



THE CONNECTION

February 2010

CCRSI respects individual choice by providing quality services and supports to people who have developmental disabilities.

Board Officers

- **Gavin Allan**
Chair
- **Dr. Michael Wilson**
Vice-Chair
- **Michael Rehagen**
Treasurer
- **Linda Morris**
Secretary

Board Members

- **Marcissie Henley**
- **Alan Mudd**
- **Corey Backues**
- **Doug Smentkowski**

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DON'T SAY "POLITICS!" SAY "POLITICS IN OUR LIVES!"



Jim Casey
CCRSI Executive Director

I've written many times suggesting you "...get involved in politics as if your life depended on it." (quote from Justin Dart) I can not think of a time when it has been more critical for you to let your voice be heard than today. The Missouri State Legislature is considering several pieces of legislation that will directly affect the quality of life we have. There are many organizations tracking legislative activity and you only need to go to their website and peruse the information they

have and see the values they espouse. One of my favorite sites is the Governor's Council on Disabilities <http://disabilityinfo.mo.gov/gcd/> They produce a weekly update on significant legislation affecting people with disabilities. One of the major concerns of legislators this year – aside from the serious budget issues – is supports and services for people with Autism. There are several autism related bills - addressing insurance, education, community living supports, etc. - making their way through the legislature and are once again showing promise of passage. There is legislation offered for people with down syndrome, with hearing loss, with multiple sclerosis, people who live in nursing homes and more. The Governor's Council Report on legislative activity is broken down into categories regarding Assistive Technology, Crime, Education, Employment, Appropriations, etc. I find this format easy to follow and very user friendly.

Missouri Assistive Technology <http://www.at.mo.gov/> is an organization that has been advocating for people with disabilities for many years and, like the Governor's Council, gives regular reports on legislative activity significant to people with disabilities.

Attention should also be paid to the National level and again there are several strong organizations offering reports on issues of national significance. Two of my favorites are: the American Network of Community Options and Resources (ANCOR) <http://www.ancor.org/> and The ARC of the United States <http://www.thearc.org/> Both of these organizations give us timely and relevant updates.

With the current economic situation, we are more than ever compelled to stay informed and let our voices be heard. Please make the time to do your part and inform legislators and the people in Congress what your priorities are. You'll be glad you did! Please let me know if there is anything I can do to help you. Contact me at 1908 Boggs Creek Road, Jefferson City, MO 65101-5580 or 573/634-4555 or jimcasey@ccrsi.org

By Jim Casey, Executive Director

NEW BOARD OFFICERS

Every year at the November Board meeting, the Board elects new officers for the upcoming year. The new officers start serving immediately after the meeting at which they are elected. This year Gavin Allan will serve the Board as Chair, replacing Alan Mudd; Dr. Michael Wilson will continue as Board Vice Chair; and, Mike Rehagen will continue as the Board Treasurer. Linda Morris agreed to serve as the new Board Secretary.

The Board meets the fourth Tuesday of every month except December. The meetings start at 6:30 P.M. and are usually held in the Administrative Building located at 1908 Boggs Creek Road. All Board meetings are open to the public.



Gavin Allan, Board Chair



Dr. Michael Wilson,
Board Vice Chair



Michael Rehagen,
Board Treasurer

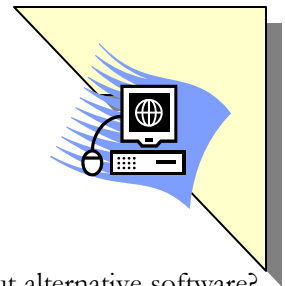


Linda Morris,
Board Secretary

FROM THE TECHNOLOGY CORNER...

