

# NEWSLETTER

Improving the lives of individuals with developmental disabilities

# OUR MISSION STATEMENT:

CTF ILLINOIS is a not-for-profit organization dedicated to empowering individuals with developmental and intellectual disabilities through services and programs that help them reach their potential in an environment that fosters respect, dignity, and success for each individual.

#### **CORPORATE OFFICE**

1902 Fox Drive, Suite B Champaign, IL 61820 PHONE: (217) 352-1557 FAX: (217) 352-7166

#### **DOWNSTATE OFFICE**

6081 Development Drive Charleston, IL 61920 PHONE: (217) 348-3869 FAX: (217) 348-8804

#### **SOUTH SUBURBAN OFFICE**

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#### THE AUTISM PROGRAM

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# New location and phase for CTF ILLINOIS at Development Drive in Charleston

CTF ILLINOIS recently relocated its Charleston area Administrative Offices, The Autism Program, and a portion of its Developmental Training Services to 6081 Development Drive in Charleston. The Autism Program and staff moved in mid July and the DT program in October.

Since the Autism Program moved from Castle Drive to Development Drive, the Autism Program can now be more accessible to the nearby hospital, Special Education Cooperative, and Community Members.

As for Developmental Training Services, the move came at a perfect time. CTF ILLINOIS is in the process of re-imagining Developmental Training Services for their individuals. This includes a Therapy Program, which provides services in a state-of-the-art environment for



CTF ILLINOIS Downstate Office, 6081 Development Drive

individuals with developmental disabilities. Melissa McDaniel, Executive Vice President of CTF ILLINOIS Consumer Services says, "Everything was taken into account with the design of the remodel at Developmental Drive to ensure it met the individual's needs, including the space and layout, specialized lighting and flooring, soothing wall colors, signage, and state of the art bathroom facilities."

# **New CILAs in Chicago's South Suburbs**

CTF ILLINOIS will open its 10th CILA in the South Suburbs. The Travers Ave. CILA is located in Chicago Heights and will be a six person home, primarily for people transitioning out of the state institutions. It has 3 bedrooms, a living room, fire place room, 2 full baths, attached garage, huge backyard, sun room attached to one of the bedrooms, and great deck for BBQs. Eric Edquist, VP of South Suburban Operations says "The home is located close to many stores, restaurants, a mall and other attractions, which is very nice for the residents."



Travers Avenue House in Chicago Heights

New CILAs story continued on page 3 of the newsletter.



# A message from the President

I want to ask a favor of you. Please take a close look at the image to the

right and let me introduce you to our new name - CTF ILLINOIS. We are very excited to announce this change.

Since our inception in 2000 we have continued to expand our services across the State. With locations in the counties of Will, Cook, Champaign, Coles, Logan, Richland and Lawrence our old name Charleston Transitional Facility did not represent our geographical footprint across the

State. In the upcoming months we will be developing a new logo, updating our letterhead, redoing our website, and other related tasks to fully incorporate this change into our organization.



Although it is exciting to unveil this new look, we will not lose sight of our mission statement that charges us to empower the individuals we serve to reach their potential in an environment that fosters respect, dignity, and success for each of them. Our tag line of: Live Work Advocate will continue to be used. This slogan captures the essence of what we do to assist our clients in reaching their potential.

The approaching Holiday season is a reminder that we are thankful for the opportunity to serve our clients and grateful to our staff, stakeholders, and board members for all they do in order to assist CTF ILLINOIS in meeting its mission.

Dennis D. Carpenter
President/CEO

# CTF ILLINOIS HOLIDAY SCHEDULE

CTF ILLINOIS would like to wish everyone a happy and safe holiday season!

Below is our holiday schedule and office closings.

#### **CHRISTMAS**

Tuesday, December 24 Wednesday, December 25

**OFFICES CLOSED** 

#### New Years

Wednesday, January 1
OFFICES CLOSED

We'd like to thank everybody for their support throughout 2013, especially all CTF ILLINOIS employees; without their tireless work, we wouldn't be the company we are today.

