

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

As shared in last quarter's *DSCCommunity News* newsletter, this time of year brings a great deal of uncertainty surrounding the State of Illinois budget. I am pleased to share with you that the Department of Human Services (DHS) averted a significant proposed budget cut, which means organizations that serve individuals with developmental/intellectual disabilities, including DSC, will not realize any major changes this year in state funding. This is good news!

While we were successful in our efforts to avoid the state cuts, we are being adversely affected by the recent economic downturn and its delayed effect on property values in Champaign County. As a result, the Champaign County Developmental Disabilities Board (CCDDDB) had less money to distribute to organizations who receive their funding, which has resulted in a reduction in excess of \$350,000 for DSC. DSC's Board of Directors and Executive Management Team have been working to lessen the effects of this funding loss. Over the next 60 days, we will begin making decisions on the most effective ways to minimize the impact on consumers and staff. We are making great efforts to ensure the least number of people are impacted by this reduction in funding and will communicate with consumers, family and staff as we move through this process.

As we consider the decisions at hand, we are mission-focused and are reminded of the differences DSC makes in the lives of those receiving our services and their families. As shared in our Mid-Year Appeal, individuals like Tom are enjoying independence and success as a result of DSC's choice-driven services. To read Tom's story in the Mid-Year Appeal, please visit our website.

As we look ahead, we are excited about C-U in the Prairibbean IX. Thanks to the Eastern Illinois Parrot Head Club for choosing DSC as the beneficiary again this year! Please see the cover page or our website for more information.

Until next time,

Dale

Let's Hear It!

- You asked for it...and we heard you! DSC is currently exploring an option for private pay for individuals and families who may be interested in choosing DSC services! During this exploratory period, DSC is talking with other service providers throughout the state to gauge best practices. As we continue this effort, we would like to hear from you! What services would you or your family be interested in receiving if private pay was an option? Please share your feedback with Patty Walters, Executive VP of Consumer Services at pwalters@dsc-illinois.org or 356-9176.
- At the Informational Resource Meeting DSC hosted this past April with Rubin Law and Family Benefit Solutions on Special Needs Trusts and SSI/SSDI, we asked for feedback from those who attended as to what other topics would be helpful to them as they are working to secure the futures of their loved ones. The top three topics of interest were: *Social Security—SSI/SSDI and Representative Payee, Guardianship, and Employment First/Community Employment.*

Sometime late this fall, we will be planning another Informational Resource Meeting. If you would like to give your preference for the topic of that meeting, based off the three choices above, please contact Janice McAteer, Director of Development at jmcaateer@dsc-illinois.org or 356-9176. More information will follow on the date, time and location of the meeting.

Austin Cloyd Day

On Saturday, April 20th, DSC was proud to partner again with a group of 15 volunteers for Austin Cloyd Day. The group worked hard to clean 10 agency and group home vans (pictured at right). They also cleaned the exterior windows at our main building!

The day of service is named after a young woman, Austin Cloyd, who was involved in volunteering and service organizations while she was a Centennial student. Sadly, Austin was one of the victims of the 2007 Virginia Tech shooting, so the volunteering is done to honor her memory. About 250 volunteers participated in the day-long event serving 15 different organizations.

THANK YOU to all who participated!



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 opportunities, 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 customers' deadlines while matching all quality standards with the most competitive pricing. 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.

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 we have received the following comments via the STAR cards! Congratulations!

One family wrote about one of DSC's Case Managers: *"Cathy (Luhrsen) recently spent some time with me one-on-one. She took time out of her personal schedule to sit down with me and assist in figuring out the differences between all my son's benefits through the state. As a parent of someone with special needs we have all experienced the frustration with trying to get through to a real person at Social Security, Medicaid or any of those government offices to get our questions answered. Cathy was very helpful to me in sorting through some things that I didn't understand and also get in touch with some of her contacts in these organizations in order to get my questions answered. I truly appreciate her commitment/willingness to serve her consumers and their families to help alleviate frustration figuring out 'how the system works' for our kids. She not only just does what is required of her in her job - she actually cares about us and our family. We are blessed to have her as a resource."*



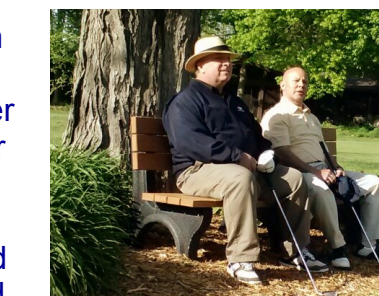
Another family applauded Laura Bennett, Director of Developmental Training: *"Laura's work with our son helps him learn important social skills and learn how to manage his emotions and impulses in a positive way. The social skills group provides opportunities for him to experience success in social situations. Laura is a resource to our family because she teaches and models how to respond and handle the challenges of living with a child on the autism spectrum. I feel like we have a partnership with Laura which helps us to be more positive and effective parents."*

If you would like to recognize one of the staff at DSC, please go to:

www.dsc-illinois.org/about_us/compliment.html

23rd Annual Golf Classic

A full field of 128 golfers, plus staff and volunteers, gathered together on May 13th for DSC's **23rd Annual Golf Classic**. Everyone enjoyed the beautiful course at Lincolnshire Fields Country Club in Champaign. After the teams finished 18 holes, they made their way back to the clubhouse for delicious appetizers, door prizes and an auction. This year's event was not only fun, but also raised over \$16,000! It was truly a group effort, and



we thank all of the golfers, sponsors and donors, especially our **Eagle Sponsor: Kemper CPA Group, LLP**. The funds raised goes to support DSC's mission, and the services and supports provided to nearly 1,300 children and adults every year.

