



enable link

individualized services for children & adults with disabilities

Fall 2005
newsletter

Stephen & Elisabeth Fournier Honorary Chairs



Stephen & Elisabeth Fournier

Enable is pleased to have Stephen and Elisabeth Fournier as honorary chairs for the 2005-2006 Annual Campaign and hosts of the Shining Lights Annual Awards Celebration scheduled for April 5, 2006.

As district president of KeyBank, Steve is a young, energetic executive who, with his vibrant wife Lis, understands first-hand the challenges and the blessings of raising a child with disabilities. When their son Kyle was born with Down syndrome almost five years ago, they were amazed at the wide range of programs and services available to him and their family...programs and services they probably would not have known about otherwise. They knew that as much as they love Kyle and had the support of their extended families and friends, they would not be able to maximize Kyle's potential on their own. At 17 days old, Kyle began receiving special education, physical therapy and speech therapy. As he has grown, so have the scope and breadth of his programs and services...along with his knowledge and skills.

According to the Fournier's, "Agencies such as Enable, and the caring, talented people who work for them, are committed to helping individuals reach their true potential and achieve the one goal common to every member of our community...leading a productive, happy, and fulfilling life."

New Board Members

The Enable Board of Directors is pleased to introduce the following new members.

David Dunn of Fayetteville is President of Samarak Business Services. He currently serves on the Board of the Montessori School of Syracuse. His background includes Family Services of Greater Utica and Oneida County Association for Retarded Citizens.



David Dunn

Harriet Silverman of Jamesville recently retired from OCM BOCES where she was lead person on a Federal grant program that helped adults with disabilities find jobs. She is a member of Onondaga County Community Services Board and has previously served on other Boards. She has two children with disabilities.



Harriet Silverman

Dr. Ednita (Nina) Wright of Syracuse is a Professor of Human Services at Onondaga Community College. She is a member of the PTO at Roberts School, and involved in community service and substance abuse counseling.



Dr. Ednita Wright

New Residence Opens

An open house was held at Greystone Avenue in Camillus last month. The celebration was the culmination of a year and a half of planning that resulted in four people; Nathan, Nelly, Richard, and Heath moving into their newly renovated home. For more than four hours the home was filled with family, friends, neighbors, coworkers and elected officials stopping by to congratulate the four on their recent move.

This project began in the spring of 2004 when Nathan's parents approached Enable and proposed a plan to develop a residence that would become home to Nathan and three other people. Development of the plan required looking for roommates who would be compatible, searching for the right house, securing funding from the state and completing renovations.

Since moving, the four have been on the go. In addition to their work, volunteer and school activities there have been SU football games and concerts to attend, walking at the West Genesee High School track and local parks, and becoming familiar with the local merchants. Down time at home includes barbecues, music, and playing hoops in the back yard.

Welcoming neighbors, a great community and a comfortable home; thanks to all who made it possible.



Nathan, resident at Greystone Avenue

Enable in the Community

Delavan Art Gallery



Enable participated in the Delavan Art Gallery presentation "See it With Different Eyes" held October 6th through October 29th. The exhibit featured photographs, still life, sculpture and paintings, along with work by Angelo Puccia's students at Enable. Puccia's sculptures are intuitive works and he

experiments with various materials, taking great pleasure in the process. In 2004, Puccia received a grant to create environmental public art. Currently he teaches sculpture at the Fayetteville YMCA and Enable. Angelo Puccia is seen here by the Tree of Life sculpture with Sara Wall-Bollinger and Cris Drozd.

Drop in the Bucket Sales



Several area businesses helped raise money for Enable's Capital Campaign by hosting the Drop in the Bucket Water Droplet Sales at their locations. If you are an area business owner and would like to participate in the droplet sale promotion, please contact Tracie Baule-Hall at 315/455-7591 x279.

Participating businesses pictured here include; AmeriCU, Friend's Diner, Sammi's Beauty Box, Hair & Nail Works, and Mulhauser's Florist.

Radisson Founder's Day

The Radisson Community Association invited Enable to take part in their Annual Founder's Day Celebration on September 10th at the Kerri Hornaday Memorial Park. The Enable display featured a water table that was a big 'splash' for kids of all ages.



