

Keynote Speaker

Michael Bailey, author of "Special Education: A Parent's Guide to a Child's Success"



"The first rule of good advocacy is to make yourself stop believing that your child is 'special.' That makes people feel like they are guests in the real world. Guests with an invitation that is revocable at will. Our kids are not guests. They belong here. They have the right to expect an education and a life that will make them happy, independent, proud and valued. Your attitude is the starting point for achieving those goals. Believe in your child's future and value. Start believing that today. Your belief is catching. Infect the world with it."

The Keynote speaker will be **Michael Bailey, J.D., PhD** from Portland, Oregon. Michael has presented a message of pride and empowerment at dozens of state, national and international conferences as well as being a regular contributor to disability magazines and other media. For ten years he was coordinator of Partners In Policy Making in Oregon as well as a community organizer, lobbyist, newspaper editor and founder of "The People First Connection," a publication of writings by people with disabilities. Michael currently serves on the board of directors of the National Disability Rights Network in Washington, DC.

www.deafinitiatives.org

Deaf Initiatives, Inc.
563 S. Dawson Ave.
Columbus, OH 43209
www.deafinitiatives.org

Navigating Your Child's Future

March 17, 2007

**A Special Opportunity for
Parents with Children who
are Deaf & Hard of Hearing
Ages Birth through High School**

Hosted by:



*Providing initiatives that
strengthen the potential of youth
who are deaf or hard of hearing*

www.deafinitiatives.org

NONPROFIT ORG
US POSTAGE
PAID
COLUMBUS OH
PERMIT NO 8339

Registration Form



Name: _____

Home Address: _____

City: _____

State: _____ Zip: _____

Home Phone: (_____) _____

Email: _____

Name and relationship of other adults who will attend:

Accommodations

Interpreters will be provided throughout the workshop.

Do you have any special needs/accommodations or dietary restrictions? Please describe:

About Your Child(ren)

Please provide information about your child(ren) who have a hearing loss.

Children's Names Age

Please tear and mail this completed registration form to 563 S. Dawson Ave. Columbus, OH 43209, along with your \$10/person registration fee made payable to Deaf Initiatives by Feb. 28 (or call 800 985-3323 v/tty with a VISA or M/C number) .

About the Workshop

Navigating Your Child's Future, presented by Deaf Initiatives, is an important series of workshops designed to:

- ◆ ensure that parents of children with a hearing loss receive support and resources to maximize success for their children;
- ◆ allow parents and extended family members an opportunity to network with other families throughout Ohio who are facing similar situations

Educating Children One at a Time

This exciting workshop will explore:

- ♣ strategies for parental and student empowerment in the **IEP process**;
- ♣ using legal and advocacy tools to achieve the individual centered educational placement the special education is intended to provide; and
- ♣ a discussion of **laws, regulations and check lists** to empower families.

All students are entitled to daily access to the regular school curriculum and student specific goals, objectives and placements in the least restrictive environment. Learn how you can obtain the **best education** while maintaining cordial and mutually respectful relationships with education professionals.

The afternoon session will provide an opportunity for individual discussions as it relates to **your own Individual Education Plan.**



Who can attend?

Please use the following criteria to decide if you qualify for participation in the workshop.

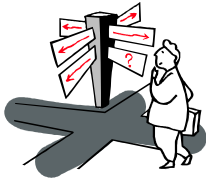
The workshop is open to all **parents, guardians and adult extended family members** (i.e. grandparents, aunts, uncles, etc.) of children with a hearing loss ages birth through high school.

Both parents/guardians are encouraged to attend. Children are not permitted to attend the workshop. No supervision will be provided.

Completed registration form and \$10 fee must be returned by **February 28.**

Where is it?

Navigating Your Child's Future will be held at Ashland, Inc. in northwest Columbus, OH. A registration packet, including map, will be sent to each registered family.



The mission of Deaf Initiatives is to provide initiatives that strengthen the potential of youth who are deaf or hard of hearing. In support of this mission, Deaf Initiatives offers several programs and opportunities for youth and their families, including *On the Road to Your Future* - a biennial bus trip for high school students and their parent/guardian to visit two of the most prominent colleges for the deaf/hard of hearing population, scheduled for April 2007. For more information, visit our website at www.deafinitiatives.org.