

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

As we look to the next change of seasons, we are also considering the changes at the state level with the “Employment First Act”, a new law signed by Governor Pat Quinn on July 16, 2013 which requires Illinois state agencies to work together to make employment for people with disabilities a priority. The legislation was first proposed by Governor Quinn in his 2013 State of the State address and is part of his agenda to ensure all people have the opportunity to follow their dreams and reach their full potential.

This legislation is wonderful news for people with disabilities and their families who have advocated so actively for it. DSC is committed to ensuring this legislation becomes a reality for all individuals as Governor Quinn and our legislators put the financial resources into making this initiative possible for individuals throughout the state! Over the years, DSC has embraced and led many changes, but we are particularly excited to see this commitment from the state. As Governor Quinn stated, “Every person in the Land of Lincoln should have the opportunity – regardless of the challenges they face – to pursue their dreams and achieve their full potential.”

We are also very excited to announce the opening of our first three-person CILA Group Home! This opportunity was in response to the Ligas consent decree that is currently in the implementation phase. The three adults who are calling this wonderful place “home” are thoroughly enjoying their independence while benefiting from the support this arrangement offers.

Until next time,

Dale

A Public Hearing was sponsored by the Champaign County Developmental Disabilities Board and Mental Health Board on September 18th to give the public the opportunity to provide input concerning intellectual and developmental disability planning and funding priorities for FY15 (July 1, 2014 through June 30, 2015), and to provide members of the General Assembly with direct information from advocates, providers, families and consumers about the service needs of people with ID/DD in Champaign County. A variety of state officials and county representatives were present to hear feedback regarding the service needs of people in Champaign County.

In addition to sharing information about the hearing on our website and Facebook, DSC sent letters to current consumers and families, as well as those on waiting lists to receive DSC services. As a result, many individuals and families attended to hear the dialogue about these issues. Some had prepared testimony for this hearing, while others shared that they had originally planned to just listen, but they felt inspired to share their stories and concerns as the evening unfolded. Each story was different and showed the diversity of needs in our area. Many spoke of how helpful it is and appreciative they are to have the services and supports they or their loved one is currently receiving, while a few emphasized their need for services now and long-term.

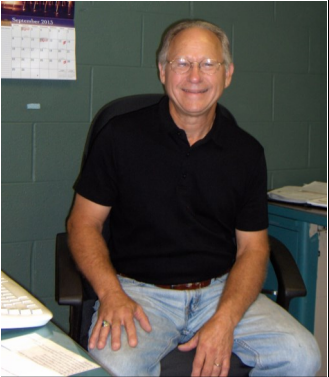
Senator Chapin Rose and Representative Naomi Jakobsson addressed the audience and spoke eloquently about the needs of Champaign County residents with intellectual and developmental disabilities and their advocacy efforts to date. They also pledged to continue their advocacy at the state level.

Thank you to Champaign County Developmental Disabilities Board and Mental Health Boards for hosting the event!

Congratulations to Tom Everett on celebrating 30 years with DSC!

Tom Everett celebrated 30 years at DSC in September! Prior to DSC, Tom worked at Eisner Foods Distribution as a warehouse supervisor. After 13 years, that position ended when they closed in 1983, but the experience led him to a position with DSC! He was managing a contract DSC was awarded at Chanute AFB and when that contract ended, he was hired by DSC. He worked a variety of positions, but has worked in maintenance for most of his 30 years.

Tom, who is currently the Director of Maintenance, said, “Aside from the obvious reasons, staying on at DSC has been a rewarding decision ... the work atmosphere, while professional, is unlike most other businesses in that the interaction of staff is more connected and personal—I’m sure due to the common goal we all share. Regardless of duties, everyone seems to understand that whatever it is they do, it does contribute to the ultimate goal of serving the consumers.”



Tom is a great example of how all non-direct service staff make an impact in the lives of the individuals choosing DSC services; some of his fondest memories are daily interactions with consumers. Tom also happily recalls staff social events, such as DSC’s Annual Fish Fry and chili cook-off’s. He also remembers the talented and hardworking maintenance staff with whom he has worked...even during the 4:00am shifts to clear snow, or finishing a grueling 12-hour shift. He isn’t sure why, but has noticed that those types of days seem to bring out the punchy comedian in everyone.

