

Marion County Services for the Developmentally Disabled Newsletter



GREETINGS.....

May-June Newsletter

On behalf of from Marion County Services for the Developmentally Disabled I wish you greetings! We are pleased to present our first bi-monthly newsletter which will circulate throughout the community of Marion. Though MCSDD has always prepared a newsletter it was distributed quarterly with limited circulation. In expanding our distribution audience we hope to provide valuable and useful information to those we care about.....**YOU!** Our goal is to keep you informed about what is happening at MCSDD plus share valuable information we feel will be useful. Our hope is to strengthen relationships between persons served, parents and guardians, providers, stakeholders who share our vision. Our primary goal is to find innovative ways to support the families and bolster the independence of individuals with disabilities.

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What's in the Newsletter?

Page 1: Executive
Director's Letter

Page 2-4: Reports and
Activities on Programs
and Homes
Past Events &
Announcements

Page 5: Awards and
New Service
Coordinators

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& Resources and State
Budget

Page 7: Employment &
Volunteer Opportunities

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Events

The items that will continue to be included are as follows:

- Calendar of events
- Information on activities that have been taken place at MCSDD
- Articles on or reported by persons served
- State level budget information (when available)
- Resources that will assist you in finding the services that best fit your need.
- Information on conferences and/or workshops that will assist you in understanding different areas of developmental disabilities (as they are available)
- Other pertinent information will be provided as it becomes available.

Marion County Services for the Developmentally Disabled has been providing services to Marion County since 1989. Our unique agency is known as a Senate Bill 40 Board. A ballot was passed in 1988 by the citizens of Marion to approve a tax levy that would be used exclusively for those with developmental disabilities. The tax levy provides approximately ¼ of our agency revenue. This is put back into the community to fund services for persons served. We continue to improve and build on providing the quality care that individuals with developmentally disabilities deserve and have a right to receive.

Our services include:

- Service Coordination
- Independent Support Living
- Community Integration
- Transportation
- 8-week Silver and Gold Summer Camp
- Camp Yagottawanna (3-day weekend camp)
- Active in Special Olympics
- Athlete's Day (All day sports competition for area athletes)
- Monthly Consumer Night Out activities
- Funding source for providers and/or individuals

Our philosophy is to ***“fill in the gaps”*** of services for individuals with developmental disabilities. Our mission is ***“Increase choice, respect, ability, and involvement for the developmentally disabled citizens of Marion County”***.

As you read through the pages, we welcome your input so we can better serve you. To share suggestions please contact Olivia Powell, Development and Marketing, at 573-248-1077 ext. 109 or opowell@mcsdd.com.

We are proud to be a part of this community and feel privileged to be a part of your world!

Respectively,

Cathy Arrowsmith

Executive Director

Q's CORNER

By Kris Bridges, Qualified Developmental Disability Professional

Community involvement is a top priority at MCSDD. In the past, individuals with disabilities have not always had a strong physical presence in the community. We are working to change that!

MCSDD is always looking for opportunities to form partnerships with local organizations and agencies, so if you have an idea of how we can help consumers to become more involved in the community, please give me a call. Meanwhile, here are some success stories we have had from working on that goal this year:

Special Olympics Torch Run



Hannibal Hawks Special Olympics basketball team members Lucy W. and Dan B. held the torch during the first leg of the Hannibal law enforcement officers torch run for Special Olympics, an annual fundraiser for the program. They are pictured with local torch run chairman, Randy Doman.

It took Community Integration Liaison Kathy Butler only a couple of phone calls to bridge the gap between our local Special Olympics teams and law enforcement agencies.

Each year law enforcement personnel participate in a torch run to raise money for Special Olympics. This year, they had some help from the Hannibal Hawks basketball team! Members of the team ran alongside officers during their torch run in May. Two athletes that participated in the state basketball tournament, Lucy W. and Dan B., were even given the honor of carrying the torch at the start of the run.

