

Connect ability



Vicki Schweitzer

Program Coordinator

404-480-8287

Vicki@ConnectAbilityInc.org

Brittany Gaskins

Administrative Assistant

Brittany@ConnectAbilityinc.org

Ellie Tanner

Spring Intern

intern@ConnectAbilityInc.org

ConnectAbilityInc.org

[www.fb.com/
ConnectAbility](http://www.fb.com/ConnectAbility)

Office: 46B Memorial Drive
Dahlonega, GA 30533

Mailing: PO Box 381
Dahlonega, GA 30533

Talent Show

All community members are invited to attend the annual SideKicks Talent Show. Participants can share a song, dance, joke, performance art, or any other creative gift!

Please bring music and any props you need for your performance. If you are bringing a CD, please clearly label it with your name and the track number we need to play.

Refreshments will be served

FRIDAY JANUARY 15th, 6-8pm at Lumpkin County Park and Rec

365 Riley Rd. Dahlonega

This free event is open to all community members, but registration is required by January 13th.

Register online: www.ConnectAbilityinc.org

Mark Your Calendars!

- **January 15:** Talent Show at Lumpkin Park & Rec from 6-8pm
- **January 28:** PPAC Parent Support Group at ConnectAbility Office, at 7pm
- **February 12:** Valentine Dance at Lumpkin Park & Rec from 6-8pm
- **February 19:** PJ Party and Movie Night at Dahlonega Baptist Church from 6-8pm
- **February 27:** Thousand Words Gala at The R-Ranch from 6-9pm



Welcome to the world, Jameson Graham!

Born November 21, 2015 8 lb. 13 oz.

Both Mom and Baby are doing very well.

Congratulations Jacque, James, and big sister Josie!

ConnectAbility relies on the generosity of volunteers, sponsors and donors. We would greatly appreciate any contribution you may be able to make!

donate today

www.connectabilityinc.org/donate



Congratulations to Byron Barron, from CertaPro Painters, for winning the Guess The Baby Contest!

Mr. Barron has graciously donated his winnings back to ConnectAbility, and we thank him and his family for their ongoing support.

ConnectAbility is a 501c3 non-profit organization committed to encourage, enrich, empower and equip children and adults with disabilities, their families, care providers and the communities in which they live.

Program Coordinator Update

As we enter into a new year, the board is excited to announce that Vicki Schweitzer has been hired as the new Program Coordinator for ConnectAbility. Vicki has been a longtime supporter and volunteer of ConnectAbility. Vicki is also 2012 graduate of the Partners in Policymaking program and a former Parent Trainer and Local Guide for Parent to Parent of Georgia (P2P).

Vicki will be leading the P2P Navigator Team, coordinating respite events, coordinating and managing volunteers, and running the office. Vicki will be the main point of contact for the organization. Please feel free to contact her at: 404-480-8287 or Vicki@ConnectAbilityinc.org

Your Input Wanted!

In order to provide ConnectAbility families with the most effective support, we would like to hear your feedback and suggestions. Please take a couple minutes to answer our short 10 question survey. Your feedback is greatly appreciated!

Survey can be accessed online at:

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/XY63XM8>



The PPAC Support Group provides a safe, supportive environment to allow family members, friends, and caregivers to meet regularly for mutual support and friendship, and to exchange information and resources. New members are always welcome! Meetings are generally one time per month.

There is no charge to attend. Watch for updates in our monthly newsletter for meeting times, and topics. For more information send an email to: info@ConnectAbilityinc.org

Paint and Partake with Grant Searcey

Tentative Date Jan 28th, 6-8 pm

ConnectAbility Parents and Caregivers are invited to take part in a special *Paint and Partake*, led by local artist Grant Searcey. This one time session will be 90 minutes of paint time, while you enjoy drinks and food in a fun atmosphere. You'll leave with a finished painting that you complete yourself with Grant's expert guidance and support

If you're interested in signing up, or at least being informed, please send an email to: Vicki@ConnectAbilityinc.org



Left to Right: Julianne Kowalski, Jennifer James, Sally James, Ted James, Vicki Schweitzer, Harper James

The Christmas Jar

Inspired by the book, *The Christmas Jar*, 5 year old Harper James has been collecting money with her family for an entire year to donate in her Aunt Tammy's memory. Never letting spina bifida hold her back, Tammy was a graduate of NGCSU with both a bachelor's and master's degree. After reading the Dahlonega Nugget article about Leadership Lumpkin's ConnectAbility Bridge project, Harper's family knew exactly where they wanted their Christmas Jar money to go!

The James family proudly presented the jar to ConnectAbility on December 11th. We thank Harper and her family for their generous donation to the Leadership Lumpkin project, and for sharing Tammy's inspiring story of hope and perseverance with us.



Did You Know? ConnectAbility is the Navigator Team for Dawson, Lumpkin & White Counties.

The Navigator Teams are a project of Parent to Parent of Georgia. www.p2pga.org