Alternative Software: The No-Cost Option

By Janet Woemmel
Technical Support Specialist



We've all heard of alternative fuels, alternative medicine, and even alternative music. But what about alternative software? If you need to type a letter and don't have Microsoft Office, or you need to edit a photo and don't have Adobe Photoshop, can you complete these tasks? You bet! Alternative software products categorized as Open Source Software, Freeware, or Shareware, make this possible. You may have to give up some documentation, training options and product support, but alternative software is available to use for free. Some of the better-known alternatives are:

Open Office – a Microsoft Office alternative – is a complete suite that includes a word processor, spreadsheet, database, presentation, and graphics programs and will even open documents created by MS Office.

Mozilla Firefox – an Internet Explorer alternative – is a full-featured internet browser with lots of available add-ons.

GIMP – an Adobe Photoshop alternative – is a versatile graphics package that has literally hundreds of image editing tools.

Mozilla Thunderbird – an MS Outlook alternative – is an email client that has a clean interface and is easy to configure. Plus, it includes junkmail filters.

AVG Free – an alternative to Norton or McAfee – is a self-updating software package that protects your computer against viruses and spyware.

Some other alternative software products that are less recognized, but equally useful are:

ccleaner – wisely renamed from crapcleaner for a better image – is a wonderful utility that cleans out temp files and “junk” on your computer and cleans up your computer's registry which can greatly speed up your PC.

Continued...

CPUZ – is a small program that provides you with your system’s information (type of memory, motherboard brand and model, processor, etc.) which can be useful when troubleshooting or upgrading.

PrimoPDF – an alternative to Adobe Acrobat – is a software product that can convert any document to a .pdf file by printing to the software’s PDF printer which in turn creates the PDF file rather than actually printing on a printer.

Gadwin PrintScreen – a program that allows you to print whatever you see on screen directly to your printer – great for documenting error messages or printing whatever else is on your screen when no print option is available!

This list could go on and on. There are numerous useful, free software programs that do the same or similar tasks as the commercially available, costly programs. CCRSI uses many of them.

DISCLAIMER: One note of caution - Always be careful when downloading, installing and using these alternative products. Some unscrupulous developers include malware and viruses in their software offerings – so you might get more than you bargained for! By searching for software on known websites such as www.download.com, the likelihood of infecting your PC is greatly reduced. Another excellent resource for this type of software is www.sourceforge.net where you’ll find 230,000+ open source offerings! If you decide to check it out, be sure the software is developed for Windows before downloading it – some are for Linux, an alternative operating system, which is Open Source itself!

Software alternatives do not exist for every commercial product, but there are many. If you are looking for ways to save money and still be able to fully enjoy and utilize your computer, alternative software might just be for you!

DISABOOM...Connecting the Millions Affected by Disability

Disaboom.com was founded by Dr. J. Glen House, a physician specializing in physical medicine and rehabilitation who is also a quadriplegic. His firsthand knowledge of the challenges faced by individuals with disabilities and those whose lives they touch has driven the Disaboom.com mission: to create the first comprehensive, evolving source of information, insight, and personal engagement for the disability community.

Disaboom.com is based on the following core beliefs:

Expertise comes in many forms. Often the best advice comes not just from medical experts but also from “peers” – others who’ve walked the path you’re on. That’s why in addition to providing solid medical expertise, we’ve also put together the largest online network of individuals to share their personal experiences with you, providing honest, practical answers to hard questions.

Knowledge is power – and so is community. Disaboom.com strives to provide you the tools and guidance you need to live active, engaged lives. But when it comes to sharing stories and personal insights, there’s nothing stronger than the power of community – which is why we’re connecting the millions touched by disability to both information and each other.

You don’t have to be disabled to be touched by disability. The Disaboom.com community is as diverse as the communities we live in, made up of mothers and models, surfers and surgeons, babies and baby boomers. Our network of 180 million and growing includes not just individuals with disabilities, but also medical practitioners, caregivers, employers, family members, teachers, and others. In so many important ways, people with disabilities may be anyone – and everyone.

The word “disability” may apply to us – but will never define us. We decide who we are, and what lives we will create. The goal of Disaboom.com is to provide the information, community, and connection you need to define who you are, and what life you will lead.

