

THE HAPPENING COMMUNITY

OAKLAND COUNTY DIVISION



Renee Uitto, CLS/OC Citizens' Advisory Committee Chairperson

MAY 2011

CITIZENS' ADVISORY COMMITTEE NEWSLETTER

RYAN GRAY-A GOOD GUY AND TRUE GENTLEMAN



Sometimes when you meet a person for the first time, you just know that you have met a person with huge potential to go great places in life. Ryan Gray is one of those people. His charisma, charm, and ability to make conversation, and "work a room" are traits that seem to come naturally to this young and active gentleman.

Ryan is diagnosed with Fragile X Syndrome and sometimes he has difficulty staying focused, but he surely doesn't let his disability slow him down. Ryan is intelligent, upbeat, and oh so knowledgeable on so many topics . . . everything from pop culture, sports, and movies, to current events, politics, and history. Ryan has high energy, enthusiasm, and a love of life that you just don't see everyday. He is a unique, outstanding young man, who leaves a positive impression on everyone he meets.

Ryan is very sociable and outgoing. He enjoys movies, playing golf, traveling, dining out, bowling, and following local sports. Ryan participates in a local basketball league. He works out at least once a week with a trainer at Oakland University and maintains a long-term job assisting with catering at the Rivercrest Banquet Center. Ryan says he would like to be known as a "good person", "nice guy", and as "a guy who does a good job".



Ryan dreams of being a TV reporter some day. He enjoys watching the news and is very knowledgeable about current events. To help advance his dream of

working at Channel 4 someday, Ryan completed Speech Crafters Public Speaking and Video

Production classes. Ryan now co-hosts a TV show, with his friends David DeWitt Taylor and Aaron Castle, that airs twice weekly in 11 communities in Oakland County through Community Media Network. Ryan has a wonderful on-air personality and is a dynamic host. The name of the show is Community Corner, and the feedback is always very positive. He uses his many talents to increase awareness, reduce stigma, and make a difference in our community.



Jeremy Case volunteers with Ryan at the soup kitchen. Ryan has hired Jeremy to assist him through a Self-Determination arrangement.

This charming man is now taking his high energy out into the community to help others. Earlier this year, Ryan took on a volunteer job that is less glamorous than anything he has done before. He started volunteering at a Soup Kitchen through

Grace Centers of Hope. Grace Centers of Hope (formerly the Pontiac Rescue Mission) is a faith-based outreach center for individuals and families who are homeless and disadvantaged. Some of Ryan's tasks include cleaning the lunch room before and after meals, preparing food, and assisting with keeping the pantry organized and stocked with fresh food items. When asked why he chooses to spend his time volunteering, Ryan replied, "because people need help, and I like to get out in the world and help people, it makes me happy."



QUOTE OF THE MONTH

"We make a living by what we do, but we make a life by what we give."

-Winston Churchill

COMMUNITY LIVING SERVICES OF OAKLAND COUNTY OPEN HOUSE

By Renee Uitto



Annette Downey cutting the ribbon with the Ferndale Mayor Dave Coulter and Chamber of Commerce Member Jerome Raska

On Wednesday, March 16th, in spring like temperatures, we celebrated our new location in Ferndale with an Open House and ribbon cutting ceremony. Ferndale Mayor Dave Coulter, Oakland County Commissioner Craig Covey and Chamber of Commerce members joined in

the celebration. During the ribbon cutting ceremony, Annette Downey, Executive Director of Community Living Services, Oakland County Division was presented with a Certificate of Vision from the Ferndale Chamber of Commerce welcoming CLS/OC to Ferndale and expressing appreciation for CLS/OC's investment in the Ferndale Community. During the ribbon cutting, Annette spoke to the crowd of 200 plus people saying:

"We already feel like we're part of the Ferndale community, everyone has been so friendly and helpful."

"We picked Ferndale as we feel our commitment to inclusiveness and social justice for all human beings is a value we have in common with the City of Ferndale. We know we'll be happy here for many years to come."



