

THE HAPPENING COMMUNITY

Living SERVICES
OAKLAND COUNTY DIVISION
CITIZENS' ADVISORY
COMMITTEE NEWSLETTER



Renee Uitto, CLS/OC Citizens' Advisory Committee Chairperson

AUGUST 2011

DAVID TAYLOR – A HOME OF MY OWN



Many of our newsletter readers may recognize David Taylor as he is a shining example of Self-Determination at its best. David enrolled with CLS/OC about 6 years ago with many hopes and dreams for his future, and he has wasted no time in making things happen, and checking accomplishment after accomplishment off of his list of dreams.

In January 2006 David was asked to do a presentation regarding Independent Support Coordination at training in Lansing. David quickly agreed to tell his story and let the group know how Self-Determination and utilization of an ISC made a difference in his life. After this presentation David decided that he wanted to help make a difference in the lives of other people with disabilities. He developed a Power Point presentation, and began attending every conference, stakeholder meeting, and training session he could find. Soon thereafter, David was participating on multiple panels in multiple cities, counties, and states. He then began submitting his own proposals, facilitating his own self-advocacy panels, and giving empowerment speeches geared at inspiring students still in special education classes. David, who was once a shy quiet guy with low self-esteem, quickly became a very impressive public speaker, and the owner of his own business, David Taylor's Motivational Speaking.

David serves on the CLS, Inc. Board of Directors. He is a trained Independent Facilitator, Peer Mentor, and Michigan Partners For Freedom Local Leader. He has completed CPR, First Aid, and Recipient Rights training in order to provide direct support to others. Plus, David just recently he began a paid 14 month internship at the Michigan Roundtable for Diversity and Inclusion in Detroit, where he works 20 hours per week educating people in the community on the importance of diversity and inclusion. David has become a true leader in making a difference in the lives of other...and in the mean time; he has made several "checks" on his list of dreams.



Leading a self-determined life means having freedom, and having freedom means having a place of your own. One of David's dreams has been to become more independent and move out of this grandmother's basement. He was able to accomplish that dream just last month by moving into a new home with two roommates in Ferndale. Another big "check"



On July 13th, David invited family and friends over to his place to celebrate his move with an Open House. David indicates that he loves living in the fun community of Ferndale, and he "feels like a grown man" now that he lives in his place. David thanked his guests for coming to see his new home, and he stated, "I am honored to live in this house, and am happy to be able to make my grandma proud of me."



David holds his keys as he celebrates with friends on his front porch during his housing warming party.

Community Housing Network has assisted David with his transition into his new home by providing a rent subsidy through HUD's Section 811 Supportive Housing for Persons with Disabilities program. This program seeks to increase the supply of rental housing coupled with the availability of supportive services, in order to allow people with disabilities to live as independently as possible. Community Housing Network is devoted to providing affordable homes for people in need, and access to resources to create sustainable communities. You can learn more about Community Housing Network by visiting their website at www.communityhousingnetwork.org.

QUOTE OF THE MONTH

"Life is what we make it. Always has been, always will be."

-- Grandma Moses

GET INVOLVED! CREATE THE GOOD



Whether you have five minutes, five hours, or five days, you can find ideas for making a positive impact in your community through "Create The Good." Create The Good® is about coming together in your community and

doing something positive to improve the lives of family, friends, and neighbors through a variety of volunteer and charitable giving opportunities. Anyone can visit the Create The Good website to find hundreds of opportunities to get involved. Here, they expand on traditional ways to volunteer by exploring simple steps, time-flexible opportunities, and a wide variety of issues in which to get involved.

Fifty years ago, Dr. Ethel Percy Andrus, a retired high school principal, founded the AARP. Create the Good officially began in 2008 to honor Ethel Percy Andrus legacy of giving back by connecting people to a wide range of opportunities to serve others.

While visiting the website, you can use the search engine, which houses around 260,000 volunteer opportunities. You can find ways to participate by downloading any of the more than 30 different how-to guides that provide step-by-step instructions on how to help your community without going through a volunteer organization. This could mean preparing your neighbors for a disaster, helping a friend or relative get the benefits to which they are entitled or even starting your own community garden. Create the Good encourages people to share volunteer stories to inspire others, and they have special campaign pages targeted to key issues like getting children the supplies they need for school, fighting hunger and spotting investment fraud.