Currently, MCSDD sponsors adult Special Olympic bowling, basketball, and track and field. Our vision is to someday work with our county schools to develop a program for kids. However, there is already a shortage of coaches and volunteers for these adult programs, so developing kids' sports is on the "backburner" for now.

Special Olympics is rewarding for athletes and volunteers alike. To inquire about ways you can get involved, please call me or Kathy Butler at 248-1077!

Working With Willow Care

When activity director Bridget Carroll from Willow Care Center approached Bridges Program Coordinator Cindy Cates this spring about partnering with them, Cindy jumped at the opportunity!

In April a group from Bridges day program began spending Thursday mornings with residents of the nursing home. They have done crafts together, planted flowers, played games like Hillbilly Golf and bingo, and even had a talent show in June. New friendships have been made, and Bridges' consumers look forward each week to the nursing home visit!

This weekly volunteer program is in addition to many others that consumers from Bridges enjoy. For instance, on every week day for several years a small group of staff and consumers have delivered Meals on Wheels to residents of Hannibal Housing Authority's apartments. Last year, we were approached by FACT

to help them prepare for the back to school fair by filling the backpacks to be given to the kids. They've asked us to help again this year, and within the next few weeks we will be working with them to fill backpacks again.

Within the last year consumers have helped at a church yard sale, collected donations for a family that lost their home in a fire, collected and sorted clothing to donate to Douglass Community Services clothing store, shopped for Christmas items for the Adopt A Family program, and periodically assisted Hannibal Regional Office with its mailings.

Information Train



MCSDD consumers and staff that participated in NECAC's Information Train campaign are, front row, from left, Morgan Whitaker, Stephanie C., and Melody Starr Bock. Middle row, from left, are Terri E., Sarah P., Scott A., and Mary S. Back row, from left, are Derek M., Daryl C., Tod F., Scott A., Melissa Williams (NECAC Service Coordinator for Marion County), and Tim Fenton.

I was talking with Marion County's service coordinator for Northeast Community Action Corporation, Melissa Williams, one day and happened to ask if there were any volunteer opportunities. She answered with a resounding "yes!" NECAC was going to be going door to door to distribute information targeting low-income households in a project it calls "Information Train," and they needed help.

As the result, a group from the Bridges Day Program volunteered and spent a morning in May hanging bags of resource information on doors around town. The volunteers said it made them feel good to be able to help out in their community!

Aktion Club

If you have not heard about this new group yet, you certainly will in the future. Hannibal Evening Kiwanis Club is working together with Marion County Services to establish an Aktion Club for individuals with disabilities. Aktion Club is a part of Kiwanis International, and it emphasizes community volunteerism.

Members have to be 18 years of age or older, and dues are \$5 annually. Evening Kiwanis generously paid the dues for the 31 charter members. A dinner and celebration will take place when the charter is received, which will hopefully be in August.

The group has already completed its first community service project that it chose to do, potting plants and distributing them to people in the community who are ill, in nursing homes, etc. Their next project is a fund-raising bake sale tentative scheduled for Saturday August 7. For more information or if you would like to join Aktion Club call me or Kathy Butler to register.

Right to Play Project

Kudos to Shine A Light on Autism for sponsoring a fund-raiser for the all-inclusive, assessable playground project proposed for Hannibal's Huckleberry Park!

The group has put together a Lighthouse Challenge the morning of Saturday, September 18, where people will climb the steps to

the lighthouse to raise money for the playground. A pre-registration form is available on the group's website at shinealightonautism.com. Registration begins at 7 a.m. the day of the challenge.

Currently, the Right to Play committee is working with the city of Hannibal on this innovating playground, hoping to see enough money raised that construction can begin in 2012 on the first phase of the project.

Although the fund-raising goal is \$200,000, the end result promises to be "priceless!"

BRIDGES NEWS-Cindy Cates

Bridges has been very busy the last few months with trips. They have gone to Hunnewell Lake for fishing, Quincy to the Illinois Veterans Home to have a picnic and see the animals, Mark Twain Cave, and the river boat. They have also held barbeques and carry-ins. Every Thursday we have been going to Willow Care Nursing Home to do crafts and play games with the residents.