Annette Downey and Lisa Ballien with the Ferndale Mayor, Dave Coulter

Many people showed up to the open house event to check out our new building and welcome CLS/OC to Ferndale. While taking a tour of the new building many enjoyed the musical entertainment of David DeWitt Taylor's "Dazzle Do Time" DJ services and snacked on tasty refreshments. Others checked out the Micro-enterprise businesses, learned about Disability Rights leader, Justin Dart, created a Walk-A-Mile In My Shoes Rally sign, or made a video promoting Self-Determination.

Many thanks go out to the following people and agencies for making this event so special:

- * Ferndale Chamber of Commerce
- * Ferndale Mayor, Dave Coulter
- * Oakland County Commissioner and Former Ferndale Mayor, Craig Covey
- * OCCMHA and their Executive Director, Jeff Brown
- * Gerard Victor and Matthew Morrison for donating their photography and videography services
- * The Matrix Theatre for the use of the Justin Dart puppet
- * All of the Micro-enterprise businesses that participated: Theresa Arini-Capability Resources; Teddy Fitzmaurice- Teddy's T's; Renee Uitto-Renee's Cards and Creations; Micah Fialka-Feldman-Through the Same Door, Daniel Perry's Inspirations; Justin Alkema-Just Jewels; and Elizabeth Martin-Elegant Designs by Elizabeth.
- * Our great neighbors who shared their parking
- * Tracie Hamilton for her scrumptious cupcakes
- * Lucia Morrison for her delectable canolis
- * Harriet Silverman for her yummy cookies
- * David DeWitt Taylor "Dazzle Do Time" DJ Services

Left to right: Ferndale Chamber of Commerce Director Carol Jackson and Executive Director Jennifer Roosenberg; OCCMHA Executive Director, Jeff Brown; CLS CFO, Bill Yordy; Chamber Members Vice-Chairman Jay McMillan and Chairman Jerome Raska; Oakland County Commissioner, Craig Covey; Ferndale Mayor, Dave Coulter; CLS/OC Executive Director, Annette Downey; CLS/OC Director of Community Supports, Lisa Ballien; CLS President, James Dehem; and CLS Vice President of Operations, Paul Newman



DOVE AWARD WINNERS

We are happy to announce that three CLS/OC nominees were honored at the Arc of Oakland County's Dove Awards ceremony on Friday, March 25, 2011.



Karen Edwards from CLS/OC with Jeff Guthrie at the Dove Awards Banquet.

Jeff Guthrie was honored with the Sheldon Dunn Inspiration Award. Jeff is one of the kindest people you may ever meet. He always has a warm smile and a welcoming hello for everyone.

He has a passion for advocacy and he does all that he can to help advance a better tomorrow for all people with disabilities. Jeff is now in his second term as the OCCMHA Citizens' Advisory Committee (CAC) Chairman. Jeff indicates that he is an active member on about 10 different committees.

Jeff has delivered speeches at many local and statewide events. He has developed wonderful public speaking skills and has become a recognized leader in the statewide promotion of Self-Determination.

Those of us who know Jeff Guthrie could not be any happier for him, or prouder of him. He has accomplished his dream of moving into his own place, he is valued for the skills he brings to his job, AND he has developed advocacy skills which give him much fulfillment in his continuous desire to help others.



The Executive Director of the Arc of Oakland County, Tom Kendziorski, congratulating PJ after he received his award.

PJ DeCuir was honored with the Youth Volunteer Award. PJ is a very personable and talkative young man whose interests include history, politics, foreign languages, and opera. He loves visiting libraries and bookstores. He genuinely enjoys watching TV news programs such as the Today Show, BBC

World News, and networks such as CNN and the History Channel. PJ also enjoys listening to news programs on the radio, and discussing events of

political and world interest. PJ is an active volunteer at the Rochester Public Library where he sorts books and organizes CDs. He also volunteers at the prestigious Rochester Hills Museum at Van Hoosen Farm. PJ volunteers at both locations every week. At the museum he helps with wedding preparations, guest parking, working the reception desk, providing directions during events, and assisting in the museum gift store.

PJ gives back to his community and uses his many talents and skills to bring joy into the lives of others. His ability to share his knowledge and passion with people through volunteering has been truly wonderful to witness.



