



“The Magical World of SPIN”
The 39th Annual SPIN Conference
Saturday May 10, 2025 ● 8:30 a.m. – 3:30 p.m.
Koolau Ballrooms and Conference Center
45-550 Kionaole Road,
Kaneohe, Hawaii 96744

For the last 39 years the **annual SPIN Conference** has given parents and family members the opportunity to meet and network with other families and professionals while learning about resources and strategies that can improve the lives of their children with disabilities and their families. This year’s conference is using the theme of **MAGIC** for fun and decoration and to put a focus on the **extraordinary things that can happen** while raising a child with a disability or chronic health condition. You may still be discovering these magical gifts--things like:

- **finding and nurturing your child’s unique talents and contributions,**
- **meeting amazing helping professionals and families whom you might otherwise have never met,**
- **learning to advocate passionately for your child and family, and**
- **finding joy and a way to celebrate small victories.**

On May 10th you can look forward to the winning recipe of every SPIN Conference: First there’s the **Enchanted Hall of Resources** where dozens of agencies and support groups will be waiting to share information, services and opportunities to build your network of support. An energetic **Dance Performance** by the SPIN Advisors and moving **Keynote Presentations** will get you ready for a day of fun and learning. At lunchtime you’ll be treated to a **Delicious Buffet** while celebrating the amazing contributions of our **SPIN Award Winners**. Check out our **Guide to our 16 Wand-erful Workshops** and a sampling of organizations in our **Enchanted Hall of Resources** on the following pages.

CONFERENCE AGENDA

8:30 – 9:00 am Registration / Visit the Enchanted Hall of Resources

9:00 – 10:15 am Welcome / Keynote Presentations

10:15 – 2:00 pm Visit the Enchanted Hall of Resources

10: 45 – 11:45 am Wand-erful Workshop Session #1

<i>Twinkling with Possibilities</i>	<i>Mind Over Magic</i>	<i>Crafting SMART IEP Goals</i>	<i>Bibbity-Bobbity-Boo</i>	<i>Presto Chango</i>	<i>Magic Keys to Unlock Benefits</i>
Transitioning into Preschool	Self-regulating Strategies	Writing SMART IEP Goals	Self-Care for YOU!	Understanding Puberty	Benefits Planning

12:00 – 1:15 pm Lunch Buffet and SPIN Awards Presentation

1:20 – 2:20 pm Wand-erful Workshop Session #2

<i>Potions of Positivity</i>	<i>Spell Book of Sensory Success</i>	<i>Your Time to Sparkle</i>	<i>Mystical Tools</i>	<i>Spellbinding Social Networks</i>	<i>Enchanting Paths</i>
Positive Behavior Supports	Sensory Integration	Better Parent Advocates	Assistive Technology	Building Social Networks	Transition Plans and the IEP

2:30 – 3:30 p.m. Wand-erful Workshop Session #3

<i>Behind the Curtain</i>	<i>The Wizard’s Guide to Dyslexia</i>	<i>Keep Calm and Conjure On</i>	<i>Wizards of Independence</i>
Autism & OCD	Dyslexia Supports	Anxiety Supports	Alternatives to Guardianship

The Magical World of SPIN

Guide to Workshops

As you can see from the conference schedule on page 2, our 2025 SPIN Conference will include 16 workshops organized into three Wand-erful Workshop sessions. The first two sessions offer 6 workshops on varying topics, while the last session has 4 workshops (including workshops about specific disabilities). As you check out the workshop choices below, check the Program Key to see what age groups are covered in the presentations.

Program Key



Preschool/Early intervention



Elementary



Middle/High School



All Age Groups

Workshop Descriptions

Session 1 - 10:45 - 11:45 a.m.

“Twinkling with Possibilities”



Parents of young keiki moving from early intervention services to preschool have lots of questions. Learn more from three wise mentors--an early intervention specialist who will walk young families through **the process of transitioning from early intervention services to preschool services**, an early learning specialist from the Department of Education who will describe DOE’s evaluation process and options for preschool services, and a wise mom who will share with other parents how to prepare and partner in the planning process.

“Mind Over Magic”



Self-regulation skills help children and teens manage information and emotions, make decisions and plan ahead. We are not born with these skills, but we all have the potential to learn them at all stages of our lives. Join this master teacher to learn more about emotional regulation, cognitive regulation, and behavioral regulation and pick up strategies to help your child develop and polish these skills at home and in the classroom.

“Crafting S.M.A.R.T. IEP Goals”



Be SMART when helping to develop your child’s Individualized Education Program (IEP) goals. Are your child’s goals **S**pecific, **M**easurable, **A**ttainable, **R**elevant and **T**ime-sensitive? Learn how to recognize if your child’s IEP goals meet the SMART criteria and provide input with your school team.

“Bippity-Bobbety-Boo: Self Care for YOU”



“Take care of yourself.” That’s common advice for parents who have children with disabilities, but how do you find the time, energy and resources to do it? Come learn from this wonderfully insightful mom what self-care looks like for you and how to create and implement a self-care plan that helps you feel supported, stronger, refreshed and joy-filled. You’ll also learn ways to access and connect with a supportive community.