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CREDENTIALING FOR SUCCESS

Credentialing starts the minute an applicant walks in the door or hits the “send” button on the web site. Applicants sometimes see the employment process as a burdensome process and often fail to understand the importance it has in the job foundation.

Applicants may eliminate themselves from consideration because they do not want to be bothered with submitting the necessary documents or completing the background screening process. Applicants may have criminal or traffic records that, during some part of the initial process, they realize will probably eliminate them from consideration. A person that has discoverable issues on their background should list those issues on their application so that they are identified early in the employment stages.

The employment application has questions on the form designed to solicit responses that target the potential issues: “Have you ever been convicted of any criminal offenses, including misdemeanors or felonies?” “Have you ever been denied a license, permit, or privilege to operate a motor vehicle?” “Has any license, permit, or privilege ever been suspended or revoked?” If any of these questions are left blank, or answered “No” and any action is reported on the Family Care Safety Registry or the traffic report from the Department of Revenue, then red flags start waving, telling Human Resource staff that there is a problem. Such flags denote an attempt by the applicant to conceal material background issues that could be a problem. Some old driving offenses do not restrict a person from employment, e.g. traffic ticket for speeding over 3 years ago with no recent infractions. However if the applicant has answered “No” to the question of “Traffic Violations,” it raises question as to the applicant’s truthfulness. The applicant may have forgotten, or may not know there is something on the driving record and may have forgotten the incident that happened a long time ago, and it may not have been a serious infraction. The action could have even been removed by request of the applicant if it is more than three years old. There are a lot of variables in evaluating such findings.

The applicant may disclose some old driving issues, but not all. This also raises “red flags” and causes concern as to what else might be hiding in the employment history or other background. Students who are not truthful on their education or work history also raise “red flags” and cause additional attention to be given to the credentialing. Relevant work history is always important to list on the application form, even if the applicant has to add additional pages to the application. Some resume coaches say “less is best” but in this agency “more is better” because it tells us how and why a person feels they are eligible for employment, and any relevant education or experience may be reasons to consider the person for employment over another candidate. The additional experience or education may also be reason for additional questions in the interview that could shed light on work completed that makes the applicant much more attractive than first glance would indicate. Volunteer, internships, and other types of “Non-pay” work may be very important in showing the applicant’s interest in the career field. Given two applicants, with equal education, the one with related volunteer or intern experience will usually get the job.

Dressing for the interview can be a very important determining factor. The applicant who appears to think about appearance and presents themselves in a professional way for the interview will be easily considered in a more positive perception regardless of the position for which they are interviewing. Supervisors usually think that what they see in the interview will be the best they see, and may be sadly disappointed if the applicant is not prepared in a “business dress” attire for the interview. Successful applicants do not assume that casual is ok for the interview. Some companies even tell applicants that “Business dress” or “Business casual” is the desired attire for the interview but, given no instructions, “Business dress” is the safe way to go. Applicants wanting to make a good first impression will “over dress” for the interview. Once they see the style of the agency they can adjust for the job but once that first impression is made, it is usually too late to get the second chance. Applicants have to use common sense in deciding what to wear to the interview. An applicant for a custodian position might not wear a suit and tie, but a QDDP should not wear a sweat suit to an interview.

Getting the interview is a very important stage in the employment process. The applicant who succeeds in getting the interview has to be careful to be honest on the application or resume, dress appropriately for the interview and ensure the interviewer(s) know as much job related material as you can present in the limited period of time. Focus on the questions, but also ensure interviewers know of any job-related experience or education. Do not sell yourself short, but do not exaggerate. Be careful of what you ask and say about yourself - you may get the job and then have to prove your words!

*By Jim Lowery, MPA, IPMA-CP
HR Director, CCRSI*

CCRSI Christmas—Adopt a Family

By Lisa Sanchez
Case Manager II

The Case Management Team coordinated the adoption of a family, Cassidy-Rae and her family, for Christmas this past year. Gifts specifically chosen for family members and monetary donations were accepted. The collected, wrapped items were delivered to the family to create a wonderful, memorable Christmas for the entire family. Following is Cassidy-Rae's story.