Micah Fialka-Feldman was honored with the Inclusion Leadership Award. Micah lives and breathes advocacy and has dedicated much of his efforts to advancing inclusion rights in education for individuals with disabilities. He speaks to groups about social justice, disability

rights, self determination and inclusion. Micah is involved in many advocacy groups and has toured the country giving speeches at various events regarding issues that impact people with developmental disabilities. Micah currently has an internship through the Michigan Roundtable where he works to raise awareness surrounding issues of diversity and inclusion. He is also on the governing boards for the National Youth Leadership Network, TASH, and Michigan Protection and Advocacy.

Micah is an amazingly warm and compassionate person and has a smile that brightens up an entire room. He has a constant desire to connect with people and to engage in meaningful dialogue about social change. Micah was unable to attend the Dove Awards Banquet because he had a prior speaking engagement in Utah, so he asked Shawna Viskantas from CLS/OC to deliver his acceptance speech on his behalf.



Shawna Viskantas after she accepted Micah's award.

CLS/OC would like to congratulate all of the 2011 Dove Award Winners!

SPOTLIGHT ON TOM NERNEY

By Renee Uitto



Tom Nerney is a founder, and the current Director, of the Center of Self-Determination. This non-profit organization proudly carries the mission to work with both the public and private sectors in order to move power and authority to those with disabilities, their families, and their allies. The Center for Self-Determination offers many services and supports including trainings, reference materials, and conferences that educate people on the principals of Self-Determination. It is the ultimate goal of the Center to assist with the implementation of Self-Determination nationwide.

Previously, Tom Nerney served as Co-Director of a Robert Wood Johnson Foundation's program entitled "Self-Determination for Persons with Developmental Disabilities." He managed grants and provided technical assistance to policymakers, families, advocacy groups, and individuals. Tom has been involved with other programs through the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation as well. Earlier in his career, he served as an expert consultant to the Federal Office of Special Education and the US Civil Rights Commission. Tom has also worked in special education and centered his work on addressing the different treatment of minority students, including identification of the ill effects of labeling and segregation.

Tom has had a lot of experience in regards to human services reform. He has been distinguished as a Kennedy Fellow in Public Policy and a Mary Switzer Distinguished Fellow by the US Department of Education.

Tom has authored several monographs including: An Affirmation of Community, Beyond Managed Care, Self-Determination for Persons with Developmental Disabilities, The Poverty of Human Services and The Importance of Income, and The Meaning of Self-Determination. This civil rights leader challenges current conceptions of what health care should be, while simultaneously promoting Self-Determination. Tom's publications not only tackle the technical and political side of Self-Determination, but he also humanizes it by describing the positive changes made in the last ten years and how they have helped people connect with their communities. His concepts and

ideas clearly promote human rights and basic freedoms for ALL people.

Tom has served a key role in promoting the principles of Self-Determination and civil rights for people with disabilities. He continues to work as an advocate, pushing for positive change in the Mental Health and Long Term Care fields. We congratulate Tom Nerney for his lifetime of significant accomplishments and we enthusiastically support his work!



"Self-Determination is the freedom people gain from having the recognized authority to plan a future for themselves and directly negotiate for funds which will assist them in realizing their dreams."

Tom Nerney, Director
Center of Self-Determination



Center for
Self-Determination

35425 Michigan Ave. W.

Wayne, MI 48184

Phone: (734) 722-7092

Fax: (734) 467-7639

www.centerforself-determination.com

IT'S ALL ABOUT
FREEDOM.

YOU CAN CALL ME RAY



My name is Ray Schuholz. I started my life as a young child living in the Plymouth Center state institution. I am very happy to say that I attended the Freedom Celebration in Lansing on March 24th. Lots of people showed up there. The event was a terrific gathering of people committed to FREEDOM. It was coordinated by the ARC of Michigan to celebrate the closing of all institutions in the state of Michigan. I am glad I went, it made me very happy.

When I was young and had no family members able to care for me, there were people who felt the only option was to put me in an institution. I still have horrible memories of those years and that horrible place. I am VERY happy that no other child or person in Michigan will have to go through the experiences I lived through in that institution, or any institution!



