



Supporting and empowering individuals with disabilities and their caregivers through Education, Outreach, Networking, and Future Planning Services.



## September 2017

### In this Newsletter.....Information and Registration for Upcoming Programs and Events

**Tuesday September 14, 2017**

**Free Continuing Legal Education (C.L.E.) for Attorneys**

8:00 am - 12:15 pm

**Thursday September 28, 2017**

**Pennsylvania ABLE Program**

4:30 pm Resource and Enrollment Fair Opens

6:00 pm - 7:30 pm Community Event

**Tuesday October 3, 2017**

**Free Future Planning Legal Clinic**

9:00 am - 12:00 pm

**Tuesday October 3, 2017**

**Speaker Program on Special Education Laws, and private consultations with attorney's following the program.**

5:00 pm - 9:00 pm

**Friday September 8, 2017**

**What's New with Social Security?**

9:00 am - 11:00 am

**Friday September 22, 2017**

**What's New with the Office of Developmental Programs?**

9:00 am - 11:00 am

**Friday October 13, 2017**

## Free Continuing Legal Education for Attorneys



Please join us for a **free CLE event** presented by ACHIEVA Family Trust called **"Developing a Toolkit for Special Needs Planning."** This session will provide attorneys with tools for assisting clients and families of individuals with disabilities who seek to protect essential government benefits.

The first half of the session will focus on newly enacted ABLA Act legislation in Pennsylvania, to include a discussion on ABLA eligibility, requirements, and ways to use the accounts to benefit individuals with disabilities.

The second portion will discuss steps to protect clients' SSI, SSD and Medicaid through the use of special needs trusts. The speaker will discuss means-tested government benefits and the different types of special needs trusts that can be used to protect those benefits. The session will also include drafting tips.

**You will receive 3 CLE credits**

### Event Details

**Thursday, September 14, 2017**

Registration and Continental Breakfast

8:00 am - 9:00 am

CLE Program:

9:00 am - 12:15 pm

Location:

Burns White LLC

48 26th St.

Pittsburgh, PA 15222

*Please RSVP and direct questions to Paralegal Amy Chill at [achill@achieva.info](mailto:achill@achieva.info) or (412) 995-5000 x 414 by Thursday, September 7, 2017. Space is limited.*

*This program is made possible through grants provided by the Allegheny County Bar Foundation and the United Way of Southwestern Pennsylvania.*



## Pennsylvania ABLÉ Program



The PA ABLÉ has scheduled a meeting on **September 28, 2017** from 4:30 - 8:00 p.m. at the Circuit Center & Ballroom, IBEW # 5, Five Hot Metal Street, South Side, Pittsburgh 15203.

Attend this free community event to gain valuable information on the PA Treasury Department's PA ABLÉ program, a savings program for people with disabilities. Enjoy a panel discussion with PA Treasurer Joe Torsella and local families who will share how they are using their PA ABLÉ savings accounts.

An Enrollment and Resource Fair is part of the event and will feature experts on PA ABLÉ who can answer your questions and help you enroll as well as representatives from local organizations that provide a wide array of disability services. Find valuable information and discover if a PA ABLÉ savings account is right for you!

[Click here](#) for a short informational ABLÉ video from the ABLÉ National Resource Center on the history of ABLÉ accounts.

[Click here](#) for more information on the event, the panelists and to register.

### Future Planning Legal Clinic

**Tuesday, October 3, 2017**

**9:00 AM- 12:00 PM**

ACHIEVA  
711 Bingham St.,  
Pittsburgh, PA 15203



Local attorneys who are experienced in special needs planning for families of individuals with disabilities will be available for 30 minute appointments during which they can help attendees develop a preliminary future planning strategy. Topics of discussion can include, among other things: Wills, Guardianship, Power of Attorney, Representative Payee, Special Needs Trusts, and ABLÉ Accounts.

The purpose of the clinic is to provide individuals with disabilities and their families a no-cost initial consultation after which they are free to schedule a follow up appointment with the attorney in order to have the appropriate documents drafted.

Please contact Amy Chill at 412-995-5000 ext. 414 or [achill@achieva.info](mailto:achill@achieva.info) in order to schedule an appointment. Walk-ins cannot be accommodated. Please consider taking advantage of this excellent opportunity to plan for you and your family's future.

ACHIEVA has free off street parking at our South Side offices.

