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CTF Resident steals the show at Vermillion Co. TPC meeting

A CTF resident stole the show at a recent Parent Information Night, held by the Vermilion County Transitional Planning Committee (Vermilion Co. TPC) on March 3. The event took place at Danville Area Community College's (DACC) Bremer Hall.

Several speakers were lined up to provide information to parents for planning their child's transition to life after high school graduation; one such speaker was Decker Garrett, a resident in our Champaign CILA. Decker said he was excited and felt a little like President Obama, dressed in a suit and tie and about to give an important speech.

Nervous before taking the stage, Decker reviewed his notes over and over. However, he quickly became comfortable in the setting, and before long was working the crowd,

Decker, continued on Page 3



CTF resident Decker Garrett spoke to parents planning their child's transition to life after high school graduation; he received a standing ovation following his speech.

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Making a Match program raises over \$13,000 for CTF's clients

Community Services Foundation (CSF) would like to thank everyone who made a donation on behalf of Charleston Transitional Facility (CTF) to the fall 2010 *Making A Difference . . . Making A Match* program. Despite the tough economy, the fact that people expressed such generosity demonstrates the belief they have in the services provided by the agency.

CTF provides high-quality services to their clients. They are funded by payments received from the State of Illinois for each qualifying person receiving services. The payments barely cover the essentials of

running quality programs and require all social service agencies to fundraise and apply for grants to make up budget shortfalls.

While CTF also does fundraising on their own, CSF has sponsored the *Making A Difference . . . Making A Match* program for the last several years to provide additional dollars for CTF by matching public donations.

Over \$13,000 was donated on behalf of CTF and Southwest Community Services, Inc. (SCS), another agency providing services for the developmentally disabled. CSF matched these funds, and over \$26,000

Making a Match, continued on Page 3

HAVE AN IDEA FOR AN
EMPLOYEE OR CLIENT
SPOTLIGHT?

Send an email with
your suggestion to

**michaelcarpenter
@ctfillinois.org**

Be sure to
include the name of
employee along with
their position.

All suggestions will
be considered for
possible inclusion in
the next issue.

Employee Spotlight



this issue: **Tee Grant**



Support Services Administrator, Quality Assurance Administrator, Residential Administrator, – all positions held by Tee Grant, currently an Administrator of Operations. Undoubtedly those are some impressive job titles, but all of them combined still doesn't fully illustrate everything Tee does for CTF.

Currently, Tee oversees the operations of a group of homes in East Central Illinois: Lincoln/Atlanta, Champaign and Charleston, along with Intermittent CILA's in Charleston, Kankakee and Danville. She has been instrumental in opening numerous new residential sites in Charleston, Lincoln and South Suburbs, in addition to setting up both HBS (Home-Based Services) and Intermittent CILA's within CTF.

Tee is responsible for the overall operations of each site, including insuring each site remains in compliance with all DHS regulations and agency policies. She also insures compliance with all internal expectations regarding budgets, resident finances, staffing and training.

She regularly makes site visits to monitor maintenance needs, any safety concerns and general status of each site, while also assisting with screening potential residents for 24-hour and Intermittent CILA's.

"Seeing progress of individuals regardless of setting, that's one of my favorite parts of my job," said Tee. "It's rewarding getting to know the individuals in the intermittent program and watch them emerge as independent people in the community."

Interactions with clients are just one aspect of the job Tee enjoys, and she thinks it is equally important to make every interaction with staff a training opportunity.

"I really enjoy working with and training site supervisors," said Tee. "It's great to see them take professional ownership of their respective sites."

Her tireless work for CTF extends outside of day-to-day tasks; she serves as CTF's Safety Committee Chair and is an active member of the Vermilion County TPC (Transitional Planning Committee).

Tee has had residential experience since 1998, and has been with CTF since Jan. 2004. Now in her eighth year, she still enjoys the diverse challenges offered by her position.

For 28 years, Tee has been married to Dennis Grant. They have two grown sons, Clayton and Cory (with his wife, Sabrina) and four grandchildren (Khayd, Rylan, Dayton and Tegyn). Outside of work, Tee has a variety of interests, including reading, landscaping and gardening at home, antiquing, and traveling.



Tee Grant, Administrator of Operations, oversees a group of homes in East Central Illinois, along with Intermittent CILA's in Charleston, Kankakee and Danville. She has been instrumental in opening new residential sites throughout the state.



CTF announces appointment of company President/CEO

The Board of Directors of Charleston Transitional Facility (CTF) announced the appointment of Dennis Carpenter as President/CEO of CTF, effective April 19.

Carpenter previously served as CTF's Chief Financial Officer for over nine years and has been instrumental in developing and maintaining CTF's strong financial position, despite the state's ongoing budget difficulties.

"Dennis' strong work ethic, skills, and knowledge, as well as his institutional and industry experience, make him the perfect person to lead CTF into the future," said Charley Smith, CTF Board President. "His personal values and his compassion for the individuals we serve, along with an outstanding grasp and stewardship of organizational finances, made him the unanimous choice of the Board. We are extremely proud to have him leading the CTF team."