Jackie, Tammy and Rachel attending the celebration

I say to the people who doubted me - Look at me now! I am living a happy and healthy life in my own apartment in Westland, Michigan. I have a job I love, and I have plenty of friends in my life who love me like

family. I have come a long way. WE have come a long way!

I often like to say, "This train is going to keep on moving". Why? Because even though we are taking time to celebrate this success in Michigan, we know there is still a lot of work to do. Michigan is only one of 11 states (the largest state) that have closed their institutions for people with developmental disabilities. I plan to keep fighting for the people in other states to have their right to freedom, and a good, healthy, and happy life in their community.

I also plan to keep fighting for Self-Determination for ALL, and an end to stigma and labels such as "consumer" and "client". You can call me "Ray", and please keep your labels for soup cans, not people.

Let's keep FREEDOM alive!

GET INVOLVED! KASA



Kids As Self Advocates

Kids As Self Advocates (KASA) is a national, grassroots project created by youth with disabilities for youth. They are teens and young adults with disabilities speaking out.

Their mission is: Kids As

Self Advocates is created by youth with disabilities to educate society about issues concerning youth with a wide spectrum of disabilities and health care needs. KASA believes in self-determination, creating support networks, and proactive advocacy for all youth with disabilities in our society.

KASA spreads helpful, positive information to increase knowledge on various issues. They help health care professionals, policymakers, and other adults in the community understand what it is like to live their lives and they participate in discussions about how to help each other succeed. KASA believes young people with disabilities should have control over their own lives and futures. They help this happen by teaching youth about their rights, giving peer support, training, and changing systems.

KASA spotlights youth from across the nation who are making a difference in their communities. Joining KASA is free for youth and open to anyone who would like to be part of their network. Youth members will have the opportunity to give input into the work KASA does. Members can have their poetry, art, and original articles featured on the KASA website. They can be part of a cross-country network advocating to change systems to include youth with disabilities in decision making, raise disability awareness, and have connections and opportunity to communicate with other youth in the disability community.

Parents, professionals and organizations can also join KASA. There are many benefits for non-youth members including: Lifetime access (subscription) to the email listserv full of opportunities and resources, discounts on our reports and manuals, access to youth experts on youth leadership and meaningful youth involvement, information on scholarships, conferences and events around the country. Membership is \$15.00 for parents, \$30.00 for professionals and \$50.00 for organizations. This is a one time fee for a lifetime membership!

If you would like more information about KASA or you would like to join visit their website at www.fvkasa.org.



Elizabeth Janks and Angela Martin from the Developmental Disabilities Institute

DID YOU KNOW?



In 2004 the Oakland County Community Mental Health Authority served 12,000 people through its network of Core Provider Agencies (including Community Living Services). Currently, there are 21,000 people with a mental illness or a developmental disability actively receiving services in Oakland County. Please do your part to make sure our elected officials know that the need for mental health support in our communities continues to increase.

SECRETARY OF EDUCATION SPEAKS AT AAPD GALA



On March 15, 2011, the American Association of People with Disabilities (AAPD) Leadership Awards Gala took place in Washington D.C. The AAPD is the largest cross disability membership organization in the United States that is “working toward the economic self-sufficiency and political power for the more than 50 million Americans with disabilities.” The Awards Gala celebrates the success of all students and brings leaders from government, business, and the disability and civil rights communities together as they celebrate the achievement, leadership and progress in AAPD’s mission to organize the disability community to be a powerful force for change – politically, economically and socially.

At this year’s Gala the Secretary of Education Arne Duncan presented, he said:

“We can no longer celebrate the success of one group of students if another group of students is still struggling,” he said. “We have to be open and honest about where we fall short.”

“For too long, the answer to educating students with disabilities was to isolate them and deny them the same educational experiences others were having. Those days are over. The fact is – 60 percent of students with disabilities today spend 80 percent of their time in the regular school environment.”

“Those numbers are a great improvement and there is no reason they should not keep rising as more and more teachers know how to effectively work with students with disabilities.”