Cassidy-Rae is a blond haired, hazel-eyed, three year old little girl. She has a gentle, laid-back personality and a beautiful smile. Cassidy-Rae lives at home with her parents, Nathan and Renee. Cassidy-Rae has been faced with many obstacles during her life but she has been persistent in overcoming each one. Her parents refer to her as their "miracle." Cassidy-Rae was born at 30 weeks gestation and she weighed 3.9 lbs and was 15.5 inches long at birth. Cassidy-Rae remained in the NICU for 51 days after she was born. She suffered from Grade 1 bilateral brain bleeds and was in respiratory distress and without oxygen for approximately 4 minutes, a few days after birth. Cassidy-Rae has been diagnosed with Cerebral Palsy Quadriplegia, high blood pressure and hearing impairment. She has many medical problems that she deals with daily. Throughout it all, Cassidy Rae is able to keep a big smile on her face and she pushes herself to exceed the expectations of all her physicians. Her parents are her number one fans and they just want her to have the help and support she needs to be successful and happy.

Following is the thank-you message from Cassidy-Rae's family:

Cole County Residential Services Employees,

Our family cannot thank you enough for adopting our family for Christmas. We had a very Merry Christmas because of all of you and your generosity. Everything we received: the baby dolls, all of the clothes, candles, Vtech pool phone, carpet cleaner, silverware, bath & body works basket, stuffed monkey, FurReal puppy, Mrs. Potato Head, Santa Buddies movie, cars, dishtowels, Tinkerbell Color Wonder Set, Snipers, crystal dish, potholders, and candleholders were perfect!

Thank you so much for your thoughtfulness of our family. We have enclosed pictures so you could see what joy you have brought to our family.

FRIED FISH DINNER

WHO: YOU!

WHAT: Independent Living Resource Center's (ILRC's) Fried Fish Dinner \$10 per ticket. Includes: 2 pieces of fried fish, macaroni and cheese, coleslaw, green beans, corn bread and a choice of iced tea, coffee or water

WHEN: February 26, 2010, 4:30—7:30 P.M.

WHERE: Fraternal Eagles
1411 Missouri Blvd.
Jefferson City, MO

WHY: ILRC holds a Prom each year for youth with disabilities. All proceeds from this event will go toward this year's Prom.



5K for KAMP Run or Walk

By Jim Casey

We are planning a “5K for Kamp Run or Walk” as a much-needed fundraiser to send individuals with special needs to Wonderland Camp this summer.



Camp offers respite from daily care-giving for family and health care workers and provides and nurtures a personal development experience for volunteers and staff. It is the only camp with a wheelchair accessible tree house in Missouri.



The cost for camp is \$500 per week and we would like to provide as much financial assistance to our campers as possible. If we can offer at least partial funding to the clients we serve, then the “5K for Kamp” will be a great success.

The “5K for Kamp Walk or Run” will be held on March 6, 2010 at the Jefferson City Memorial Airport at 9:00 A.M.



We have different levels of sponsorships for the 5K:

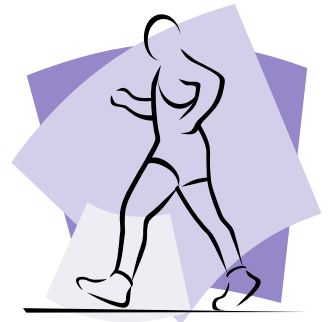
Bronze—\$1.00 to \$99.00 (name in the News Tribune)

Silver—\$100.00 to \$249.00 (name in the News Tribune)

Gold—\$250.00 to \$499.00 (name in the News Tribune and on the 5K t-shirt)

Platinum—\$400.00 to \$1,000.00 (name in the News Tribune and on the 5K t-shirt)

Any donation made that is over \$1,000.00 will receive their name in the News Tribune and on the 5K t-shirt, plus they will receive a plaque of recognition for their generous donation.



