



# *Parish of Ascension*

OFFICE OF THE PARISH PRESIDENT

TOMMY MARTINEZ  
Parish President

## **Life Planning for Persons With Disabilities Conference Slated For April 26**

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GONZALES – Ascension Parish President Tommy Martinez announced Monday in celebrating their 50<sup>th</sup> year anniversary, Community Opportunities The Arc of East Ascension (COEA) will hold a special conference called “Life Planning for Persons with Disabilities” on Saturday, April 26, 2014 at the Clarion Inn Conference Room. The Clarion Inn is located at 1500 W. Hwy. 30 in Gonzales.

Registration begins at 8 a.m. followed by the conference from 9 a.m. till 3:30 p.m.

Featured presenter Theresa M. Varnet, M.S.W., J.D. is a licensed social worker and graduate of DePaul University College of Law. She has been an advocate for persons with disabilities for more than 40 years and she specializes in probate and estate planning for people with disabilities.

Topics include an introduction to government benefits, preserving eligibility for government benefits, guardianship and less intrusive alternatives to guardianship, and navigating the social security maze.

Five continuing education credits will be available for nursing home administrators, social workers, licensed professional counselors, licensed clinical professional counselors, qualified intellectual disabilities professionals (QIDP’s), physical therapists and occupational therapists. They must sign in and out to receive certification.

Family members of persons with disabilities, along with professionals, educators, social workers, provider agencies, attorneys and more are also encouraged to attend.

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For more information about conference registration, fees and grant availability, visit [www.coeathear.com](http://www.coeathear.com) or call Cheryl Rice (225) 621-2025 or Sharon Morris at 225-955-4683.

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