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Upcoming Events

December 1, 2003 **VESID State Plan Community Forum**

Onondaga-Cortland-Madison BOCES, 6820 Thompson Road, Henry Campus, Building B, Distance Learning Center 2:00 pm - 4:00 pm

February 3, 2004 **SADA Charity Preview**

Please designate Enable! Invitations will be mailed the last week of December. Contact Susan Johnson at 455-7591 x 220 to insure that you receive one.

April 15, 2004 **Shining Lights Annual Awards Celebration**

Hosted by Hal and Ruth Brown at the LaFayette Country Club.

For additional information on any event please call Susan at 315-455-7591 x 284

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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
Home & Community Based Services

Inclusive Pre-School
Special Education
Individual & Group Counseling
Itinerant Special Education
Neurology Services
Occupational Therapy
Personal Assistance
Physical Therapy
Pre-School Evaluation
Rehabilitation Counseling
Residential Habilitation

Service Coordination
Speech & Language Therapy
Supported Employment
Support Groups

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



enable link

individualized services for children & adults with disabilities

fall 2003
newsletter

boundless playground



The sun came out just in time. Dozens of children and their parents turned out to celebrate the dedication of the accessible Boundless Playground at Onondaga Lake Park. The Enable Community Networks team was also present, along with Victor, the street puppet they made with Open Hand Theater last year.

One of Enable's guiding principles is "inclusion". The Boundless Playground is an excellent example of a public park making the effort to support participation of children with and without disabilities in a typical environment. Enable supported this effort in memory of Jimmy O'Donnell and other children like him with significant physical challenges. The agency appreciates Onondaga County's support for people with disabilities.



Hal & Ruth Brown honorary chairs



Ruth and Hal Brown

Volunteering has been a part of Hal and Ruth Brown's life for well over 30 years. In the mid-1960's Hal volunteered for the DeWitt Rotary Club helping to host birthday parties for children at the Syracuse Cerebral Palsy Center (now Enable). Meanwhile, Ruth was a volunteer at the swimming program at Percy Hughes School. Little did they know their experiences working with individuals with disabilities would directly affect their life.

In January of 1966 when their daughter Betsy was born she didn't breathe for twenty minutes. This anoxia caused her to have cerebral palsy. Hal and Ruth were not just loving parents to Betsy, they became and continue to be her best advocates. They educated themselves about CP and explored new treatments, services and options available. They have helped Betsy live a full, independent life.

Hal and Ruth's role as honorary chairs of Enable's 2003-2004 Annual Campaign is yet another example of their personal commitment to individuals with disabilities, and to our community.

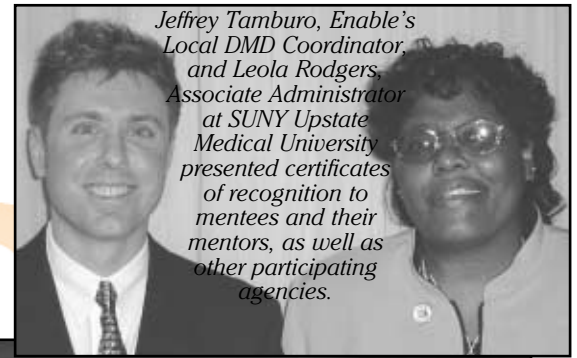
Letters from Hal and Ruth will be mailed in November. Please consider their request on behalf of Enable. Your donation can help Enable reach our goal of \$30,000. Your support helps individuals with disabilities achieve their personal goals in life.

DMD officially proclaimed

With nearly one hundred people to witness, Mayor Matt Driscoll and County Executive Nick Pirro jointly pronounced October 15th, 2003 Disability Mentoring Day in Greater Syracuse. The Kick-off Breakfast held at the Holiday Inn ~ Carrier Circle, was just the beginning of a day where 30 Mentees and 25 Mentors from 20 different local companies participated in the AAPD national program designed to promote career development and corporate relationships for people with disabilities.

Featured speaker, David Duerr of the Chamber of Commerce, shared an informational "Top 10" of the characteristics employers look for in employees. "Attitude, not aptitude, determines altitude," Duerr quoted.

Jeffrey Tamburo, DMD Local Coordinator, was pleased that the Kick-off Breakfast, sponsored by SUNY Upstate Medical University, was fuel for the workday as well as fuel for the spirits of everyone in attendance. Mentoring sites included lead national corporate sponsor, Verizon, as well as nationwide participants Pitney Bowes Management Services, Darden Restaurants (Olive Garden), and Cingular Wireless. Enable Board member Leola Rodgers helped Tamburo thank participants from CSD Relay; Niagara Mohawk, a National Grid Company; and New Venture Gear. We look forward to taking the event to an even higher level next year.



Jeffrey Tamburo, Enable's Local DMD Coordinator, and Leola Rodgers, Associate Administrator at SUNY Upstate Medical University presented certificates of recognition to mentees and their mentors, as well as other participating agencies.