Join more than nine million Americans making a difference through AARP. Sign up for the Create The Good network today at www.aarp.org/CreateTheGood

DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY HEALTH PUBLIC FORUMS

The Michigan Department of Community Health (MDCH) has contracted with the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) to develop a plan to integrate care for beneficiaries of both Medicare and Medicaid.



An integrated care model covers both Medicare and Medicaid services and benefits, including inpatient and outpatient acute care, skilled nursing facility services, long-term nursing home care, behavioral health, home health services, durable medical equipment, and prescription drugs. MDCH indicates that the goal of an integrated care model is to offer beneficiaries person-centered, coordinated services that meet the unique needs of dual eligible people. As MDCH seeks to establish more integrated and accountable systems of care for its dually eligible beneficiaries, it is seeking input about the goals and key elements of care integration to help shape its final plan.

There will be four public forums around the state to learn about and offer input into the state's plans for integrating care for dual eligible individuals in Michigan. In addition to hearing a presentation from Michigan's Medicaid agency, forum participants will be asked to describe features of the current system that should be preserved, and issues that exist within the current system that can be improved. They will also offer feedback regarding the state's proposed approach for integrating care.

The Forum in our area will be held:
Wednesday, July 27, 2011
1:00 to 4:00 pm
Hilton Garden Inn Detroit -
26000 American Dr., in Southfield

You can learn more about the plans, see the forum agenda, and register to attend the forum at <https://pscinc.com/dualeligibles/>.

OCCMHA RECIPIENT RIGHTS COMMITTEE NEEDS MEMBERS- *By Renee Uitto*



The Recipient Rights Committee at OCCMHA is looking for new members to represent varied perspectives related to community mental health services in Oakland County. People with developmental disabilities and mental illness and their family members are welcome to join. If you are interested, please contact Sandy Brown at OCCMHA- 248 975-9852 or browns@occmha.org.

A SCHOOL PAPER THAT SPEAKS OUT!

Recently, Sue Pelkey from the Oakland County Community Mental Health Authority passed along a school paper written by her daughter, Miranda. Miranda writes about how hearing the R-word makes her feel. We applaud Miranda for “spreading the word to end the word” and making an effort to raise consciousness in her school about the dehumanizing and hurtful effects of the R-word. Community Living Services gives Miranda’s paper an A++!



	<p>Miranda Pelkey Valentine AP Language & Comp. A++ May 16, 2011</p>
	<p style="text-align: center;">The “R” Word</p>
<p>○</p>	<p>We all have words that make us cringe. Just the thought of those words can make our eyes twitch and our stomach churn. For me that word is retarded. I can barely look at that word sitting on this page. I take offense for those individuals who are disabled, and feel the urge to stand up for them.</p>
	<p>For as long as I can remember my mom has worked in the mental health community. She has always told my younger brother and me to never use the “r” word. To her, the “r” word is worse than any swear word, and her mind set has stuck with me my whole life. Whenever I hear someone use that word to say, “That is so retarded” or “you’re retarded,” I have to say something. Most people don’t listen to me when I speak up, and this is mostly due to their obliviousness of the effect their use of that word has on me and others.</p>
	<p>The thing that bothers me the most is that a lot of people don’t realize that the “r” word is hurtful. It isn’t even used in the medical community anymore; individuals are now considered to have a cognitive disability instead of a mental retardation. People usually use that word belligerently to insult someone else, but what they don’t realize is that their ridicule is actually demeaning to those individuals with a disability.</p>
<p>○</p>	<p>I witness the verbal abuse of this word in my everyday life; even where I’d least expect it. In one of my honors classes I had a teacher that called students “tards”, and because I had him for an honors class and he would refer to his regular classes as the “tard classes.” This bothered me for the longest time but I didn’t know how I could say something to my teacher without compromising the teacher student relationship. I did not want to risk getting in trouble or risk the teacher taking it the wrong way and ruining our relationship. I chose an alternative and asked another teacher, one that I trusted and who was also close with my teacher, to mention to my teacher how the use of the “r” word can be hurtful and inappropriate. After my teacher was confronted on the issue he stopped using the word. I was proud of myself for finding an effective alternative to solving the issue and also proud of my teacher for taking the criticism seriously so they won’t hurt anyone else in the future with their use of the “r” word.</p>
<p>○</p>	<p>I believe in helping these individuals with disabilities that might be afraid to stand up for themselves. I know they have to work hard for everything in their lives, even something as simple as walking or eating. Though I don’t have to work as hard as them at basic things, I still know what it’s like to not have everything handed to you on a silver platter. I work as hard as possible at everything I do. Whether its school work or standing up for what I believe it does not matter, I will put 110% effort into it because I want to be the best I can be.</p>

