



enable link

individualized services for children & adults with disabilities

Winter 2005
newsletter

shining lights 2005

Please join **George and Barbara Schunck**, Honorary Chairs, for the annual Enable Shining Lights Awards Celebration on Thursday, April 7th 2005 beginning at 5:30pm at the Country Club of Syracuse.

Fifty years ago Mr. William F. FitzPatrick devoted countless volunteer hours to give Enable a strong foundation. For the past several years, **Mr. E. Carlyle Smith** has likewise devoted his volunteer energies to help Enable, as well as other important charitable initiatives such as Coaches vs. Cancer and St. Joseph's Hospital. Enable is pleased to honor Mr. Smith with the FitzPatrick Community Service Award.



Mr. E. Carlyle Smith

Years ago, Enable was known as the C.P. Center. The late Paul F. Schoeck (Pauly) participated in some services with the agency. He went on to work in his father's construction business. This year we honor **Mr. Paul Schoeck** with the Grossman Memorial Award to recognize his foresight and courage in keeping Pauly at home (not in an institution) and giving him the opportunity to work. Mr. Schoeck is helping other families confidently raise their children with disabilities to lead full and independent lives through his continuing support of Enable.



Mr. Paul Schoeck

service enhancement plan

One year ago, the Enable Board of Directors authorized the development of a Service Enhancement Plan. Facilitated by Dr. Warren Olin-Ammentorp of Cazenovia

College, the strategic planning process during 2004 involved over 100 members of the Board, staff, participants, volunteers, community members and advocates for people with disabilities who participated in nine Focus Groups.



Warren Olin-Ammentorp and Sara Wall-Bollinger

The Service Enhancement Plan outlined below was initiated at a Retreat in July, and is designed to parallel the Empire State Advantage model for Excellence in Not-for-Profit agencies.

The Goal of the Service Enhancement Plan is to enhance the overall quality of Enable's services by improving the following areas:

- Communication and continuity.
- Financial stability and flexibility.
- Our image with both internal and external audiences.

Enable's principles are choice, inclusion, empowerment and family involvement.

Dr. Olin-Ammentorp will be honored with a Special Recognition Award at the Shining Lights Celebration on April 7th.



Volunteers at Retreat

Enable offers an array of services to enhance the quality of life for individuals with developmental or physical disabilities.

state recognition

Cris Drozd, Program Coordinator for Community Networks was recognized at the Cerebral Palsy Associations of New York State Conference for her creativity and leadership.

Enable is an affiliate of the Cerebral Palsy Associations of New York State. Susan Constantino (pictured at right) was recently promoted to the position of Executive Director of the State Association. The Association represents 22 agencies and over 40,000 people with disabilities throughout the state of New York. CP of NYS is also a large provider of direct services in the downstate area. Marvin Reed, a member of the Enable Board, also sits on the State Board.



Susan Constantino and Cris Drozd

pre-school parents participate

Family reading activities and parenting skills are being supported through two new projects in Enable's Education Services. A \$2,000 grant from the Target Stores Community Giving Program combined with funds from the Magna DriveTrain–New Process Gear Employees We Care Fund will fund the Story Bag Family Reading Project in our community based toddler and preschool programs. This project will promote early childhood reading skills through activities that develop a love of reading and encourage families to read together with their children.

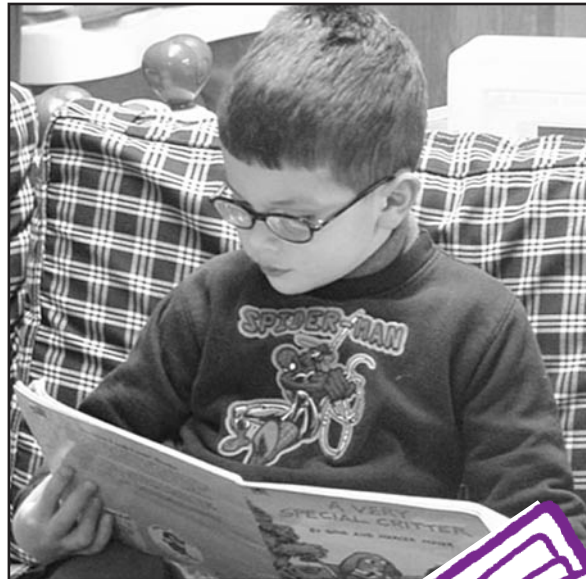
Special backpack "Story Bags" will be created that include books and interactive props, puppets and other materials related to the stories that children and their families can take home for a week to enjoy as part of their family reading time together. Crayons, paper and other supplies to promote writing and drawing activities will be included in the backpack with the reading materials. Story Bags are returned the following week, restocked if needed, and loaned out to a different family. The Story Bags are theme based and tie into classroom topics and activities that are occurring in the toddler and preschool classrooms.