All British Car Show

On Sunday August 7th Enable participated in the All British Car Show at the Lorenzo State Historic Park. Overlooking the picturesque Cazenovia Lake, the event included more than 100 Jaguar and British-made autos with judging in 18 classes of vehicles. Enable used the opportunity to raise funds for the Growing Beyond Limitations Capital Campaign by selling paper water droplets and cooler chairs. Dianne Settineri is pictured here beside the Enable display.



Fire Prevention Week at Exploring Your World



Prevention Event on Thursday October 13th. The event featured a puppet show and visit from representatives from the Syracuse Fire Department. The National theme for this year's Fire Prevention Week was "Use Candles with Care". Through the sponsorship of Cathedral Candle here in Syracuse, educational pamphlets and posters were purchased for the event.

Enable's Exploring Your World Pre-School, hosted a Special Fire

Westcott Street Cultural Fair

The Drop in the Bucket Campaign "took to the road" ...literally...this summer by taking part in the Westcott Street Cultural Fair. The Enable display featured toys and items from Project Adapt and the event served as another opportunity to sell water droplets for the Capital Campaign. Seen here is Enable Board Member, Ginny Felleman at the Festival selling water droplets.



Festival of Races

This fall Enable took part in the Syracuse Festival of Races and rallied over 90 runners and walkers to participate and raise pledges on behalf of Enable in the



Dermody Burke and Brown Community Fun(d) Walk. The goal was to create a "Sea of Green" by having all of the Enable Team members decked out in the infamous lime green Enable T-Shirts. Seen here in the photos are the Reynolds Family and Board Member Pamela Gramet proudly displaying the Enable Green!

Enable Night at the Sky Chiefs



Approximately 30 employees, families, and friends of Enable enjoyed an evening of minor league baseball as the Syracuse Sky Chiefs took on the Scranton Wilkes-Barre Red Barons. The baseball club provided a location for Enable to sell Water Droplets in the open air concourse area of the stadium.

Proceeds from the droplets benefited the Capital Campaign. Throughout the course of the evening announcements about Enable were aired over the PA system and electronic scoreboard providing visibility and recognition for the agency.

Continued on next page...

Enable in the Community Continued...

Disability Employment

The Marshalls store in Clay and the TJMaxx store in Fayetteville were recognized by New York State for hiring people with disabilities during National Disability Employment Awareness Month. Enable provided placement services and on-going employment supports. Nationwide Insurance was honored for taking the spirit



TJMaxx



Nationwide Insurance

of the Americans with Disabilities Act to heart by working collaboratively, for several months, to bring adaptive technology into their workplace for a blind employee. Disability Mentoring Day, celebrated on October 19th, is an annual opportunity for local companies to provide a mentoring experience for a student or job-seeker with a disability.

Tiger Woods Golf Clinic & Family Fun Fest

Syracuse was selected as one of four cities in the US to host the Tiger Woods Golf Clinic this year on August 13th. The Golf Clinic took place on Thursday and Friday followed by the Family Fun Fest on Saturday at Burnet Park. Many area Health and Human Service Agencies were invited to exhibit information about their services and programs. The Enable booth displayed "adapted" toys and information about Project Adapt and the event served as another opportunity to sell water droplets for the Capital Campaign.

Newlyweds Give Gift

Melissa & Beau were married August 13, 2005 at Dewitt Community Church. Beau has a cousin with cerebral palsy and, in lieu of wedding favors for guests, a donation was made to Enable. "This just seemed to them like the right thing to do," say the newlyweds. The guests were surprised, but impressed at their thoughtfulness. Beau and Melissa are back at Humboldt State University in

Arcata, California now with expected graduation dates of May 2006. Beau is looking at the Geology graduate program at University of West Virginia at Morgantown so at least they'll be east of the Mississippi soon! JoAnne Adyan, mother of the bride, says "Thank you for all the good work Enable does!!!!" We say, thank you and best wishes for a wonderful life together!



Agnes McCray receives Al Felmet Achievement Award



Agnes McCray receives award from Robert DiFrancesco, Active Past Chair of the Cerebral Palsy Associations of New York State.

Agnes McCray received the Al Felmet Achievement Award at the Cerebral Palsy Associations of New York State 2005 Annual Awards

Banquet on October 24th. The Al Felmet Award was created to recognize individuals with disabilities who have made significant contributions to their communities and are role models to others. Ms. McCray works with Enable and other community organizations on behalf of people with disabilities.