# A big THANK YOU to a few local companies and individuals in the Olney area!

CTF ILLINOIS Olney DT would like to give a big THANK YOU to the following companies and individuals:

- Baker Hughes
- Walmart
- Fraternal Order of Eagles
- Eagleson Automotive Center
- Svd's Place Inc.
- Resource Management LLC
- Gary D. Carr, M.D.
- Nikki McElroy
- Peoples State Bank

The holiday season is upon the Olney Area and local companies

and individuals are really showing their support. Their donations will purchase Christmas gifts for individuals at the Olney DT.



The gifts will be given out at the Annual Christmas Party. Thank you for your donations!

# **Everyone wore pink for April!**

The event was called "Wear Pink!" On July 25th, over 150 staff and individuals wore specially designed pink t-shirts to support April's fight against cancer. Why the July 25th date for Wear Pink? It was April's birthday.

April also enjoyed a fun birthday party at home with her housemates, staff and friends. Jen Shull, Site Supervisor at C Street says, "Most of the staff and individuals continue to sport



(Left to right) Brandy, MJ (in back), April and Melissa.

their pink t-shirts from time to time. The shirts have continued to provide positive affirmations for April throughout the past several months."

Shull also stated that April's surgery went remarkably well and her recovery was speedy as she is still adjusting to this major change. This event was a great success and a big thank you to everyone who wore pink!



### **New CILAs** (continued from page 1)

Eric Edquist also said that another CILA, located in Olympia Fields, was opened in June of this year. Edquist stated that the CILA has four bedrooms, two living rooms, a fire place and 2.5 baths.



Bedroom of Ithaca Rd House in Olympia Fields



Front of Ithaca Rd House in Olympia Fields

Edquist went on to say that "What is nice about this home is that it has a finished basement with a recreation room and a beautiful deck for barbequing." This home was also opened to transition people out of the state institutions.

### HOW CAN YOU HELP?

#### **Financial support**

CTF ILLINOIS
would not be able
to provide such
excellent care
without monetary
donations from
individuals and
organizations.
Gifts of any
amount are
appreciated.

Remember, at this time, CSF is matching every donation that is made to CTF ILLINOIS through the Making a Match fundraising campaign. Please see page 7 of this newsletter for more information.

#### Volunteering

Time and talents are invaluable to CTF ILLINOIS.

There are a variety volunteer opportunities available to you.

For additional Information, please call 217-352-1557.

LIVE.
WORK.
ADVOCATE

Halloween Party Fun at 7th Street in Charleston!











# New therapy equipment at Development Drive location in Charleston

CTF ILLINOIS has purchased an additional \$15,000 worth of sensory and mobility equipment to meet the needs of the individuals served at the Therapy Program located on Development Drive. Specifically, 24 individuals with high sensory, mobility, and personal needs will receive services and equipment designed uniquely for them provided by staff specifically trained on their needs. The services will focus primarily on occupational therapy, physical therapy, speech therapy, sensory integration, and structured teaching.

Melissa McDaniel, Executive Vice President of CTF ILLINOIS Consumer Services stated that "The individuals started transitioning into the new therapy program October 1st and have adjusted very well. The new space is much more conducive to their needs and provides increased sensory opportunities, natural lighting and outdoor space for them to enjoy." McDaniel believes with the new equipment and the design of the facility that the Development Drive location has an environment that is state-of-the-art.









# Thanksgiving artwork





The CTF ILLINOIS Art Program made the walls look very festive for Thanksgiving! Very nice work!

# QUESTIONS OR GENERAL CONCERNS?

Contact the Champaign Business Office by phone:

(217) 352-1557

For more information on CTF ILLINOIS programs and services, visit online:

CTFILLINOIS.org

### **Group experienced sights and sounds of New Orleans**

Eleven individuals and three staff members went to New Orleans for six days on August 25th through the 30th. Individuals and staff toured various venues and enjoyed the many sights and sounds of New Orleans. Their first stop was Mardi Gras World.