National Direct Support Professional Recognition Week

The U.S. Senate unanimously approved a Resolution designating the week of September 8 as “National Direct Support Professional Recognition Week.” At DSC, the week is celebrated and set aside to recognize the compassion and commitment of the amazing Direct Service Professional (DSP) staff members who support consumers and their families in a variety of ways. It also gives DSC an opportunity to show our appreciation for their dedication to all individuals choosing to receive DSC services. DSPs are the very heart of our mission. This year, DSC celebrated all DSPs by showing our appreciation in the following ways:

- * Every DSP received a candy bar with a lottery ticket attached to it!
- * Each department, as a group, enjoyed a breakfast or lunch on DSC!
- * Every DSP was entered into a drawing for various prizes. Winners included:
 - La Vida Massage Gift Certificate ~ Amy Gilbert
 - Illini football tickets ~ Ben Unander
 - \$100 Visa Gift Card ~ Nancy Bell
 - Two \$25 Walgreen’s cards ~ Kipp Weickersheimer & Hank Sutherlin
 - Overnight Stay at Hawthorne Suites ~ Jessica Pridemore
 - Two \$25 Walgreen’s cards ~ Joanne Meyers & Christina Moutray
 - Gift Basket ~ Angie Floyd
 - Grand Prize of a Kindle Fire and 2 Illini Football tickets ~ Sharon Nabyolola!

Thank you to La Vida Massage & Hawthorne Suites for donating their gift certificates!

DSPs are the frontline heroes at DSC and we truly appreciate their hard work and commitment to every consumer receiving DSC services. Thank you, Direct Service Professionals!!

DSC Receives High Rankings from Independent Reviewers

The Illinois Department of Human Services has a variety of departments that review and audit agencies like DSC. Specifically, both The Bureau of Quality Management (BQM) and Bureau of Accreditation, Licensure and Certification (BALC) made their annual, unannounced visits in August.

BQM completed a thorough evaluation of DSC’s Residential CILA program, Adult and Child Home-Based Support Waiver Service Facilitation and Rule 116 which covers medication rules for CILA. Surveyors were pleased and impressed with all the staff and the sites visited during this review and made a point to emphasize this during the exit conference and that is always great to hear!

DSC received an overwhelmingly positive review across all programs reviewed. Highlights included:

- * High praise for the new Risk Assessment and how it flows with the person-centered ISP process, emphasizing that goals and strategies were clearly in line with the Risk Assessment.
- * Human Resource’s personnel records were perfect, including a review of all background checks required by DHS and the law.
- * Training Records were thoroughly reviewed, and surveyors matched every sign-in sheet to every training session attended, for every staff person included in the review.
- * The Incident Report Review Committee was commended for its attention to detail and effective demonstration of oversight.
- * Nursing Quality Assurance reviewed policies and procedures. Surveyors observed medication administration and acknowledged the excellence of DSC’s practices, commenting that it was one of the best reviews ever conducted.

Many staff participated in the review but everyone deserves accolades for this successful review. While some were able to do the footwork and serve as a resource for the surveyors, everyone contributes to the success of the agency and more importantly of the consumers that have chosen to come to DSC.

BALC surveyed our Developmental Training (DT) program. The surveyor interviewed consumers and staff members, and also conducted inspections of each DT site. A review of consumer files, personnel files, training records, policies and procedures, the agency’s safety and emergency plan, and fire and tornado drills records were all included in this comprehensive process. Out of a possible 310 points, DSC earned 309, earning an overall compliance score of 99.6%!

The surveyor was extremely complimentary of our agency overall and in particular, our knowledgeable and enthusiastic staff members. She praised staff interviewed for knowing how to handle unusual incidents. She noted that staff were actively engaged with the consumers, attentive to their needs, and seemed genuinely happy to be here. She appreciated the continuum of functional and paid work that is provided and commented that consumers interviewed were glad to be busy and earning a paycheck. She really liked the variety of in-center and community opportunities we offer individuals and commended the visual supports that we have in place – especially our Consumer Rights posters.

DSC is thrilled to have received such wonderful reviews, confirming what we know to be true: We have staff that are dedicated, knowledgeable, caring and resourceful. We are happy to be supporting individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities, and to be a part of this community.



DSC Wish List	Bequests
<ul style="list-style-type: none">* 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	<p>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 <i>specifically described property</i>).”</p> <p>To view or download a copy of DSC’s Planned Giving Opportunities Brochures, please go to this link http://ow.ly/dIC9w.</p> <p>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.</p>
<p>If you can help with these requests, please contact Nikki Kopmann at 217.356.9176 or nkopmann@dsc-illinois.org.</p>	



The C-U Oktoberfest is a fall celebration of music, beer, and food held in downtown Champaign. We will be at the corner of S Neil and Washington Streets on Saturday, October 12th from 5:00 p.m. to midnight, with a \$5 entry fee.

Patterned after the annual festival in Bavaria, the C-U Oktoberfest features live music from bands playing festive polkas, waltzes, and traditional German music...mixed in with plenty of your favorite songs! Beer from local brewers, including The Blind Pig and Triptych, as well as traditional German beer will be served. Party-goers are encouraged to get in the spirit by wearing their best dirndl or lederhosen and dance the night away!

