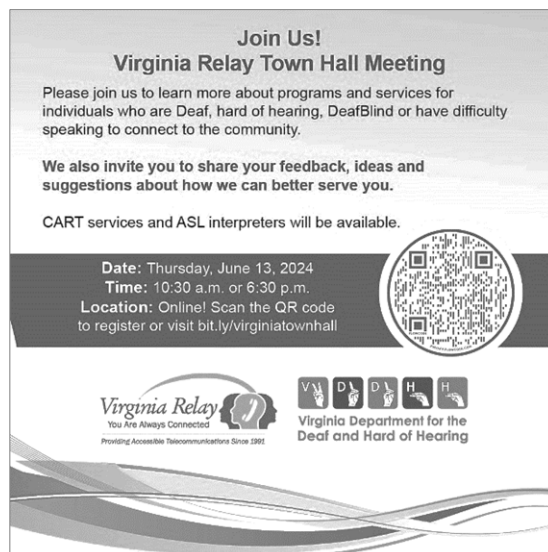


ENDEPENDENCE CENTER NEWSLETTER

JUNE 2024

Mark Your Calendars! Virginia Relay to Hold June Town Hall Meetings

Join Virginia Relay on Thursday, June 13 at 10:30am or 6:30pm to learn more about programs and services for individuals who are Deaf, hard of hearing, DeafBlind, or have difficulty speaking to connect to the community. Attendees are also invited to share feedback, ideas, and suggestions. CART services and ASL interpreters will be available. **PRE-REGISTRATION IS REQUIRED.** To register, visit <http://bit.ly/virginiatownhall> or use the QR code on the right.



Join Us!
Virginia Relay Town Hall Meeting

Please join us to learn more about programs and services for individuals who are Deaf, hard of hearing, DeafBlind or have difficulty speaking to connect to the community.

We also invite you to share your feedback, ideas and suggestions about how we can better serve you.

CART services and ASL interpreters will be available.

Date: Thursday, June 13, 2024
Time: 10:30 a.m. or 6:30 p.m.
Location: Online! Scan the QR code to register or visit bit.ly/virginiatownhall

Virginia Relay
You Are Always Connected
Providing Accessible Telecommunications Since 1991

Virginia Department for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing

Families & Professionals Interested in Special Education – Let Your Voice Be Heard!

The 2024 General Assembly mandated that the Commission on Youth, a bipartisan legislative commission of the General Assembly, conduct a study on how to improve Virginia's special education dispute resolution processes to present to the 2025 General Assembly. The Commission is collaborating with Parent Educational Advocacy Training Center (PEATC) to hold listening sessions to hear from family members and professionals who have been involved with the special education dispute resolution system or have perspectives to share.



The Virtual Session will be held on June 20 at 6:00pm until 8:00pm. ECI is hosting the in-person listening session for the Hampton Roads area on June 27 at 6:00pm until 8:00pm. **PRE-REGISTRATION IS REQUIRED.** To register, visit <http://bit.ly/3Ka5a91> or scan the QR code on the left. More information can be found on the ECI website.

Reminder: Registration Open for YEA!

ECI's Youth Endependent Advocates (YEA!) is a summer program with interactive events for youth with disabilities to learn skills, understand their rights, and socialize with others (schedule below). **Participants must be referred by a Department for Aging and Rehabilitative Services (DARS) counselor and pre-registration is required.** Acceptance is based on a first-come, first-served basis after a referral is received from DARS. For more information, contact Rena Lewis, rlewis@endependence.org, 757-351-1578. *Disability accommodations are provided.*

WHO: Youth with disabilities, ages 16 – 21 (must still be in school). Participants should be motivated to be involved in activities and interested in learning and sharing.

WHEN: July 8 – August 1, Monday through Thursday, 1:00pm – 5:00pm daily.

WHERE: Endependence Center, with a community outing on Tuesdays.

TRANSPORTATION: Participants will arrange their own transportation. Paratransit and bus tickets are provided.



