



WHAT'S NEW AROUND DSC...

Scott's Tumbling Performance & Surprise Visit!



Seven years ago, Scott made his start as a tumbler with the Prompting Theater. Since then, Scott has been putting on amazing performances for DSC, always attracting a bigger audience each time he performs!

Last year, Scott added a dance act to his show, created an original routine, and performed alongside DSC staff member, Niccole Powers. The two rehearsed tirelessly for months, but their efforts paid off as they performed to "My Girl" by The Temptations. Scott, being a true professional, carefully chose the music, his dance partner, their outfits and makeup. There was also a puppet show and a duet to round out the show!

For the first time, Scott's family made it to his show. His family traveled from Kentucky to watch the performance. Before the final dance number, Scott said to his partner, "I can't wait to tell my mom about this", (loud enough for the audience to hear). Scott was so focused on his performance, he had not realized his family was in the front row!

After taking a bow with the other performers, Scott finally realized his family had been there the whole time. He ran quickly to them and gave his family members a huge hug. His family and the rest of the audience were very proud of Scott. We look forward to his performances in the years to come!

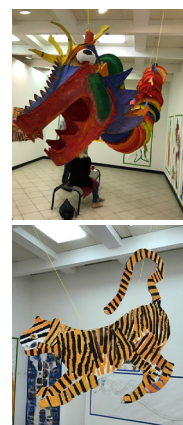
DSC's Art Collective Premiered "Bright Spirits" Art Show at Art Coop!

The DSC Art Collective proudly hosted *Bright Spirits*, an art show at the Art Coop, located in Urbana's Lincoln Square mall this August! The group showcased their talents to the surrounding communities. Overall the show was a huge success!

DSC staff member, Jess Beyler, holds a Masters in Fine Arts and did an amazing job planning and overseeing this show. She described the show as a "culmination of joy and innocence; the show was free of cynicism and political biases. The works displayed in the show were rare and unique forms of art."

The Art Coop also proudly played a large role in making this event possible. Susan Smith of the Art Coop shared that the gallery was proud to celebrate this opportunity. The Art Coop acknowledges adults with developmental disabilities and was excited to help display their work. Susan's sister has developmental disabilities, so she held a strong personal connection to this.

The show enjoyed very positive feedback. In fact, Jess overheard one person saying, "I think every artist in town ought to see this!" Another person said, "I just love this. I truly do!" Our participants enjoyed displaying their creativity to the community. We hope to have more opportunities for the talented artists at DSC to present their work.



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A Message from Chief Executive Officer, Dale Morrissey...

Here we are at another change of seasons. This time of year is always one to celebrate at DSC as it gives us the opportunity to recognize our Direct Service Professionals (DSP) during Direct Service Professionals Week, which is recognized nationally every year in September.

DSPs are the essence of DSC. These dedicated people are on the front lines, making the difference, encouraging the goals and dreams of those they serve, each day. DSC, and all community organizations in the state, are still experiencing a workforce crisis, and even during these physically demanding times, the DSPs at DSC are the best. Their dedication and commitment to our mission is not only evident in how hard they work, but also in ways in which they work to increase independence, and offer individualized supports.

While we recognize this on a daily basis at DSC, it is further emphasized when mandated state surveys are completed. In late August, the Bureau of Accreditation, Licensure, and Certification (BALC) conducted our annual Developmental Training (DT) and every 3-year Community Integrated Living Arrangement (CILA) surveys. During the process, consumers and staff members are interviewed and all DT and CILA sites are visited. Additionally, there is a review of consumer files, personnel records, emergency drill reports, policies and procedures, and the agency's rights statement and grievance procedure.

During the exit interview, we received our written summary that included the following: *"DSC is to be commended for the services and enhancement of life experiences offered to the individuals you serve. It was a pleasure learning about and talking with individuals and staff about their various interests and community ventures... While speaking with individuals, it was very apparent DSC knows not only what they do while at the agency but take a deep interest and encourage their personal passions. It has been a pleasurable experience completing your survey. Thank you for the excellent services DSC continues to provide to the people you serve."*

Congratulations to all the DSPs at DSC! We are incredibly proud of the work they do!

Dale

Advocates in Motion is Supported by Knights!