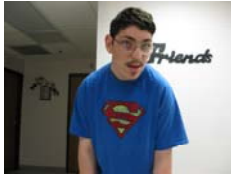
Any questions can be directed to our Chairperson, Debbie Poore, at (573)634-4555 or email debrapoore@ccrsi.org.

Thank you in advance for your generosity.

(PLEASE SEE FLYER/REGISTRATION FORM FOR THE 5K ON THE FOLLOWING PAGE →)

5K for KAMP Run or Walk Cole County Residential Services, Inc.

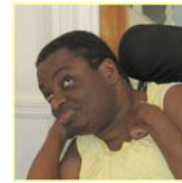
Help send individuals with special needs to Wonderland Camp



Lee V.



Julie W.



Rhonda F.



**DATE: SATURDAY, MARCH 6, 2010
at 9:00 a.m.**

PLACE: Jefferson City Memorial Airport
Rain or Shine

REGISTRATION TIME: 7:45—8:45 A.M.

ENTRY FEE: \$20 (includes T-shirt)

AWARDS:

Given to top three finishers (runners and walkers) in 7 age groups
(12 and under, 13-18, 19-29, 30-39, 40-49, 50-59, 60+)

***Donations Welcome**

(Checks payable to: CCRSI, 1908 Boggs Creek Road, Jefferson City, MO 65101)

***Websites for Information:** www.ccrsi.org & www.runjeffcity.org

For information contact Debbie Poore at 573-634-4555

5K for Kamp—Registration Form

Please mail Pre-Registrations to CCRSI, 1908 Boggs Creek Road, Jefferson City, MO 65101.
Form must be received by February 15, 2010 to assure your T-shirt size.

NAME: _____

CIRCLE ONE: 5K RUN or 5K WALK

ADDRESS: _____

SIZE OF T-SHIRT (circle one below):

CITY, STATE & ZIP: _____

S M L XL XXL XXXL

PHONE: _____

SEX: ___M ___F AGE: _____

WAIVER OF LIABILITY STATEMENT: In consideration of my participation in this event, I hereby release Cole County Residential Services Incorporated and its agents from any claims, demands, and causes of action as a result of my voluntary participation in this event. I am aware of the risks of participating and hereby assume all risks.

Signature of Participant
(or Guardian) _____

Date: _____

A Story About Freedom

By Paul David Weidinger



This is a story about freedom. I was born as Paul David Weidinger, the 5th of 7 kids. You can see my parents, 3 brothers and 3 sisters in this picture. That's me in my wheelchair. (I was born with cerebral palsy and it mostly affected my left side.) Dad raised Black Angus cattle and put up hay on our 100-acre farm and everybody pitched in. I helped our mom vacuum and hang laundry, but my favorite chore was cutting the grass. I used a push mower in our front yard and around the basketball hoop. I loved working outside and the feelings of peace and freedom. I liked seeing the grass all neat and trim when I was done. I worked one summer on a maintenance crew in high school. Then my brothers and sisters started moving out of the house to get married or go to college. It got a little lonely. But I still had my mom and dad to take me places.

When I was 23, I got a job at a new nursing home near our house. My family was always very good to me. Someone was always there to drive me to work or come take me home. Sometimes I got tired of waiting for rides after work.

One day, I just walked all the way home. I had some freedom but I wasn't independent. I always had to plan and wait for someone to drive me places.

When my sister, Laura Ann, left for college, I adopted her dog, Scotty. After all my sisters and brothers moved out, Scotty and I were the only ones living on the farm with my parents. Then Scotty died and it was just me, Mom and Dad. I still keep Scotty's picture on my wall. He was a good dog.