BELIEVE IN YOURSELF-FOLLOW YOUR DREAMS - By Renee Utto



Did you ever want to make a dream come true, but didn't think you could because of your circumstances? There's no limit to how big you can dream. Maybe you want to learn a new hobby, get a new job, go on a fabulous vacation, or maybe learn how to drive. These dreams are important to a lot of people and shouldn't be ignored for any reason. What you need is a plan to get started to make that dream a reality.

First of all, figure out what you want to do. Can you figure out some of the steps by yourself? Maybe your Supports Coordinator can guide you along the way, or this is something that can be discussed at your Person Centered Planning meeting and you can decide who can help you. Let's say you want to take an art class somewhere; your Supports Coordinator can help you find what class to take and/or what supplies to purchase. He or she can also help you figure out transportation options.

Achieving your dreams can be smooth if you have the right planning and support from others who have your best interests at heart!



FREE BOWLING FOR KIDS



Select bowling centers and schools around the country are participating in the first ever Kids Bowl Free program. This program is designed by bowling

centers to give back to the community and provide a safe, secure, and fun way for kids to spend time this summer.

Children whose age does not exceed a limit by a participating bowling center are eligible to register for two free games per day, all summer long, courtesy of the participating bowling centers along with schools and organizations. Several bowling alleys in Oakland County are participating including, bowling alleys in Berkley, Rochester Hills, Southfield, Troy, and Waterford.

To find out which bowling centers are participating, visit the website www.KidsBowlFree.com. To view a list of the participating centers click, "Find a Bowling Alley Near You," scroll down to Michigan and select a bowling alley. Here, you will find the registration page along with the bowling alley's dates and times, age limits, shoe rental information, and terms and conditions.

"Bowling is a sport that should be right down your alley."

- Anonymous

YOUR WELLNESS – TOWN TALK



Join Oakland County Community Mental Health Authority (OCCMHA) for a healthy indoor picnic and wellness event. Healthy treats will be provided as you learn.

The Oakland County Health Department will lead a fun and interactive presentation to help us all learn about being our best through healthy eating and simple everyday exercises.

Kathleen Kovach, Deputy Executive Director of OCCMHA, will lead a discussion about what OCCMHA can do to help support the health and wellness of persons supported by the community mental health system and people in our community.



You have two sessions to choose from:

July 25, 2011

1:00pm - 3:00pm

Easter Seal Michigan Collaborative Solutions
269 Summit Dr.
Waterford, MI 48328

August 8, 2011

1:00pm - 3:00pm

Community Living Services Oakland County Division
642 E. Nine Mile Road
Ferndale, MI 48220

WHAT A RIOT! A NEW SELF-DETERMINATION RESOURCE



The Riot is a collection of products and services that promote self-determination and the belief that people with disabilities should live the lives they want with the support they need. The Riot is housed at the

Human Services Research Institute (HSRI). HSRI is a non-profit organization that was established in 1976 with the express purpose of assisting states and the federal government to enhance services and supports for persons with a mental illness and people with intellectual and developmental disabilities, and to support the development of alternatives to congregate care facilities. Riot staff at HSRI partner with self-advocates from around the country to bring you *The Riot!* newsletter, plus a number of other great things like art, games, advocacy tools, and much more!