The Incredible Years Parenting Series was offered to families through collaboration with Syracuse University. Dr. Laura Lee McIntyre spoke with parents about the

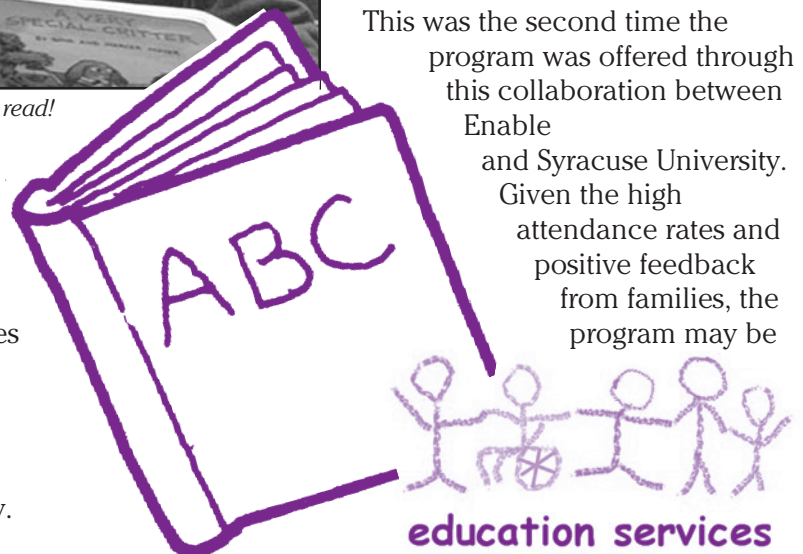
importance of play, praise, rewards, limit setting and problem solving with their children. Discussion has also included potty training issues, sleep problems, transition to kindergarten, and developing a network of support.

Dr. McIntyre teaches at the University and adapted this eleven-week parenting series to help families of young children, especially children with developmental concerns or challenging behaviors. The series has been well attended by parents, especially with childcare services offered as part of the program. One parent commented, "It's great! I don't have to cook, and somebody watches my kids while I get to talk with other grown-ups!" Another parent referred to the weekly meetings as "a two hour mental health break for me."

This was the second time the program was offered through this collaboration between Enable and Syracuse University. Given the high attendance rates and positive feedback from families, the program may be



Ready to read!



is estate planning right for you?



Tracie Baule-Hall

You don't have to be Warren Buffet or Bill Gates to need an estate plan. If you own a home, a retirement plan or a life insurance policy you have an "estate".

Protecting your estate is important because court proceedings, settlement delays and confusion usually mean more time and expense for your survivors to deal with.

If someone dies without having written a will, the state will step in, but the state has no way to know your wishes. Even in the case of married couples, both spouses need a written plan – otherwise you may pay unnecessary taxes.

Have a will already? Congratulations. You have made an important step for your future, and the future of your heirs. However, it is usually necessary to update your will three or four times over your lifetime. Your children grow up, the person you originally chose for an executor is no longer your choice, you may re-marry, you may become involved with a charity or cause...lots of things can happen to warrant an update.

People with large, medium or small estates can make a meaningful memorial contribution to Enable through a bequest to the agency as a whole, a particular program, or to our newly created Endowment Fund.

Please consult with your personal financial advisor and contact Tracie Baule-Hall, Development Director at 315/455-7591x279.

SADA success

Enable raised \$13,341 from the proceeds of the 2005 SADA Charity Preview. The Board of Directors chipped in on a Gold Sponsorship and the Enable Management Team purchased tickets at the Silver Sponsor level. Gross contributions were higher than 2003 but lower than 2004. Due to low expenses, the net proceeds benefiting the Enable Children's Assistive Technology Services (CATS) will be over \$13,000.



Wendy Van Der Bogart, Doug Burns, past president of Syracuse Auto Dealers Association and Lindsey Hazelton check out the trucks.

Many thanks to the following Sponsors who selected Enable:

Hancock & Estabrook
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Infiniti of Syracuse
KA Services
NPG Federal Credit Union
Mr. and Mrs. Frederick J. Bossong



Board members Pam Gramet and Andrew Bobrek enjoy the preview.



Tracie Baule-Hall tries out an adapted van.



Susan Cronin and Estelle Price, Enable board members, pose for the camera

sara wall-bollinger
executive director



upcoming events

Visit the www.enablecny.org for further details & registration.

April 7 **Shining Lights Awards Celebration**
at Country Club of Syracuse

June 13 **Clare L. Smith Golf Classic**
at Bellevue Country Club

July 26 **Americans with Disabilities Act**
(ADA) 15th Anniversary

Corrections to Fall Newsletter:

Page 1. Photo caption in aquatics – Jorden’s name was misspelled.
Page 2. Photo caption in DMD – Dan was incorrectly identified as Mike.

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Enable’s Services

Advocacy
Aquatic Therapy
Assistive Technology
Augmentative Communication
Certified Residential Settings
Computer Access & Training
Day Habilitation
Diagnostic Assessment
Early Intervention Evaluation
Family & Individual Support
Inclusive Pre-School

Special Education
Itinerant Special Education
Neurology Services
Occupational Therapy
Personal Assistance
Physical Therapy
Pre-School Evaluation
Residential Habilitation
Sensory Integration
Service Coordination
Speech & Language Therapy
Supported Employment

Affiliations:

Cerebral Palsy Associations of NYS
United Way of Central New York
United Way of Greater Oswego County
Association for Persons in Supported Employment
National Association for the Education of Young Children
U.S. Green Building Council