I always had trouble with my left knee and the kneecap would go out of place. It happened, oh - about once a week. I learned to be careful how I turned and not to twist too quickly. After 18 years of work, my knee started hurting more and more. The doctor said it just wore out. I had to quit my job because I needed surgery. The arthritis was so bad that the doctor removed my kneecap. I couldn't move back to the farm because Dad had died in 1995 and he wasn't there to help Mom take care of me.

I moved to Frene Valley Health Care Center, in Owensville. It was near where my sister, Lilly, lived. I had lots of therapy. I learned how to use a new leg brace and how to walk again. Frene Valley was a nice place. Everyone there was helpful and kind. I made friends with Bonnie and her husband, Tom, with Shirley and many people. My nurse, Joann, was very good to me; she helped me a lot.

My brothers, Jim, Keith and Albert were great about taking me to Cardinal's baseball or Missouri Tiger's basketball or football games. Lilly and her husband, Bob, were so good to me. They made sure I went to family picnics, holidays and out for weekend visits about once a month. My brothers or sisters and their families would give Mom a ride to come and see me. Laura Ann and Patty would take me shopping. I have lots of pictures with my nieces and nephews as they were growing up.

It took a year or two of therapy and the doctor gave the OK for me to walk without staff being next to me. As soon as I could get around by myself, I could see my freedom would be taken away bit by bit. I lived in a nursing home and I was only in my forties. Rules are to protect people but I got sick and tired of all the rules! I couldn't go down the street to buy a newspaper. I couldn't go outside without a staff member. I got cranky sometimes. (Everyone has their days.) I wanted to get in a car and just drive to my own home, like my staff did at the end of their shifts.

Then Lilly and Bob moved to Jefferson City. For a time, the only place I went out of the nursing home were to my doctor's appointments. My family traveled from Maries or Cole to Gasconade County and back. Because they drove so far, I only went to local places to eat and I rarely got to go to visit Mom at her home. Lilly kept telling me I should move to Jefferson City. She said it would be the best thing for me in the long run. I was kind of worried because I wanted freedom, but I knew Frene Valley, and I had friends there. Lilly and I looked at several nursing homes in the Jefferson City area. We found a couple that I liked but they felt they couldn't meet my needs.

Continued...

In March 2008 I met Kathleen. She was my Service Coordinator from Rolla Regional Office. We talked about what it takes to make a plan and to stick to it. Kathleen explained to me that we had to “hurry up and wait.” She said she would hurry up to write a plan. Then Jamie, a registered nurse with Rolla Regional Office would write a report because we had to plan for my safety. Jamie Nugent was the nicest man and we had a good visit. Jamie wrote a report and Kathleen used it to plan for a move. Whatever question Kathleen or Jamie had, my nurse, Joann, would find the answer.

For several months, nothing seemed to be happening. Kathleen would visit me and explain the differences in places to look. We went over things we had done and the things we still needed to do. She wrote letters to all my doctors and got their opinions. I felt at the time that it was taking too long. But now I see that it turned out to be the best thing for me. Things don't happen overnight. I had to find the right place to be safe and to live in freedom.

Today, I live in Jefferson City. Lilly, Bob and Laura Ann live just a few minutes away. I'm much closer to Mom and I go to visit her sometimes.



I go where and when I want to go. About 3 or 4 times a week, I set up a ride, get on Handi Wheels and go! I may shop at the Mall, go to the library, see a movie or shop at Wal-Mart. I go to the YMCA and exercise. I even go to my doctor's office and get my blood work done on my own.

I have my freedom and independence to do what I want when I choose to do it. All the staff members at Cole County Residential Services are helpful, polite and know how to support me, thanks to my plan. The best thing is that because I live in my own home, I can walk out on the back patio and just enjoy the beautiful outdoors. I am so happy.



NEW FACILITY SUPERVISOR AT COLE COUNTY RESPITE



I would like to introduce Amy Currence as the Facility Supervisor for Cole County Respite. The respite program moved to a new facility on High Street in June 2009, and now has the ability to serve more clients. Cole County is one of the few counties in the state that has this type of facility, and we want our families to be able to take full advantage of it.