You can visit the Department of Education’s website, www.ed.gov to view a video of the Secretary’s remarks, read a blog post on the topic, and get the full text of Secretary Duncan’s speech as it was prepared for delivery.

WALK A MILE IN MY SHOES RALLY



The Seventh Annual *Walk A Mile in My Shoes Rally* will be held at the State Capitol Building in Lansing on Wednesday May 11th. Check-in begins at 12:30pm. The Rally goes from 1:30-2:30pm.

This rally is very important as legislators need to know that “*Mental Health Matters*”. It is also very important to enhance public awareness, to put an end to the stigma related to mental illness and developmental disabilities, and to promote mental health and wellness. This event will provide opportunities for people to talk to legislators, and network with other advocates and mental health supporters from all over Michigan. We can make a difference if we stand strong together and advocate for ourselves! Last year there were nearly 200 Oakland County Participants. Let’s do even better this year!

For bus information and further details contact Debbie Wisser at 248-858-0929.

NATIONAL GATEWAY TO SELF-DETERMINATION

The National Gateway to Self-Determination (NGSD) is a project funded by the Administration on Developmental Disabilities. The NGSD Web Portal is a clearinghouse on resources, training, and information on Self-Determination. The site provides a single access for self-advocates, professionals, policy-makers and the general public on current best and evidence-based practices in enhancing self-determination in the lives of people with developmental and intellectual disabilities, as well as any individual.

This NGSD is also on Facebook, Twitter, and YouTube. You can check these sites out to get updates on new resources, information on upcoming events, or you can watch videos of self-advocates talking about self-determination in their lives. Visit the NGSD web portal at www.aucd.org/ngsd, here you will find the links to Facebook, Twitter and YouTube.



This photo was included in the April newsletter. An error was made in the caption indicating that the person photographed with Jessica Brintley was her mom. We would like to make a correction, the person in the photo with Jessica is her cousin Sherlee.

LIVING HOPE SERIES

By Sherri Rushman



These training sessions are designed to encourage, educate, and empower people receiving public mental health services and their allies.

An Art Experience will be held April 21st, from 1:30-3:30pm at MORC, 1270 Doris Road in Auburn Hills. This two hour workshop will provide you the opportunity to play with paints, brushes, color, lines, shapes, and more! You'll leave with your own hand-made and painted mini-book, PLUS a greater understanding of how this kind of play may benefit you. All materials will be provided.

Who we are, What we do, Community Housing Network, We are Here for you!!! This workshop will take place on May 11th, 9:30am-11:30am at Community Network Services, 38855 Hills Tech Drive in Farmington Hills. This workshop will center on housing needs and issues, housing resources that are available, and success stories. Participants will gain an understanding of the biggest housing obstacles in our community, solutions to remedy those obstacles, and how Community Housing Network can help.

Contact Debbie Wisser at 248-858-0929 or at RegisterMe@occmha.org to register for any of these trainings. Please leave a message with your name, the name of the training, and the date. Leaving a message will automatically register you for the training.

UPCOMING EVENTS

DDI Community Liaison Training Academy.



The Developmental Disabilities Institute at Wayne State University is sponsoring a Community Liaison Training Academy for individuals who would like to learn more about navigating, connecting, and mentoring individuals with developmental disabilities and parents of children with developmental disabilities. This training will prepare you to teach and mentor people to become advocates; and how to become active brokers of their own unique services and supports.

This two day training will be on April 26 and 27, 2011, 9am to 4pm at Wayne State University, Oakland Center, 33737 West Twelve Mile Road in Farmington Hills. You must register to attend this event by April 21st. To register or for more information contact Jean Alibi by at 313-577-2654 or bd3808@wayn.edu.

Understanding Social Security Disability Benefits While Working.



If you or someone you know is receiving Social Security benefits and is interested in exploring employment options but isn't sure how to get started, the WISE (Work Incentive Seminar Event) is the place to be!!! If you have questions such as these you may want to attend: Can I work and

maintain my Social Security benefits and healthcare benefits? Who can help me understand how working would affect my benefits? Who can assist me in finding a job? There are two seminars taking place, the first is on May 11th, 10:00am-12:00pm at MORC, Auburn Hills Office, 1270 Doris Road and the second is on May 18th at MORC's Clinton Township Office, 16200 Nineteen Mile Road.

