

Making A Positive Difference Everyday!!

Connections

MAY 2011

Please Join us for
Region 10's Spring
Time Fundraiser
~8th Silent Auction~
Friday, May 6, 2011
Zorvino's Vineyard

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Carole's Corner

I've known Joel Morris, Executive Director of Life Visions, for a number of years. I always thought he was a nice guy. Now I think he's an angel.

I was honored recently when Joel agreed to an interview with me. A single professional man in his thirties, Joel brought three little—I mean, LITTLE—boys into his home last year. Their ages were 4, 3 and 16 months. Whoa! They are dear children who were living in a severely abusive home. They also happened to be Joel's grand nephews. These little guys couldn't depend on their parents for any of life's basic needs. They were at a point where the state's social services agencies were about to intervene and place them in foster care.

"There was no decision to be made, Carole. I simply couldn't leave them like that. Anyone would have done the same."

Oh, Joel, I'd like to think that's true. I just don't know. I suspect many of us would've conjured up a hundred reasons explaining our inability to take on such an overwhelming responsibility.

And so, within a matter of *days*, Joel went from the single life to that of a father with young children who had major medical, emotional, social, behavioral, educational, and nutritional needs. Yet within a matter of *months*, they began to thrive!

Joel says, "It's the best thing I've ever done in my life." Fortunately, he did not have to do it alone. He credits family and friends, co-workers and professionals with the boys' success. He also attributes much of their development to healthy play with other children in a nurturing daycare environment. I personally don't believe these kids ever could have progressed as quickly as they have without the love, guidance and security of their new Dad and their new home.

The severity of the situation provided little time for preparation. With just a day's notice, long-term friends (true "family" in every sense of the word) totally outfitted Joel's home with baby furniture, toddler beds, clothing, toys and food. As life would have it, these friends had longed for a baby themselves. Adopting little 16-month-old Eli fit into their plans just perfectly. Big brothers Thomas and Michael were adopted by Joel. Both families work hard to stay close, supporting one another, sharing play dates, weekly dinners together and trips, including a recent one to Disney World in Florida.

The children's legal transition was a smooth one—Joel's sister is a family court lawyer and now their co-guardian. His Mom takes the boys one "Grammy" weekend a month to give Joel time for himself—a little well-deserved R & R.

There have been bumps in the road—and as anyone who has ever raised a family knows—there'll be others. But the future for these beautiful children is now a bright one! *(Cont'd. on page 5)*

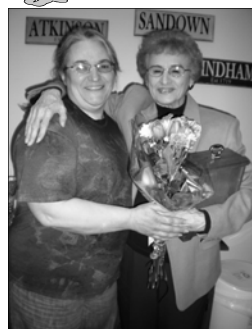


MISSION STATEMENT

"Our mission is to support people who have developmental disabilities or acquired brain disorders, in partnership with families and caregivers, to enhance their independence and personal growth while fostering meaningful relationships and involvement within their communities."

-Region 10

A Fond Farewell



At a recent board meeting, Cathy Spinney, President of the Region 10 Board of Directors, accepted Joan Sabatini's resignation from the Board after 29 years of service to Region 10. Cathy thanked Joan for her willingness to serve on the Board as well as several committees over the years and presented Joan with a clock as a small token of appreciation for Joan's commitment to the mission of Region 10 and her dedicated service. If you are interested in learning more about Region 10 and/or ways in which you can assist the agency to support individuals with developmental disabilities and their families, please contact Jane Dichard at 603-893-1299.

Thank You From Legislative Liaison ~ by Terri Cadorette

I want to send a great big THANK YOU to all the parents, friends and individuals who took the time out of their extremely busy lives to attend the budget hearing on March 10, 2011. I know this took a lot of balancing of the other commitments you have, and I want you to know it is appreciated. Several of you made the trip to Concord and never had a chance to speak, but at least you were able to hear others speak and drop off your testimony.

I also want to thank those that couldn't make the trip to Concord but took the time to make phone calls, send emails or send me testimony to deliver for you. We are facing a very difficult budget year with threats of decreased services, and it is the families and friends of our individuals that will need to have their voices heard.