"I am both grateful and humbled for this opportunity," said Carpenter. "I'm excited to lead an exceptional organization in its continued

efforts to provide high quality services and supports to individuals with developmental disabilities throughout the State of Illinois. We will continue to maintain and further CTF's 'clients first' philosophy. "



Dennis Carpenter served as CTF's Chief Financial Officer for nine years; he was appointed by CTF's Board of Directors to serve as the company's President/CEO

Decker, Cont'd from Page 1

walking along the staging area, and easily answering questions from the audience.

Decker told the parents and teachers what he liked about living in a group setting, his plans after high school, and what he liked to do while hanging out at home. Additionally, he also described all of his community activities from Broadway plays to movies, from shopping to the luxury of having friends with whom he shares a home.

If he was stumped on a question, he asked Hugh McComas, site supervisor for his home, or Tee Grant, Administrator of Operations, for answers more related to the operations, regulations or the process of moving into a group home.

Decker received a standing ovation for his speech and has been invited to speak to Danville High students in the coming month.

Making a Match, Cont'd from Page 1

was contributed to the agencies. The funds CTF received replenish the Individual Assistance Fund (IAF). The IAF was created to subsidize the purchase of equipment, services, and experiences that individuals cannot afford independently.

Over the lifetime of this unique program, \$157,182 has been donated to improve the lives of people with disabilities. CTF would like to thank our generous donors:

Pat & Linda Brown, Delores & Hans Busch, Phyllis Campbell, Dennis & Pam Carpenter, Jeff Dundek, Eric Edquist, Gene Frioli, Charles & Alice Fultz, Nancy Hannigan, Audrey Harp, Harold Kloosterman, Luksander Construction Inc., M&S Pest Control, Jennifer Rafacz, Ray & Mary Beth Roland, Charley & Dawn Smith, Grace Wallace, Tracy & Jason Wavering, and Tim Yow.

QUESTIONS OR GENERAL CONCERNS?

Contact the Champaign Business Office by phone:

(217) 352-1557

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

CTFillinois.org

Ideas for the CTF Employee Newsletter? Send an email to:

michaelcarpenter@ctfillinois.org

CTF's Annual Golf Outing to raise funds for IAF

The 8th Annual CTF Golf Outing is set for Friday, June 3 at the Bent Tree Golf Course in Charleston, IL. All proceeds from the outing go to the Individual Assistance Fund (IAF), used specifically for items and activities that improve the lives of individuals receiving services from CTF. The 2010 golf outing raised over \$30,000 for the IAF.

"The golf outing is a tremendous event, and it's gotten better each year," said CTF's President/CEO Dennis Carpenter. "It's a fun way to interact with fellow employees and stakeholders, and most importantly it raises funds that provide great opportunities to our clients."

In addition to a round of golf, free lunch and dinner, complimentary beverages and snacks, and gifts and prizes throughout the day, participants can take part in a silent auction.

The 8th Annual CTF Golf Outing has a variety of participation and sponsorship levels:

- INDIVIDUAL GOLFER - \$100
- FOURSOME - \$400
- HOLE SPONSORSHIP - \$100
Includes recognition at tee box
- BRONZE PAR - \$600
One complimentary foursome, plus recognition at the golf outing and in the event's programs
- SILVER BIRDIE - \$1,500
Includes the Bronze Par benefits plus an additional foursome (for a total of 2 foursomes) and recognition on CTF's website
- GOLDEN EAGLE - \$2,500
Includes Silver Birdie benefits, plus sponsor identification on golf carts

Registration and lunch begins at 11:00am; the Shotgun Start to the scramble is at noon; finally, the event wraps up with awards, dinner, giveaways, and the silent auction beginning at 5:00p.m.



CTF will host its 8th Annual Golf Outing on Friday, June 3 at Bent Tree Golf Club in Charleston, IL. The yearly event is a fundraiser for the Individual Assistance Fund (IAF), used for items and activities for CTF's clients.



Above: A foursome from *Brown, Hobbs, & McMurray Insurance*, the winning team from CTF's 7th Annual Golf Outing, held June 4, 2010. Last year's outing raised over \$30,000 for CTF's Individual Assistance Fund (IAF).

The registration deadline is Friday, May 13. For more information, call Jane Cash at (217) 348-8798, ext. 129. Checks for donations, participation, and sponsorship can be mailed to the CTF 2011 GOLF OUTING, 521 7TH STREET, CHARLESTON, IL 61920. The rain date is scheduled for Monday, June 6.

CTF IS PROUD TO BE
ASSOCIATED WITH THE
FOLLOWING ORGANIZATIONS:



Member of the
Illinois Association of
Rehabilitation Facilities



Funded in part
by the United Way
of Coles County



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the Illinois Department
of Human Services



CTF