



COMMUNITY NEWS



WHAT'S NEW AROUND DSC . . .

Tree of Hope Update



At this year's 26th Annual Tree of Hope Kick-Off event, we introduced this year's Spokesfamily, the Hayn Family and announced the \$185,000 goal for this year's campaign. We hope you will take a moment to visit our website and read their story.

At Kick-Off, we also held our traditional Recognition Event where we celebrated three awards:

- Personal Achievement Award Winner- Darrin Chatman, who works at Scotty's Brewhouse
- Employer of the Year – Best Western Paradise Inn
- Special Recognition Award Winners – The Boat Drunks & Slumberland Furniture

"Tree of Hope is DSC's largest fundraiser of the year. Donations support DSC's annual budget allowing the agency to continue providing services for more than 1,100 children and adults with intellectual and/or developmental disabilities or delays each year," stated DSC's Chief-Executive-Officer, Danielle Matthews. To date the campaign has raised \$140,000 and we are hopeful we can meet our goal with the support of our donors, friends and our community.

Donate today and help us light the way in supporting families right here in our community!



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Happy New Year!

As we enter the New Year, it seems like a perfect time to applaud the important work that is accomplished at DSC by our Direct Service Professionals who carry out our mission daily. Their tireless efforts, boundless creativity, and unwavering support provide rich and meaningful opportunities to each person at DSC. Many individuals are finding enjoyment in their personal interests and hobbies, success in employment, enrichment through volunteering, and confidence in living their life.

We recognize and applaud the DSPs for their energy and commitment to DSC.

Since our last communication, we also have great news to share from our wonderful friends with the Eastern Illinois Parrot Head Club (EIPHC)! On Friday, November 15, DSC received the proceeds from the C-U in the Prairibbean XV that was held in August. We were beyond grateful for the \$38,800 check that was presented to us! Thank you, EIPHC! We can't wait for C-U in the Prairibbean XVI this year!

Until next time...

Queen of Hearts Raffle!

The Queen of Hearts Raffle is a progressive 50/50 raffle split between the winner and DSC, or a 60/40 split, if the winner is not present during the drawing. The jackpot grows each week until there is a winner and then it starts all over again, with the jackpot always starting at \$5,000.

Come watch the drawing in person every Tuesday, at 7pm at Esquire. Get your tickets for \$1 at Esquire Lounge in Champaign any time during their normal business hours and then come watch the weekly drawing at Esquire Lounge on Tuesday nights! Ticket sales end at 6:30pm. Ready to get in on the fun? Get all of the details/rules here: https://www.dsc-illinois.org/events_fundra.../queen-of-hearts/



7th Annual C-U Oktoberfest



"Prost!" That's the German word for "Cheers," and it could be heard all throughout this year's Oktoberfest event. Thanks to some beautiful weather, (only a little bit of showers this year!) and a large group of amazing volunteers,

this was our most successful Oktoberfest to date! The beer was flowing and the food was delicious, with plenty of bratwursts and large German pretzels. We cannot even begin to describe how thankful we are to the community and our amazing group of volunteers that helped make this night such a success. Early numbers dictate that we had over 4,000 people in attendance, and the amount raised for DSC is \$70,000! We had an amazing time, received a lot of positive feedback from the community, and cannot wait to make next year's event even bigger and better!

Lakeview Nursing Students Volunteer at DSC

Nursing students from Lakeview Nursing College volunteered with DSC this fall and then presented on their experience to their classmates and the community at the iHotel. Great job and thank you, for investing your time at DSC! Best of luck to you all in your careers!

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, 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, VP of Development & Communications, at jmcaateer@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.

Grant Awards

DSC has received several recent grant awards, including a grant from the Community Foundation of Rantoul, IL to benefit the Campbell CILA (Community Integrated Living Arrangement) based in Rantoul.

Champaign West Rotary Grant Received



DSC was able to purchase new AED (Automated External Defibrillators) for several locations because of a grant we received from Champaign West Rotary. DSC clinical

staff works hard to stay up-to-date and compliant on equipment and training and having grants and resources such as this, allow us to fulfill our mission and vision with excellence. Thank you, Champaign West Rotary!

