



enable link

individualized services for children & adults with disabilities

winter 2003
newsletter

syracuse auto dealers association charity preview

Get a private preview of the 2003 auto show and benefit Enable by attending the SADA Charity Preview. Three different musical groups, great food and the newest and most exciting cars and trucks entertain guests.

Last year Enable received over \$10,000! This year's SADA Charity Preview will be held on February 4th 2003 and our goal is \$12,000! Sponsors and ticket purchasers can choose Enable alone or divide their donation among the charities involved. With underwriting solicited by the SADA team, 90-100% of each donation comes back to Enable. To purchase tickets please contact Tracie Baule at 315/455-7591 x 279 and designate Enable as your charity.



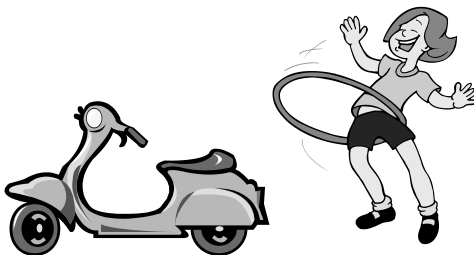
Friends of Enable, Susan Burns, Wendy and Larry VanDerBogart enjoying 2002's SADA Charity Preview



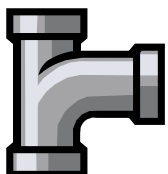
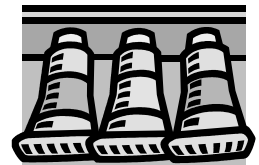
wish list

Enable programs need the following items for crafts and therapy for participants:

- **Batting**
- **Wood for Beams (2X4)**
- **Beads - All sizes and colors**
(large sizes are easier for people to use)
- **Nail polish**
- **Hula-Hoops**
- **Pot holders**
- **Pool Noodles**
- **Big Pieces of Felt - Any color**
- **Old tires, cleaned**
- **Bracelet wire**
- **Padding**
- **Bubble wrap**
- **PVC Piping**
- **Paints - all kinds and all colors**
- **Electric Hand mixer**
- **Construction cones**
- **Peg Board**
- **Crochet Needles**
- **Plastic Gutters**
- **Fabric Dyes**
- **Fabric Paints**
- **Foam Letters and Shapes Sheets**
- **Scooters**
- **Foam stuffing**
- **Velcro**
- **Helium quality balloons**
- **Walkie-Talkies**



The Aquatics team would appreciate children's aqua jackets.



The Itinerant team would love some children's books to be used in our early literacy program. We also need a child's play tunnel, and a plastic scooter with handles.

In addition, people in residences need: sheets, towels, pictures/artwork, wall hangings.



ten years as the boss

Self-Directed Personal Services Celebrates a Decade of Empowerment

If you have never been a supervisor, you probably think it would be great to be The Boss. If you have done it, you know that supervision can be demanding work, fraught with legal limitations and interpersonal challenges. Hundreds of people with cerebral palsy, multiple sclerosis, AIDS, muscular dystrophy, injuries, cancer and other long-term disabilities in Onondaga County have been enjoying the independence and frustration of supervision for the past ten years thanks to Enable's Self-Directed Personal Services (SDPS) program.

Enable was the first agency in New York State other than New York City to offer "consumer-directed" home care back in 1992. At that time, a program allowing individuals with disabilities to choose, schedule and supervise their own Personal Assistants (PAs) was only permitted as a "demonstration project". Due to the advocacy efforts of community leaders, as well as Disabled in Action and the Council for Disabled, Onondaga County applied for permission to operate a consumer-directed program.

Enable began SDPS after winning a competitive bid for the contract. We had 28 participants the first year. There were 211 participants in 2002! After training, each participant hires at least one PA. Most hire two or three, usually for part-time positions. Thus, SDPS has more employees than any other Enable program, all chosen by the participants themselves.

This individualization allows SDPS to meet some people's needs much more effectively than a traditional home care program.

Dawn Bacich, born with cerebral palsy, has been an Enable participant for most of her life. "Since I started with Self Directed Personal Services my coverage problems have disappeared and everything is so much easier on both my mother and I. We love the idea of choosing who we can hire and having control over who will be coming into our home."

Mrs. G. wrote: "When my husband and I moved to Syracuse, my mother stayed in New York City. After three strokes, it became impossible for her to live alone any longer. With much difficulty, she moved to an apartment just minutes from our house. We are immigrants from the Soviet Union and my mom prefers to have an assistant who speaks her native language. We thought it would be impossible to have a Russian attendant, but Enable made it possible! My mom has a very nice Russian speaking woman coming five times a week. She cooks native meals that my mom used to cook for herself. I am very grateful to Enable."

