



Marion County Services for the Developmentally Disabled Newsletter



March-April 2011 Newsletter

MARION COUNTY SERVICES RECEIVES \$7000!



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Marion County Services received exciting news recently. Our organization became the recipient of a General Mills Foundation \$7,000 grant. The proceeds of this grant will go towards the benefit of athletes participating in Special Olympics and Athlete's Day. This generous amount will support the purchase of training equipment, new uniforms, and transportation costs to events throughout the State of Missouri. General Mills Foundation Funding Priorities are: Youth Nutrition and Fitness, Education, Arts and Culture, and Social Services. When evaluating requests, the General Mills Foundation favor organizations meeting the following criteria:

- Mission is closely related to the Foundation's priorities.
- Programs or activities are based in communities with General Mills operations and employees.
- Program or activities involve General Mills employees and retirees.
- Services create sustainable community improvement.

It is obvious that General Mills and Marion County Services share a common goal – to help individuals we serve live productive, meaningful, healthy, and safe lives – and to do so, as much as possible, at home and in the community.

Our demand for services and supports far exceeds our resources, and at a time like this not for profits find their organization struggling to provide the program services which unfortunately distresses the activities program. These affairs are a big part of the foundation that builds life-long relationships throughout the community. General Mills recognizes the importance of these relationships and the well-being of persons in our services. General Mills Foundation has now provided the necessary assistance that allows the athletes to pursue their goals of:

- Living Healthier lifestyles
- Raising self-esteem
- Building their teamwork skills; and
- Being an important part of the community

What's in the Newsletter?

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On Monday, May 9th, General Mills sponsored a Grant Recipient Reception which was held at the Hannibal Nutrition Center. This was in honor of all the grant recipients in the area. Kathy Butler, Community Integration Liaison, Alice Rouse, Community Integration Specialist, and three of our athletes, Kenny Walker, Mary Shepherd, Garret Lawrence, and I attended. It was a great evening of refreshments and learning about all the organizations and what their grant proceeds would be used for. I was able to talk about two of my favorite things, the amazing individuals that we serve and the compassionate staff that is the backbone of the organization. Our hats off to the General Mills Foundation and their efforts that help support communities and living out their mission of "nourishing lives". **THANK YOU!**



Q's CORNER– Kris Bridges

It happened again last week.

A woman in one of my evening classes at Quincy University exclaimed, “that’s so retarded!” to a classmate. Within seconds, she remembered my occupation and that I was sitting right behind her, and she quickly apologized. “I never say that,” she said. “I don’t know why I just did.”

I wish more people would think before they speak. And, I wish more people would consider why they use the words they do. I am frequently around kids of all ages, and I’ve noticed that high school students seem to be the worst at stating something is “retarded” or worse – that someone is a “retard.” I cringe when I hear that word.

I’ll bet most of you are as appalled as I am that the “r word” seems to somehow have become acceptable, especially in the vocabulary of teens. But, it is offensive, hurtful, and continues to stereotype people with intellectual or developmental disabilities.

A website I came across this month is dedicated to wiping out the “r-word”, and you can help by going to the site and taking a pledge to do your part. The website is www.r-word.org and it highlights a campaign called “Spread the Word to End the Word.” There is also a fan page on Facebook at www.facebook.com/EndtheWord.

“Spread the Word to End the Word” is an ongoing effort by Special Olympics, Best Buddies International and others to raise the consciousness of society about the hurtful effects of the “r-word.” The campaign is also intended to engage schools, organizations, and communities to promote the inclusion and acceptance of people with intellectual disabilities.

The campaign is spearheaded by college students Tim Shriver (Yale, 2011), who is also chairman of the board of Special Olympics, and Soeren Palumbo (Notre Dame, 2011), and led by youth who want to raise awareness of the offensiveness of the word. Celebrity activist John C. McGinley is a spokesperson for the campaign.

The next time you are online, please take a minute and “Spread the Word to End the Word” by going to the website and taking the pledge.

As the website says: “The word ‘retard(ed)’ hurts millions of people with intellectual disabilities, their families and friends. Take the pledge and help promote the new R-word: Respect.”



