



# COMMUNITY NEWS



## WHAT'S NEW AROUND DSC . . .



Dear Friends,

Fall has come and gone since our last newsletter! We celebrated our Direct Support Professionals in September, enjoyed the successful return of C-U Oktoberfest, kicked off the 29th Annual Tree of Hope Campaign, and held a Holiday Open House at The Crow at 110.

The holiday season is upon us. We love this time of year at DSC! We look forward to hosting a holiday luncheon at DSC for those we serve this month and having a staff holiday party in January, two events we have been unable to have for a few years.

As another year comes to a close, we are grateful to everyone that has helped DSC continue to fulfill our mission this year. To our donors and volunteers, thank you for your generosity and continued support. To our staff, thank you for all you do day in and day out to make sure those we serve have the best supports possible to achieve personal success. I would also like to thank our DSC families, past and present. We would not be celebrating 50 years in this community without you. Thank you for the opportunity to support people in living a rich and meaningful life.

Wishing you a happy holiday season and healthy New Year!

Sincerely,

Danielle Matthews, CEO



November marked the kickoff of our 29th Annual Tree of Hope! Amber Fitzgerald, Mother, to Caleb and Cali Montgomery shared her story of finding DSC in the middle of the pandemic and what a huge support DSC has been for them. Visit our website at [www.dsc-illinois.org](http://www.dsc-illinois.org) to read their family story and to make a donation toward our goal of \$215,000 before the campaign ends on January 31st! Thank you for your continued support!



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# 36th Annual Recognition Event

Each year DSC looks forward to recognizing and thanking individuals, businesses, and organizations whose support and partnership makes a measurable difference in our community. We are excited to share this year's award winners!



Wendy Wallace – Personal Achievement Award

Congratulations Wendy on your her career and personal achievements! Wendy lives independently and recently met a longtime goal of becoming a Carle Hospital employee.

Wendy is a shining role model of how DSC fulfills our mission to support people in living a rich and meaningful life.



Champaign-Urbana Public Health District – Special Recognition Award

Thank you CUPHD for your ongoing commitment and support of our mission. Their leadership and guidance over the last few years during COVID played a significant role in helping DSC continue to carry out our mission.

(Pictured: CUPHD Staff)



Brad Allen – Special Recognition Award

Thank you Brad for your longstanding commitment to our mission. For over 43 years Brad has either worked for or with DSC in some capacity. The impact you have had on so many at DSC will carry on for years to come.



Champaign Unit 4 School District – Employer of the Year

Thank you Champaign Unit 4 for your commitment to being an inclusive employer. Your desire to create an encouraging work environment and employ all people sets an example for all in our community to follow.

(Pictured: CU4SD Staff)

## A Successful C-U Oktoberfest – Thanks to you!



Many thanks to all who came out and supported the 9th Annual C-U Oktoberfest in downtown Champaign on Saturday, September 24th! A very special THANK YOU to our sponsors and the volunteers! C-U Oktoberfest is not possible without YOU!

It was so wonderful to be back in person! We are thrilled to announce, that because of YOU, the 9th Annual C-U Oktoberfest generated net proceeds of over \$50,000 for DSC!!! WOW!!!! THANK YOU SO MUCH!!!!

Come back next year for live festive music, your favorite local and German beers, delicious homemade pretzels and food, and so much more! Save the date for September 30, 2023!

## EIPHC Presents a Check



In October, the Eastern Illinois Parrothead Club presented a check to DSC in the amount \$11,179.39! This generous donation was the net proceeds of Back to the Prairibbean held in early August. Over

the past 11 years, EIPHC has raised \$491,410 for DSC! We are immensely grateful for the Parrot Heads commitment to our mission! Thank you!

## Serra Champaign – Subaru Share the Love



DSC was excited to be selected as the local charity recipient of the Subaru Share of the Love donation through Serra Champaign in 2021.

Subaru made a donation for every Subaru vehicle that Serra sold from mid-November through the first of January. Serra also made an additional donation for each car sold as well! Thank you for this generous donation of \$9,000! We are grateful for Serra Champaign's continued support!

## New Dining Sets for Group Home



With funds from a grant from the Community Foundation of Rantoul, IL, DSC purchased three accessible dining sets for our CILA (Community

Integrated Living Arrangement) in Rantoul. The large dining room at the home allows for the tables to be set-up close together or distanced depending on what the residents prefer. Thank you, Community Foundation of Rantoul for your continued support!

## Community Day Services Receives Grant



Thanks to the Junior League of Champaign-Urbana for their recent grant to support our Community Day Services Program. We

appreciate their support of the health and wellness of those we serve! We are grateful for your many years of support!

## We Partnered with Target Circle!



For the past few months, DSC has been a part of the Target Circle Guest-Directed Giving program. Our friends at Target said it was gratifying to see the energy around the program and the outpouring of community engagement. We also found it to be a great way to highlight our mission with Target guests.

We are excited to share that 52,027 votes were cast to DSC, awarding Target funds in the amount of \$3,140.03 to DSC. Thank You Target and to all who voted!!

# The Crow at 110 Holiday Open House



What a great turn out for The Crow at 110 Holiday Open House! Thank you to everyone that attended in person and to those that placed orders online! There is always a selection of handmade candles, soaps, and wax melt available online if you need to replenish throughout the year. Visit [www.dsc-illinois.org/shop/](http://www.dsc-illinois.org/shop/) and place your order today. Thank you for your support!

## A Simple Way to Support DSC



DSC is a registered charitable organization through AmazonSmile! Choose Developmental Services Center of Champaign County Inc and we will receive 0.5% of

your eligible purchases! Support DSC this holiday season and all year around! Visit [smile.amazon.com](http://smile.amazon.com) to sign up today!

## DSC Adopt-A-Home

Have a group looking to volunteer? We are seeking groups to make a year long commitment to do light yard maintenance at one of our group homes. Once a month or every other month, pull weeds, pick up branches, rake leaves, and sweep porches, sidewalks and driveways. If you are interested or would like more information please contact Jodie Harmon at [jharmon@dsc-illinois.org](mailto:jharmon@dsc-illinois.org) or 217-356-9176.



**LEAP is growing!** Thank you to the following businesses that completed LEAP training over the past few months. We are grateful for your commitment to employ all people!

- First Mid Bank & Trust
- Green Yoga Spa
- SafeWorks Illinois
- The Salvation Army of Champaign County
- Stephens Family YMAC
- Urbana School District

### Have you heard!

The LEAP program has launched the Champaign County Directory of Disability-Inclusive Employers, a public means of identifying inclusive employers. This benefits organizations working with DSC and Community Choices, as well as independent jobseekers. We are inviting all employers in the county to register for the directory. Add your company's name to the directory and demonstrate your ongoing commitment to continuous improvement, learning and growth in hiring qualified people with disabilities. Contact Maggie Baker at [mbrown@dsc-illinois.org](mailto:mbrown@dsc-illinois.org) for more information.

## 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 DSC, Champaign, IL, an Illinois not-for-profit corporation:

"I give, devise, and bequeath to the DSC Foundation (37-1023944) of Champaign, IL, a charitable not-for-profit foundation, 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, scan this QR Code:



Contact your tax professional for more specific tax information. If you would like more information from DSC, please contact Jodie Harmon, Director of Development & Communications at [jharmon@dsc-illinois.org](mailto:jharmon@dsc-illinois.org) or 217-398-7110.



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**Mission:** DSC supports people in living a rich and meaningful life.

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