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Trade Show for Children with Special Needs Hosted by Bayada Nurses and Make-A-Wish

Bayada Nurses and Make-A-Wish will host a trade show designed to provide a host of resources to those who care for children with physical and developmental disabilities.

The trade show will take place on Friday, May 7, from 11 am to 6 pm at The Hilton University Place, 8629 JM Keynes Drive, in Charlotte. Admission is free, and family members, healthcare providers, teachers and anyone who has a special needs child in their lives are encouraged to attend.

Dozens of exhibitors representing hospitals, health and social service agencies, schools and businesses that work with special needs children will be on hand to distribute valuable information. Participants will enjoy face painting, a silent auction, a special appearance by Tim E. Gator, mascot for the Kannapolis Intimidators, a magic show at 4:30 pm and the magician will be walking around and entertaining kids until 6 pm!

In addition, the trade show will feature special presentations by speakers who understand the challenges facing families and caregivers of children with disabilities.

The schedule of presentations is as follows:

11:15 am

The Prematurity Campaign of the March of Dimes

Anna Bess Brown, State Program Director, March of Dimes

12 pm

Empowering Families as they Navigate the Financial, Legal and Government Landscape to Improve their Loved One's Life

Ryan Platt, Founder of A Special Needs Plan

2 pm

Understanding NC Programs Available for Special Needs Children

Melinda Phillips, Division Director, Bayada Nurses

4 pm

Understanding Grief

Kelly Hamilton, Director, KinderMourn

The trade show will also feature free continuing education programs for nurses.

From 1 to 5 pm, nurses can attend “Airway Clearance with a Focus on Neurologically Impaired Children and Adults” presented by Wendy Malizia, RRT, RCP, account manager, Hill-Rom. To register for this program, which is worth 4 continuing education credits, call 1-800-426-4224, ext. 1568 or e-mail ac.edu.registration@hill-rom.com.

An additional continuing education program, “Spinal Muscular Atrophy,” presented by Kelly Mincey, RN, clinical manager with Bayada Nurses, will take place at 11 am.

“Learning that your child has a physical or developmental disability can be devastating and confusing for family members,” said Virginia Steelman, division director with Bayada Nurses, a national home care company with offices throughout North Carolina. “In addition to providing hands-on nursing and personal care services, our staff also helps families access the many resources available to help them give their

child a better quality of life. It seemed only natural to bring all of these resources together under one roof so that many more families can benefit from the wealth of information that will be shared.”

Bayada Nurses and Make-A-Wish extend their deepest appreciation to their sponsors who helped make this event possible, including Easter Seals of North Carolina and Virginia, Hill-Rom and Levine Children’s Hospital.

For more information about the trade show, call 704-549-1700 or go to www.bayada.com/tradeshow/index.html.

Founded in 1975, Bayada Nurses provides nursing, rehabilitative, therapeutic, and personal home health care services to children, adults, and seniors in the comfort of their own homes. Over 12,000 nurses, home health aides, and therapists work from more than 170 offices in 18 states. For more information, visit www.bayada.com.