Advocating for School-Aged Children with Disabilities September 15, 2015 9a-10:30a



Presented by: Erin Richards, Executive Director and co-founder of Special Education Advocacy Center & Alecia Talbott, Executive Director of Down Syndrome Association of Middle TN

Discussion:

- 1. Basic Rights
- 2. How to be a good advocate for your student
- 3. Building relationships with your school
- 4. IEP Meeting Success strategies

Presenters Bio's-

Alecia Talbott is the Executive Director of the Down Syndrome Association of Middle Tennessee (DSAMT) and parent of three, including a son with Down syndrome. Ms. Talbott advocates for inclusion and acceptance for those with Down syndrome and other disabilities in the community and schools. Alecia has completed Wrightslaw Advocacy Training, Vanderbilt Volunteer Advocacy Program, and other advocacy trainings. She is an authority on the subject of inclusion and conducts the Down Syndrome Specialist Training Program, which trains educators on best practices for student success.

Erin is the Executive Director and co-founder of the Special Education Advocacy Center (SEAC), a non-profit dedicated to advocating for the educational rights of students with disabilities. Erin also is a parent of three children, including a 15-year old son with autism, a chromosomal anomaly, and a seizure disorder. She frequently speaks to parents and professionals on the subject of special education law and advocacy, and is a member of the Vanderbilt Kennedy Center Community Advisory Council.

For more information, or if you would like to attend in person contact <u>sjenkins@arcdc.org</u>.

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