

November 2021

You're not alone

Connecting for Kids (CFK) provides education and support to families who have concerns about their child. We serve all families, including those children with and without formal diagnoses. CFK offers educational programs, support groups, a Parent Match Program and numerous resources.

Designed for your family

Programs are designed to educate and support families of children (birth - 12 years) who are struggling. Look for these icons to choose programs for your family:

- Y** Families with young children (0-6 years)
- E** Families with elementary-aged children (7-12 years)
- A** All families with children (0-12 years)

Free programs

All Connecting for Kids programs are free and open to the public. For more information:

Call/Text: 440-570-5908
info@connectingforkids.org
connectingforkids.org/register

Connect With Us

It's free to join Connecting for Kids and start connecting with other Greater Cleveland Area families on a similar path.

connectingforkids.org/joinus

 [facebook.com/
connectingforkids](https://facebook.com/connectingforkids)

 @connectforkids



NOVEMBER PROGRAMS: ADULTS

Speaker Series

Join us for presentations on various childhood topics by local pediatric professionals.
connectingforkids.org/speakerseries

Help! My Young Child Doesn't Listen **Y**

How can you help your young child become a better listener and make sense of what they are hearing? Children may hear us, but are they really listening to and understanding what we are saying? Join CFK Early Intervention professionals Neysa McKenney, MA, CCC-SLP, and Paula C. Papp, MAEd, as they share ideas about how to foster effective listening behaviors and support a child's understanding.

Tuesday, November 9, 7:00 pm
Virtual

Addressing COVID Behaviors **A**

Is your child struggling to transition back to a more normal routine? Are you finding that your child is now fearful of others after being told to stay six feet apart for so many months? Is your child too attached to electronics and having a hard time connecting with friends? Join Meghan Barlow, PhD, of Meghan Barlow and Associates, as she discusses behaviors that your child may have picked up during the COVID-19 crisis and ways to address them. The presenter will give you strategies to help your child make positive behavior changes.

Tuesday, November 16, 6:30 pm
Westlake Porter Public Library

Register at connectingforkids.org/register

NOVEMBER PROGRAMS: ADULTS



Interactive Workshops

Interactive workshops are designed to help families gain in-depth knowledge on a topic. connectingforkids.org/workshops

Families Building Partnerships for Success (for Black American Families)

Dealing with health and education issues can be tough. It's important for Black families to develop skills to help them navigate these complex systems. Do you want to learn how to find solutions for your child when working with health care providers, therapists and educators? If so, register for one or both of the workshops that focus on families working with professionals and dealing with challenges. The workshops, led by Nikki Montgomery, MA, MEd, GPAC, are designed for parents and caregivers of children ages birth - 12 years to talk about challenges and work on solutions.

Advocacy & Allies **A**

This two-day workshop covers what it takes to be a good advocate and how to gather a team of allies.

Wednesdays, Nov 3 & 10, 7:00 pm
Virtual

Problem-Solving & Providers **A**

This two-day workshop focuses on finding reliable information and problem-solving. *Advocacy & Allies is not a prerequisite to take this workshop.*

Wednesday, Nov 17 & Tuesday, Nov 23, 7:00 pm
Virtual

Wrapping Up Social Skills for the Holidays **E**

Does your child have a difficult time attending holiday functions? Could you use some tips to make the upcoming holiday season better for your child? The holidays are a fun and exciting time but can also become overwhelming and confusing for those who struggle with social skills. This program, led by Ellen Spear, MA, CCC-SLP, of Lakeshore Speech Therapy, LLC., is designed to help navigate the many social situations, hidden rules and potential problems related to the holidays. Join us as we discuss how to make conversation with relatives and friends, tips for handling holiday parties and appropriate ways to give and receive gifts.

Wednesday, Nov 17, 7:00 pm
Virtual

Coffee and Chat

Join our interactive support group and meet other families facing similar struggles. connectingforkids.org/support



Music for Mental Health **A**

This program is open to any caregiver who needs support, regardless of how much their child is struggling. Join us as the music therapist focuses on coping with seasons of stress and difficult times both at home and in society. Come and connect with other families as we use music to cope with our ever-present struggles. Attendees will listen to live music and engage in discussions, group songwriting and other fun music experiences.

Thursday, November 18, 6:30 pm
Westlake Porter Public Library

Talking To Others About Your LGBTQ+ Child **A**

Will you be seeing family and friends over the holidays that you have not seen in a while? How should you navigate questions about your child's gender identity while still being supportive and affirming? Join Kristen Pepera, MEd, LPCC-S, and Lisa Pepera, MEd, LPCC-S, of Colors+, for a short presentation on gender nonconformity. Afterward, they will lead a discussion on ways to be an advocate for your child and be prepared for difficult conversations with others, especially with the holidays approaching.

Thursday, November 18, 7:00 pm
Virtual

Connecting for Kids provides families with resources so they can make an informed decision for their child.

Behavior Chat A

Join us each month to learn how to use the tools in our Behavior Toolkit to help your child ages 18 months – 12 years control behavior and manage emotions. This program is designed for children with or without developmental concerns. connectingforkids.org/behavior-chat

BEHAVIOR SERIES



Do you want strategies to motivate your child toward positive behavior? Do you wish you had a kit filled with proactive “tools” you could use to get ahead of meltdowns before they start?

At each session, Ochanya McRoberts-Wells, MEd, will discuss the theme of the month and answer

your questions on a variety of topics, which can be asked during the program or submitted upon registration.

How Structure Can Prevent Meltdowns

*Wednesday, November 10, 6:30 pm
Cuyahoga County Public Library,
Solon Branch OR Live Stream*

NOVEMBER PROGRAMS: WITH MY CHILD



Music Therapy & More Y

This program is designed for families and their children, ages 0-6 years, who are struggling in an area of development. Join us for a hands-on program designed to teach families how to use music to improve their child’s academic, motor, communication and social skills as well as behavior. This program is led by a Board-Certified Music Therapist. connectingforkids.org/music

Middleburg Heights Branch of Cuyahoga County Public Library

Sessions begin at 10:30 am.

- Saturday, November 20

Solon Branch of Cuyahoga County Public Library

Sessions begin at 10:30 am.

- Friday, November 19

Westlake Porter Public Library

Sessions begin at 9:30 and 10:30 am.

- Friday, November 12
- Saturday, November 13

There Are Lots of Ways to Connect with CFK!

Our Family Resource Specialists are happy to help you find resources and support.

Have Questions?

Call/Text: 440-570-5908

info@connectingforkids.org

With Our Thanks

Programming is made possible in part by support from local organizations.

Middleburg Heights and Solon Programs

Presented in partnership with Cuyahoga County Public Library.

Social Series Program

Supported by a grant from the Knights of Columbus at St. Ladislav.

Westlake Programs

Presented in partnership with Westlake Porter Public Library.

Music Therapy & More is supported in part by the residents of Cuyahoga County through a public grant from Cuyahoga Arts & Culture.