

## A Message from Chief Executive Officer, Dale Morrissey...

January is always the perfect time to reflect on the previous year and make plans for the New Year. As we look back on 2012, we are genuinely grateful for the support of our local community. Through support from United Way, Champaign County's Developmental Disabilities and Mental Health Boards, and each individual donor who contributed to DSC, we were able to continue services for approximately 1,300 children and adults with developmental disabilities in our community.

This support is more critical than ever, as the State of Illinois continues to descend into greater financial turmoil, and currently owes DSC approximately \$2.5 million. DSC's Board of Directors and Management Team continue to be in the forefront of advocacy efforts at the state level and I continue to serve on the Board of Directors for the Illinois Association of Rehabilitation Facilities (IARF) in Springfield, where we work diligently to educate our lawmakers about the importance of services and supports for people with disabilities in our state. IARF's efforts also include being the "voice of community-based services" at the Capitol, so as decisions are made, lawmakers have a better understanding of the impact those decisions will have on Illinois' most vulnerable citizens.

The New Year that is upon us will still be challenging, but with the commitment from an extremely informed and engaged Board of Directors, a seasoned and passionate Leadership Team, and a dedicated and professional direct service staff, we are confident that we will continue to manage our way through these tumultuous times, keeping our mission as our guiding principle.

Happy New Year!

Dale

On December 21st, DSC held the annual **Consumer Holiday Party**. **New Twang City** once again graced us with their presence, and played everything from Christmas tunes to Johnny Cash. Everyone enjoyed the music, had a great time dancing and truly appreciate New Twang City for donating their time and talent. A special thank you also goes to the **Champaign-Urbana Junior Woman's Club** for providing 60 dozen cookies, **Butch Dalhaus** for providing water and Pepsi products, and the **Fraternal Order of Police #17** (right, presenting the check to Janice McAteer) for giving a cash donation to cover some of the expenses! A catered meal from Hickory River for consumers and staff was enjoyed before the performance, and many board members helped serve the food. A great way to celebrate the holidays together!



**Check out the pictures of all the fun on the top of the cover page !**

DSC's **Annual Recognition Event** was held on November 1st and honored community partners, consumers and staff. Congratulations to DSC's Employer of the Year, **Pepsi Cola CU Bottling Company**; Special Recognition Award, **Mr. Dennis Kirby**; Public Service Award, **Keller Williams Realty KW Cares/RED DAY**; and Personal Achievement Award, **Ms. Brittany Huckstep** (pictured at left, receiving her award from Board Chairperson, Linda Bailey), who was recognized for her efforts in setting goals, developing a plan to achieve her goals, and then setting goals that are even higher. This process has led Brittany to incredible levels of independence. Since she began with DSC in 2006, Brittany has made progress every step of the way. She lives and works independently in the community and continues to stretch herself to learn and achieve more. She is currently at student at Parkland College and is very involved with CU Special Recreation.



**Congratulations to all the winners who make a significant difference at DSC!**

## DSC's Tree of Hope Campaign

*Inspiring...Hopeful...Legendary*

During the warmth of the summer, DSC's Tree of Hope committee, comprised of DSC staff and board members, once again gathered to discuss this year's Tree of Hope, including the goal for the campaign. The committee suggested our goal should represent the increasing need for services and supports for people with disabilities in our community, so with their encouragement and support, we increased the goal this year to \$130,000!

As of early January, we have raised \$120,528 of that goal and we could not have accomplished this effort without the support and involvement of many, including our inspiring Spokes Family, The McNamara's, (pictured at right) and the multitude of sponsors (listed below) who underwrite the cost of the campaign, enabling each donated dollar to go directly to services and supports!

The money raised during this campaign is of great importance, as it helps support 1,300 children and adults with disabilities in our community...but it is so much more. It also provides *hope* for so many families who are walking, or perhaps just beginning to walk, the path of raising a child or adult with disabilities. It is our sincere *hope* that we have offered our community a glimpse of life inside a family who is working to discover the paths that will lead them to providing the most independent life possible for their son, David. To read the full journey of the McNamara family or to donate to this year's Tree of Hope Campaign, please go to [www.dsc-illinois.org/events\\_fundraisers/treeofhope/](http://www.dsc-illinois.org/events_fundraisers/treeofhope/). The campaign runs through January 31st.



### Corporate Partners

Herff Jones (Cap & Gown Division), Schwalbe Family Dentistry, Sullivan-Parkhill Automotive, Dialogue Advisor, LLC

### Level I

Amdocs Employees, Patterson Company, Sam's Club, Tons O' Fun Band, WDWS/WHMS, WICD-TV News Channel 15

### Level II

Busey Bank, C-U Autism Network, Carle, Down Syndrome Network, First State Bank, Horizon Hobby, Inc.