Ms. McCray is the mother of three active boys, yet finds the time to work to promote accessible voting machines in New York State. She often speaks to government agencies at the local, state

and federal levels in support of programs to enhance the lives of people in the community.

She also serves on a task force that advocates for better public transportation services for people with disabilities and advocates tirelessly for the provision of more accessible housing to allow individuals with disabilities to live more independently in their communities. A single mother, a strong and determined advocate and gifted public speaker are just some of the things that have made Ms. McCray an inspiration and a role model to her children, her colleagues and others who work to improve their communities.

Hurricane Relief

Enable was pleased to participate with other affiliates of the Cerebral Palsy Associations of New York State in a project to send wheelchairs, walkers, and other adaptive equipment and supplies to the Cerebral Palsy Associations in Louisiana, Mississippi and Texas devastated by Hurricanes Katrina and Rita. For more information contact www.cerebralpalsyofnys.org

Special Memorial Paul Schoeck

by Tracie Baule-Hall



Congressman James Walsh, Sara Wall-Bollinger, and the late Paul Schoeck show the plans for the new building at a groundbreaking celebration.

When Paul Schoeck died at the age of 102, the North side lost a legend; Schoeck Avenue lost a neighbor; and Enable lost a friend.

I met Paul Schoeck after the death of his youngest son, Pauly. We sat at the kitchen table in the home he had built on Schoeck Avenue for himself and his late wife, Theresa. I gained wisdom and insight that only a man who has lived over 100 years can impart.

When Pauly was born, the Schoeck's ignored the medical community and raised their son at home even though doctors advised that their son, born with cerebral palsy, should be institutionalized. The Schoeck's defied the odds. Pauly grew up, learned a trade, and had a highly successful career in the family business, Paul Schoeck Builders.

The homes built by Paul Schoeck as a craftsman are a legacy left behind for generations to enjoy. The precedent set by Paul and Theresa Schoeck as parents is an example of profound love and what belief in 'the possible' can achieve.

Paul Schoeck lived the American dream and died after ensuring that the dreams of others might be fulfilled, at St. Stephen's Church, Shriners Children's Hospital Burn Unit, and Enable. Mr. Schoeck will be missed by his son, Richard, his brother, Fred, his grandchildren and great-grandchildren, and his dear friend, Roselyn Benz.

The legacy, beliefs, and generosity of Paul Schoeck will live on at Enable, the testament of the life of Paul F. Schoeck will be memorialized, but the bologna sandwiches, marmalade squares, and table talks imparting wit and wisdom will be sorely missed.

Elks Support Home Service

People were definitely hopping at the Jump 'N Jive in 2005 Liverpool Elks Musicfest. Hundreds of people packed the grounds of the lodge to kick back and enjoy some great music and food while overlooking the scenic Seneca River. Each year, the Liverpool Elks sponsor the Musicfest to raise funds for their statewide Major Project, the Home Service Program of the Cerebral Palsy Associations of New York State (CP of NYS). This year's event raised nearly \$9,000 towards the program. The Musicfest was "one of the more outstanding events, and I've been to many," according to Lou Withiam, Chairman for the New York State Major Projects.



Program Director Carol Tyler and Ricky Ryder, Enable Board member and a member of the Liverpool Elks Club, with volunteer Karen Witter and the Home Service van.

This Major Project is a unique collaboration between a fraternal order, whose mission encompasses volunteerism and community service, and a statewide not-for-profit entity serving people with disabilities.

Enable's Home Service director, Diane Weiermann, travels throughout the region to provide home visits, advocacy support, information & service referrals and assistance with funding issues for children and adults with disabilities and their families. Last year, Weiermann traveled over 26,000 miles to provide services to people in their own homes and communities. Many of the people served through this program do not qualify for other funding streams and would otherwise "fall through the cracks."

CP of NYS and the New York State Elks Association have worked together since 1964 to provide direct services to adults and children with disabilities and their families in their communities, through the Home Service program. Since that time, the New York State Elks Association has contributed over \$10 million to the CP of NYS Home Service Program. Today, there are 27 Home Service Directors throughout the state serving over 12,000 people with disabilities.