Respectful and inclusive language is essential to the movement for the dignity and humanity of people with intellectual disabilities. However, much of society does not recognize the hurtful, dehumanizing, and exclusive effects of the word “retard(ed).” --www.r-word.org

BRIDGES NEWS-Cindy Cates

In the last newsletter it was mentioned Bridges was setting up a recycling program. At this time we are capable of recycling plastic bottles, paper/newspaper, and cans. Some consumers are even bringing in their plastic bottles from home so they will be sure to be recycled. One consumer, Vera, also collects the 5 cent Pepsi brand soda bottle tops and turns them in.

Another consumer, Steve, collects the tabs off of cans for Boy Scout Troop 594. The proceeds go toward the Ronald McDonald House. Money from recycling the cans go back into the Bridges

program mainly for art and craft supplies. Consumers on outings deliver the items to the Kan Man or to the Sheltered Workshop for recycling.

A new class that some of Bridges consumers are participating in is Conservation Class. They have received many free items from the conservation department and also are able to sign out (for free) boxes that have themes that consumers can study. Some of the items studied include snakes, frogs, fish, and mushrooms. Each year cooking class likes to prepare and eat morel mushrooms, but those who usually find the morels did not have any luck finding any this year. If anyone who found a surplus would like to donate to Bridges consumers, we would gladly accept them!

We are able to use the Palmyra Road building for Silver and Gold Kids’ Summer Camp this year since extra space was freed up when some offices were moved to the new Northport building last August. Bridges staff and camp staff are working together in preparation for sharing the building for 8 weeks this summer. The adult programs and children’s programs will be separated since there is enough room in the building for each program to have its own space.

We do anticipate some possible vehicular congestion at arrival and departure times since both programs start and end at the same time. We are working hard in advance to minimize any problems we foresee, and ask for your patience should vehicular congestion occur when camp begins June 6.

We need to say thank you to some people. Each Thursday for well over a year now some of our consumers have been going to Willow Care Center to do activities with the residents there. They are so generous to us, providing snacks and drinks, bingo prizes, arts and crafts supplies, and other items out of their own budget. At Easter time they held a coloring contest for our consumers, gave them chocolate Easter bunnies, and sent our consumers 36 hard boiled eggs (one for each consumer in our day program) that they had dyed. A big thanks goes to Willow Care Center and Activities Director Bridget Carroll for making this program possible!

Another thank you goes to Bridges staff who has been handling new classes, big changes in several consumers’ medical needs, and other general program changes very well. Our staff keeps the consumers involved in activities, happy, and makes our day program unique and a success. Thank you staff for all you do!

Senior Group-Sherry Riley

The senior group enjoyed a Valentine’s Day party in February, and an Easter party in April. They are looking forward to their first picnic of the summer, and already asking about going on the riverboat, which is an annual tradition. We have two new people going with the senior group on Mondays, Mary and Sarah. They said they have enjoyed the outings so far.

COMMUNITY INTEGRATION-Kathy Butler

Special Olympics

The Hannibal Hawks attended the State Basketball tournament held in Kansas City on March 18th and 19th. Several individual skills players, the three on three team, and full court team participated in the event. Friday night was a special night for the Hannibal Hawks, Kenny W. was recognized as one of the finalists in the SOMO male basketball player of the year. Kenny was recognized at the opening ceremonies and walked in the parade of athlete’s. Although Kenny did not receive SOMO male basketball player of the year, he is #1 to us.

The teams played hard and several medals were won by the individual skill athletes. The three on three team received third place and the full court team received fourth place. The full court

team was nominated by their peers, coaches, fans and volunteers for the Cholly Award for Sportsmanship.

The Hannibal Hawks Track and Field team also participated in the Area Track and Field meet in Kirksville on April 16th. Every athlete could compete in three events. Several medals were also handed out. The athletes enjoyed having a college student as a buddy.



Some of the Special Olympics participants.



Some of our Basketball team.