Assemblymen Jeff Brown, County Executive Nick Pirro, Mayor Matt Driscoll and Sara Wall-Bollinger were all present for the DMD Kick Off Breakfast

ILS tenth anniversary



Nancy Andrieu, Michael Currie, Bob Mantel and Marie Hill use PowerPoint to describe Individualized Living Services to guests at the Open House.

The Independent Living Services Open House held on September 29th was a day of celebrating successes. Participants in the program treated the attendees to photographic collages, personal stories, Powerpoint presentations; even singing with guitar accompaniment...all to show what can be accomplished when individuals with disabilities are given opportunities to live their lives as they envision them.



Steve Smits, Director of the NYS Office of Mental Retardation & Developmental Disabilities Central Region, congratulates Enable.

Participants in Enable's Individualized Living Services (ILS) were recognized at a dinner October 15th facilitated by Mary DiBiase, Program Coordinator since the beginning. When asked about their collective achievement, Shirley Fahey, Program Manager stated "Independence". Her colleague, Nancy Andrieu stated "Relationships" just as confidently. The essence of ILS lies in these two concepts. A total of 65 people, 34 of whom are currently participating, have learned new skills and experienced new opportunities for both independence and relationships.

The core strength is that the program is truly individualized. "It takes time to develop competencies," said Andrieu. Some participants live alone; others with family members or support people. Some came to Enable after many years of institutionalization. Others joined with the support of an involved family. "We listen," added Fahey, "We support people with the consequences of their choices, whether good or bad. This helps them achieve the life they actually want."



ILS participants display their recognition certificates at the Anniversary Dinner.

preparing to build for the future



Lee Davis, Chuck Dolinskas,
Lisa Cleckner

The New York Indoor Environmental Quality Center, Inc. (NYIEQ) will partner with Enable to create a facility to bring the best therapeutic and communication technology to children and adults with disabilities in Central New York.

To kick-off the project, the NYIEQ Center sponsored an environmental building charrette for the design of Enable's new facility, slated for construction in 2004. A charrette is an intensive, highly integrated, multidisciplinary roundtable workshop that brings together stakeholders and experts at the very outset of a design or problem solving process.

By working with NYIEQ and the charrette process, Enable hopes to employ the latest in green technologies and energy efficient systems for this new building. "The charrette process gives Enable ability to take advantage of the benefits of green building technology, while providing the best of today's wellness and assistive technology," according to Tracie Baule, Development Director for Enable. "Our missions are somewhat parallel, to improve the quality of life so people can live better, more productive lives." Enable hopes to save

considerable amounts of money by utilizing green and energy efficient systems to meet their energy needs, says Baule.

A special thanks to those who donated their time and expertise to make the charrette successful. Participants represented the following companies: NYIEQ, NYSERDA, Green-Think, Inc., Carrier Corporation, Robson-Woese, Inc., Niagara Mohawk, a National Grid Company, O'Brien & Gere, Onondaga County Resource Recovery Agency, Schopfer Architects, Northeast Construction Services, Inc., and Honeywell.



Clem Nadeau, Dave Schlosser, Dick Schneider,
Foster Spadafora, Tracie Baule, Carol Tytler

where's the party?

SADA, Mmmm~ Sounds Absolutely Delicious ~ Absolutely!



2004 Enable SADA Committee Members (Left to Right) Linda Webb,
Peter Detor, "Eva Galore" aka Susan Johnson, Andrew Bobrek,
Susan Cronin (Lynn Horowitch and Bob Maltbie are not pictured)

It's right here in Syracuse and it is the place to be! The Syracuse Auto Dealer Association's Charity Preview has quickly become a premiere event in Central New York, and this year's fundraiser promises to be the party of the year.

"It's first class, Dah-ling"

According to Eva Galore
"This Jaguar is purr-fectly delightful, Kitten!"

Project Adapt will benefit from the proceeds designated to Enable via the February 3rd, 2004 gala. The SADA Committee (pictured left) would like to invite you to support this fabulous evening of flowing champagne, fiery cars, and festive conversation. This party is generating so much excitement that along with local celebrities, dignitaries, and car aficionados, "Eva Galore" is scheduled to attend.

"Darling, the Porsche is simply luscious and my thirtieth birthday is coming again soon!"

Mark your calendars for the Syracuse Auto Dealer Association's 2004 Charity Preview and please support Enable with your designation. The party is Tuesday February 3rd, 2004 at the Convention Center at Oncenter in historic downtown Syracuse.

To request an invitation, please call Susan Johnson at 455-7591 ext.220.

thanks to jaguar club

If you sense an automotive theme to this issue it is because of the wonderful support Enable has received from people who care about cars and people with disabilities. Enable was honored by the All British Car Show in August. Thanks to John Duncan, Wayne Kenyon, Bill Rapp Jaguar and all the members of the Jaguar and MG Clubs for their generous donations!