To add to the festive atmosphere, there will be steins, hats and t-shirts available for purchase. German baked goods and pretzels are being offered by Pekara Bakery. Local food trucks, including Chester’s BBQ, Burrito King, and King Philly will be serving crowd favorites. A 50/50 raffle will be held and various raffle prizes will be given away throughout the night. For more information, go to www.cuoktoberfest.org or find us on Facebook.



The festivities for the evening include:

5:00p – 6:00p Gates open and German Music Begins

6:00p – 10:00p Die Musikmeisters-Live Music

10:00p – 10:30p 50/50 Winner Announced

10:30p – Midnight Bolzen Beer Band-Live Music



Please join in the fun! Prost!

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.”



Join us for the **7th Annual Reaching Out for Answers: Disability Resource Expo!** There will be nearly 100 exhibitors showcasing services available for people with disabilities. There is also a wonderful Children’s Activity room providing fun activities, and different types of entertainment will be performed throughout the day. There will be many artists displaying and selling their work in the DisAbility Pride Room, including consumers from DSC! Join us at the **Fluid Events Center, 601 N Country Fair Dr in Champaign.**

SCHEDULE OF ACTIVITIES

- 9:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m. Exhibitor Booths, Job Fair Children’s Activities & DisAbility Pride Room
- 9:30 a.m. Welcome and Opening Address
- 9:45 a.m. AMTRYKE Presentation
- 10:00 a.m. MOMENTA Dance Team (first dance)
- 10:30 a.m. Leaders for Life Martial Arts Demonstration
- 11:00 a.m. MOMENTA Dance Team (second dance)
- 11:15 a.m. Donnie Heitler, Pianist
- 11:30 a.m. Drumming for Health
- 12:15 p.m. US Power Soccer Association Exhibition
- 1:00 p.m. MOMENTA Dance Team (final dance)
- 1:15 p.m. Donnie Heitler, Pianist
- 1:45 p.m. Drawings—Ebertfest & Kindle Fire

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



DsCommunity News

October 2013
Volume 7, Issue 4

Inside:

- Wish List & Bequest Information
- Save the Date: Saturday, Oct 12th for C-U Oktoberfest
- Message from Dale
- Public Hearing
- Celebrating 30 years!
- DSP Recognition Week
- DSC gets High Rankings on Reviews
- Save the Date: Saturday, Oct 12th, DisABILITY Resource Expo



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...

Kevin Elliott Counseling, Inc. employees for the paper towels, juice, crackers, Kleenex and exam gloves; **Mr. and Mrs. Steve Kamradt** for the three walkers; **Carle Auxiliary Resale Shop** for the five bags of clothing and shoes; **Pam Norris** for for the gas grill and art easel; **Imie Streeter** for the couch and love seat ; **Bundy Business Systems** for the copier/ printer; **Mrs. Rosemary Armbruster** for the four bags of clothing; **Mr. and Mrs. Dale Morrissey** for the computer desk and carpet-saver mat; **Mr. and Mrs. Barclay Jones** for the two bicycle helmets; **Susan Rogers** for the computer paper; **Mrs. Patricia Januszki** for the kitchen items, bath towels, and bed linens; and **Mr. William Fisher** for the paper towels and toothpaste.

SAVE THE DATE!

- “Reaching Out for Answers: Disability Resource Expo” will be held on **Saturday, October 12th** from **9am—2pm** (see full write-up inside).
- C-U Oktoberfest will be held on **Saturday, October 12th** from **5pm—midnight** (see full write-up inside).
- DSC’s **Tree of Hope Kick-Off and Annual Recognition Event** will take place at **Sullivan’s Parkhill** on **Thursday, November 7th at 8:00am.**
- The Tons O’ Fun Band’s 8th Annual Christmas Show** to benefit DSC at **Virginia Theatre** on **Saturday, December 6th.**
Go to www.dsc-illinois.org for all details

SPECIAL THANKS TO...

To the **Rantoul Knights of Columbus** for hosting a pancake breakfast and raffle that raised \$1,280! Multiple staff and consumers participated, and the funds will be used for the DSC Self Advocacy group to attend an annual training and summit in Springfield this fall.

To all of the people that helped make “**CU in the Prairibbean IX**” a huge success! We want to give extra recognition to **Eastern Illinois Parrot Head Club**, along with Carlos Nieto and Chris Stephens of **Nieto Enterprises!** At the time of this printing, we are looking forward to the check presentation on October 15th.

To all of the participants, sponsors and organizers of the **Car-X Crazy K!** DSC got in the action again with runners and volunteers participating in the event!

To our local chapter of **GCC AMBUCS** for hosting their **Annual Scarecrow Festival**, and inviting some of our CILA residents to participate as vendors! Their top seller was the glitter candles, and they enjoyed the balloon animals, car show, barrel train, food and beautiful parrots! See pictures at top of page.