JUNE 2024

Endeppendence Center, Inc. Events

Held at ECI, 6300 E. Virginia Beach Blvd, Norfolk

- 5th WED** **Independent Living Skills Training *DATE CHANGE* 2:00pm – 3:30pm**
The City of Norfolk is beginning the process to complete a self-evaluation of the City's compliance with the ADA. During the June ILS Training, we will discuss what a self-evaluation includes and how you can provide input into the City on access to City programs.
- 12th WED** **Consumer Advisory Committee 2:00pm - 3:30pm**
This month's agenda is to discuss recruiting new members, and current members' terms.
- 15th SAT** **Youth Independent Living Skills Training 1:30pm – 3:00pm**
How to Meet Deadlines and How to Make a Schedule
- 25TH TUE** **Independent Living Skills Training on Podcasts 3:00pm – 4:30pm**
This month, we'll learn to edit and listen to the first episode, and begin to plan the next.
- 26th WED** **Advocacy Group 2:00pm – 3:30pm**
Review of Department of Justice ADA Settlement Agreement with the City of Virginia Beach.

Community Events & News

Transportation tickets are NOT provided to attend community events.

- 7th FRI** **Silent Dinner 5:30pm – 8:00pm**
Lynnhaven Mall (701 Lynnhaven Parkway, Virginia Beach)
Southside Silent Dinner is a silent, social, family-friendly event for the deaf community, CODA (Child of Deaf Adult), ASL beginners and students, and others interested in ASL.
- 13th THU** **Virginia Relay Virtual Town Hall Meetings 10:30am or 6:30pm**
PRE-REGISTRATION IS REQUIRED. See page 1 for details.
- 18th TUE** **Participant-Led Event 12noon – 2:30pm**
Carrabba's Italian Grill (739 Lynnhaven Parkway, Virginia Beach)
This event is organized by participants.
- 20th THU** **Commission on Youth and PEATC In-Person Listening Session 6:00pm – 8:00pm**
PRE-REGISTRATION IS REQUIRED. See page 1 for details.
- 22nd SAT** **TOUCH Group 11:00am – 1:00pm**
ECI (6300 E. Virginia Beach Blvd., Norfolk)
Join us for our discussion on understanding our disability and how we adjust to day to day barriers. Your feedback is important, so if you have anything to share or discuss on barriers, come and network with us.
- 27th THU** **Commission on Youth and PEATC In-Person Listening Session 6:00pm – 8:00pm**
ECI (6300 E. Virginia Beach Blvd., Norfolk)
PRE-REGISTRATION IS REQUIRED. See page 1 for details.

June 2024



SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
<p><i>*These events are not organized by ECI. Bus and paratransit tickets will not be provided by ECI.</i></p>						1
2	3	4	<p>ILS Training *DATE CHANGE*</p> <p>@ ECI 2:00pm - 3:30pm</p>	6	<p>Silent Dinner*</p> <p>@ Lynnhaven Mall 5:30pm - 8:00pm</p>	<p>ASL Hangout*</p> <p>@ Afterglow Brewing 6:00pm - 10:00pm</p>
9	10	11	<p>Consumer Advisory Committee (CAC)</p> <p>@ ECI 2:00pm - 3:30pm</p>	<p>Virginia Relay Town Halls* (see page 1)</p> <p>Virtual 10:30am OR 6:30pm</p>	14	<p>Youth ILS Training</p> <p>@ ECI 1:30pm - 3:00pm</p>
<p>HAPPY FATHER'S Day</p>	17	<p>Participant-Led Event*</p> <p>@ Carrabba's Italian Grill 12noon - 2:30pm</p>	<p>ECI CLOSED IN OBSERVANCE OF JUNETEENTH</p>	<p>Commission on Youth and PEATC Listening Session</p> <p>Virtual 6:00pm - 8:00pm</p>	21	<p>TOUCH Group*</p> <p>@ ECI 11:00am - 1:00pm</p>
23	24	<p>ILS Training: "What's Bugging You?"</p> <p>@ ECI 3:00pm - 4:30pm</p>	<p>Advocacy Group</p> <p>@ ECI 2:00pm - 3:30pm</p>	<p>Commission on Youth and PEATC Listening Session</p> <p>@ ECI 6:00pm - 8:00pm</p>	28	29
30						



Disability Advocacy & Services

Endeppendence Center, Inc.
6300 East Virginia Beach Blvd
Norfolk, VA 23502

Phone:

(757) 461-8007 Voice
(757) 461-7527 TDD

E-Mail:

ecinorf@endeppendence.org

Website:

www.endeppendence.org

Newsletter alternate format:

contact (757) 351-1598 or
ehoapili@endeppendence.org

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Check the ECI website:
www.endeppendence.org
or call
(757) 461-8007, option 4

Accommodations

To request accommodations
for ECI activities:
(757) 351-1586 voice
(757) 461-7527 TDD
tmano@endeppendence.org

Social Media

Facebook: Endeppendence
Center, Inc.-Norfolk, Virginia