### Level III

American Dowell Signcrafters, BankChampaign, CTF, Commerce Bank, Cozad Asset Management, Inc., Direct Impressions, Flooring Surfaces, Inc., Kemper CPA Group, LLP, McGladrey, Midland States Bank, Orange & Blue Distributing, Ruedi Holder & Associates, Inc., Ryt-way Industries, LLC, Sweet Pea Photography, Wells Fargo Insurance Services

### Friends of DSC

Advance Auto Parts, Bank of Rantoul, Barr Real Estate, Inc., Christie Foundation, Greater Champaign County AMBUCS, Hickory Point Bank & Trust, Hudson Drug & Hallmark Shop, Kingdom Lawn Care, Martin Graphics, Martin, Hood, Frieser & Associates, Midwest Construction Rentals, Midwest Engineering & Testing, Inc., Panera Bread, Pepsi-Cola C-U, Peter B's Automotive, Strawberry Fields

*\*Please see page at right for some creative ways that people have come together to support the Tree of Hope!*

The **Illinois Department of Human Services Bureau of Quality Management (BQM)** arrived at DSC recently to conduct a random and unannounced four-day site review. They reviewed a variety of programs and compliance of state and federal regulations. *DSC is pleased to announce that we received an overwhelmingly positive review across all programs with special recognition specific to the obvious commitment and demonstration of consumer choice and the variety of options and activities offered to consumers.* The success of this formal review speaks volumes to the inclusive, person-centered philosophy that is adopted by all DSC staff, the management team and DSC's Board of Directors.

Thank you to ALL that work hard every day to provide a safe, healthy, engaging and meaningful environment for consumers who choose DSC!

### Check out these Creative Efforts that Supported the Tree of Hope!

**AMDOCS employees** once again held their company-wide bake sale and raffle, bringing in an impressive **\$2,504!**



They also allowed people to sell homemade crafts and accessories, Pampered Chef items, Mary Kay, etc., with a percentage of sales going towards the total contribution. If you stopped by to get a tasty treat, (pictured at left) you wouldn't be too surprised by the success of their efforts!

The **WDWS Tree of Hope radio remote** event was held at **Panera Bread** on **December 6th** with **Dave Gentry** and **Elizabeth Hess**. During the radio remote \$5,380.01 was donated from listeners and, once again, **Ruedi-Holder & Associates** and **Flooring Surfaces, Inc.** each matched the first \$500 in donations, thus bringing the grand total for the day to **\$6,380.01!**

The **Tons O' Fun Band's 7<sup>th</sup> Annual Christmas Show** was held **December 8th** at Parkland Theater this year and over 300 guests showed up to enjoy themselves! Everyone enjoyed the Christmas classics and the musical variety, especially when all the singers joined together on stage—including Champaign Mayor Don Gerard—to sing the final song with the audience (pictured at right). The show helped raise **\$1,262.50** for the Tree of Hope campaign!



**Thank you to all of you for supporting the 2012 Tree of Hope Campaign!**

## DSC Wish List

- \* ALL Ultra Free and Clear Detergent
- \* Wii Game System
- \* Bed Linens
- \* DVD Player
- \* Paper Shredder
- \* iPads
- \* Crockpot
- \* Snacks for Developmental PLAY Group
- \* Industrial Washer and Dryer
- \* Passes & gift certificates to local vendors & restaurants for community outings
- \* Gas Grill
- \* Art supplies
- \* Toolbox Set
- \* Office Copy Paper
- \* Yard Shed
- \* Full Silverware Set

If you can help with these requests, please contact **Nikki Kopmann** at 217.356.9176 or [nkopmann@dsc-illinois.org](mailto:nkopmann@dsc-illinois.org).

## Bequests

To those friends who wish to help assure the longevity of DSC by mentioning DSC in your will, the following general form is suggested: "I give, devise, bequest to Developmental Services Center, an Illinois not-for-profit organization located at 1304 W Bradley Ave., Champaign, IL, the sum of \$\_\_\_\_ (or specifically described property)."

To view or download a copy of DSC's **Planned Giving Opportunities Brochures**, please go to this link <http://ow.ly/dIC9w>.

Contact your tax professional for more specific tax information. If you would like more information from DSC, please contact Janice McAteer at [jmcaateer@dsc-illinos.org](mailto:jmcaateer@dsc-illinos.org) or 217.398.7110.

## Consumer Corner

Folks at DSC have been quite busy the past few months!

The "Happy Rockers" singing group spread some holiday cheer at the McKinley 3 Performance by singing a variety of songs, including *Blue Christmas* by Elvis, *Joy to the World* by George Strait, *O Come All Ye Faithful* by Alan Jackson, and many more!

Consumers in the Developmental Training programs at both Champaign and Rantoul had art sales, with items like crafts, ornaments, and dry erase boards. One special project completed in Rantoul was making holiday coasters. Staff got the idea from the ever-popular *Pinterest*, and helped consumers draw pictures on the tiles to make customized coaster sets! These water-proof sets were a hit with staff, and we might see them again for Valentines Day and Mother's Day! Check out a few of the sets, pictured below.



