

PRESS RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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8th Annual Parents Leading the Way Conference Scheduled for February 25-26, 2011

North Charleston, SC – The Eighth Annual Parents Leading the Way Conference will take place on Friday, February 25 and Saturday, February 26, 2011 at the Embassy Suites Greystone in Columbia, SC. The conference is held annually in February as the culmination of National Parent Leadership Month and is presented by Parents Anonymous® of South Carolina for the benefit of parents and other primary caregivers of children. The goal of the conference is to recognize and to encourage Parent Leadership in the home, the school and the community. Registration for the event will be January 10 through February 11 at www.paofsc.org as well as through local Parents Anonymous® affiliates and conference partners. Those partners are: SC School Improvement Council, Charter, SC Teachers, SC PTA, Charleston County School District Title One, Childrens Trust of SC, and PRO-Parents.

Friday, February 25 will feature “Professionals’ Track” presentations from 1 until 5:00 p.m. for social services professionals, education professionals and members of the public interested in family strengthening and in creating leadership among parents to collaborate in strengthening families.

Workshops on Saturday, February 26, from 9 a.m. to 4:00 p.m., will be of special interest to parents and will cover a wide variety of topics ranging from information on school-related issues; to how to handle bullying; to how to become a parent leader.

A Family Time Get-Together will take place Friday evening. Saturday evening a recognition banquet will begin at 5:00 p.m. and feature awards to Parent Leaders from around the state, as well as the announcement of South Carolina's recipients of the Jolly K. Award for Parent Leadership and the Juanita Chavez Award for Staff Member Leadership.

Parents will be able to request full scholarships from the PTA at their child's school or from Parents Anonymous[®] affiliates to cover the \$75 registration fee per person and hotel lodging for one night. The limit is two scholarships per family. Participation in the Professionals' Track on Friday, February 25 is free to participants.

Children of conference participants can take part on Saturday in a free program at the Riverbanks Zoo or, for younger children, there will be a limited childcare program at the hotel. A special Children and Youth registration form must be submitted for each child attending either the free program at the zoo or the childcare program. Please consult your local Parents Anonymous[®] affiliate or one of the conference partners for full details, or go to www.paofsc.org.

Over more than 30 years, Parents Anonymous[®] has provided a statewide network of community-based mutual support groups that serve parents and others who are primary caregivers of children. When participating in Parents Anonymous[®], parents and caregivers receive parenting education, improve their parenting skills, learn how to cope with family stresses and experience relief from those stresses through group sharing and mutual support. Parents Anonymous[®] programs are research-based and are shown to produce positive results, creating stronger families and better futures for children.

For more information please contact Parents Anonymous[®] of South Carolina at 800-326-8621, by email at info@paofsc.org, or on the web at www.paofsc.org