The Riot! Newsletter is for self-advocates – people with disabilities who speak up for themselves. The newsletter is also a great resource for family members, staff, and policy makers. The Riot staff promise that the newsletter will make you smile and laugh at least once; they write articles that promote self-advocates living in the community and taking charge of their own lives. The e-newsletter is made available four times each year... in January, April, July, and October and it's **FREE!!**

The Riot also offers some fun services including the Jabbers games. These games are a fun way to get people talking about what they want in their lives and how to get it and they are **FREE!** The Riot also offers products for purchase, such as, toolkits for trainings on many different topics. Plus, the Riot recently announced a fun new game called *Space Race* which is also available for purchase. The *Space Race*, game is a new resource designed to teach people with disabilities of all ages about self-determination. In addition, you will find National Conversations that you may participate in, or get valuable information about previous conversations. There are also training and technical supports, Power Up services, and more.

If you are interested in The Riot and all of their great resources, visit their website at www.theriotrocks.org. If you are interested in learning more about the Human Services Research Institute, visit their website at www.hsri.org

ENFORCEMENT OF INTEGRATION MANDATE IN ADA/OLMSTEAD

In recognition of the 12th anniversary of the Supreme Court's Olmstead decision, the United States Department of Justice issued an important statement regarding the enforcement of the Integration Mandate in the ADA/Olmstead.



In this statement, the Department of Justice indicates that as a commemorative to the 12th anniversary of the Olmstead decision, “the Department of Justice reaffirms its commitment to vindicate the right of individuals with disabilities to live integrated lives under the ADA and Olmstead.”

The Department of Justice stated “...the goal of the integration mandate in Title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act to provide individuals with disabilities opportunities to live their lives like individuals without disabilities has yet to be fully realized.” They go on to say that some state and local governments have begun providing more integrated community alternatives to individuals in or at risk of segregation in institutions or other segregated settings. Yet, many people who could and want to live, work, and receive services in integrated settings are still waiting for the promise of Olmstead to be fulfilled.

To assist individuals in understanding their rights under Title II of the ADA and its integration mandate, and to assist state and local governments in complying with the ADA, the Department of Justice has created a technical assistance guide. This guide provides information about the ADA Integration Mandate and Questions and Answers on the ADA's Integration Mandate and Olmstead Enforcement. You can find this guide at www.ada.gov/olmstead/q&a_olmstead.htm.

SOCIAL SECURITY INFO AVAILABLE

The Consortium of Citizens with Disabilities has posted recordings and slides from two recent webinars on Social Security. “Social Security 101” explains the basics of the social insurance safety net created by the Social Security retirement, disability, and survivors programs. “Current Social Security Reform Proposals: How They Would Affect People with Disabilities” explains the specific reforms that have been proposed by organizations and commissions, and their impact on people with disabilities, the elderly, and families who rely on the Social Security.

You can find this information at <http://www.disabilityandsocialsecurity.org/resources.htm>

THE CAC TOOK A WALK ON THE WILD SIDE AT THEIR ZOO EVENT



It was a warm, breezy day on June 27th when the CAC took our annual trip to the Detroit Zoo. Our group took a walk on the wild side with 260 different species of animals. We arrived at 12:45pm and were soon ready to go. The Zoo turned out to be the perfect location to stroll around with old friends while getting to know new ones in a happy, sunny place. Some of the favorite attractions included the bears, tigers, wild boars, and penguins.

By the end of the day, everyone was pretty fatigued, but the smiles on our faces made it clear, a good time was had by all. If you missed out on this trip to the Detroit Zoo, but would like to go on your own, check out www.detroitzoo.org.



UP COMING EVENTS



Girls with Disabilities

Her Power • Her Pride • Her Voice

If you are a high school girl with a disability between the ages of 14-19 and you would like to meet other girls with disabilities from across the State of Michigan, then this is the event for you. This event will take place on August 20th, 21st, and 22nd at Camp Fish Tales in Pinconning Michigan. The event cost is on a suggested scale that ranges from \$35-\$70 per girl. This includes: food, lodging, activities, and art supplies.

You will challenge stereotypes and shatter myths about what it means to be a girl with a disability. This event will be an interactive weekend. You will use art-based activities to learn from each other and teach the world how you see yourself. This three day event will be packed with fun, smiles, laughter, creativity, and new friends.

The registration deadline is August 5th. If you are interested in attending and would like a registration form and more information, contact Theresa Squires at the Michigan Disability Rights Coalition at 517-333-2477 x 326.