PARIS AVE. ISL- Nikki Minks

The Paris home has been quiet since the loss of a resident. He was a good friend and will be missed dearly. One resident has been busy working on his bike and riding it around the neighborhood. One of the other residents has been going to many yard sales. He also has been enjoying the farmers market.

WILD ROSE ISL-Katie Childs

Everyone at Wildrose ISL had a great spring and they're enjoying the summer by getting out and going shopping, going to the movies, and feeding the ducks at the park. One resident has continued to do incredibly well - she's been selling her Avon, saving her money and working out to improve her overall health and lifestyle. In the coming months, she is going to really get out into the community and try her hand at photography. She's also looking forward to the fall so she can begin her holiday crafts to give away to friends and family.

WYACONDA ISL- Missy Hickman

The girls at Wyaconda have enjoying the summer. They have went on outings to the movies. During the 4th of July they went to Tom Sawyer Days and watched the parade and fireworks.

SUNBURST ISL- Morgan Whitaker

There have been some big and exiting things that have been going on at Sunburst. They have welcomed a new home manager Morgan Whitaker and a residential instructor Starr Bock.

One resident has had an exciting summer so far. He was able to go home for the holidays to enjoy his family. He has also had the opportunity to entertain a friend at his house, which he enjoyed a lot. He also went shopping and had lunch in Quincy, IL. He was very excited because this was his first time going to the Quincy Mall.

Another resident has had an enjoyable month. He has enjoyed the holidays by going downtown and buying wood projects to paint. He has also been spending time with his mother and family. He has been enjoying having his mom come to visit him on a regular basis.

SILVER & GOLD FRIENDS DAY CAMP 2010

Summer Camp has had many good times and great adventures so far this summer! The 12-18 year old age group came in June. Campers got to enjoy crafts, activities, and games. They had a lot of fun making things such as daily journals, masks, and even sparkly fish from CD disks. They also got to play exciting inside and outside games, their favorite was dodge ball. Camp also consist of visiting places in the community such as, the Hannibal

Arts Council, Dave's Firework Stand, Quincy Airport, and of course swimming, just to name a few. They even got to meet the Hannibal Cavemen.

The end of camp for the 12-18 year olds was topped off with a family day, which included an awards ceremony for the campers. There were awards for "Best Laugh", "Game Board Queen", "Dodge Ball King", "Perfect Attendance", "Dive Board Diva", "Overall Camp Champ", and many, many more. All the camper's artwork and journals were on display for the parents and families to enjoy and take home. It was a joy to have all the children and their families be a part of camp, and we look forward to having everyone back next year!

Currently the 5-11 year old age group is attending camp. They have also enjoyed many of the same activities and visits in the community as the 12-18 year old age group. They are working daily on their journals and making fun art/ crafts, as well as a new game each day such as Hokey Pokey, I Spy., Simon Says, etc.

Also, this month there is a "Children's Classic Movie" theme. They will watch a children's movie each week and do activities for that movie. Campers so far have watched the movie Bambi. They even got to see Bambi at the Veterans Home in Quincy. Along with movies and activities the children were able to have a Show 'N' Tell, learn some karate, go swimming and to the park. They also received a visit from The Hannibal Fire Department to talk about fire safety. This was just the first 2 weeks; they have so many more adventures planned! The last day of camp everyone will get to participate in a Wizard of Oz Party. It is sure to be lots of fun and maybe even a few surprises!

I would like to thank all the families and children who participated this year; it was so much fun having everyone be a part of camp! I also want to thank Annthea, who is the Camp Director, for working so hard to put together all the wonderful activities that have made camp such a blast! Also, thank you to all the staff, Dakeeta, Cassie, Megan, Clinton, and Jennifer for working so well with all the children. Finally, thank you to anyone else who helped in one way or another to make camp such a success this summer!

- Sarah Stolte, Camp Supervisor

Retention Committee

The mission statement of the Retention Committee is "**To Retain Employees by Providing Resources, Support, and Unity for Positive Change Within the Workplace**".

