



82 Washington St., Suite 214
Poughkeepsie, NY 12601
(Voice) 845-452-3913
(TTY) 845-485-8110
(Fax) 845-485-3196

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact: Lisa Tarricone/ 914.523.8922

July 7, 2020

**TACONIC RESOURCES FOR INDEPENDENCE, INC. TO HOST JULY SPECIAL EDUCATION
ADVOCACY WORKSHOP**

*Part of a monthly community workshop series to address COVID-19 and its impact on students with
special needs*

Poughkeepsie: Taconic Resources for Independence, Inc. (TRI) will host a virtual workshop entitled: **“Functional Skills Instruction and Strategies for Students with Special Needs” on July 15th from 9:30 – 10:30 am** to provide guidance and information to parents of students with special needs regarding functional skills training.

School closures across the state have upended special education, creating an interruption in the learning process for students with disabilities to adequately understand and practice functional skills. This workshop is designed for parents to help them address this gap in their child’s educational process.

TRI Special Education Advocates Karen Lynch and Jennifer O’Neill will present at the event and answer questions from attendees. “Functional skills are those skills a student needs to live independently,” says O’Neill. “An important goal of special education is for students to learn to achieve as much independence and autonomy as possible,” she adds, which applies to children with emotional, intellectual, or physical disabilities.

O’Neill and Lynch will provide information and guidance for families on how to effectively work with their children to help them learn basic functional skills for achieving self-awareness and independence.

To register for this Zoom event:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/join/zoom/register/tZ0kdOGorzWqG9O9yk5Z6Thc12Ysqh9vhLEU>

If attendees require a **Sign Language Interpreter** to participate in this meeting, please contact Karen Lynch by Thursday, July 9 at 12noon: k.lynch@taconicresources.org

Taconic Resources for Independence, Inc. (TRI) was founded in 1986 and is Dutchess County’s leading disability advocacy organization, dedicated to empowering individuals with disabilities to lead self-directed lives. TRI works within the community to provide disability awareness and advocacy for the removal of barriers.