*This clinic is made possible through grants provided by the Allegheny County Bar Foundation and the United Way of Southwestern Pennsylvania.*

## **10 Things you Need to Know About Special Education and IEP Clinic with Ruder Law**

**Tuesday October 3, 2017**

**5:00 PM Presentation followed by private consultations**

### **Do you have concerns regarding your child's Individual Education Plan or 504 Plan?**

Ruder Law attorneys will talk about the Ten Things You Need to Know about Special Education and then offer free private sessions where you can consult with a special education lawyer about your child's specific issues in depth.

Please bring your child's most recent Evaluation Report, IEP, Section 504 Plan and any other paperwork you feel to be important.

---

### **Some Areas of Concern May be...**

- Identifying your child as eligible for special education services under the IDEA (Individuals with Disabilities Education Act).
- Obtaining the specialized instruction needed to provide FAPE (a free and appropriate public education).
- Your child's school not following his/her IEP or 504 accommodations/goals.
- Securing necessary supportive services, such as one-on-one aides or behavioral supports.
- Ensuring an educational placement with typical peers in the least restrictive environment (LRE).
- Addressing disciplinary problems in manifestation determination meetings and expulsion proceedings.
- Obtaining compensatory education funds for past deprivations of FAPE.
- Pursuing reimbursement for private school placements.
- Stopping bullying and disability-based harassment within the school.
- Litigating disability discrimination and retaliation claims.

**ACHIEVA, 711 Bingham Street, Pittsburgh, PA 15203  
Free On Site Parking - Light Refreshments**

**RSVP is necessary in order to secure a slot for a Private Session.  
Call 412-995-5000 x 486 to register.**

Please leave your name and phone number.  
Someone will get back to you as soon as possible.



## REGISTRATION OPEN

# Future Planning for Special Needs

Fall 2017 Speaker Series

Presented by ACHIEVA Family Trust and ACHIEVA Advocacy

**FRIDAY SEPTEMBER 8, 2017**

**What's New with Social Security?**

9:00 AM - 11:00 AM

Speaker - Elaine Cole, Public Affairs Specialist at Social Security Administration

[Attend in person](#)  
[Attend Via Live Webinar](#)

**FRIDAY SEPTEMBER 22, 2017**

**What's New with the Office of Developmental Programs (ODP)**

**Waiver Renewals for the Consolidated and PFDS Waivers, including the New services.**

9:00 AM - 11:00 AM

Speaker - Kristin Ahrens, Director, Bureau of Policy and Quality Management, ODP

[Attend in person](#)  
[Attend Via Live Webinar](#)

**TUESDAY OCTOBER 3, 2017**

**Ten Things You Need to Know About Special Education- *Free private sessions, where you can consult with a Special Education Attorney, will be offered after this program.***

5:00 PM - 9:00 PM

Speaker(s) - Jeff Ruder, Esq., Ruder Law and other attorneys from Ruder Law, a Pittsburgh based firm that represents parents of students with disabilities in school matters throughout Western Pennsylvania.

[Attend in person](#)  
[Attend Via Live Webinar](#)

[Click here for more information](#)

[on this program and how to register for a free private consultation following the presentation or see above.](#)

**FRIDAY OCTOBER 13, 2017**

**"I Want to Work and Keep my Benefits"**

9:00 AM - 11:00 AM

Panel Discussion:

Bill Frase - Assistant Director of Community Employment, ACHIEVA

Joy Smith - Area Manager, AHEDD (A Benefits Counseling Resource Organization)

[Attend in person](#)  
[Attend Via Live Webinar](#)

**FRIDAY NOVEMBER 10, 2017**

**What's New With Special Needs Trusts and ABLE  
Accounts?**

9:00 AM - 11:00 AM

Kelly Davis - Representative, Pennsylvania Treasury PA ABLE  
Program

Jacquelyn Connell - Esq., ACHIEVA Family Trust Attorney

[Attend in person](#)  
[Attend Via Live Webinar](#)

Light breakfast and beverages provided.

All Sessions are held at:  
ACHIEVA  
711 Bingham St  
Pittsburgh, PA 15203

Sponsored by:



*Free parking provided*

**ACHIEVA Family Trust**

711 Bingham Street  
Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania 15203  
(412) 995-5000 x 565

[Visit Our Website](#)

[Email Us](#)

ACHIEVA is an agency that is dedicated to providing the best quality services for people with disabilities in "celebrating abilities and exceeding expectations."

STAY CONNECTED