Developmental Services Center  
1304 West Bradley Avenue  
Champaign, IL 61821

Non Profit Org.  
U.S. Postage  
PAID  
Champaign, IL  
Permit No. 424

DSC is dedicated to the mission: "To enhance the lives of individuals with disabilities by providing services and supports which enable them to live, work, learn and participate in their communities."



## Speak Up and Speak Out Summit

The **Speak Up and Speak Out Summit** was held October 29th-31st at the Springfield Hilton. This year's theme was "Living in the Community." The trip was made possible from fundraising activities that included a pancake breakfast with the Knights of Columbus in Rantoul, and a CD sale thanks to a donation of CD's from Melody Music.

Fourteen self-advocates from DSC loaded up two vans and one car, and took off for Springfield. After a great dinner at the hotel, and a trip to the pool, we planned our activities for the next day.

The Summit began with a session from keynote speaker Alex Plank entitled, "On the Wrong Planet: Succeeding with Differences." He discussed how his unique set of strengths and challenges allowed him to become successful. Other sessions were offered, including: *Preparing for a Job*, *Sexual Self-advocacy*, *Safety and Emergency Preparedness*, *Living in the Community*, *Low Cost Assistive Technology*, *Working in the Community*, and even a Zumba class.

Fun times were had as the group went to the gift shop in the hotel, as well as a few stores downtown. Don't forget the hotel pool and the Halloween costume dinner and dance on Tuesday night, with a great DJ!

Kevin Casey, Director of Developmental Disabilities from DHS spoke about the future of services in Illinois. The Summit ended with, "*The Ligas Decree: How Are They Doing Today?*" Ligas v. Hamos is a lawsuit filed in 2005 by nine people with developmental disabilities who reside in large private state-funded facilities (ICFDDs) or who are likely to be placed in such facilities. For more information, go to <http://www.dhs.state.il.us/page.aspx?item=40989>.

While we'd love to share a few more stories about the trip, we'll have to stay true to our motto - "What happens in



# DSC Community News

January 2013

Volume 7, Issue 1

## Inside:

- Wish List & Bequest Information
- Consumer Corner
- Message from Dale
- Consumer Party
- Annual Recognition
- Tree of Hope
- Department of Human Services Site Review
- Creative Tree of Hope Efforts
- Speak Up and Speak Out Summit



Developmental Services Center


Developmental Services Center  
1304 W. Bradley Avenue  
Champaign, IL 61821  
Phone: 217.356.9176  
Fax: 217.356.9851  
[www.dsc-illinois.org](http://www.dsc-illinois.org)


## What's New Around DSC . . .

### THANK YOU...

To **Steve and Carol Kamradt** for towels and shirts; To **Tami Most** for the shirts and pillow cases; To **Joyce Roberts** for the detergent, deodorant and lotions; To **Body N' Sole** for 30 pairs of tennis shoes; To **County Market** for the 20 pumpkins; To **Deana Strong** for the board games, ornaments and various arts and crafts supplies; To **Tom Cross** for the Wii game system; To **Slumberland** for the mattress and pad; To **Donald McCannon** for two vacuum cleaners; To **Sandy Borrelli and Swan Special Care Center** for the Hoyer lift and rocking chair; To **Joann Cabutti and Provena Covenant Auxiliary** for the various scarves, hats and blankets; To **Mr. and Mrs. Linton** for the projection TV; To **Mr. Curin** for the refrigerator; To **Dianne Tennant-Rucker** for the artificial Christmas tree.


### SAVE THE DATE!

 The **Christie Clinic Illinois Marathon** has again asked DSC to help with the "Corral Team" on **Friday night, April 26th and Saturday morning, April 27th.**

 DSC's **Annual Golf Classic** will be on **Monday, May 13th** at **Lincolnshire Fields Country Club**. We welcome golfers and sponsors!

Please contact [nkopmann@dsc-illinois.org](mailto:nkopmann@dsc-illinois.org) if you want to be a part of the action!

### Community Events

 **Greater Champaign County AM-BUCS** is holding their **Barstool Golf Tournament** on **Saturday, January 26th**. Contact Steve at 493-9026 to sign up and join the fun!

### SPECIAL THANK YOU...

Many local groups and individuals stepped forward to provide for individuals and families served by DSC, who would not otherwise had gifts to open this holiday season. On behalf of those receiving help from our amazing community: **THANK YOU to Fraternal Order of Police Illini Lodge 17** for providing food baskets; to **Provena Covenant Auxiliary** for providing blankets, hats and scarves; and to **DSC Employees and many community supporters** for the gift cards, money, clothes, pots & pans, bedding, toys, movies, books, etc! Our friends from **Farm Credit Services** (right) joined us again and did an awesome job of beautifully wrapping all of the packages! *Words cannot fully express the gratitude felt by everyone involved.*