Holman Fundraiser

On March 25th the Consumer Council, Aktion Club, and MCSDD held a fundraiser for the Holman Family. They recently lost their home to a fire. Everyone worked extremely hard and we had a great turnout. Many thanks goes out to the consumers, staff, community, and Willow Care Nursing Home who helped out by providing donations or time for the event.

CNO Night

May 23rd we will be having Bingo at the Palmyra Road Building from 6-8pm. Please call Kathy at 248-1077 ext. 203 to RSVP

Aktion Club

Aktion Club is getting ready for the 4th of July. They recently voted on new board members. They are: President: Ashley M., Vice President: Jeff L., Secretary: Dedire M. and Treasurer: Garrett L. The club is working on the 4th of July float and looking for fundraising ideas. They will meet May 17th from 4:30-6:30pm to work on the float. Their next meeting will be June 7th, 6pm at 3175 Palmyra Road.

2011 Prom

The 2011 prom was held at the Admiral Coontz armory on April 15th. 103 Consumers came out in Hawaiian attire for this event. Consumers danced the night away to a variety of music. They enjoyed the limo rides provided by Grandview Funeral Home. They also had cake, punch, chips and dip during the evening. Katlin C. was crowned Queen and Willie P. was crowned King. A special thanks goes out to all who helped with the prom, including Mrs. Smith, Advance Beauty College, Ms. Reid and all the volunteers from Hannibal High School National Honor Society.



Prom Queen Katlin C. and Prom King Willie P.



Dancing the Night Away!!

SUNBURST ISL- Connie Mayo

The men and staff at Sunburst are welcoming the spring and summer seasons. We have already fired up the grill and started enjoying the warmer weather. Along with the change in weather there are also lots of changes in staff and residency. We would like to welcome our new home manager Connie Mayo!

One of the men will be moving in the beginning of June, he has worked diligently on his goals and earned himself independent living. Great job!!!

Another continues to work and has made up for the days missed due to holidays. Keep up the good work! He will be turning 40 in the end of June!! Everyone at Sunburst is planning a celebration for both consumers.

One of the other men is also celebrating a milestone. He was baptized in the beginning of May and he and his fellow parishioners celebrated!

Sunburst wishes everyone a lovely summer and blessed days!

The consumers and staff at Wildrose, Paris, and Wyaconda are all enjoying the lovely weather and are looking forward to the summer!

People First

People First meets the third Tuesday of every month at 6:30pm at the MCS Palmyra Road Building. They will be holding elections in June. If you would like more information please contact Skippy Coffman at 573-231-9979.

TCM-Service Coordination

Congratulations!

All of us from TCM would like to say “congratulations” to Shannon Klaska and her family on their new precious baby girl, Isabella! All of the Service Coordinators have pulled together to help Shannon with her caseload during this time. We want her to enjoy her family and their new little angel as much as she can. Shannon is now working from home, but continues to get support from the rest of the Service Coordination team. Congratulations Shannon!!

Caseload Growth

Recently Service Coordination has welcomed several new consumers and their families to our services. We are always excited to get more people in our services to be of assistance to. Due to the expansion and increase in each Service Coordinator’s caseload, we will be in the process of interviewing for a new Service Coordinator over the next couple of weeks. This will help reduce caseload size so we may serve our clients more efficiently. We are looking forward to having another Service Coordinator join our team!

Prevention Waiver:

More good news for TCM clients, we have been approved to add 6 more Prevention Waivers slots, known as Partnership for Hope. We are in the process of filling these slots for those who have been on a waitlist. This waiver will help our consumers obtain many different kinds of services that they may be in great need of; such as: personal assistance, transportation, dental, career preparation, day habilitation, medical equipment, supported employment and many others. We are very excited to be able to open more doors of possibility for our consumers!

Dates to Remember:

Please join us for:

- Autism Support Group meets the 3rd Tuesday of every month at 6:00pm at Northport Plaza, for more information please contact Shannon or Sarah
- Draw Club meets every other Thursday at 6:00pm. This is for those 16 and older. Please contact Kelly for more information.