Ameren Illinois Grant Received



Ameren Illinois granted \$2,000 toward DSC's Tree of Hope Campaign-With these funds, DSC was able to create a video for the campaign and underwrite

other associated costs. This allows for campaign donations to go directly to services and supports for those who need it most right here in Champaign and Ford counties. Thank you to Ameren and all of our sponsors who make this campaign DSC's most significant!

Community Foundation of East Central Illinois Grant

We were also able to replace flooring in several rooms at the Main Building on Bradley Avenue in the Community Day Services area because of a grant we received from The Community Foundation of East Central Illinois.

City of Urbana Community Development Grant

DSC's Community Day Services program on Philo Road will be receiving a new sign. The sign is being paid for by a grant from the City of Urbana. The sign will have our new logo and is part of the agency's rebranding.

"Our Caps, Your Cause" Program



Beneath each cap sticker on Prairie Farms gallon or half gallons of white and flavored milk is a unique

redeemable code. For every code redeemed towards your organizations, you earn 5-cents! After 1,000 caps are redeemed we will send you a check for \$50 to benefit your cause. Bring your Prairie Farms milk caps to DSC or enter the codes from the caps online yourself at <https://www.prairiefarms.com/ourcapsyourcause/>

Farm Credit Service Day at DSC



Employees from Farm Credit IL's Mahomet office continued their long-standing tradition of wrapping the gifts for the DSC Wish List. That's a lot of wrapping! Thank you, Farm Credit IL!

DSC CEO, Danielle Matthews Visits Champaign Exchange Club



This fall, DSC Chief-Executive Officer, Danielle Matthews was invited to speak at the Champaign Exchange Club. DSC was presented with a certificate of appreciation on behalf of DSC's efforts in the Champaign-Urbana community.

DSC Installs Solar Panels

In December, DSC worked with an incentive program offered through Ameren Illinois to install solar panels at the Main Building on Bradley Avenue. The upgrade will increase energy efficiency and is an investment in DSC's commitment as an agency to being here for the long-term.



Laura Bennett Celebrates 30 Years with DSC



Laura Bennett, Director of Community Day Services, celebrated 30 years with DSC in October. Originally, from Louisville, Kentucky, Laura held positions in Philadelphia, Boston and Louisville prior to joining DSC. Her career with DSC began as an Assistant Supervisor in

Developmental Training and included the positions of Developmental Specialist and Developmental Training Administrator before assuming her current role in 1995. She holds a BA in Human Development and Social Relations from Earlham College.

Laura has so many wonderful memories of DSC – dancing with individuals at Holiday parties; running around to every area to check out everyone's Halloween costumes; watching the Prompting Theater shows and movies – especially their first movie premiere and the red carpet walk and autograph signings; clapping and singing along during talent shows; and countless special moments with each person she has supported. Laura says "That feeling of belonging and being valued is definitely something that the people of DSC give to me every single day and is something that makes getting up in the morning worthwhile."

SAVE-THE DATE!

2020 Illinois Marathon April 23-25

Plan now to volunteer with DSC to staff the corrals!

New LEAP Trained Employers:

- Dixon Graphics
- Pixo
- Best Western Paradise Inn



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Thank You for Making our Holiday Bright!!!



From all of us here at DSC, thank you! We are overwhelmed by the generosity and support we received from you throughout the holidays. A special thank you to Farm

Credit Illinois, Down Syndrome Network, Sam's, and Illini Lodge 17 for their support of our Wish List Programs. With your help, we were able to grant over 120 wishes from the Wish List this year! On behalf of the people who receive DSC services, Thank You!

Gifts Received from University of Illinois



Thank you, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign Sponsored Programs Administration for your generous donation of gifts to our Family

Development Center. These gifts will go to many children and families supported by DSC, who might not otherwise receive gifts over the holidays.

Gifts with a Personal Touch



Members of Home & Community Education's Mayview Unit delivered gifts to DSC's Residential Program, including blankets monogrammed with each person's name and Wal-Mart gift cards. What a special touch! Thank you, HCE!

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