Secondly, I want to send another great big THANK YOU to everyone who managed to get to the Rally on Thursday, 3/31/11 . . . what an AWESOME turnout!!! I am hopeful that our representatives in the NH Senate got the message . . . and come up with a better budget. I also hope that all those state legislators who voted to pass this devastating budget which cuts services to our most vulnerable citizens heard the message also. But we're not done yet . . . the budget won't be final until June 30, 2011 . . . stay tuned!! MORE!!!

For those of you who don't understand how the budget process works in NH, here is a brief explanation:

◆ PHASE 1: STATE AGENCIES / Time Line: August 22, 2010 through October 15, 2010

All the state agencies work on the budgets that they will need to run their departments over the next biennium. They then submit their budget to the governor.

◆ PHASE 2: GOVERNOR'S OFFICE / Time Line: October 15, 2010 through February 15, 2011

The governor and his budget staff review the budget line by line. The governor then submits his budget to the House Legislative body.

◆ PHASE 3: LEGISLATIVE (House) / Time Line: February through April 10 (approx.)

The chair of the House Finance committee may introduce the governor's budget as House Bill 1. The 3 divisions of the House Finance committee will review different state agencies within the budget. Division III reviews BDS & all of the bureaus of HHS. When the 3 divisions complete their work, the full finance committee will vote on the budget in pieces and make recommendations to the full House, which will eventually need to vote the budget up or down.

◆ PHASE 4: LEGISLATIVE (Senate) / Time Line: April 10 through June 5 (approx.)

The Senate Finance committee will review and evaluate all the work done by the House. The Senate will break into divisions and move through the budget process similar to the House process.

◆ PHASE 5: Committee of Conference / Time Line: June 5 through June 25 (approximately)

The leadership of the House and Senate Finance committees will meet in joint session to work and debate the differences between the two budgets. Once agreement is reached, the budget goes back to the full House and Senate where the bodies can only accept or reject the budget presented to them. No amendments or changes are allowed at this point.

◆ PHASE 6: Back to the Governor / Time Line: before Jun 30 (current budget will expire on June 30)

The Governor will receive the budget and must either sign it, veto it or allow it to become law without his signature.

Best Way to Find Your Representative or Senator:

- ◆ Go to: www.gencourt.state.nh.us then under House Section, click on "Find Your Representative"
- ◆ There will be a drop down menu which lists towns. Click on your town.
- ◆ You will obtain a listing of both the Representatives and Senator for your town.
- ◆ If the representative or senator has an email address listed, you can click on the email address and then send an email directly to the person.

Region 10 Senators:

Atkinson, Pelham, Plaistow, Salem

Chuck Morse, 18 Brook Hollow Dr. Salem, NH
Home Phone: 898-7705 Office: 271-4980
Email: morse_cse@msn.com

Derry, Hampstead, Windham

Jim Rauche, 65 Gulf Rd, Derry, NH 03038
Home Phone: 898-0080 Office: 271-8630
james.rauche@leg.state.nh.us

Chester, Danville, Sandown

John (Jack) Barnes, PO Box 362, Raymond, NH
Home Phone: 895-9352

Newton

Russell Prescott, 8 Farm Rd, Kingston, NH 03848
Home Phone: 642-4243 Office: 271-2641
russell@represcott.com

Region 10 Board of Directors (towns they represent)

Cathy Spinney,
President
(Pelham)

Ken Ferreira,
Vice President

Barbara Strzykalski,
Treasurer
(Atkinson)

Kathy Murphy,
Secretary
(Chester)

Ed Adamsky, Esq
(Pelham)

Lorraine Butler
(Derry)

Kathleen Dayotis
(Atkinson)

Colleen Demers
(Pelham)

Jim Dickerson, DMD
(Windham)

Marion Donahue
(Bradford, MA)

Elaine Lavin
(Salem)

Robin Knight
(Sandown)

Linda Steir
(Atkinson)



FAMILY SUPPORT



FAMILY SUPPORT TRAININGS & GROUPS

Some Valuable Trainings, Workshops And Resources

To access the NH Bureau of Developmental Services Education and Training calendar go to <http://www.dhhs.nh.gov/dcbcs/bds>.

