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NEWS RELEASE – “CONFERENCE EDUCATES ABOUT DISABILITIES”

If you are the parent of a child with a disability, you won't want to miss out on an upcoming conference that features everything from tutorials on Individualized Education Plans (IEPs) to workshops on self-determination, and so much more. The Teaming With Heart Southern Regional Conference is scheduled for 8:30 am to 5 pm on Saturday, September 13, on the campus of Lely High School (1 Lely High School Boulevard). This free and informative event is open to parents, educators and the community at large.

The conference, presented by the School District of Collier County, the Florida Diagnostic and Learning Resource System (FDLRS), the Family Network on Disabilities (FND), and the Parent Education Network (PEN), will offer a multitude of workshops covering such topics as assistive technology, 504 compliance, FCAT, and community resources. The conference is part of the Sharing the Commitment partnership, a collaborative project that has been created to foster effective partnerships between parents, schools, and the community. From the partnership, comes a wealth of information, training and support to educators, parents, and agencies on services and programs for students with disabilities. Sharing the Commitment sponsors workshops for all persons interested in services for students with disabilities. Specially trained parents and teachers called *Parent Educator Exceptional Resources (PEERs)* are available to provide parents of students with disabilities with up-to-date information, resources and support.

Parents, there will be fun camps available to keep your children engaged during the day-long conference, however pre-registration is required. To learn more, please contact Wilbur Hawke at 417-3636, or via e-mail at wilburhawke@embarqmail.com.