Whose Life is it Anyways? 2011 Self Determination Conference will take place on Wednesday, August 24, 2011, 8:30am-3pm at the Somerset Inn, 2601 W. Big Beaver Road in Troy. The Key Note Presentation "Making a Difference" will be presented by Richard Bernstein. You must register by August 5th. For more information or to register contact Debbie Wisser at 248-858-0929.



"Moving Forward" Peer Specialist Training -



Training is available for persons who have an interest in potentially working in a Peer Support Specialist role. The "Moving Forward" Peer Support Specialist Training is a 15 hour training for individuals receiving services who have an interest in learning about the Peer Support Specialist role. The training is open to persons with developmental disabilities or mental health issues. Training topics include: *Role of a Peer Support Specialist*, *Using Your Story as a Tool*, *Listening and Communication*, *Gentle Teaching*, and others.

The training is one day per week for five weeks, 9 am-12:30 pm. You must be able to attend all five training days. Session will take place on September 12th, 19th, 26th and October 3rd, and 10th at MORC, 1270 Doris Rd. in Auburn Hills.

For more information, or to sign up for the training, please contact Sherri Rushman at 248-858-1210.

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.

Keep Control over Your Life will take place on July 27th from 1:00-3:30pm at MORC, 1270 Doris Road, in Auburn Hills. Participants will learn the importance of advanced planning for difficult times; what is an Advance Directive and who will administer it; and how to write an Advance Directive that will speak for you when you are unable to make decisions.

Be Your Own Advocate (with Theresa Arini) will take place on August 8th from 1:00-3:00pm at Our House Clubhouse, 2045 E. West Maple in Walled Lake. Participants will learn how to advocate for themselves and to communicate, convey, and assert their interests, desires, needs, and rights.

Defeating Loneliness will be held on August 18th from 1:30-3:30pm at Training and Treatment Innovations, 1450 S. Lapeer Road in Oxford. The training is based on Mary Ellen Copeland's *The Loneliness Workbook*. Participants will learn how to reduce loneliness, steps to use after the training, and how Person Centered Planning 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.

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

Also, mark August 22nd on your calendar for the August CAC Meeting



Oakland County Division

642 E. Nine Mile Road
Ferndale, MI 48220
Phone: 248-547-2668

THINGS TO DO IN YOUR COMMUNITY

The Buy Michigan Now Festival in Northville is a weekend celebration of the state's annual Buy Michigan Week. It includes sidewalk sales, street vendors, live music, and children's activities, all highlighting



Michigan-based businesses and Michigan-made products. It's a funfest with a cause! This year's festival will take place 10am to 9pm on August 5th and 6th, and 12pm to 5pm on August 7th.

Admission is free, as is most parking. Main and Center streets are closed in the middle of downtown to make it easy to shop and dine while enjoying live entertainment from some of Michigan's finest performers. For more information, visit the website www.buymichigannow.com.

Movies under the Moonlight is a great family event that will take place in Waterford on August 26th at Pierce Middle School Football



MOVIES UNDER THE MOONLIGHT

Field. Gates open at 6pm and the movie starts at dusk. This year the featured movie is "Up" Starring Edward Asner, Christopher Plummer, and Jordan Nagai. By tying thousands of balloons to his home, 78 year-old Carl Fredricksen sets out to fulfill his lifelong dream to see the wilds of South America. Right after lifting off, however, he learns he isn't alone on his journey.

In addition to the movie, there will be tons of kids activities, including rock climbing, inflatables, carnival games, concessions and more. For more information, visit the website https://www.waterfordchamber.org/event_movies.asp

Cat Fanciers' Association Cat Show will take place on Saturday, August 20th, 9:00am to 4:00pm at Allen Park Community Center, 15800 White Street in Allen Park. This is a purrrfect event for cat lovers. The CFA All Breed and Household Pet Cat Show will feature the exhibition and judging of 225 cats & kittens in six rings. The entrance fee is \$5 adults, \$4 seniors, \$3 kids ages 6-12, under age 6 - no charge.



CONFERENCE

Whose Life Is It Anyway?! 2011

Freedom. Authority. Support. Responsibility. Confirmation.



*Space is limited!
Be sure to register early
for this no-cost event.
Registration form can be
found on the back of this
brochure.*

An exciting and informative conference!
Wednesday, August 24, 2011
The Somerset Inn

8:30 a.m. (Registration) until 3:00 p.m.