Family Support & the Family Support Council Training Opportunities

- ◆ “Happiness 101”, presented by Cathy Spinney, President of the Board of Directors at Region 10 CSS, May 9, 2011, Kimball Public Library, Atkinson, 5:30 to 7:30 PM.
- ◆ “Making Daily Life Work at Home”, presented by Robin Lurie-Meyerkopf of AANE, May 23, 2011, Plaistow Public Library, 5:30 to 7:30 PM.

If you would like to register for any of these training opportunities please contact Anita Trudel at 893-1299, X334 or email atrudel@region10nh.org to register.

Magical Connections Preschool Program ~ Opening May 1, 2011 ~

Easter Seals - The Family Place is announcing their new DOE certified Special Education Preschool Program at 135 Rte 27, Raymond, NH. Their five day a week, full time, special education program will support up to 8 children with IEP's and 4 typical peers in a multiage classroom. The professionals include Special Education, Speech / Language Pathology, Occupational Therapy, Physical Therapy, Psychology, and Augmentative Communication expertise. They also have onsite support from their Autism Parent Support Specialist. The program is enhanced by a wide variety of teaching supports such as Creative Curriculum, Everyday Math, the Hanen Language approach, Handwriting without Tears, Ladders to Literacy, and the Alert Program / How Does Your Engine Run. Complementing programs include activities such as the introduction of Super Flex / Social Thinking curriculum, Therapeutic Listening, access to their sensory integration clinic,

art, drama and music as well as a once a month Therapeutic Horseback Riding experience in partnership with Halona Stables. Contact 895-1522 for more information about enrollment.

Summer Camp Rentals in Sanford, ME

Camp Waban is located on a quiet forested corner of Bauneg Beg Lake in Sanford, Maine. Individuals, families, group homes, schools, and organizations serving people with disabilities are welcome to rent the facilities. Camp Waban requires all campers to attend with a staff or family member who is responsible for all personal care needs and daily programming. Camper to staff ratio must be 3:1 or less. Campers and accompanying staff decide what activities they do and when to do them. Water activities are typically available between 9:00 am and 3:00 pm. Non-water activities are available at all times. Activities available are swimming, kayaking, paddle boating, pontoon boat rides, basketball, volleyball, whiffleball, movies, arts and crafts, a playground, nature walks on a handicapped accessible trail, bbq/grilling, fishing, camp fires, and local area attractions. All cabins have a barrier-free entrance. One cabin has a wheelchair accessible shower and two cabins have wheelchair accessible bathrooms. All campers can use the fully accessible bath house for toileting and showering needs at any time. Camperships are available. (Contact the camp director for information.) Rates per person out of state \$300./week and \$175./ half week. (Weekends are also available.) For more information contact Waban's Camp director at 207-324-7955 X644 or email at camp@waban.org or visit their website at www.waban.org.

~CareGivers Presents~

9th Annual Chocolate Lovers Fantasy..

Fundraising event on Sunday, May 22, 2011 from 12:00pm- 3:00 pm in Manchester at the Center of NH Radisson Hotel. To get more information go to caregiversnh.org and click on upcoming events.

Region 10 Family Support Council

Robin Knight
Chairperson
(Sandown)

Laurie Giguere
Vice Chairperson
(Salem)

Mariellen Rowe
Secretary
(Derry)

Lynn Aboujaoude
(Pelham)

Carol Dabrowski
(Derry)

Katie Everett
(Windham)

Susan Nyberg
(Chester)

Alece Pappas
(Salem)

Darlene Wilson
(Newton)

Meetings are
scheduled the **third**
Tuesday of the month
from 6:30- 9:00 pm
at Region 10.

Katie Beckett Medicaid at the Age of Eighteen ~ Did You Know?

If your son/daughter is on Katie Beckett Medicaid and has turned 18 years of age, you must re-apply for eligibility under the Aid to the Permanently and Totally Disabled (APTD). It is recommended you make this new application following the person's 18th birthday, but prior to turning 19. The sooner the better. If you wait until after their 19th birthday you will lose your coverage waiting for the eligibility determination for APTD to be made. At 19 your son/daughter will no longer qualify under Katie Beckett and will automatically be terminated from this Medicaid program. You will not receive notification of this termination.



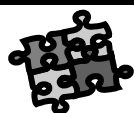


A List To Keep Handy

Region 10 CSS
Employee
Extensions
.....