Some of the goals for the Retention Committee are to explore ways to improve benefits for employees, raise awareness of Marion County Services, create new and/or improve programs for consumers, families, and the community, investigates how we can provide more staff recognition, and put together a fun staff event.

One of the events the Retention Committee is currently in the process of launching is our "Biggest Loser" competition. This is to promote health and wellness in the workplace. Our employees will be divided up into teams. They will work together to exercise and make a meal plan. This is sure to be fun and exciting, but more importantly, provide a healthy lifestyle change!

We have also nominated our Employee of the Quarter, Mahogany Wallis, Service Coordinator Supervisor. Congratulations!

The committee consists of:

Sarah Stolte, Chairman
Sheila Allison, Co-Chairman
Krystal Oliver, Treasurer
Amanda Hirner, Member
Angela Wallace, Member
Fahren Stumbaugh, Member
Kyra Simpson, HR Manager

COMMUNITY INTEGRATION

The Community Integration department has been keeping busy over the past few months. We recently had the “Evening In Paris Prom”. What a fun night of dancing and being with friends. Over one hundred consumers and staff attended. Grandview Funeral Home donated the use of their limo for free rides throughout the evening. Our Prom Queen Laura F. and Prom King David C. looked great in their crowns. Many people are already talking about planning for next year’s prom.

The consumer council at Marion County Services meets once a month. They discuss various issues and ideas regarding consumers. They currently are working on the ADA celebration coming up July 26th. They have decided to have a BBQ on August 30th from 6pm-8pm. More information about this event will be sent out.

The consumer council recognizes quarterly, staff from Marion County Services who have gone above and beyond to support a consumer. If you know of a staff who meets this criteria please let one of the consumer council members know. They are : Charles J., president, Amber T., Dan B., Scott A., Dedire M., Amanda S., Charles L., Roger H., and Gary W.

Some of our consumers recently participated in the HRO “Celebrate the Artist In You”. Several Community Integration consumers participated in this event. It is truly amazing how many artist we have around us.

Camp Yagottawanna will be held this year October 8th, 9th and 10th. Kathy will be sending out information and applications in the very near future.



PAST EVENTS

Prom was held recently for the consumers and staff. The theme for this year’s prom was “Evening In Paris Prom”. Pictured are the Prom King David C. and Queen Laura F.! If you had pictures taken at the Prom you can pick them up from Kathy Butler.



ANNOUNCEMENTS

MCSDD is hosting a seminar on “Understanding Autism” on September 3rd at 5:30. The speaker for the night is Dr. Judith Miles, MD, PhD. The cost is free and it will be held at Quality Inn Ball Room in Hannibal, MO. If you have any questions please contact us.

Congratulations to the Employee of the Quarter and Consumer First Award Winners!

Congratulations to **Mahogany Wallis** for receiving the Employee of the Quarter Award!

Congratulations to the Consumer First winners: **Tim Fenton**
Susan Barbee
Elliot Butler
Claira Campbell
Lara Schmidt
Sheena Cohea
Alice Rouse
Sheila Allison

Cindy Cates
Linda Tompkins
Kris Bridges
Kathy Butler
Barbie Warner
Relna Schroeder
Joe Floyd

Welcome New Service Coordinators!

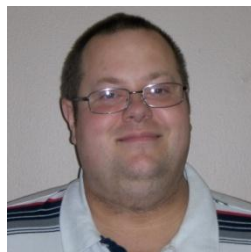
Effective July 1, 2010 Marion County Services for the Developmentally Disabled is providing service coordination for the entire county of Marion. The service coordinators have been busy training and preparing their caseloads. Please help welcome the new service coordinators!



Brandy Paben, BS



Donna Boling, BS, MS



Elliott Butler, AS, BA



Barb Van Abbema, BA



Timothy Fenton, BS

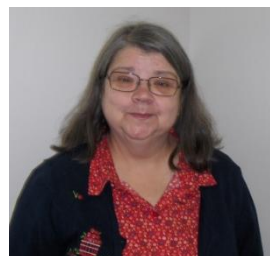
Current Service Coordinators:



Mahogany Wallis, BS, MS/P
Service Coordinator Supervisor



Shannon Klaska, BA, MA



Linda Tompkins, BES



Kelly Johnson, BS Psy

Provider Links and Resources

Provider links and resources is under construction and will be available in the next newsletter. Thank you for your patience!