Amy has been employed with Cole County Special Services since 2005 as a Case Manager. Amy suggested respite to numerous families she served during her employment as a case manager because she believed respite is a much needed service for most of our families. It gives parents a chance to spend time with family and friends while knowing that their loved one is safe and protected at our facility. It also gives the client a chance to socialize with other individuals and learn to rely on someone other than family to care for them.

At Cole County Respite, we will make every effort to accommodate you and your needs.



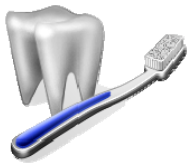
*Tracy Hoover
Director of Client Services*

CCRSI's Oral Hygiene Program

By Melanie Heseman, Community Specialist

In June 2009, I attended an Oral Hygiene Train-the-Trainer at Central Missouri Regional Office in Jefferson City. I was given a paper copy of the power point at the training and received the power point presentation late August 2009. Then, after having spoken with all the Group Home leaders about what we would be doing, I began my training, which was broken down as follows:

1) A power point presentation was given to most of our 97 staff in Residential (only a few were absent due to illness, etc.). I did all training at their respective homes during their staff meetings over the next couple months. The 97 staff included QDDPs, Managers, and Support Staff. (Maybe 6 were absent, so approximately 94% were trained by me; the rest were trained by other staff who were trained by me.) After the power point presentation, I demonstrated how to approach a person who needed assistance, as well as how to position themselves in accordance with the person receiving help. Then, I demonstrated on one of the staff (volunteers) how to appropriately relax the mouth, cradle the head and brush the teeth and tongue.



2) I then went back to the Homes and worked with the clients who wanted to participate. After giving the clients (and any staff who were working) information about why it was important to brush and floss (better over-all health, breath smells better, smile looks nicer, feel better about self) and why it was important to let staff help if they need it (that it didn't mean they didn't know how – just that staff might be able to reach some of the places they may not), I asked for a volunteer/model to let me brush and show the others what we would be doing. Then I had the staff and clients pair/group up to “practice.” All the participants were very excited and eager to work with the staff so they would have the “prettiest smiles in all of Cole County!!” Of the 61 clients we have in our 5 homes (which includes the PAS and Tenants who live at Estes), 4 opted out of the training (they are their own guardians), one couldn't physically attend, (staff worked to teach that one when the client was up to it), 6 have no teeth (but a couple attended the training and we brushed gums – the ones that attended still received the spin brush and flosser), so **52 (85%) participated** in some way. Each participant was able to choose their color of brush and flosser. Some clients have their teeth physically brushed by staff due to ability level. If the client is able to brush – no matter how well, we encourage and do hand-over-hand with them to teach, as well as verbal coaching. If all teeth aren't brushed, staff then “touch up,” but clients are given the opportunity to be independent. We had a good time!

3) I have asked many of the clients, as well as staff how (the clients) are doing and have been flashed many bright smiles! 100% of the teeth I've seen since the program implemented have looked cleaner and have much less tartar. One of the Facility Supervisors wrote:

“All 10 of our clients have battery-operated or electric toothbrushes, as well as the flossers. These toothbrushes are much more efficient than manual toothbrushes, and so far the dentists are impressed with the improvement in oral hygiene.” *Gina Overmann, Facility Supervisor Parkway*



When I was about half way through training the staff and clients, Todd Rodemeyer, RN at CMRO, told me I was one of the few people throughout the state that followed through with the program and he thought I was the only one in our area who had followed through.

I applied for toothbrushes and flossers for all participants and bite blocks for the clients who needed them, and received all the supplies I requested! The bite blocks alone were \$324.00, approximate price of the brushes were \$7.00 each x 53=\$371, and flossers were approximately \$4.00 x 53=\$212, for a total of **approximately \$907.00** in supplies — **free**. All it cost was a little time and paperwork.