Aleece.....	322
Anita.....	334
Bill.....	317
Carole F.....	307
Carole T.....	336
Cathy F.....	319
Chris.....	312
Dee.....	323
Dianna.....	314
Donna.....	340
Irek.....	333
Gina.....	332
Jane.....	315
Jinelle.....	311
Judy.....	339
Julie.....	343
Kristen.....	320
Kelly.....	331
Kim.....	329
Kristine.....	330
Leslie.....	327
Linda L.....	324
Mariellen.....	318
Mary.....	313
Nancy.....	338
Robb.....	325
Sheila.....	306
Stacy.....	337
Tammy.....	326
Terri.....	321
Tina.....	341
Tom.....	316

Just call
Region 10 at
603-893-1299
and dial the
extension of the
person with
whom you wish to
speak!



Autism News:

For Autism Support Groups, log
onto <http://www.autism-society-nh.org/Support.html>

Save The Date

The 13th Annual Autism Summer Institute – “Everybody Reads, Everybody Writes, Everybody Has Something to Say” will be held on August 8-10, 2011 at the Crowne Plaza Hotel, Nashua, NH.

Featuring: A strand specifically for adolescents and young adults who experience autism organized by the Autistic Self-Advocacy Network*; Age-specific content; A hands-on technology exploration lab and evening film screenings.

Keynote Presentations by: Donna Williams, a prolific author and artist from Australia; DJ Savarese, self advocate and young adult; Student Advocates, including filmmaker Drew Goldsmith, representing the national youth inclusion campaign I am Norm; Ari Ne’eman, Founding President of the Autistic Self-Advocacy Network; Christi Kasa, Ph.D., University of Colorado; and Therese Willkomm, Ph.D. assistive technology expert from the UNH Institute on Disability.

Questions? Call 603-228-2084 or email the IOD at contact.iod@unh.edu.

To register: www.iod.unh.edu.asi.

Stay connected – find them on Facebook.

*A discounted rate will be offered to youth and young adults with autism who would benefit personally and who may also be potential leaders in their schools and communities. For more information: Mary Schuh – mary.schuh@unh.edu or Cheryl Jorgensen – cheryl.jorgensen@unh.edu about the Institute content. Mary Ann Allsop – maryann.allsop@unh.edu with registration or logistic questions.

FREE ~ JobTIPS

JobTIPS is a free program designed to help individuals with disabilities such as autism explore career interests, seek and obtain employment, and successfully maintain employment. **JobTIPS** addresses the social and behavioral differences that might make identifying, obtaining, and keeping a job more difficult for you.

Though **JobTIPS** is designed for direct use by individuals with autism and other disabilities, this program (including all of the printables, assessments, and videos) is also suitable for delivery by teachers, family members, clinicians, mentors, and job coaches. Go to: <http://www.do2learn.com/JobTIPS/index.html>

The Carriage Barn Therapy Program

Come meet the staff of The Carriage Barn. Let’s talk about therapeutic riding & carriage driving. We will be having a Spaghetti Supper hosted by the

East Hampstead Union Church on Saturday, May 21, 5:00 to 6:30 PM at the Church located at 225 E. Main St. (Rt. 121A) just south of Route 111. The menu will be spaghetti, Italian meatballs and sauce, salad, rolls, assorted desserts, and beverages. Cost for the meal is \$6.00 for adults, \$3.00 for children under 12, with no charge for pre-schoolers. Chair-lift accessible. Takeout meals are available. Proceeds benefit the Carriage Barn Equestrian Center, a non-profit organization providing Equine Facilitated Therapy programs to promote the health and well-being of disabled individuals by enhancing their physical, psychological, cognitive and emotional healing and strengthening through equine activities. For more information about the meal call: 378-0683 or e-mail: ehuc@comcast.net

More Great iPad Apps:

