

County Commissioners to Help Celebrate 4th Annual Families Abilities Information Rally (F.A.I.R)

What: Unique Engaging Cross-Disability Event
When: Sat., Oct. 1, 2011, 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.
Where: All People's Life Center, 6105 E. Sligh Ave. Tampa, FL 33617
Cost: FREE admission; FREE parking
Web: **www.thefair.info**

YES! of America United and Hillsborough County are proud sponsors of the FOURTH Annual Families Abilities Information Rally (F.A.I.R.) at 10 a.m., on Sat., Oct. 1, at All People's Life Center, 6105 E. Sligh Ave. in Tampa. County Commissioners will join more than 80 community partners who will enrich, educate and empower individuals and their families living with disabilities. When event coordinator and founder of YES! of America United Becki Forsell lost her eyesight almost 15 years ago, she said "There wasn't a place for me to learn, grow and understand what my disability meant to me." Forsell first started a support group for her disability, which grew into a nonprofit. From there, the FAIR event grew as a way to give back to the community and make our community more inclusive.

The F.A.I.R. is a family-friendly community event for everyone with all level of abilities. Forsell wants to have everyone understand that "People are people. And those with disabilities just need accommodations." Kids of all ages and abilities can play more than 80 vendors and carnival games with giveaways, and find the resources to help make our community more inclusive for those with disabilities. One of those vendors is Hillsborough County's ADA Liaison, who will provide information on what services the County offers those with disabilities. Attendees will also have an opportunity to donate blood, register to vote, have their picture taken on a motorcycle, talk to the state patrol about seatbelt safety, get a flu shot, and purchase raffle tickets for some great prizes. Other FREE activities at the FAIR event include arts & crafts, balloon making, bounce house, bowling, demos by Southeast Guide Dogs and transportation mobility, face painting, free books, an obstacle course, a petting zoo, wheelchair sports, and more. Food will be available for purchase. Popcorn is free.

Another way to get involved is to Ride for the Cause and join the Mystery Supply Ride. There is a \$10 donation, and the ride includes prizes and a 50/50 drawing. More than 200 riders expected and riders can get more information at thefairinfo@yahoo.com.

Hillsborough County's All People's Life Center serves as the home for the Parks, Recreation and Conservation Department's therapeutic programs for people with special needs. It also offers programs open to all members of the community. Every detail of the building exceeds ADA standards for accessibility, eliminating all barriers to participation for people with disabilities. The Center is located at 6105 E. Sligh Ave.

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For more information, contact: Willie Puz, Hillsborough County Communications Department, at 813-272-5314 or Becki Forsell, Founder, YES! of America United, at 813- 420-7708, or by e-mail at forbecra@msn.com or her staff at thefairinfo@yahoo.com