The tour at Mardi Gras World educated the group about the making of the famous Mardi Gras Floats as well as the history behind Mardi Gras. The group actually got to try on some of the authentic costumes that are used in the parades. (photo on right, second down)

The next stop was the National World War II Museum. At the museum they viewed a 4D film on WWII and had an interactive tour inside a real submarine. (photo bottom right)

Another venue was the Swamp Tour. Individuals on the Swamp Tour were able to see all types of wildlife, including quite a few alligators. Not only did they see the alligators up close, they got a chance to try and feed them too!

During the group's visit to New Orleans, they dined at various authentic restaurants while trying new foods like jambalaya, crawfish, oysters and alligator. The group also listened to some live New Orleans-style jazz, went on a few shopping trips and explored Bourbon St.

What did everyone enjoy the most? Deyone Harris, a DT Administrator from Homewood responded, "The Swamp Tour was, by far, the favorite outing of the entire trip. No one in the group had ever had an experience quite like this one; feeding alligators right off the boat is something I personally will never forget!"

At right: Group Photo at The Swamp Tour









# Making a Match fundraiser to benefit CTF ILLINOIS programs and services

Community Services Foundation (CSF) is excited to announce the 2013 *Making A Difference... Making A Match* fundraising campaign. This annual event has been incredibly successful at providing assistance to CTF ILLINOIS.

Together we can make a difference; through December 31, 2013, CSF will match, dollar for dollar, your donations to CTF ILLINOIS. Any size donation can make a big impact because of the matching dollars. For example, a \$100 donation, once matched, provides \$200 towards programs and services.

Last year's donations resulted in a direct benefit to quality of life for individuals receiving services from CTF ILLINOIS. We sincerely hope that you will help us make a difference again this year.

This year, the donations will be used

to fund weekend getaways and vacations for our CILA residents. The residents have very limited resources and are unable to afford this on their own.

CTF ILLINOIS program staff feels strongly that the trips enhance residents' quality of life, and as such, these trips were incorporated into the CTF ILLINOIS annual goals and objectives.



There is no dollar limit for individual donations. However, there is a \$500 limit per business donation to qualify for matching dollars. There is no limit on the number of donations an

individual or business can make. Donations from non-profit organizations are not eligible for matching dollars.

Checks must be made payable to Community



Services Foundation and can be mailed in the envelope included with this newsletter or credit card donations can be made by going to csfil.org and clicking on the Network for Good link on the right of the page. You then can designation your donation for CTF IILLINOIS.

Community Services Foundation is a non-profit exempt under Sec. 501(c) (3) of the Internal Revenue Service code. Donations are deductible to the extent allowed by IRS codes.

#### 9 Muses Artists' Spotlight - Saturday, December 7th, 4:30 pm - 6:30 pm!

Arts and crafts, from 9 Muses Artists, will be displayed and available for the public to purchase on Dec. 7th. The "Spotlight" is in conjunction with the "Christmas in the Heart of Charleston" Event. The artwork will be displayed from 4:30 pm - 6:30 pm.

This will be a great chance to do some Holiday shopping for Family and Friends. 9 Muses will have greeting cards, jewelry, paintings and crafts available, all created by the artists of 9 Muses. We look forward to seeing all



of you there. The address for 9 Muses is 702 Jackson St. just outside the Courthouse Square.

Streets leading to the Square will be closed ~ please park 2-3 blocks off the



Square and walk inward. See you there!



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**CTFILLINOIS.ORG** 

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Remember that CTF ILLINOIS is on Facebook!



"Like" CTF ILLINOIS at Facebook.com/ctfillinois

CTF ILLINOIS' Facebook page is good source for the latest news, event information, and other happenings throughout the organization.

Be an active part of the CTF ILLINOIS online community!

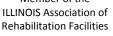
Coming Soon:
New CTFILLINOIS.ORG website in January 2014

#### **CTF ILLINOIS N**EWSLETTER QUESTIONS AND COMMENTS

Jim Paden, VP Communications and Event Planning—(217) 419-8627

CTF ILLINOIS IS PROUD TO BE ASSOCIATED WITH THE FOLLOWING ORGANIZATIONS:







Funded in part by the United Way of Coles County



Certified and Funded by the ILLINOIS Department of Human Services