- ◆ **Create a Car:** Create a Car is a click and drag activity for elementary age students. It features an intuitive interface developed specifically for young children. Select one of six vehicle body styles and then select from over 50 different parts to place on the vehicle body. Link: <http://itunes.apple.com/us/app/create-a-car/id388173036?mt=8>
- ◆ **Reading Magic:** From BOB Books, reading magic starts your child reading with this phonics-based interactive game. Your favorite Bob Books characters and full-color animations encourage kids along the path of learning to read. Link: <http://itunes.apple.com/us/app/bob-books-1-reading-magic/id405995002?mt=8>
- ◆ **Cookie Doodle-** Cookie Doodle is a fun and creative application that lets kids mix, bake and decorate their own cookies without the mess! Kids tap the screen to mix ingredients, use their hands to roll the dough out on the screen and then get to pick from an endless array of icing, sprinkles and candies to place on your cookie. It is a very hands on game that brings out the chef in everyone! Link: <http://itunes.apple.com/us/app/cookie-doodle/id342128086?mt=8>

28th Annual Brain Injury & Stroke Conference ~ May 18, 2011

Center of NH Radisson Hotel, 700 Elm Street, Manchester, NH. Keynote by: Tricia “PJ” Long, MA, LCMHC, Psychotherapist, Author, TBI Survivor. Cost for survivors (only) is \$65.00. All others \$150.00 by 4/21, \$165.00 after 4/21 To register online go to: <http://bit.ly/bianhcart>

“Spring is when you feel like whistling even with a shoe full of slush ~ Doug Larson

Annual Appeal Supporters

This year's Annual Appeal is winding down, but it is not too late to make a donation. All donations are very much appreciated and will be put to good use on behalf of the individuals and families served by Region 10.

We would like to thank the following individuals, as well as others who chose to remain anonymous, for their generous support of our Annual Appeal. So far, a total of \$5,445 has been received.

Our Generous Supporters:

Mr. Edward Adamsky ~ All-Ways Accessible ~ Mr. & Mrs. Frederick Bean ~ Mr. & Mrs. Armand Beliveau ~ Charles & Ellen Beshara ~ Ms. Susan Black ~ Mr. & Mrs. Gregory Boghigian ~ Mrs. Muriel Bristol ~ Mr. & Mrs. Walter Bristol ~ Mrs. Barbara Brown ~ Mr. & Mrs. Frank Buck ~ Mr. Thomas Carr ~ Ms. Grace Carroll ~ Ms. Cathy Chatel ~ Ms. Anita Christianson ~ Mr. & Mrs. Richard Cooney ~ Custom Software ~ Dependable Plumbing & Heating ~ Mr. & Mrs. Len Dichard ~ Dr. James Dickerson ~ Mr. & Mrs. William Drugan ~ Ms. Carol Dwyer ~ Mr. & Mrs. Gerald Fenderson ~ Mrs. Juanita Fields ~ Ms. Estelle Fugere ~ Mr. & Mrs. James Garrity ~ Representative Mary Griffin ~ Ms. Beatrice Halas ~ Hampstead Family Dental ~ Mr. & Mrs. Joe Hatch ~ Mr. Ernest Hebert ~ Mr. Ronald Hendricks ~ Mr. & Mrs. Robert Hennigan ~ Mrs. Dorothy Himer ~ Mr. Charlie Kamitian ~ Ms. Ellen J. Kenney ~ Mr. & Mrs. Vincent Kissel ~ Mr. & Mrs. Jim Koczat ~ Roger & Paula Lavigne ~ Law Offices of David M. Groff ~ Mrs. Gloria Lefebvre ~ Mr. & Mrs. Russell Leonard ~ Mr. & Mrs. Dan Linehan ~ St. Julien Macaroons ~ Ms. Barbara Maguire ~ Ms. Kathy Maki ~ Ms. Ellie Martin ~ Mr. & Mrs. John Moore ~ Mr. & Mrs. Tom Murphy ~ Mr. & Mrs. Neal Ouellett ~ Ms. Evelyn Plourde ~ Randazzo Dental Associates ~ Ms. Frances Riley ~ Mrs. Mariellen Rowe ~ Mr. & Mrs. Al Sabatini ~ Mr. & Mrs. Ken Sabatini ~ Salem Police Benevolent Association ~ Ms. Anne Santarlaschi ~ Scandia Plastics, Inc. ~ Mr. & Mrs. Michael Shapiro ~ Ms. Julie Shaughnessy ~ Ms. Cathy Spinney ~ Mr. & Mrs. David Stabile ~ Mr. & Mrs. Charles Stefanelli ~ Ms. Linda Steir ~ Ms. Debra Sullivan ~ Edward Sullivan, Esq. ~ S.E. Cummings & Assoc. Inc. ~ Ms. Christine Ulaky ~ Mr. & Mrs. John Voter, Jr. ~ Mr. Tom Weeks ~ Mr. & Mrs. George White ~ Mr. & Mrs. Raymond Wilson ~ Mrs. Judith M. Zdunko-Blair

On behalf of Region 10, as well as all the individuals and families served, thank you to all for your generous support.



