

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

After a long winter this year, it is exciting to watch spring begin her renewal! As the sun begins to shine more frequently with warming temperatures consumers and staff share the excitement with looking forward to spending more time outside in our community.

Just around the corner is the Christie Clinic Illinois Marathon and we are pleased to share that "Team DSC" is going to be involved again this year through volunteering at the starting line and participating! In addition to volunteering on Friday night and Saturday morning, there will be a group of DSC consumers and staff that will be participating in the 5K on Friday night! Watch for "Team DSC" and cheer them along the route!

Spring also brings much uncertainty with the State of Illinois budget process. We continue to stay involved at the state level and advocate regularly with local and state officials to ensure the best budget outcome possible. As more information becomes available, we will be sure to share it with you.

Happy Spring!

Dale

Ligas Consent Decree

What does the Ligas Consent Decree mean for individuals with developmental disabilities and their families?

The state of Illinois entered into a Consent Decree in June 2011, settling the Ligas v. Hamos lawsuit, filed in 2005, on behalf of individuals with developmental disabilities who were residing in private, state-funded facilities (Intermediate Care Facilities for Persons with Developmental Disabilities or ICFs/DD) of nine or more persons or who were at risk of being placed in such facilities, otherwise known as institutions. Plaintiffs sought use of community-based services and placement in community-based settings, including providers such as DSC.

The Governor's office is working to make disability services a priority through sharing the following during his budget address:

"Illinois lags behind the rest of the nation in the utilization of person-centered community-based care which has been demonstrated to allow people with developmental disabilities to lead more active and independent lives."

"We will comply with all consent decrees."

"We will provide individualized care."

DSC's Board of Directors and Management Team are working to meet the growing demand for community-based services, while making an individual's choice the highest priority for services and supports he or she prefers in order to live a personally fulfilling life.

To learn more about the Ligas Consent Decree and what it means for services and supports for individuals with developmental disabilities in Illinois, go to Illinois Department of Human Services link at <http://www.dhs.state.il.us/page.aspx?item=40989>.

Spread the Word to End the Word



On March 6th, DSC's Self-Advocacy group bundled up and braved the cold weather to participate in the national *Spread the Word to End the Word* campaign on the U of I Quad. This campaign educates people about the derogatory use of the word "retarded" and how hearing it affects us all. Self-Advocates handed out information about the campaign, and asked students to sign a pledge, vowing not to use the "r" word. To stay warm, Self-Advocates took turns warming up inside the Union, and having lunch in the food court. By the time they left the Quad, they had talked to a lot of people, and collected over 100 signatures on their pledge boards! The Self-Advocacy group really enjoyed the opportunity to meet new people and educate them about the use of the "r" word.



Although the official campaign is over, this is truly an ongoing effort to be respectful to people with disabilities. For more information, or to take the pledge online, please visit www.r-word.org.

Celebrating Retirement!

Retirement is something many look forward to, even those who have many years to go before reaching that achievement! Eloise, pictured at right, retired from Carle in March after 42 years!

Eloise had the determination and skills to secure the job on her own in 1971. She started in the cafeteria, then transitioned to delivering meals to patient rooms. She received support through the Apartment Services program, beginning in 2001, learning independent living skills, including how to use the MTD. After demonstrating her independence, she graduated from the program in 2008, continuing to live successfully on her own! She continues to receive support from Case Management for things like setting up her cell phone, preparing for retirement and her upcoming move to Peoria!

Like many in C-U, Eloise is a big Illini fan! She also enjoys cooking, animals, reading, needlework, collecting horse statues and coins. She also is passionate about the Animal Welfare League, and often donates items to other consumers at DSC.



CONGRATULATIONS, ELOISE! ENJOY YOUR RETIREMENT!

What is a STAR Card?

On DSC's website's homepage, there is a link for a STAR Card, which provides an opportunity for anyone to fill out information about a staff member that has gone above and beyond for a consumer, family or in our community. Over the past couple of months the following staff have received a STAR card! Congratulations to:

*Ann Clare *Mandi Isaac *Adam Herges *Steven Cisna *Greg Murdaugh *Betsy Miller

One family wrote, "*Mandi has gone above and beyond to make a smooth transition from high school to DSC for our child. Thank you for all your hard work in securing a placement for him. Your hard work and kindness do not go unnoticed.*"



If you would like to recognize one of the staff at DSC, please go to: www.dsc-illinois.org/about_us/compliment.html

Do You Have Papers and Magazines Cluttering Up Your House?

Well we have just the thing for you! DSC Business Operations center recycles all kinds of paper - including magazines, catalogs, office paper, etc. - as part of our effort to keep the environment clean and financially support DSC's programs.



You can bring your recyclable paper to DSC's Business Operation at **3102 W Clark Rd in Champaign, 8am—4pm, M-F**. From Duncan, turn west onto Clark Rd (just north of Springfield). Turn right to go behind DSC's Business Operations facility to drop off your items at the back loading dock door.

DSC Business Operations is a unique concept in creating job opportunities for adults with developmental disabilities. DSC Business Operations works to help provide support to the Employment Services program through business contract acquisitions that provide employment training for individuals receiving DSC services. Over 140 individuals have real work opportunities every day with a wide variety of work, which assists individuals in learning and improving work skills that are important in taking the next step to community employment. DSC works with local, national and international companies who provide an array of products and services to their customers.

DSC prides itself in efficiently meeting our customer's deadlines while matching all quality standards with the most competitive price. Please give us a call and we will provide a free quotation for your next project...this could be the most profitable call you make!

If you want to learn more about DSC's Business Operations and what can be done for you or your business, check out http://www.dsc-illinois.org/business_operations/ or contact Brad Parks, Director of Business Operations, at (217) 356-9176 or bparks@dsc-illinois.org.