State Budget Information

STATE BUDGET NEWS: *DMH Expenditure Restrictions for FY2011*

Governor Nixon announced on June 17, 2011 reductions totaling \$301 million from the FY2011 budget that began on July 1st. The largest reductions are \$70 million from school busing and \$50 million from the Access Missouri Scholarship Program. Disability-related items and the amount of the reductions include:

- **Medicaid Provider Rates - \$14 million.**
 - ≈ Includes a 2% reduction for DMH providers and DHSS providers (they received a 3% increase in FY09) and a reduction for most Durable Medical Equipment services to 80% of the Medicare rate.
 - ≈ The DD TCM rate will NOT be subject to the 2% DMH contract provider rate reduction. The TCM rate for FY2010 will continue to be used in FY2011 with no adjustment.
- **DMH facilities - \$3.6 million.**
 - ≈ 2% reduction; includes 78 FTE
- **Capital Project Fund Switch DMH Project - \$14 million.**
 - ≈ Other funding available
- **DMH Regional Offices - \$600,000.**
 - ≈ 5% reduction; includes 14 FTE
- **DMH Transition - \$2.4 million.**
 - ≈ speed up transition for both Nevada and Fulton
- **Department of Mental Health (DMH) St. Patrick Center Program - \$100,000.**
 - ≈ There will be additional funding from the Veterans Administration for this program.
- **Department of Social Services (DSS) Staffing - \$1.2 million.**
 - ≈ Reduce funding for various DSS programs
- **DSS Programs - \$2.2 million.**
 - ≈ Reduce funding for various DSS programs
- **Chronic Care Improvement Program - \$7.8 million.**
 - ≈ Reduce chronic care management contract to only continue the high cost users.
- **DESE Professional Development Centers - \$6,400,000.**
 - ≈ Suspends funding for regional professional development centers.
- **Virtual Schools - \$300,000.**
 - ≈ Retains sufficient funding to continue current policy of paying for classes for medically fragile students.

In addition, the links below include additional supplemental information about the State of Missouri Fiscal Year 2011 Budget.

Link 1 – Information specific to budget reductions:

[http://oa.mo.gov/bp/FY2011Expenditure RestrictionLineItemVetoes.pdf](http://oa.mo.gov/bp/FY2011Expenditure%20RestrictionLineItemVetoes.pdf)

Link 2 – Information specific to programs not affected by budget restrictions:

<http://oa.mo.gov/bp/FY2011ExamplesProgramsNotIncludedReductions.pdf>

ARE YOU SEEKING A REWARDING CAREER?



Marion County Services for the Developmentally Disabled is looking for compassionate, dependable, and responsible individuals who strive to make a difference in the lives of others. Our agency accepts applications at any time during office hours (8:00 am – 4:30 pm M-F). We are always searching those individuals who strive to make a difference in the lives of others.

To become eligible for employment you will need to be able to provide copy of the following:

- GED, High School Diploma, degree, or other educational accomplishments (each depends on the position that is applied for)
- Social security card
- Valid driver's license
- Chauffeur's endorsement (CLASS E) on driver's license (this can be obtained after hire but before transporting persons receiving services and is at the cost of the agency).
- Training certifications that candidate claims to attain
- Any other records needed for the position applied for

An employee will be required to have the following:

- Dependable Vehicle with current tags
- Current insurance coverage

An eligible candidate will need to pass the following:

- Background check from local police department of community or county that employee resides in.
- Completed Missouri Workers Registration form

Marion County Services is a not-for-profit and wages can vary. In lieu of this Marion County Services strives to offer quality benefits. Those are as follows:

