



## WHAT'S NEW AROUND DSC...

### Morrissey Celebrates 40 Years at DSC

Dale Morrissey, CEO, is celebrating 40 years with DSC. Dale began his career as Associate Director in March 1979 before moving onto the Director of Vocational in 1980, and then to COO/Associate Executive Director in 1981. He has served in his current role since 1987.

Dale has led the agency in maximizing the ways in which we serve children and adults with developmental and intellectual disabilities and their families in our community. His lasting impact is significant, as the agency has grown from serving 350 people with a \$3.2 million budget when he began as CEO to serving approximately 1,100 today with a \$13 million budget. DSC has been a member of our state association, IARF, for decades where Dale has held leadership roles on the Board of Directors and has worked tirelessly for people with disabilities throughout the state of Illinois through legislative changes and improvements.

While Dale's departure will be deeply felt by DSC, the organization will continue its good work under the leadership of Danielle Matthews who has worked with Dale for the past 11 years as the CEO/Executive VP of Support Services. Dale will not be a stranger to DSC during his next phase of life. He will continue to be actively involved in with DSC fundraisers.

Dale lives in Champaign with his wife, Susie, to whom he has been married for 41 years. They have two children, Mark and Michelle. Mark and his wife, Nicole, have two children, Shea and Piper to whom Dale and Susie are gushing grandparents! In his spare time, Dale enjoys being with his family and friends, exercising, playing golf, and spending time outside. His is passionate about our community, has been a Rotarian with Champaign Rotary for 32 years and has served on area boards and search committees.



*Dale in his early days.*



*Dale today.*

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

Welcome to spring! After the long winter, it is nice to see longer days and warmer temperatures! While we are just entering the season of spring, we are several months into our 2019 advocacy efforts with the State of Illinois.

With the start of 2019, the 101st General Assembly for the State of Illinois also began and our continued efforts for the Direct Service Professional (DSP) wage increase. While we realized some success in last year's General Assembly, we still have progress to ensure all DSPs earn a livable wage.

House Bill 2148, provides that the "Department of Human Services shall establish reimbursement rates that build toward livable wages for front-line personnel." This legislation has been the cornerstone of IARFs (Illinois Association of Rehabilitation Facilities) advocacy efforts for the past three years. This legislation recognizes that as the state of Illinois minimum wage increases that wages for DSPs continue to increase above the minimum wage to retain the commitment to front-line personnel in direct service careers to earn a livable wage.

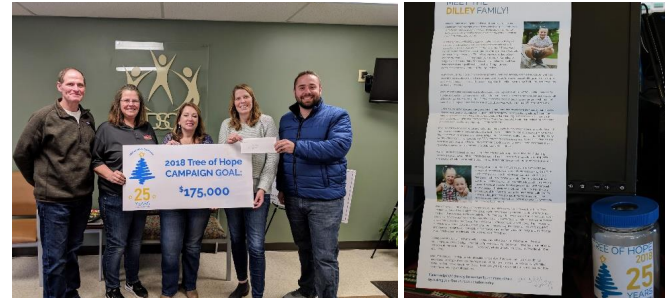
The statewide staff shortage continues to remain a central issue for DSC and all other intellectual and developmental disabilities providers throughout the state. Our efforts will not wane, as this is crucial for the people we serve.

If you have any questions or would like to know more about our advocacy efforts, please feel free to contact me directly.

Until next time,

*Dale*

## Circle K Donates to Tree of Hope



Champaign-Urbana Circle K stores presented DSC with a check for \$1500 for the 2018 Tree of Hope Campaign. Managers placed collection containers at the cash registers with information about DSC's Tree of Hope family and the community did the rest. Thank you, Circle K!

## DSC Participates in Transition Planning Committee Roundtable



Several DSC staff members participated in the Champaign County Transition Planning Committee Roundtable that took place in March at the Champaign County Farm Bureau. The lunch and learn was an opportunity for parents and students preparing to transition out of high school to hear from service providers on topics including residential, vocational and recreation services.

## Bequests

To those friends who wish to help assure the longevity of DSC by mentioning DSC in your will, the following statement may be shared with your advisor to designate a legacy bequest for the children and adults at DSC. "I give, devise, and bequeath to the DSC Foundation (37-1023944) of Champaign, IL, a charitable not-for-profit foundation, the sum of \_\_\_\_\_ dollars (\$\_\_\_\_) or \_\_\_\_\_ percent (\_\_\_\_%) of my estate to be used to carryout out its mission."

As the DSC Foundation seeks to build to their endowment, we encourage you, our most loyal donors and supporters, to consider a planned gift, such as, but not limited to, bequests, gifts of real estate, mandatory retirement distributions, and as a beneficiary of life insurance.

To view or download a copy of DSC's Planned Giving Opportunities Brochures, please go to this link  
[http://www.dsc-illinois.org/get\\_involved/Leave\\_A\\_Legacy.html](http://www.dsc-illinois.org/get_involved/Leave_A_Legacy.html).

Contact your tax professional for more specific tax information. If you would like more information from DSC, please contact Janice McAteer at [jmcaateer@dsc-illinois.org](mailto:jmcaateer@dsc-illinois.org) or (217) 398-7110.



