



Parish of Ascension

OFFICE OF THE PARISH PRESIDENT

TOMMY MARTINEZ
Parish President

Community Opportunities The Arc of East Ascension To Hold Conference

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GONZALES – Ascension Parish President Tommy Martinez announced Wednesday Community Opportunities The Arc of East Ascension (COEA) will hold a special conference called “Life Planning for Persons with Disabilities” on Saturday, Sept. 14 at the Clarion Inn Conference Room, 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.

Theresa M. Varnet, M.S.W., J.D. will be the featured presenter. Ms. Varnet 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. Ms. Varnet specializes in probate and estate planning for people with disabilities.

Topics will 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. Professionals 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 or call Cheryl Rice (225) 621-2025 or Sharon Morris at 225-955-4683.

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