

# FAMILY LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE

KEYNOTE SPEAKERS



**LISA LIGHTNER**



**JIM NIFORATOS**

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Parents Reaching Out



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## **Lisa Lightner**

Inspired by her own son with disabilities, Lisa Lightner is an award-winning blogger and advocate. She has previously worked for her county's Arc and has served on the Boards of Directors for several disability organizations. Currently she is her county's chairperson for the Right to Education Task Force, a federally decreed group set up in 1971 to ensure that all children in Pennsylvania had the opportunity to an education. When not attending IEP meetings with families or lobbying in Harrisburg and DC for disability rights, she can be found on the web at her IEP advice blog, A Day in our Shoes. She is known for her practical, realistic and implementable advice for parents.

## **Jim Niforatos**

Jim Niforatos has fairly broad training. He attended the University of Chicago for his undergraduate education, where he majored in biology; Wheaton College for his graduate education in philosophy and theology; IIT Chicago-Kent Law school, where he studied law; and Northwestern University Medical School, where he studied medicine. Jim has used his medical education and legal experience to consult with and assist the medical profession on a host of levels. A regular instructor of Pathophysiology, Anatomy and Physiology, and other health-related science classes to aspiring health care professionals at two different schools in New Mexico as well as an educational consultant to medical schools, colleges, and community colleges throughout America, Jim nevertheless spends a lot of time engaged in health care and educational outreach to the disenfranchised, starting with over twenty years of work in the inner city in Chicago and continuing with work on reservations, pueblos, and in the barrios throughout New Mexico over the past almost twelve years.

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