Earlier this year, our generous friends at the Knights of Columbus in Rantoul held another pancake breakfast to raise money for the Advocates in Motion (AIM). Between the pancake breakfast and other fundraising efforts, the Knights donated over \$3,000 to support AIM! AIM is involved in a number of projects and activities, one of which is the upcoming annual "Speak Up Speak Out Summit" in Springfield.

Pictured below is AIM member, Charlie, and Grand Knight John Clifford. Charlie gave a lovely thank you and acceptance speech stating, "AIM appreciates the support and friendship that you've offered us. The self-advocacy group has been able to send at least 10 people each year to the Speak Up Speak Out Summit, as a direct result of your fundraising efforts."



She shared further, "The Summit is an opportunity for us to connect with other advocates throughout the state of Illinois, and work together to help make changes that will benefit us all. Most importantly, the Summit reminds us that we all have strong voices... What makes the pancake fundraiser really special is the fact that you genuinely want to get to know us, and work together with us while we raise money for a great cause. Thanks again for your assistance, and most of all, for your friendship."

What wonderful words for a wonderful group. Thank you on behalf of everyone at AIM and DSC!

Another exciting endeavor the advocates have created in recent years is their presentation, "Expect the Best", in which they educate staff, leaders, students and community members about their needs, desires and expectations. They recently presented this at the University of Illinois School of Social Work for the second time, and look forward to presenting at an upcoming session at Illinois Association of Rehabilitation Facilities (IARF) in Springfield.

Bequests

To those friends who wish to help assure the longevity of DSC by mentioning DSC in your will, the following statement may be shared with your advisor to designate a legacy bequest for the children and adults at Developmental Services Center, Champaign, IL, an Illinois not-for-profit corporation:

"I give, devise, and bequeath to Developmental Services Center of Champaign, IL, a charitable not-for-profit organization, the sum of ____ dollars (\$____) or ____ percent (____%) of my estate to be used to carry out its mission.

To view or download a copy of DSC's Planned Giving Opportunities Brochures, please go to this link
http://www.dsc-illinois.org/get_involved/Leave_A_Legacy.html.

Contact your tax professional for more specific tax information. If you would like more information from DSC, please contact Janice McAteer at jmcaateer@dsc-illinois.org or 217.398.7110.

Special Thanks To...



Eastern Illinois Parrot Head Club (EIPHC)! On Saturday, August 5th, we "Partied with a Purpose" with our EIPHC friends for **"C-U in the Prairibbean 13"**! Pictured at left are the volunteers that helped make this event possible!

The fantastic weather was made even better with some of our favorite local bands, with *Jake & Jackson* opening the show, followed by *The Tons O' Fun Band* and *The Boat Drunks*. The \$2500 cash raffle, silent and live auctions were a hit!

DSC is looking forward to our check presentation on October 15th (see Save the Date section for more information). We'll post photos and the amount raised at www.dsc-illinois.org! **THANK YOU EIPHC, our fantastic sponsors and auction donors...and of course, everyone who came out and Partied with a Purpose!**

Champaign Urbana Junior Woman's Club (CUJWC)! This group of local women frequently supports DSC's projects. Most recently, they sent part of their group to one of DSC's group homes to paint a large deck! Pictured below is the group before they got started, and a shot of the deck as they were almost finished. This will be wonderful for everyone to enjoy during a beautiful autumn evening!

They also volunteered at and provided snacks for the Bright Spirits art show covered on the front page and are signed up to help at C-U Oktoberfest and the Residential Fall Party. **THANK YOU, CUJWC!**



Leaders in Employing All People!

LEAP, (Leaders Employing All People), is a free employer education and training program that certifies businesses as disability aware. DSC works in collaboration with Community Choices as this program is grant-funded through the Champaign County Developmental Disabilities Board. Congratulations to the three new businesses that were certified between July and September! Please let them know you appreciate their support of this effort!

JPE, Inc. **Todd Jacob, State Farm Agent** **First Federal Savings Bank**

Contact Employment First/LEAP Coordinator at DSC, Stephanie Davenport at sdavenport@dsc-illinois.org or 217-356-9176 for more information and free training!