Wolfson Recognized

Mike Wolfson, Chief Financial Officer at Enable, was recognized by the Cerebral Palsy Associations of NYS at their state conference on October 25th.

Mike has earned the confidence of staff, management and Board through his deliberate and thoughtful management of the agency's financial resources. He takes the time to understand the implications of decisions, and has improved our tools for information and analysis so that better strategic decisions can be made. Mike is sensitive to program issues and the needs of Enable participants and their families and keeps a nice balance between finance and program needs. Mike has assisted program leadership and Board members to better understand the financial implications of their decisions.



Mike Wolfson and his wife Joyce at the Cerebral Palsy Conference.

Enhancement Opportunities

Greg Smith, known as the Strength Coach, spoke to Enable employees and participants at the Self-Directed Conference September 7th. The Strength Coach is a syndicated radio columnist.



Greg Smith speaking at the SDPS conference

Although significantly disabled by muscular dystrophy, he began his career as a sportscaster, and continues to do football commentary. For the past twelve years, he has offered a weekly radio show about people with disabilities who are successful. He also does speaking engagements and has recently published a book "On a Roll". To learn more go to www.thestrengthcoach.com.

Katherine Carol of Tango Consulting was the speaker for the annual Community Services training retreat. The parent of an independent young woman with cerebral



Katherine Carol at Community Services Retreat

palsy who uses a wheelchair and a communication device, Ms. Carol shared her perspective on person-centered services and the importance of the role of direct service staff. She focuses on trust and ethics as the core of good management. She has also written a book, and may be contacted via www.tangoresults.com.

Public Forum on DME

Durable Medical Equipment (DME) is a term that means wheelchairs, communication devices, mechanical beds and a host of other non-disposable equipment items used by people with disabilities. For people with Medicaid and/or Medicare insurance, getting payment for DME can be challenging.

The Enable Advocacy Committee took on a project to research issues related to DME in the summer of 2004, culminating in the Public Forum held in

September 2005. Over twenty people spoke and a few more provided written input. Enable Executive Director Sara Wall-Bollinger presented testimony based on the results of the Committee's work and the Public Forum at the Assembly Public Hearing on DME in Albany. She conveyed a copy of a videotape of the Syracuse Forum to Assemblyman James Brennan, Chair of the Oversight, Analysis and Investigation Committee.



Enable Advocacy Committee members Agnes McCray, Sally Johnston, Scott Wing and Frank Graziano facilitated the Forum.



Assemblyman Jeff Brown, Colleen Mastine (Senator DeFrancisco), Marthe Ngwashi (Senator Valesky) and Assemblyman Will Barkley listen to constituents at the Forum.

In Memoriam

MaryAnn Ostrowski, Michael Indick, Sam Colunio



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sara wall-bollinger
executive director



Upcoming Events

January 31, 2006..... SADA Charity Preview
www.syracuseautodealers.org

February 15, 2006..... 30th Anniversary Reunion
www.enablecny.org/reunion

April 5, 2006 Shining Lights Awards Celebration
at Country Club of Syracuse

*For information regarding special events and volunteer opportunities contact
Christine Seubert at 315.455.7591x284 or cseubert@enablecny.org*

**enable • 1603 Court Street • Syracuse, NY 13208 • Voice: (315) 455-7591
TTY: (315) 455-1794 • Web Site: www.enablecny.org**

Direct Voice Lines: Education Services (315) 475-1382 • Community Services (315) 432-9154 • Business Office (315) 701-1534

Enable's Services

Adaptive Equipment Loan Program
Advocacy
Aquatic Therapy
Assistive Technology
Augmentative Communication
Certified Residential Settings
Day Habilitation
Diagnostic Assessment
Early Intervention Evaluation
Environmental Modifications

Family & Individual Support
Home & Community Based Services
Inclusive Pre-School Special Education
Individualized Support Services
Itinerant Special Education
Neurology Services
Occupational Therapy
Physical Therapy
Pre-School Evaluation
Residential Habilitation
Self Directed Personal Assistance

Sensory Integration
Service Coordination
Speech & Language Therapy
Supported Employment

Affiliations:

Cerebral Palsy Associations of NYS
United Way of Greater Oswego County
Association for Persons in Supported Employment
National Association for the Education of Young Children
US Green Building Council