Adult Story Hour held at Hampstead Public Library on the second and fourth Friday of the month at 10am. Adult Story Hour gives people with special needs a chance to hear a story, make a craft and interact with others. For more information, call the library at 329-6411.

(Cont'd from page 1)

After a rough start in the world, little Thomas, Michael, and Eli are surpassing all expectations on their journey to healthy, happy, and full lives. None were toilet trained when they came to live with Joel. None could speak. The four-year old used one unintelligible word over and over again--now he converses in complete sentences. He has lots of stories to tell, including those from his Karate lessons, which are contributing to his sense of self and respect for others. All the boys' progress is nothing short of miraculous!

A loving home—what a difference it makes in the life of a child!

And so, I say there are angels among us. I interviewed one just the other day.



If you missed April's People Power meeting, you missed a great time! Our group met at Healing Touch Pottery in Hampstead where everyone had the opportunity to create unique pieces of art using clay. Techniques used included rolling, cutting, sculpting, molding, and creating on the pottery wheel. Each piece could be painted and glazed as desired.

In the upcoming year, there are many more opportunities to join the group in activities that include a night at Chunky's theater, quarterly dances, holiday party, and monthly meetings.

If you enjoy animated conversation, learning and sharing with others, and having fun, you should consider joining People Power.

This self advocacy group, which is sponsored by Region 10 meets the first Thursday of every month at the Hampstead Public Library, 6 Mary E. Clark Drive. We are always looking for new members (must be 21 to join).

Office Space Available

\$1,200 per month. 1475 sq. feet of prime commercial space available on Commerce Drive Industrial Park located off Rte. 111 in Atkinson. This is a very clean professional office suite that includes a reception area, 3-4 offices (one office can be used as large conference room.) Kitchenette area and bathroom with shower. Plenty of parking. Convenient to Rtes 495 and 93. Trash removal, plowing and landscaping included. Tenant is responsible for utilities. One year lease. For further information, please contact Chris Roy at 893-1299.

Executive Director
Jane Dichard
Newsletter Editor
Stacy Merriam

Calendar of Upcoming Trainings

Board of Director's Meeting

May 10, 2011
6:30 pm

Date & time subject to change. Please call to confirm if attending.

*If not connected to Region 10 Community Support Services Inc., there is a \$25 per day fee charged for trainings.

If you would like more information on any of the trainings sponsored by Region 10, please call 893-1299.

JOIN US FOR THE FOLLOWING:

May Trainings:
will be held at
Region 8 One Sky Community Support Services,
Portsmouth, NH

Understanding & Supporting Effective Behavior/Helping People Learn Useful Skills
Sharon Richey
May 18, 2011
9:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m.

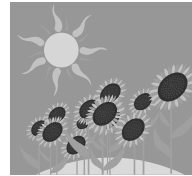


****Please register by May 11th**

June Trainings:
will be held at
Region 8 One Sky Community Support Services,
Portsmouth, NH

Quality of Life
Martha Bonneau
June 15, 2011
9:00 a.m.-12:30 p.m.

Health & Safety
Martha Fenn King, RN
June 20, 2011
1:00 p.m.-4:30 p.m.



****Please register by June 8th**

REMINDER:
BIDS!! RAFFLES!!

COME TO OUR SILENT AUCTION ON MAY 6 FOR A CHANCE TO WIN!

SOME OF THE GREAT ITEMS INCLUDE:

- ◆ AN IPAD,
- ◆ A BARREL OF WINES,
- ◆ PORTRAIT SERVICES,
- ◆ FANTASTIC BASKETS,
- ◆ GIFT CERTIFICATES,

AND MUCH, MUCH MORE!!!!



Serving individuals with developmental disabilities and their families in the following communities:

Atkinson Derry Pelham Salem
Chester Hampstead Plaistow Windham
Danville Newton Sandown