National Direct Support Professional Recognition Week

DSC was proud to again participate in *National Direct Support Professional (DSP) Recognition Week* in September. This week is set aside to honor staff members that are talented and passionate about supporting those we serve!

Executive VP of Clinical Services, Patty Walters shared, "We are grateful to have observed what's in the hearts of those who dedicate their lives to helping others. DSC is blessed to have passionate, talented, and creative DSPs that bring out the best in each other every day."

All DSPs were celebrated during respective department meetings and we had an assortment of wonderful prizes given to daily winners. To add to the fun this year, staff voted on a variety of categories, with winners such as the "Baby's Bottom Award" for being the smoothest in times of crisis and "Duct Tape Award" for being able to fix almost anything!

DSPs are the very heart of our mission. **THANK YOU** for all you do!

DSC WISH LIST

DSC is in need of the following items. If you're able to donate, please contact Nikki at nkopmann@dsc-illinois.org or 217.356.9176

- » Tide pods
- » Kitchen garbage bags
- » Sandwich baggies
- » Toilet paper
- » Paper towels
- » Aluminum patio bench
- » Electric stove (new or used in good, working condition)
- » Snacks for playgroups (goldfish crackers, pretzels, popcorn, fruit snacks and gift cards for fresh fruit)
- » Gift cards to local restaurants and attractions



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Mission: *DSC supports people to live a rich and meaningful life.*

Vision: *Striving to assure that every person lives a full life in the community.*

SAVE THE DATE

Join the fun on Saturday, October 7th!

Start off your day of Oktoberfest fun by participating in the **2nd Annual Dirndl Dash** from 10am - 2pm at Crystal Lake. Sign up at https://secure.getmeregistered.com/get_information.php?event_id=127273. After the race, head downtown Champaign to get the party started!

The **5th Annual C-U Oktoberfest is Saturday, October 7th** in the parking lot in front of the Orpheum Children's Museum (Neil and Washington, downtown Champaign)! This fall celebration of music, beer, fun and food starts at 3pm and is only \$5 to enter! Patterned after the annual festival in Bavaria, the C-U Oktoberfest features live music from bands playing festive polkas, waltzes, and traditional German music...mixed in with plenty of your favorite songs! Beer from local brewers, including The Blind Pig, JT Walker's, Destihl, Riggs and Triptych, as well as traditional German beer will be served. Chester's BBQ and Destihl will be serving delicious food. Party-goers are encouraged to get in the spirit by wearing their best dirndl or lederhosen and dance the night away!

To add to the festive atmosphere, there will be steins, hats, and t-shirts available for purchase. For more information, go to www.cuoktoberfest.org or find us on Facebook at <https://www.facebook.com/CUOktoberfest/>. Prost!

3-6pm Family and Children's Activities
4-8pm Die Musikmeisters Band

8:30-10pm The Polkaholics®
10:30-midnight Bolzen Beer Band



Eastern Illinois Parrot Head Club will be presenting DSC with a check from the proceeds of C-U in the Prairiebean 13 on **Sunday, October 15th** at Clark Bar at 207 W. Clark Street, Champaign and you're invited! . Doors open at 4:00 p.m., with Jake Tatar and Mike Miller playing a duo from 5:00 to 7:00 p.m. Clark Bar is closed to the public on Sundays so we will have the place to ourselves with a limited menu...the more the merrier, please join us!

Celebrate disABILITY Music & Art Festival

This collaborative effort will happen on **October 21st** from **noon – 3pm at Lincoln Square Mall** in Urbana. In addition to local artisan booths, there will be performances by First Gig Rock N' Roll Camp for Kids, 90's Daughter, and Candy Foster & Shades of Blue. Contact Barb at bbressner@att.net for more info!

LEAP Family Informational Meeting: Essential Skills for Employment

Preparing for the transition to employment will be made easier after this workshop, with topics on soft skills like work ethic and time management. Learn these and more of the essential skills that will give you that extra polish to stand out in the workplace on **November 15th at Champaign Public Library**, Robeson Pavilion Room. Meet & Greet starts at 5:15pm with presentations starting at 5:30pm. RSVP: Stephanie Davenport at (217) 356-9176 or sdavenport@dsc-illinois.org.