- Health and Dental Insurance paid by the employer (if dependents are carried on plan the financial obligation will be done through payroll deduction)
- Supplementary Insurance options (if elected, the financial obligation will be paid by employee through payroll deduction).
- 403(B) Retirement Plan
- Vacation accrual (vacation accrual is done on a monthly basis and is available for both full and part time employees)
- Paid Time Off (PTO) (This is accrued monthly and is used for sick leave. Two days of this time can be used for personal time)
- Discounted membership to the YMCA "Y" (This is done through payroll deduction)

If wanting to become a part of our team, please contact **Kyra Simpson, Human Resource Manager, at 573-248-1077 ext. 107.**

WHY BECOME A VOLUNTEER?



This is a question that is most commonly asked by people who have no real concept as to the benefits that can be gained through offering their services as a volunteer. In modern society, most people have become accustomed to only putting their effort and time into something if they can see the 'return' – usually meaning a financial gain as in a wage. However, for those who have worked previously as a volunteer or have looked into doing so, the 'rewards' to be gained from the experience can often far outweigh any form of financial remuneration. Here is a list of just some of the benefits and reasons why people choose to become a volunteer.

Build Self-Confidence - Although volunteer work doesn't tend to involve any financial reward, it can be quite challenging and many people find it a useful way of overcoming hurdles and obstacles, which in turn, can increase their self-esteem and confidence, which can be carried through to other areas of their lives.

Make New Friends - Voluntary work brings like-minded people together in a common setting where they'll all be working towards a common goal. As a result, they're likely to have a certain empathy with the charity or organization they are helping, which in turn means that they'll share certain common values that inevitably will mean they're likely to forge friendships while in a 'working' environment. For many people, it's this bond of friendship that draws them towards volunteering as opposed to alternative options for meeting new people, which can sometimes feel a bit more pressured.

Decision Making - It's not just younger people leaving school or university who sometimes need a little help in determining what kind of job or career path they wish to follow, older workers who may have been made redundant and others who are wanting to return to work, e.g. women who have been raising a family, can often find that by carrying out a range of voluntary work activities, it helps them decide the type of work they might prefer to pursue and are best suited to.

Making a Difference - Most of us are familiar with the old adage that "*it's better to give than to receive*" and nowhere is this phrase more apt than in the voluntary sector. People often derive a great sense of satisfaction from being able to help others who are less fortunate than themselves for whatever reason and get a lot of pleasure from the gratitude that is shown to them as a result. On a similar note, many volunteers often find that by getting involved with a particular cause, it allows them more access to spread a particular message or to influence policies, which can benefit others as a result.

Voluntary work offers a 'win-win' situation in terms of benefits to both volunteers and those they are trying to help alike. If you are looking for a rewarding experience **Please contact Kyra Simpson, Human Resource Manager, at 573-248-1077 ext. 107**

JULY

July 2010						
Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
12	13 Board Meeting at 6:30pm	14	15 Provider Meeting at Hannibal Regional Office	16	17	18
19 Unit Cost training by Marvin Stuenkel at Hannibal Regional Office	20	21	22 MACDDS Meeting at Ozarks	23 MACDDS Meeting at Ozarks	24	25
26 ADA 20th Anniversary Celebration! Please join us for cake & karaoke! 6:00-8:00pm 3175 Palmyra Road	27 People First meeting at MCSDD at 6:00 pm	28	29	30 Last Day of Summer Camp	31	

AUGUST

August 2010						
Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10 Board Meeting at 6:30 pm	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18 CARF survey	19 CARF survey	20 CARF survey	21	22
23	24	25 MACDDS Meeting at Ozarks	26 MACDDS Meeting at Ozarks	27	28	29
30	31	September 1	2	3 Understanding Autism 5:30 Quality Inn	4	5

SURVEY

Please fill out this survey and mail it back to us. We will be sending out a newsletter bimonthly. To make the newsletter better we would like to hear your input about what you thought of this newsletter and what you would like to see in the future. **Thank You!**

**Marion County Services for the Developmentally Disabled
17 Northport Plaza
Hannibal, MO 63401**