Keynote Presentation:
Making A Difference
Presented by Richard Bernstein

This program has CE clock hours approved for some workshops by the Michigan Social Work Continuing Education Collaborative.

Sponsored by Oakland County Community Mental Health Authority,
Community Living Services of Oakland County, Macomb-Oakland Regional Center, Inc.

8:30-9:00	Registration/ Continental Breakfast/ National Anthem
9:00-9:15	Welcome
9:15-10:30	Plenary Speaker/ Richard Bernstein
10:30-10:45	Break/ Visit Vendors
10:45-12:00	Concurrent Workshops Morning Session
12:00-12:15	Break/ Visit Vendors
12:15-1:30	Lunch/ Steel Drumming/ Dan Moran Award
1:30-1:45	Break/ Visit Vendors
1:45-3:00	Concurrent Workshops Afternoon Session



Schedule of Events

(10:45 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.) Concurrent Workshops Morning Session

1	<p>“Self-Determination Success Stories” (A Panel of persons supported by MORC and facilitated by Marcia Wilhelm- Macomb Oakland Regional Center) Join us for exciting and inspirational success stories from people who are self-directing their supports and services through person-centered planning and the use of individual budgets.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">CE</p>
2	<p>“Everyone Else Has a Planner, Why Not Me?” (Maureen McGurn- Macomb Oakland Regional Center) Do you want to know what to expect when you wake up in the morning? Would you like to have a set schedule decided as to who is coming to work with you for the day and when you are doing your daily errands? Maureen will share how to make schedules, planners and other tools to help plan your day.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">CE</p>
3	<p>“Social Media: Dos and Don’ts, Tips and Tricks and How to Protect Yourself including how to do Battle with Bullies” (Tiffany Devon- Community Living Services, Shari Davidek- Community Living Services and Anthony Taormina) Do you want to join the social media world, but you’re worried about your safety? Maybe you’ve already joined a site, but you don’t know as much as you could about the different types of social media and how to protect yourself. Tiffany and Shari will share some tips and trips to enjoying a safe online experience. In addition, Anthony will share his experience with bullying and how he learned to deal with bullies.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">CE</p>
4	<p>“Disability Leaders: Learn from the Past so You Can Help Re-Invent the Future” (A panel of persons receiving services and Annette Downey- Executive Director of Community Living Services of Oakland County) Every civil rights movement has important leaders that helped make a difference in the world as we know it. Do you know who those leaders are related to Disability Rights and the freedoms we have today? Come to this session and you will! Tips will also be shared by Peer Support Mentors as to how YOU too can become a leader, have your voice heard, and make a difference in the lives of people with disabilities.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">CE</p>
5	<p>“Learn to Earn” (Roz Kenroy- Oakland County CMH, Cathy Schmidt- Oakland Schools) Come and meet the professionals in your community that will support you in finding employment after school. You will learn the resources in available your community. Members of the Oakland County Employment Collaborative will be there to share information and answer your questions. The collaborative is here to support you on your journey to employment.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">CE</p>
6	<p>“The Supports Intensity Scale as an Agent of Self-Determination and Social Change” (Jennifer Bohne- Macomb-Oakland Regional Center & Adam Fuhrman- Macomb-Oakland Regional Center) The Supports Intensity Scale (SIS) is a standardized assessment tool designed to measure the support needs of individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities. Furthermore, the tool is rooted in the belief that individuals who require additional support should have the same expectations for full citizenship as anyone else. This seminar will examine the role that the SIS plays in both altering attitudes as well as providing the building blocks to a more self-determined life.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">CE</p>

CONTINUING EDUCATION CREDITS are approved for the indicated workshops. You must sign in at the beginning of the workshop and stay until the session is over. See the workshop monitor at the end of the session to receive your certificate.

If you have questions, concerns or need special accommodations, please contact Debbie Wisser at (248) 858-0929

Keynote Presentation: *Making A Difference*



Richard Bernstein- Richard Bernstein is a tireless advocate for disabled rights and providing a voice to those who would otherwise be forced to be silent.

Blind since birth, Richard is a graduate of the University of Michigan and Northwestern University School of Law. He is an attorney with the Bernstein Law Firm. In his spare time, Richard is an avid runner, completing 14 marathons.