*We hope everyone has been having a wonderful spring
And please have a happy and safe summer!*

Retention Committee– Sarah Stolte

Happy Spring from the Retention Committee. We hope everyone is enjoying the nicer weather! We have enjoyed the spring weather by hosting a “Spring Fling” for our employees and their families. During the last weekend in April several MCSDD employees and their families attended our “Spring Fling” BBQ at the Palmyra Flower City Park. This gave employees the opportunity to get to know one another outside the workplace and just have fun. We had lots of good food thanks to Angela’s husband, Jeremy, who helped us out with the BBQ. Thank You Jeremy, everything was great! We also had a blast with pie throwing and volleyball. Our brave volunteers for the pie throwing were Wes Neff and Sam Stolte. I don’t know who enjoyed throwing the pies more, the kids or adults!! Thank you Wes and Sam, we know it couldn’t have

been easy getting all that whipped cream out of your ears! Of course, what would fun would it be to throw pies at just 2 people? It actually turned into a ‘small’ pie throwing fight between other employees, but it was all in good fun!

The volleyball game was also eventful. Even though the girl’s team may not have won as many games as the guy’s team, we still tried hard and had a blast doing so. Better luck next time! It was nice to socialize with employees from other departments and get to better know each other. The kids had a good time playing together and getting dirty. I’m sure a lot of parents had no trouble getting their exhausted children to bed that night!

A HUGE thank you to all the Retention Committee members and everyone that participated and helped!! It would not have been possible without our wonderful employees!!

Sarah Stolte
Retention Committee Chairman



Some of the employees and family visiting during the picnic.



Our volunteers after the pie throwing!



Playing volleyball!

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Congratulations to Shannon Klaska and her family! She had a girl in April!

Athlete's Day

Save the date for Athlete's Day June 11th at the Admiral Coontz Armory. More information will be mailed out in the near future!

WE WILL MISS YOU! Our prayers go out to the Crookshanks Family. One of our greatest supporters and former board member Kevin Crookshanks passed away in April. Kevin's wife, Paula, joined our Board of Directors upon Kevin's resignation. Kevin was known for his wit, compassion, and the love for his family among many more great attributes. He was a strong supporter of his family – wife Paula, and two children, Madeline and Kaitlin. Kevin is preceded in death by his daughter Madeline. Paula and Kaitlin have our prayers and support as they take this journey with their guardian angels, Kevin and Madeline looking over them.

Employee of the Quarter!

Congratulations to Sarah Stolte for being Employee of the Quarter!

Provider Links and Resources

Provider links and resources are under construction and will be available soon. Thank you for your patience!

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
May 15	16	17 Consumer Council -Palmyra Road 3:30pm People First -Palmyra Road 6:30pm Autism Support Group -12 Northport 6:00pm Aktion Club Working on float	18	19	20	21
22	23 CNO Night Palmyra Road 6:00-8:00pm	24	25 MACDDS Jefferson City	26 MACDDS Jefferson City Draw Club - 12 Northport 6:00pm	27	28
29	30 MCSDD Closed 	31	June 1	2 Region III SB 40 Director Meeting - HRO 10:00am-12:00pm	3	4
5	6	7 Aktion Club -Palmyra Road 6:00pm	8	9 Draw Club - 12 Northport 6:00pm	10	11 Athlete's Day -Admiral Koontz Armory
12	13	14 Board Meeting -12 Northport 6:30pm Head Injury Support Group	15	16	17	18
19	20	21 Consumer Council - Palmyra Road 3:30pm People First -Palmyra Road 6:30pm Autism Support Group - 12 Northport 6:00pm Foster-Grandparent Meeting -Douglas Community Center 9:00a- 3:00p	22	23 Draw Club - 12 Northport 6:00pm	24	25
26	27	28 CARF-ECS -Nashville, TN	29 CARF-ECS - Nashville, TN	30 CARF-ECS -Nashville, TN	July 1	2
3	4 MCSDD 	5 Aktion Club -Palmyra Road 6:00pm	6	7 Draw Club - 12 Northport 6:00pm	8	9
10	11	12 Board Meeting -12 Northport 6:30pm Head Injury Support Group	13	14	15	16

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