According to Peter Haas, participant since January of 1997 "Self-Directed Personal Services is not only based on individuals' with disabilities needs, but also on the wants."

"Enable has given me the freedom to interview, hire and train anyone I feel is capable of helping me with my daily living tasks. People with spinal cord injuries, like myself, or other people with disabilities, have a hard time getting through life as it is without having to worry about how to get in or out of bed, or get bathed, dressed and fed. Thanks for all you have done and continue to do."



Brian Culkin

Peter Haas

Do you have time or know someone who has time to volunteer?

If you have time we have projects and special events that can use your time and talent.

Projects can range from office projects like consolidating files, organizing files, phone calls etc. to helping with our up coming special events such as Shining Lights and the Clare L. Smith Golf Tournament.

The Lending Library of Adapted Toys and Equipment is looking for a special volunteer. They need a handy person to repair adapted toys and equipment. This person must have experience with simple electrical switches and some ingenuity for adapting toys is helpful.

Work can be done at home.

If you or someone you know would like to volunteer please contact Suzy Tankersley at 455-7591 ext.220

thank you to cara's boutique

Thank you to Cara's Boutique for donating all of the beautiful new clothing to Enable's participants! Everyone looks FANTASTIC!



thank you ronald mcdonald house charities of cny



Sandi Nelson (center) from Enable's Project Adapt accepts a \$5,000 grant from David Austin RMH Board member. Also shown (from left) Cas Sedgwick RMH Board Member, Lynn Horowitch Enable Board member and Beth Trunfio Executive Director RMH.

Enable received a grant award of \$5,000 from the Ronald McDonald House Charities of CNY (RMHC) to fund equipment and toys for the lending library, Project Adapt, for children with disabilities.

Ronald McDonald House Charities of CNY operates the sixteen bedroom Ronald McDonald House in Syracuse, NY as a "home away from home" for families whose children are hospitalized with serious illness or injuries. They also provide funding for the staff, programs and activities at the Child Life Play Area at the Children's Center for Cancer and Blood Disorders at Upstate Hospital. In addition, they issue grants to charities meeting the needs of children in the CNY community. Thank you RMHC for helping Enable to purchase great new adapted toys and devices.

public service announcement

Local Early Intervention Coordinating Council meeting schedule:

12:00 pm - 2:00 pm (feel free to bring your lunch)

Wednesday, January 29th

Wednesday, April 30th

Wednesday, July 30th

Wednesday, October 29th

Bureau of Special Children Services Office
375 West Onondaga Street
Syracuse, NY 13202

For further information please call (315) 435-3230

in memoriam

Darren P. Johnson

Jimmy O'Donnell

Kateri A. Shatraw

thank you new process gear, UAW



We would like to thank everyone at New Process Gear and the local United Auto Workers 624 and 2149 for your donations received through the "We Care" project. We are grateful for the support that New Process Gear employees and the local UAW members give to Enable and so many other nonprofit organizations serving our community.



angel project

Verizon's Receivable Management Collection Center Department and Enable celebrate the 5th Anniversary of the Angel Project. The Verizon's RMCC Department collected toys and gifts for 27 children and young adults for this Holiday Season. This partnership began with a simple family discussion between Cindy Thayer, an Enable employee, and her brother, who worked at Verizon, about the needs of some of our participants and their families during the Holiday Season. The generosity of her brother and his fellow employees planted the seeds for this five-year partnership of the Angel Project. When a certificate was presented to Verizon's RMCC Department recognizing the 5th anniversary, Barbara Thayer, from Verizon, said "We are looking forward to the 10th anniversary".

Angel Project volunteers make the Holiday Season special. Kelly Rose(left) and Barbara Thayer (right) of the RMCC Department with the Angel gifts.



sara wall-bollinger
executive director

cheryl mitchell
executive secretary



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upcoming events

February 4th 2003 Syracuse Auto Dealers Association Charity Preview
Please designate Enable!

February 24th Agency Anniversary Celebration - 55 years!

March 27th Shining Lights Annual Awards Celebration hosted by
Bill & Penny Allyn at The Lodge in Skaneateles

June 16th Clare L. Smith Golf Classic to Benefit Enable

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

enable • 1603 Court Street • Syracuse, NY 13208 • Voice: (315) 455-7591

TTY: (315) 455-1794 • Web Site: www.enablecny.org

Direct Voice Lines: Children & Family Services (315) 475-1382 • Community Services (315) 432-9154

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