Advocate* newsletter.



**“Our mission is to work to include all children and adults with disabilities in every community by identifying barriers, building partnerships, and realizing solutions.”**

The Arc of Indiana County was established in 1973. This non-profit agency provides information, education and support for people with developmental disabilities and for their families.

The Arc of Indiana County  
Regency Mall  
1570 Oakland Avenue, Suite 290  
Indiana, PA 15701



## Special Education Law and Advocacy

Guest Speakers  
Peter Wright, Esq.  
and  
Pamela Darr Wright



May 9, 2007

Rustic Lodge  
2199 Oakland Avenue  
Indiana, Pennsylvania

Sponsored by  
The Arc of Indiana County



# Agenda

## 8:00 am—9:00 am

- Registration and Refreshments (Danish & Beverages)

## 9:00 am—10:30 am

- Introductions, Review of Agenda, Pre-test
- Overview: Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA-97 & Reauthorized IDEA of 2004)
  - Section 1400—Findings & Purposes
  - Section 1401—Definitions
  - Section 1412—"Catchall Statute"—Least Restrictive Environment (LRE), 10 day notice re: Private Placements, Assessments, ESY

## 10:30 am—10:45 am

- Break

## 10:45 am—12:00 pm

- Section 1414(d) - Evaluations, Reevaluations, Individualized Educational Programs (IEPs)
- Section 1415—Procedural Safeguards
- Review: IDEA
- Section 504; No Child Left Behind Act
- Tests & Measurements & the Bell Curve

## 12:00 pm—1:00 pm

- Lunch (Sandwich Buffet Lunch)

## 1:00 pm—2:30 pm

- Review: IDEA & Tests & Measurements & the Bell Curve
- SMART IEPs
- Crisis! Emergency! Help!
- Reasons for Conflict; Obstacles to Success
- Rule of Adverse Assumptions
- Exam

## 2:30 pm—2:45 pm

- Break

## 2:45 pm—4:00 pm

- Advocacy Strategies
- Negotiation Skills
- How to Organize the Child's File
- Comprehensive Psychoeducational Evaluation
- Paper Trails & Letters: "Letter to the Stranger"
- Preparing for School Meetings; Survival Strategies

## 4:00 pm—4:30 pm

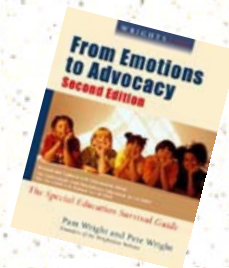
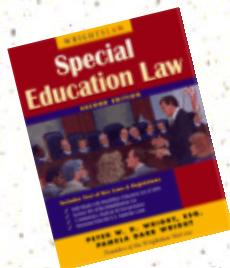
- Questions and Answers

## Registration Information:

- Please make checks payable to "The Arc of Indiana County"
- Credit cards are accepted for on-line registrations only at [www.arcindiana.org](http://www.arcindiana.org)

## Your Registration Fee includes:

- Conference
- Morning Refreshments
- Sandwich buffet lunch
- Certificate of Attendance
- Books (Approximate retail value \$50.00)
  - Wrightslaw: Special Education Law, 2nd Edition*
  - Wrightslaw: From Emotions to Advocacy, 2nd Edition*



- If you are a person with a disability and require accommodations, please discuss your needs by calling The Arc at 724-349-8230 or email at [conference@arcindiana.org](mailto:conference@arcindiana.org)

## Cancellation Policy

Cancellations must be received by April 18, 2007. Refunds will be issued for 50% of the amount paid. There will be no refunds after April 18, 2007, but substitutes are permitted.

Possible Walk-in Registration—ONLY IF seating is available. Please call The Arc at 724-349-8230 for updated information.

## Registration

Last Name

First Name

Address

City, State, Zip

Phone

Fax

E-Mail

Please check appropriate category:

**Early Bird Special:** Registrations received by April 11, 2007

**Regular Registration:** Registrations received after April 11, 2007

	Early Bird	Regular
Parents/Advocates	\$ 75.00	\$ 95.00
Couple*	\$105.00	\$125.00
Educators/School Personnel	\$ 90.00	\$110.00
Educator/School Personnel with 0.6 CEUs	\$100.00	\$120.00
Attorneys	\$ 90.00	\$110.00
Attorneys with CLEs	\$100.00	\$120.00

Amount Enclosed:

Please make checks payable to The Arc of Indiana County

\*Couple—husband/wife team will receive one set of books & two lunches

## Mail registration to:

The Arc of Indiana County  
1570 Oakland Avenue, Suite 290  
Indiana, PA 15701

Phone/Fax: 724-349-8230

E-mail: [conference@arcindiana.org](mailto:conference@arcindiana.org)

Registration is also available on-line at:  
[www.arcindiana.org](http://www.arcindiana.org)