

# Serenity

Case Management

## July 2021 News Flash



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### Children with Special Needs and Mental Health Returning to School Post-Covid

The pandemic has disrupted the lives of students, families, and educators. Behavioral supports should be considered for students returning to school. Planning now would allow schools to put positive supports in place rather than using consequences later. Find out how schools are going to respond to the behavioral challenges that are sure to arise at this website:

<https://www.epmagazine.com/blog/returning-to-school-children-with-special-needs-and-mental-health-post-covid>



8788 Metcalf Avenue, Overland Park, Kansas 66212



[jcprd.com/Museum](http://jcprd.com/Museum) 913-826-ARTS (2787)

On June 7<sup>th</sup>, the Johnson County Museum launched Sensory Friendly Mondays, a new slate of programs designed to make the museum accessible to more people in the community. During Sensory Friendly Days at the Johnson County Museum, the museum's exhibits, including KidScape – a 3,500 square foot interactive history exhibit designed for children ages two to nine – will be presented in a comfortable, low-sensory way. For more information please go:

<https://www.jcprd.com/1686/Sensory-Friendly-Mondays>



## DOUBLE UP FOOD BUCKS – KANSAS AND MISSOURI

### **We'll double your dollars for buying fruits and vegetables with your EBT card.**

We'll match every \$1 you spend at participating farmers markets, farm stands and grocery stores in Kansas and Missouri with another \$1 FREE so you can buy more fruits and vegetables, up to \$25 more per day.

The way Double Up Food Bucks works at **farmers markets** is different than at **farm stands** and **grocery stores**. Learn how at the links listed below.

How it works at Farmers Markets: <https://www.doubleupheartland.org/how-it-works/farmers-markets/>

How it works at Farm Stands: <https://www.doubleupheartland.org/how-it-works/how-it-works-at-farm-stands/>

How it works at Grocery Stores: <https://www.doubleupheartland.org/how-it-works/grocery-stores/>

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### **Tips for an Autism-Friendly Fourth of July**

July 4th is a wonderful holiday to celebrate, but it's also a noisy and busy one. This can present challenges for people on the autism spectrum. Additionally, the COVID-19 pandemic will make this year's holiday especially complicated. Many celebrations may be cancelled or social distant, and mask-wearing rules should be in effect for events that do happen, but that doesn't mean we can't enjoy the day! Here are some tips to help assure everyone has a safe and happy holiday:

- 1. Prepare your child in advance.** Talk about what's going to happen at the party or fireworks display. You can show your child an online video of fireworks – perhaps playing it quietly first, then slowly turning up the volume.
- 2. Focus on the fun!** Tell your child why you enjoy fireworks or a holiday barbecue with friends. Let them see that you're excited to attend. This will help them get excited too. Describe the activities you know they'll enjoy, whether it's seeing a favorite family member or the ice cream cone they'll get as a treat.
- 3. Bring along favorite items** such as sensory toys, games and snacks. This can provide a crucial distraction if your child gets antsy while waiting for activities to start.

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