Don't miss the next CAC Meeting on April 25th from 2pm-4pm at the CLS/OC office in Ferndale.

During this CAC meeting a representative from the National Participant Network will speak via conference call. NPN was featured in last month's newsletter. They are national network of people of all ages and disabilities that participate in self-direction and promote Self-Determination. For more information about NPN visit their website at www.participantdirection.org. The CAC hopes to see you there.

THINGS TO DO IN YOUR COMMUNITY

2011 GREEN STREET FAIR will take place in Downtown Plymouth on May 6th-8th. The Green Street Fair educates and informs people of all ages about the benefits of green, organic, and eco-friendly products and services. To promote global interest and personal well-being, the Green Street Fair blends companies, artisans, entertainers, workshops and speakers together in a friendly and family-oriented outdoor environment. For more information visit their website www.greenstreetfair.com.



THE MICHIGAN GREEN LIVING FESTIVAL will be held from May 13th-15th. It will be a fantastic event designed to promote healthy living and an earth-friendly lifestyle. This free 3-day festival in downtown Rochester offers a wide variety of fun including 200+ exhibits & presentations, stage & street entertainment, contests & prizes, organic food & drink, free massage & wellness programs and fun for all ages. Help grow a brighter, greener future. For more information visit the website www.migreenteam.com.



COMMUNITY CONVERSATIONS

Our Steps Forward and Healthcare Reform

With Jeffrey L. Brown, Executive Director and Mary Griffiths, Director of Planning & Community Development

How will healthcare reform impact the public mental health system? What are we planning in Oakland County? Join Jeff and Mary to learn and discuss Oakland County Community Mental Health Authority's vision, principles and next steps regarding healthcare reform efforts.

Telephone Call-In (or Web) Session

with Jeffrey L. Brown & Mary Griffiths

April 25, 2011

10:00 – 11:00 am

Call: 1 (408) 600-3600 (toll)

1 (877) 669-3239 (toll free)

Access Code: 339 887 585

Password: 2011



Space is
limited to the
first 25
attendees!

You will get an opportunity to:

- Learn about what is happening with Healthcare Reform
- Learn about OCCMHA efforts related to Healthcare Reform
- Participate in a Q & A with Jeff and Mary

You can attend this call-in session simply using your phone by calling the number above. You also have the opportunity to attend the call in as a web conference. This option will allow you to see Jeff speaking and his PowerPoint presentation.

*Visit www.occhma.org for more on the web meeting .
Cell phone users will use minutes regardless of the number called.*

www.occmha.org • (800) 341-2003
Find us on Facebook, Twitter and YouTube
For questions or special accommodations call (248) 858-0929.





SEVENTH ANNUAL

YOU'VE GOT TO BE THERE!

Wednesday ~May 11, 2011

Check-in begins at 12:30pm

Rally 1:30 pm-2:30 pm

State Capitol Building, Lansing

OAKLAND COUNTY PRIDE: Every participant will receive a Rally logo-Oakland County T-shirt to wear at the Rally.

Bus info
on back

Why We Walk...

- *May is Mental Health Awareness Month
- *To enhance public awareness
- *Because legislators need to know
Mental Health Matters
- *To put an end to the stigma related to mental illness and developmental disabilities
- *Because Michigan does not have parity between mental health and physical health care coverage
- *To promote mental health and wellness
- *Because we can make a difference!

Last year there were nearly
200 Oakland County Participants.
Let's do even better this year!



Why Participate...

All 83 counties will have a designated county flag carrier who will be making an anti-stigma statement. Let's support Oakland County's flag carrier with a big turnout. Other activities will include talking with legislatures, giveaways, and networking with advocates and supporters from all over Michigan.

Let your provider agency know if you would like to attend.

Advocate...

Make signs and bring them to the rally!
Participate in the letter writing campaign to your representative/senator and bring your letter to the rally. More information to come.