## U of I Extension Home and Community Education Supports Adopt-A-Home



Members of the Champaign County Home and Community Education (HCE) Units gathered together in January to learn about DSC. The group has adopted several of our CILAs. Throughout the year, HCE members help DSC residents celebrate birthdays

and holidays by donating seasonal items, gifts and care packages. DSC Director of Development, Janice McAteer, along with her daughter, Taylor Jacobs and DSC Development Specialist, Stephanie Davenport made a visit to the HCE Staley Unit's monthly meeting in January to speak about DSC's mission and to thank the group for their support and ongoing commitment to DSC.

## IARF Future Leadership Initiative Graduate



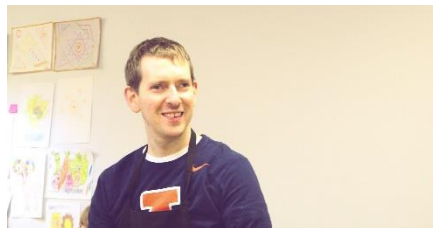
In 2018, Heather Levingston, DSC's Clinical Coordinator, was invited to participate in the IARF Future Leadership Initiative. The opportunity, offered by the state association, IARF (Illinois Association of Rehabilitation Facilities), is designed to be a one-of-a-kind program to develop, train and strengthen future generations working in the nonprofit sector.

In December, the training culminated with a graduation ceremony at the Governor's Mansion in Springfield followed by a dinner reception.

Heather has been working at DSC for 20 years. Her role involves coordinating psychiatry appointments and psychological evaluations, as well as coordinating appointments with DSC's consulting counselors. She also maintains a small caseload, supporting people with intellectual and developmental disabilities in Champaign County.

Heather is married, has a daughter, and enjoys running, reading and spending time with family and friends. Congratulations, Heather, on your outstanding achievement and your recent promotion to Director of Case Management/Family Support & IFS!

## DSC Groups Visit Common Ground Food Co-op



A group of individuals receiving services from DSC visited Common Ground Food

Co-op in Urbana, where they took a cooking class. During the class, the group learned how to make spinach pasta. Group members were able to participate in the making of the pasta dough, rolling out and sampling it with the marinara sauce, upon completion. Yum!

## Storytelling 101 Group



Jenna from one of the DSC Employment Services groups, has been

participating in a Storytelling Group. The group meets at The Crow at 110 and at local libraries. Each week, they learn different aspects of storytelling. Group members have a goal to learn to tell their own story by the groups' end. From an employment perspective, storytelling is a vital piece to making a great impression, whether it's in an interview or networking with co-workers.

## Parkland Volunteer Fair



(Pictured: Evan Burie, Special Events & Marketing Coordinator, Stephanie Davenport, Development Specialist) In January, members of DSC's Development team were invited to participate in the Parkland College Volunteer Fair. The event offered an opportunity for students to learn about DSC's mission and volunteer opportunities, such as working at special events and assisting with projects.

### Grant Awards:

#### Christie Clinic Foundation

DSC was awarded \$5,273 from the Christie Clinic Foundation to purchase CPR manikins and equipment, training room chairs and a new white board.

#### Champaign Rotary

DSC was awarded \$10,200 from Champaign Rotary to purchase new automated external defibrillators (AEDs) in 2019.

#### PNC Foundation Awards DSC \$5,000

DSC was awarded \$5,000 from PNC Foundation. The funds are to be allocated toward PLAY Project, a therapy offered by DSC for children with autism.





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**Mission:** *DSC supports people in living a rich and meaningful life.*

**Vision:** *Striving to assure that every person lives a full life in the community.*

#### Connect with Us on Social Media



## SAVE THE DATE

**Christie Clinic Illinois Marathon**  
**April 26-27**

**C-U in the Prairibbean**  
**August 3**

**C-U Octoberfest**  
**October 5**

***Watch DSC's website and Facebook page for more information***

#### Items We Can Use Anytime:

- Paper towels
- Toilet paper
- Tissues (Kleenex)
- Paper plates
- Napkins
- Plastic silverware
- Kitchen trash bags
- Air freshener
- Kitchen cleaner (Lysol)
- Swiffer Wet Jets with refills
- Bathroom cleaner
- Dish Soap
- Kitchen cleaning sponges
- Resolve carpet/upholstery foam cleaner
- Storage baggies (quart and gallon size)
- Kitchen towels/washcloths
- Bathroom towels/washcloths
- Toothbrushes and toothpaste
- Feminine maxi pads
- Hand and body soap
- Deodorant
- Shampoo and conditioner
- Hand and body lotion
- Mouthwash
- Razors/shave cream/gel
- Brushes/combs

## LEAP Updates

- Goodwill of Savoy and Champaign
- PetSmart
- Salt & Light
- LaPetite Academy
- GFS (Gordon Food Services)
- Bundles of Joy Learning Center
- Unitarian Universalist Church Urbana-Champaign
- Orpheum Children's Science Museum
- Champaign County State's Attorney Office
- Wagner Peyser Group
- Dish Passionate Cuisine
- MTD
- Champaign County Offices