

*Helping Illinois' Young Children
Reach for the Stars*



STAR  ILLINOIS
NET
Chicago Region V

www.Starnet.org  www.StarnetChicago.org  starnet2and6.org

STAR NET Regions

- ★ Six STAR NET regions across the state
- ★ Region staff consists of Project Director, EC and Family Resource Specialists, and administrative support per grant requirements
- ★ Staff also has personal experience as parents of children with disabilities.



Who we are...

STAR NET Region I and III

🌐 <https://starnet.org/home/>

STAR NET Region II and III

🌐 <https://starnet.org/home/leans>

STAR NET Region III and IV

🌐 <https://starnet.org/home/leart>

STAR NET Region V and III

🌐 <https://starnet.org/home/>

STAR NET Regions



Outcomes



Parent Training

Provided training on topics like: advocacy, behavior, executive functioning, inclusion, and more (translation provided)



Moms' Retreats

Hosted retreats with over 100 moms of children with disabilities in attendance



Scholarships

Provided scholarships for Families and Professionals to attend conferences



Book Studies

Facilitated engaging book studies on relevant topics

What's next... Region V Chicago

Upcoming Events & Resources for Families



Chinatown Early Childhood Playdate

CHINATOWN EARLY CHILDHOOD PLAYDATE
Resources & Learning through PLAY!
FREE PLAYDATE & RESOURCE FAIR
Saturday, April 25th, 2026
10 AM - 22 PM
UIC Pui Tak Center C SL

- Date:** Saturday, April 25th, 2026
- Location:** Pui Tak Center
- Highlights:** Resources & Learning through PLAY!
 - Cost:** FREE Playdate & Resource Fair

Sensory Playdate: The Ultimate Summer Guide

STAR NET ILLINOIS
FREE
SENSORY PLAYDATE:
The Ultimate Summer Guide for
Challenging Behaviors
SAVE THE DATE
June 27TH
Age 0-8 years
DETAILS AND REGISTRATION
OPEN MAY 1st, 2026!
leapforward The A/C Pui Tak Center

- Date:** June 27th, 2026
- Ages:** 0-8 years
- Action:** SAVE THE DATE
- Registration:** Opens May 1st, 2026
- Pasportes:**
- Cost:** FREE





Every Step of the Way Resource Center

About **ESW** & The Catch-22 Resource Venue

ESW Offerings

- 🍀 Virtual & in-person community resource info sessions
- 🍀 Individualized resources for clients & families
- 🍀 Referrals to professionals & programs
- 🍀 Group respite care (ages 18-59)
- 🍀 Group outings with clients & their families

Catch-22 Resource Venue

1st public resource fair in Chicago Proper for adults with disabilities (ages 18-59)

Purpose

To prepare for transitioning through & aging out of the special education system. Provides access to essential community resource & business vendors across Illinois in one setting (addressing the resource gap after ages 18 & 22).



Learn More & Contact Us:

www.esw2022.org | See 'Contact Information' tab





BEACON



In January, the Illinois Children's Behavioral Health Transformation Initiative, a Pritzker Administration effort that is working to make behavioral health services for youth more coordinated and easily accessible across the state, launched the BEACON tool for families and those who work with them.

Behavioral Health Care and Ongoing Navigation

BEACON is a centralized resource for Illinois youth and families seeking services for behavioral health needs. It's common for young people to struggle with behavioral and/or mental health challenges. Please know you are not alone, and neither is your child. We are here to help. If you would like to learn more about the Transformation Initiative, please visit <https://www.dhs.state.il.us/?item=161800>



NO APOLOGY EVENTS



An inclusive experience

EST. 2025

No Apology Events: An Inclusive Experience.



🗨️ Our **mission** is to create welcoming experiences where individuals with disabilities and their families feel comfortable, valued, and included.

Come As You Are, No Apologies.

💛 We're not just creating events. We're building a movement where no one has to apologize for being themselves. especially families of individuals with disabilities.

★ Our new name and logo reflect that vision more boldly than ever before.

No Apology Events, our promise is:

That you can come as you are.

That your family doesn't have to shrink, explain, or conform.

That inclusion isn't a box to check, it's the heart of everything we do.

♥️ The heart of this Chicago community hasn't changed. It's still about connection, sharing resources, and creating spaces where no one has to apologize for who they are.

Thank you for being part of this journey. Let's keep building a world where everyone is welcome, no apologies needed. #NoApologyEvents #InclusiveExperience #ComeAsYouAre #DisabilityInclusion

<https://www.facebook.com/noapologyevents/>