“Presto Chango: Understanding Puberty”



Puberty--that stage where children experience rapid changes in their physical body and emotions as they mature into sexual adults--can be confusing, exciting, and sometimes alarming to both youth with disabilities and their parents. You won’t want to miss the facts and advice this master teacher offers about hygiene, handling emotions and the importance of socialiation. You’ll also benefit from tips about how to share information and help your blossoming teen communicate with medical providers.

Session 1 - 10:45 - 11:45 a.m. (continued)

“Magic Keys to Unlock Benefits”



Most parents and teachers have some knowledge about **government benefits for children and adults with disabilities and medical conditions**. Here’s a chance to enter a Wizard’s Academy on Supplemental Security Income (SSI), Social Security Disability Insurance (SSDI) and Childhood Disability Benefits (CDB). You’ll also learn about eligibility for Medicaid and the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP).

Session 2 - 1:20 - 2:20 p.m.



“Potions of Positivity”

Transforming the behavior of your child or teen from challenging to positive takes hard work and a spark of inspiration. That inspiration comes from understanding the functions and triggers of behavior, and how consequences can be selected that reinforce desired behaviors. In this helpful workshop you will learn how to access behavioral support at school and strategies that can help improve behavior at home and in the community.

“Spell Book of Sensory Success”



Children with autism and other developmental disabilities may have sensitivity to certain sights, smells, touch, sounds, and tastes. While some children are hyper- (highly) sensitive to this input to the senses, others are hypo- (under) stimulated. **Sensory integration therapy** is designed to help children and teens better manage their daily tasks, activities and emotions. Learn from a physician and a veteran mom how you can put together a sensory toolkit for your child or student.

“Your Time to Sparkle”



Becoming a better parent advocate when you have a child with a disability involves mastering key strategies, and who better to share them than two masterful mommas who will plant the seeds for your magical powers to grow. They will share lots of tips around growing your knowledge of special education laws and your child’s unique needs, communicating effectively, learning how to negotiate, finding support networks and nurturing your own self-care needs.

“Mystical Tools”



This workshop will highlight three critical aspects of **technology in education**. Due to technology’s rapid improvements, two amazing Assistive Technology Specialists will be discussing 1) the digital divide of online/tech skills between parents and students, 2) the use of artificial intelligence in educational settings, and 3) showcasing effective learning tools (apps and software) for students with learning differences that are essential for promoting an effective learning environment.

“Spellbinding Social Networks”



Helping students with disabilities build their own social networks creates a sense of community by connecting them to peers, mentors, and resources fitted to their unique needs and interests. Come to this workshop to hear examples of how the creation of a social network with key mentors or peer groups can enhance a student’s sense of belonging that leads to developing new skills and opportunities.

Session 2 - 1:20 - 2:20 p.m. (continued)

“Enchanting Paths”



Just as a magician uncovers hidden wonders, **transition planning** unlocks each student’s potential by identifying personalized goals in education, employment, and independent living. By focusing on the unique talents and passions of each student, transition planning reveals the magical possibilities that lie ahead. Learn from two transition magicians the steps in the process and how parents are key partners in preparing their child for success as an adult.

Session 3 - 2:30 - 3:30 p.m.

“Behind the Curtain: Autism and OCD”



Autism spectrum disorder (ASD) and obsessive-compulsive disorder (OCD) are two distinct neurodevelopmental conditions that can intersect in school-age children. Our wise team of psychologist and parent will share the statistics on co-occurrence here in Hawaii, explain how the diagnoses are alike and how they are different, and share how families can identify OCD symptoms and find treatment options for their children.

“The Wizard’s Guide to Dyslexia”



Dyslexia affects up to 20 percent of the population and represents 80–90 percent of all those with learning disabilities, yet many parents are in the dark about the best evidence-based interventions to support their child’s learning. This workshop will shine light on these helpful strategies and give parents and teachers considerations for ensuring appropriate goals, supports and services in the IEP.

“Keep Calm and Conjure On”



We live in stressful times, and more and more of our children and youth with magical abilities are experiencing **anxiety**. This helpful workshop led by two Wizards of Worry will walk parents through the signs and symptoms of anxiety that affect a child’s learning and daily activities to help determine if professional help is needed. You will learn where to reach out for help and gain some valuable tips on how to help your child stay calm in stressful situations.

“Wizards of Independence”



In the enchanting realm of supporting youth with disabilities, there are several magical **alternatives to guardianship** that empower young wizards to thrive with autonomy and confidence. Learn from this dynamic trio about supported decision-making, power of attorney, representative payee, and options for parents of students who remain in school after 18 and need help with educational decision-making.

A Sampling from our Enchanted Hall of Resources



Division of Vocational Rehab
Mental Health America of Hawaii
Special Needs Hawaii
Hoomana Parent Support
Center on Disability Studies
Goodwill Hawaii
Emergent Learning Hawaii Center
Community Children’s Councils
Exceptional Support Branch

Hawaii International Dyslexia Assoc.
Positive Behavior Supports, Corp.
Autism Moms of Kona
Developmental Disabilities Division
Yim & Yempuku, AAL
Access to Independence
Comprehensive Services Center
Early Intervention Section
Hawaii Disability Rights Center

Heartfelt Legacy Foundation
Special Needs Hawaii
Work Now Hawaii
Bayada Habilitation
LDAH
Hawaii Families as Allies
Malama Pono Autism Center
Balanced Brain