



## Media Release

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**For Immediate Release**

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### **Doctor Who First Diagnosed Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorders to Speak at FASD Summit in North Little Rock Sept. 23**

***Today, Sept. 9, marks FASD Awareness Day***

**What:** "Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorders (FASD): Developing Practical Supports" will provide practical help for professionals working in criminal justice, health care, education, and early childhood education. Family members are also encouraged to attend. The two and a half day summit is sponsored by The ARC, Partners for Inclusive Communities and the Regional Fetal Alcohol Syndrome Training Center.

The registration fee is \$50 and participants may register at: <http://arfasd.eventbrite.com>.

**Who:** Special guest Dr. Ken Jones, who first diagnosed FASD 40 years ago, will give the keynote address at the summit on Monday, Sept. 23, from 10:30 a.m. until noon. Jones is considered to be the father of Fetal Alcohol Syndrome since he first coined the term along with Dr. David Smith at the University of Wisconsin in 1973.

Also speaking at the summit will be Dr. Bradley Schaefer, director of Genetics UAMS/ACH; Tom Donaldson, director of the National Organization on Fetal Alcohol Syndrome; Dr. Susan Rich, M.P.H. child/adolescent psychiatrist; William Edwards, deputy public defender in Los Angeles County; Monica Charles Leinberger, FASD and behavior specialist in Alaska; Stephen Greenspan, PhD, Clinical Professor of Psychiatry, University of Colorado; and Natalie Novick Brown, Ph.D., a forensic psychologist from Seattle who specializes in FASD.

**When:** Sept. 23-25

**Where:** North Little Rock Chamber of Commerce, 100 North Main Street, North Little Rock, AR 72114

**Additional information:**

It's estimated that 300 to 400 babies are born each year in Arkansas with some level of Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder. Arkansas recently passed a law that requires that private clubs display a sign warning that drinking alcohol while pregnant can cause birth defects.

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Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorders are 100 percent preventable by avoiding alcohol entirely if pregnant or planning to become pregnant, yet the incidence of the disorder within the United States is estimated at 1 out of 100 live births and costs the United States more than \$5 billion annually in direct and indirect costs.

Jones' research in FASD continues today. An author of more than 400 publications in scientific journals as well as several books, Jones trains fellows in dysmorphology, sees patients daily in clinics and serves as a consultant on hospital inpatient services throughout San Diego County. He serves as Chief of the Division of Dysmorphology/Teratology at the Department of Pediatrics at University of California San Diego and Medical Director of CTIS Pregnancy Risk Information.