Congratulations to winning foursome of Bob Glasa, Ronalde Johnson, Steve Main, and Steve Tock !

Thank you to all who participated and see you next year!

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

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.

Christie Clinic Illinois Marathon

More than 20,000 runners and walkers hit the streets of Champaign-Urbana on April 27th & 28th in the 5th Annual Christie Clinic Illinois Marathon. DSC was happy to be a part of the action again, and was humbled to be named a charity recipient this year by the owners of the Christie Clinic Illinois Marathon. Mike Lindeman and Jan Seeley, two of the marathon owners, presented a \$20,000 check to DSC's Janice McAteer on May 31st (pictured at right).

DSC staff and supporters volunteered again at the start line corrals on Friday night and Saturday morning. But there was a new addition to the race this year...TEAM DSC! Thirteen consumers and staff participated in the 5K on Friday night (some of whom are pictured below). Our friends at the Marathon generously printed "Team DSC" on the back of their t-shirts so they could proudly represent their team. These special t-shirts were a big hit!

DSC staff member Tonie Luyando put together a training plan to get the walkers ready for race day. For Cassie, it was the first time she had ever done anything like this. Cassie and her friend walked as part of TEAM DSC and enjoyed talking along the way. She thought it was great to have friends around for support, and enjoyed the encouraging cheers of "We can do this! We can do this!" Cassie celebrated her victory by going out to eat with her mom and dad.

Whether it be as a racer, volunteer, or spectator, there is so much energy that surrounds the Christie Clinic Illinois Marathon. DSC truly appreciates the collaboration with this event and we were very excited to have been able to participate in a new way this year. **THANK YOU FOR YOUR ONGOING SUPPORT OF DSC AND OUR MISSION!**



Developmental Services Center
 1304 West Bradley Avenue
 Champaign, IL 61821

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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."



Congratulations to Connie Smith on 35 years of service to Developmental Services Center!

Connie began her career at DSC on June 1, 1978. Since then, she has worked in Employment Services and assumed her current position as Production Crew Leader II on March 12, 2012.



She originally came to DSC to have a job helping people and has stayed because she enjoyed working with people with developmental disabilities. She loves the spontaneity of the consumers, and enjoys watching them grow and become more independent. Connie also values the camaraderie of the staff as they work together in the best interest of the consumers.

Her fondest memories are of her co-workers and also the responses and interactions she has with the consumers. *Thank you Connie, for 35 years of dedicated service to DSC!!*

Consumers are in the 4th of July spirit at DSC!

Consumers have been combining their patriotism with their creativity by making patriotic 4th of July crafts the last few weeks of June to celebrate the holiday. Their work is highlighted on the top of the cover page!

Below, some of the consumers also shared their thoughts about the 4th of July and independence.

Shelley's favorite part of the 4th of July is the parade, especially when they throw out candy and enjoys looking at the horses. Her favorite fireworks are the multi-colored ones. She usually goes to a cookout and wears a cute 4th of July themed shirt.

Christina and her family always attend the Champaign Country Club's 3rd of July Party and enjoy the fireworks and activities. When asked what independence means to her, Christina responded that it means having freedom despite having a disability and added "I don't see myself as a person with a disability; I see myself as a person."



DSC Community News

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Developmental Services Center

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 1304 W. Bradley Avenue
 Champaign, IL 61821
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www.dsc-illinois.org

What's New Around DSC . . .

THANK YOU TO...

Body N' Sole for over 40 pairs of tennis shoes; Mike Devitte for the microwave; Tom McCarthy for the television; Elizabeth Small for the HP Printer; Rosemary Karich for the sheet sets; Dianne Tennant-Rucker for the exercise bike; Corla Hagenbruch for the art supplies; and Mr. & Mrs. Dan Armstrong for the various books, toys and therapy items.

THANK YOU to all those that ate at Monical's on our Community Fundraiser Day....we raised \$80.38!

SPECIAL THANK YOU...

The Diabetes Group "Learning is Sweet" received a grant from the Women 4 Women group at Presence Covenant Medical Center for \$958.55. The funds went towards healthy snacks, pedometers, and various educational games and prizes.



The Rantoul Developmental Training site was awarded \$90.71 to buy new cooking and baking supplies from the CU Junior Woman's Club! The consumers have formed a cooking club and appreciate the grant support!

SAVE THE DATE!

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.



The fun night will include music from *The Boat Drunks*, *Appaloosa* and a new addition to the line-up...*The Tons O' Fun Band!* Festivities will also include food and drinks, a \$5,000 Cash Raffle, and both a live and silent auction! Don't miss the fun! Raffle and event tickets are available at www.dsc-illinois.org, DSC's main office at 1304 W Bradley Ave in Champaign, or Jupiter's at the Crossing in Champaign.

The Car-X Crazy K is on Saturday, September 21st at the fair grounds in Urbana. This crazy 5k has participants racing through obstacles, all for the sake of local charities. You get to choose which charity benefits from your registration fee, so don't forget to choose Developmental Services Center, and spread the word! Volunteers are also needed! Go to www.carxcrazyk.com for more info.