EMPLOYEES OF THE MONTH

Congratulations to staff members pictured below for being selected as Employees of the Month, and to Kim Feltrop, our Employee of the Year. Our sincere thanks to each of them for their service and dedication to those we serve.



Fidelia Okocha, Tanner Bridge, NOV. 2008—for acting quickly and rationally when she had a client emergency at Central House. Her quick response may have saved the client's life.



Lisa Sanchez, Case Management, MARCH 2009—For recommending the idea for increasing logging output to help all Case Managers be more aware of all billable services.



Sandy Crawford, Administration, JULY 2009—For getting the HR records up to date which eased the evaluation for the Certification Team and for automating notification/reminder cards for Recreation Travel Opportunities.



Ryan Evans, Parkway, DEC. 2008—For being an exceptional fellow team member and always being enthusiastic about working with the clients.



Casey Alley, Case Management, APRIL 2009—For recommending, organizing, and starting the Autism Support Group for families.



Jamie Pitzen, Estes, AUG. 2009—For getting a tenant ISL services and helping the Manager interview for four additional staff.



Susan Beahan, Administration, JAN. 2009—For her diligence and attention to details in payroll work; and her great attitude.



Sherri Humphery, Parkway, MAY 2009—For catching a serious medication error that was wrongly written on a client's MAR and given.



Phyllis Johnson, East McCarty, SEPT. 2009—For covering bowling and completing the necessary paperwork, and for taking clients on a Travel Opportunity for Recreation.



Laraine "Rainy" Forth, East McCarty, FEB. 2009—For her competence and concern and taking on additional duties.



Clara Wibberg, East McCarty, JUNE 2009—For recognizing a health problem and helping the client at the hospital.



EMPLOYEE OF THE YEAR Kim Feltrop, Residential, OCT. 2009—For advocating for clients and going above and beyond to ensure clients' medical needs are being taken care of properly.

COLE COUNTY RESIDENTIAL SERVICES INC.
1908 BOGGS CREEK ROAD
JEFFERSON CITY MO 65101-5580

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RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

Please let CCRSI know if you want to stop receiving this newsletter or if you would like to receive it electronically. You may call, fax, or e-mail us. Also, please let us know if your address has changed. Thanks!

******* IMPORTANT EVENTS *******

Friday Night Recreation

Feb. 19, No Friday Night Recreation—
District Basketball Tournament
Feb. 26, Chili Supper/Clam Chowder &
Movie, 5:30-7:30 McClung Pavilion
March 5, Karaoke Night, 6:30-8:30 P.M.,
McClung Pavilion
March 12, St. Patrick's Dance, 6:30-8:30
P.M., McClung Pavilion
March 19, No Friday Night Recreation—
State Basketball Tournament
March 26, Bingo, 6:30-8:30 P.M., McClung
Pavilion
April 2, No Friday Night Recreation—
Easter Holiday
April 9, Annual Ice Show, 6:30-9:30 P.M.,
Ice Arena
April 16, Birthday Party, 6:30-8:30 P.M.,
McClung Pavilion
April 23 (Tentative Date), Prom Night
Dinner and Dance, 5:30-8:30 P.M.,
McClung Pavilion
April 30, Fishing, 5:30-7:00 P.M., Binder
Park Tackle Shop

May 7, Cinco De Mayo, 6:30-8:30 P.M.,
McClung Pavilion
May 14, Hayride and Hot Dog Roast,
6:00-8:30 P.M., Binder Park Pavilion
May 21, Walk the Runge Center Trail,
6:00-7:30 P.M., Runge Center

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Autism Support Group Meeting

February 23, 2010

The Autism Support Group Meeting
will be held at 1908 Boggs Creek Road,
at 6:30 P.M.

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Board Meeting Dates

February 23, 2010
March 23, 2010
April 27, 2010
May 25, 2010
June 22, 2010

**Board meetings are usually held at
the Administrative Office
located at 1908 Boggs Creek
Road,
and begin at 6:30 P.M.**



For additional information,
please call 573-634-4555.