Check out our website at www.occmha.org for more detailed information or call (248) 858-0929.




SEVENTH ANNUAL

GET ON THE RALLY BUS!!

Wednesday ~May 11, 2011

**We have secured buses to transport
individuals to the Rally in Lansing.**

WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW

- There will be two locations where you can get on the bus
North Oakland: MORC—Auburn Hills Office
1270 Doris Rd, Auburn Hills, MI 48326
South Oakland: United Cerebral Palsy of Metro Detroit
23077 Greenfield Rd, Southfield MI 48075
- You will need to provide your own lunch, beverages, snacks, etc that you think you will need throughout the day.
- There is no charge to ride the bus. Space is limited. 
- A bus at the North and South Location pick up will have wheelchair accessibility—please indicate this need when you call.
- You must RSVP to save a spot for yourself on the bus and indicate what location you will get on the bus.
- There is no smoking on the bus.
- The buses will leave promptly at the scheduled times.

BUS SCHEDULE

9:30 am Leaving North Pickup location
10:30 am Leaving South Pickup location
12:15 pm Arrive in Lansing
3:00 pm Bus Leaves Lansing
4:30 pm Bus arrives at South drop off
5:15 pm Bus arrives at North drop off

***TO SAVE YOUR SPOT
ON THE BUS***

***Contact Debbie Wisser
(248) 858-0929
Or
wisserd@occmha.org***

Rally bus sponsored by:



Oakland County RICC

Developmental Disabilities Institute
Community Liaison Training Academy

The Developmental Disabilities Institute at Wayne State University is sponsoring a Community Liaison Training Academy for individuals who would like to learn more about navigating, connecting, and mentoring individuals with developmental disabilities and parents of children with developmental disabilities. This training will prepare you to teach and mentor people to become advocates; and how to become active brokers of their own unique services and supports. The Community Liaison Training Academy is a competency- based training program composed of didactic instruction, guided practice and activities.

The Community Liaison Training Academy curriculum includes:

- ❖ Evidence Based Family Centered Empowerment Model
- ❖ Mentorship Model versus Traditional Case Management Models
- ❖ Disability Service Systems that include, Local, State and Federal Programs
- ❖ Cultural Competency
- ❖ Needs Assessment and Planning
- ❖ Support Strategies
- ❖ Advocacy
- ❖ Self Determination
- ❖ Service Brokering and System Use
- ❖ Follow Along and Monitoring Skills
- ❖ Communication Strategies
- ❖ Personal Safety, Home Visiting and Confidentiality

This two day training will be on April 26 and 27, 2011 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.
Wayne State University
Oakland Center
33737 West Twelve Mile Road
Farmington Hills, Michigan 48331
248-553-3545

You must register to attend this event:

Contact Jean Alibi by April 21, 2011 at 313-577-2654 or bd3808@wayn.edu

“The Livingston County Community Mental Health Family Strength Project began working with families over two years ago. The cornerstone of this project is the role of the family navigator. DDI partnered with us and provided this training to our family navigators. This training provided a step by step guide that supported working with families in a peer role.”

Angus Miller, IV Executive Director of Community mental Health Services of Livingston County

Understanding Social Security Disability Benefits While Working...



Are you (or someone you know) receiving Social Security disability benefits and are interested in exploring employment options.

Do you have questions like these....

- Can I work and maintain my Social Security benefits?
- Can I work and still maintain my healthcare benefits?
- Who can help me understand how working would affect my benefits?
- Who can assist me in finding a job?

If you or someone you know is receiving Social Security benefits and wants to work but isn't sure how to get started, the WISE (Work Incentive Seminar Event) is the place to be!!!

MORC – Macomb Oakland Regional Center

<p><u>May 11, 2011 - 10:00 to 12:00</u></p> <p>Auburn Hills Office 1270 Doris Road Auburn Hills, MI 48326</p>	<p><u>May 18, 2011 - 10:00 to 12:00</u></p> <p>Clinton Township Office 16200 Nineteen Mile Road Clinton Township, MI 48038</p>
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For more information please call Paul Landry @ UCP/Detroit 248-557-5070
No need to register for either event.