DSC Wish List

- * ALL Ultra Free and Clear Detergent
- * Wii Game System
- * Art supplies
- * DVD Player
- * Paper Shredder
- * Kleenex & paper towels
- * Hygiene products, such as deodorant & toothpaste
- * Snacks for Developmental PLAY Group
- * Industrial Washer and Dryer
- * Passes & gift certificates to local vendors & restaurants for community outings
- * Gas Grill
- * iPads
- * Toolbox Set
- * Office Copy Paper
- * Yard Shed

If you can help with these requests, please contact
Nikki Kopmann at 217.356.9176 or
nkopmann@dsc-illinois.org.

Bequests

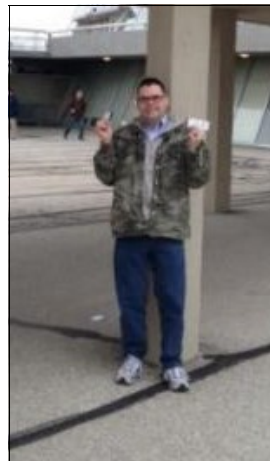
To those friends who wish to help assure the longevity of DSC by mentioning DSC in your will, the following general form is suggested: "I give, devise, bequest to Developmental Services Center, an Illinois not-for-profit organization located at 1304 W Bradley Ave., Champaign, IL, the sum of \$____ (or 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 or 217.398.7110.

Consumer Corner

In early February, Roger heard about a giveaway for tickets to the WWE SmackDown while listening to 105.5. Roger, a huge WWE fan, convinced his House Manager to take him to the contest. He went straight up to the counter and politely asked how he could win tickets. He was told to wait, and a minute later the DJ for 105.5 came out with a pair of tickets in his hand! Roger was so excited about getting the tickets that after he stepped away from the counter he jumped up and did a little "Yippee!"



Roger at the Assembly Hall with his tickets.

When asked if he is a big WWE fan, without hesitation he excitedly exclaims, "Oh yeah!" He likes it because the wrestlers are fun to watch and they have cool names. His favorites? "All of them," but *Randy Orton* and *Sheamus, the Great White*, make it to the top of that list.

Roger watches WWE Raw on television every Monday at 7pm, so he was thrilled when he and a DSC staff member went to the Assembly Hall on February 9. They had amazing seats and were able to see all of the action up close. Roger said, "It was the best show ever!"

His favorite part was when *Randy Orton* and his partner *Sheamus* went up against *The Shield*. Sheamus is known for pounding his chest 10 times (picture at right, provided by Roger) while his opponent heads to the ring. Roger said he pounded his chest along with Sheamus, counting the 10 times. Roger really enjoyed the experience and hopes to be able to go again in the future.



Developmental Services Center
1304 West Bradley Avenue
Champaign, IL 61821

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."



Visit us on the web
www.dsc-illinois.org

Spring Jewelry Sale a Success!

Shelley loves expressing herself through jewelry, beads and crafts. She recently set up a table, selling her handmade wares, including bracelets, earrings, necklaces, and light garlands (lights with decorative fabric tied around it). The light garlands are her favorite item to make, and she designs them for different holidays. She offers custom orders for these and her jewelry. Shelley has another jewelry show around Christmas and has also had a table at the Disability Resource Expo. She also really enjoys wearing jewelry, and is



happy to show her custom-made items. Examples of her work are at the top of the cover page.

New "residents" at Group Home

Trailway group home recently received a donation of a new fish tank and a variety of new fish!

Since then, the female, Mickey Mouse Platys, has given birth! The residents have enjoyed themselves keeping an eye on these four new babies. They have to look very closely to see them since they are still so tiny! Two of them are already big enough to swim with the rest of the fish. They like to hide inside the log placed in the center of the fish tank.



The Mickey Mouse Platy is so named because of the black mark at the base of the body reaching into the tail that is shaped like Mickey Mouse's silhouette. It is a very peaceful fish and makes an excellent addition to the community tank.

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DSC Community News

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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

What's New Around DSC . . .

THANK YOU TO...

Mr. and Mrs. David Linton for the table top magnifier; Mr. and Mrs. William Manning for the crock pots, printer and Dell computer; Tom McCarthy for the television; Anne Robin for the Depends and wheelchair tray; Monica Grant for the flatware and bedding; Warren Wessels for the coffee maker, vacuum, and crock pots; Marlene Albers for the comforter and flatware set; and Terry and Pam Sheppard for the gas grill.

SPECIAL THANK YOU...

The Family Development Center received a \$5,500 grant from TJX Foundation (TJ Maxx) to sponsor children receiving P.L.A.Y. Project® therapy. This is a community-based/regional autism training and early intervention program dedicated to empowering parents and professionals to implement intensive, developmental interventions for young children with autism in the most effective and efficient way. **THANK YOU to our local TJ Maxx store for their support!**

The WGRC Cannon Grant Committee awarded \$10,000 for one of DSC's group home kitchens to be renovated. Janice McAteer was thrilled to have WGRC member Dan Wheatman present the check at a recent meeting (pictured at right). **THANK YOU to our local Rotarians and the Cannon Grant Committee for their support!**

SAVE THE DATE!

DSC will be hosting our 23rd Annual Golf Classic on Monday, May 13th at Lincolnshire Fields Country Club! So fore-get work and join us! You can support the outing by being a hole sponsor, playing in the outing, or contributing to the auction. Registration and the Driving Range open at 10:00am, and the Four Person Scramble starts at 12:30. Lunch and cocktail reception are included. Registration is available on-line at www.dsc-illinois.org.

It's our 4th year together! The "Pirates of the Prairibbean" are holding a benefit concert for DSC on Saturday, August 3rd from 6:00pm—midnight at Jupiter's at the Crossing in Champaign.