Richard is committed to taking action to help clients who need him. He successfully partnered with the United States Department of Justice to force the City of Detroit to fix broken wheelchair lifts on its buses. He also is working to affect change at Detroit Metro Airport to make the airport more accessible for disabled fliers. He fought the State of Michigan and won to preserve special education funding throughout the state.

(1:45 p.m. - 3:00 p.m.) Concurrent Workshops Afternoon Session

7	<p>“Self-Determination Success Stories” (A panel of persons supported by CLS-OC and facilitated by Annette Downey- Executive Director of Community Living Services of Oakland County) Annette Downey will lead a panel discussion of people with disabilities. Hear Self-Determination success stories and how people are making great things happen in their lives by self-directing their supports and services through Person-Centered Planning and the use of individual budgets. CE</p>
8	<p>“Everyone Else Has a Planner, Why Not Me?” (Maureen McGurn- Macomb Oakland Regional Center) Do you want to know what to expect when you wake up in the morning? Would you like to have a set schedule decided as to who is coming to work with you for the day and when you are doing your daily errands? Maureen will share how to make schedules, planners and other tools to help plan your day. CE</p>
9	<p>“Social Media: Dos and Don’ts, Tips and Tricks and How to Protect Yourself including how to do Battle with Bullies” (Tiffany Devon- Community Living Services, Shari Davidek- Community Living Services and Anthony Taormina) Do you want to join the social media world, but you’re worried about your safety? Maybe you’re already joined a site, but you don’t know as much as you could about the different types of social media and how to protect yourself. Tiffany and Shari will share some tips and trips to enjoying a safe online experience. In addition, Anthony will share his experience with bullying and how he learned to deal with bullies. CE</p>
10	<p>“Education Beyond High School” (Cathy Schmidt- Oakland Schools, Erin Riehle - Project SEARCH, Cathie Yunker- Oakland County Community Mental Health Authority) What happens after high school? What’s post high? How do you prepare for employment or lifelong learning? Attend this workshop to learn what you can do in post high to help prepare for your future. Learn how you can combine learning new work and social skills into a successful employment outcome. Project SEARCH is a one year school-to- work program that takes place entirely at the workplace. Learn the traits from the Project SEARCH model to help you transition to a productive adult life. CE</p>
11	<p>“A Parent’s Perspective on Self-Determination” (A panel of parents from CLS-OC and MORC) <i>Attention All Parents</i> – this session is for you! A frank discussion about parenting your child to lead a self-determined life. As a parent you must allow your child to make decisions and take some risks in order for them to grow and become independent adults. Making one’s own decisions leads to pride, confidence and independence, but sometimes also means learning from one’s mistakes. Hear parent-to-parent perspectives and suggestions on raising children and young adults with disabilities to to lead a self-determined life. CE</p>
12	<p>“Roundtable” (Jeffrey L. Brown, Executive Director- Oakland County CMH) Have your voice heard! Join the Executive Director and other CMH staff to talk about what is working, not working and what isn’t being done that should be to help persons live a quality life. We want to hear what you have to say. Let’s build the future together.</p>

HOW TO REGISTER? Registration information is on the back. You will not receive a confirmation that you have registered. If you sent the form in or left a message please consider yourself registered.

Workshops have limited space and can fill up early. Please plan to arrive early and pick two topics that you would like to attend in case your first choice is full.

NAME

STREET ADDRESS

APT/SUITE NO.

CITY

STATE

ZIP

PHONE NUMBER

E-MAIL (OPTIONAL)

SPECIAL DIETARY NEEDS:

PLEASE INDICATE IF YOU ARE AN EMPLOYEE OF:

MORC, INC.

CLS

Don't let a lack of transportation be your barrier to this conference. Please talk to your support coordinator or case manager to arrange transportation. If you are still unable to secure transportation, please contact Debbie Wisser at (248) 858-0929.

Please return registration forms no later than
Friday, August 5, 2011.

Forms can be submitted via:

Fax:

(248) 452-9793

or

Mail:

Oakland County Community Mental Health Authority

Attn: Debbie Wisser

2011 Executive Hills Blvd.

Auburn Hills, MI 48326

E-mail: RegisterMe@occmha.org

If you have questions or need more information, please contact Debbie Wisser (248) 858-0929