

Change & Choice: Supports Coordination 2004

By Freda Egnal, MRS

Philadelphia Mental Retardation Services announced the opportunity to choose a new supports coordination organization through 8,500 letters mailed to individuals and families currently receiving supports coordination (case management). Effective July 1, 2004, all supports coordination will be shifted from the twelve base service units to the four supports coordination organizations (SCO). Each supports coordination organization will serve approximately 1,500 individuals in their homes and communities.

“I think it is really exciting to have this opportunity to reshape supports coordination,” said MRS Director Kathy Sykes. “Our goal is to help people make choices in their lives that make a difference.”

The city-wide Supports Coordination Advisory Committee has added more family and consumer representation and is involved in developing policies for the new organizations to ensure uniform organization, delivery of quality services, and a smooth transition. Consumer, provider and family representatives were involved in the process from assisting in the early focus groups in 2001 to

assisting in developing the requests for proposals to interviewing the agencies and choosing the four finalists.

The letters, mailed April 21st, included a choice form, notices of public meetings, and a one page description from each new city-wide organization: The Consortium, Partnership for Community Supports, PersonLink, and Quality Progressions. (Copies are on-line at <www.MyCityMyPlace.com>.) As of the May 28th deadline, almost 3,000 people notified MRS of their choice. Those who did not choose will be assigned. In the fall, additional requests can be made to choose or change the agency providing supports coordination.

“A lot of people did make their selection,” said Vanessa Williams, who is the MRS Program Analyst for Quality Progressions. “That was the purpose. We’re very pleased.”

Thirteen hundred people attended the twenty community meetings in April and May where MRS and directors of the four supports coordination organizations introduced themselves and answered

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You voted to keep The Family Forum Newsletter's name. We think the new Masthead reflects Family Forum's on-going commitment to a true Partnership among all stakeholders.

Institute on Disabilities

at Temple University



Congratulations to The Institute on Disabilities: Celebrating 30 Years of Excellence

On May 19, 2004, The Institute of Disabilities at Temple University, celebrated its 30th anniversary. The Anniversary Celebration presented leadership awards to many honorees, including Philadelphians Eleanor Elkin, Audrey Coccia and Maureen Devaney (Family Leadership), Carolyn Morgan, Oscar Drummond Jr. (Leadership in Self-Advocacy), Sieglinde Shapiro and Estelle Richman (Professional Leadership), Denise M. Baker (Student Leadership), and Thom Gilhool and Janet Stotland (Inclusive Education).

The Institute works to change systems so that people can live, learn, work, and play in communities of their choice. The IOD supports individuals with disabilities in their pursuit of interdependence, contribution and inclusion through training, technical assistance, services and supports, research, dissemination, and advocacy.

Visit www.MyCityMyPlace.com
Join the e-Announcements Listserve
Call for New Registrations & Customer Service
215-685-4MRS (4677)

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Let's hear from you!

Please submit articles to: Editor, Family Forum, Mental Retardation Services, Suite 5200, 701 Market St., Philadelphia, PA 19106-1532



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MRS Internet Resource Directory

www.MyCityMyPlace.com
 Family Forum's are archived on the web

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 Just give us credit. Thanks!



SPOTLIGHT

Waiting List News

Waiting List Back in News Big Time

This information edited from a press release by Mark Murphy, Disabilities Law Project

On May 11, the United States Court of Appeals for the Third Circuit issued a significant ruling in *Sabree v. Richman*. The Court said that Medical Assistance recipients may bring lawsuits in federal court to enforce their entitlement to receive specific Medical Assistance services and to receive those services with reasonable promptness.

Three individuals with mental retardation filed this class action lawsuit in federal court in Philadelphia in May 2002 against the Secretary of the Department of Public Welfare (DPW). The plaintiffs lived at home with their families who, due to various circumstances, were no longer able to provide them with the level of care they needed. Despite requests for services, their families were informed that no funding for services was available and they – like thousands of others – would be placed on a waiting list for services.

In their lawsuit, these families alleged that they had an entitlement under the federal Medical Assistance statute to receive community-based residential services in intermediate care facilities (ICF) for persons with mental retardation. The families lost the first suit in District Court and appealed. This time, the Court of Appeals agreed with the plaintiffs. The Court ruled that Congress intended Medical Assistance recipients to enforce their entitlement to services and to receive those services with reasonable promptness. The case will now return to the District Court, where the families will seek to prove that DPW's failure to provide the services sought by families on the waiting list violates the Medical Assistance statute.

Family Forum editorial note: Congratulations to Steve Gold and Ilene Shane, attorneys for the plaintiffs. The entire decision is on the web at www.ca3.uscourts.gov.



On June 8, 2004, (from left) Freda Egnal, Hana Sabree, Len Reisner, and Shelley Yanoff were among the people celebrating the 10th Anniversary of the *Philadelphia Public School Notebook* and the hard work and accomplishments of Philadelphia's activist and advocacy communities to create quality schooling for all of our children. Started in 1994, the *Philadelphia Public School Notebook* is an independent, quarterly newspaper that serves as a voice for parents, students, teachers, and other members of the community who are working for quality and equality in Philadelphia's public schools.

The Waiver Q & A Corner

*Submitted by Vanessa Williams
Program Analyst, MRS*

What services are eligible under the Person-and-Family-Directed-Support Waiver and the Consolidated Waiver??

Here is a list of services that are eligible –

- **Habilitation** – any support or service that helps the individual acquire, retain, or improve his or her skills related to activities of daily living.
- **Transportation** – to and from work.
- **Home/Vehicle Adaptations** – adaptations to make the house accessible, modifications to a vehicle to accommodate an individual's disability. The per household limit is \$20,000.
- **Adaptive Appliances and Equipment** – clinically-prescribed equipment that is not paid for by Medical Assistance (MA), such as durable medical equipment.
- **Therapies** – evaluations and clinically-indicated therapies, including OT, PT, speech, behavior, vision/mobility, visiting nurses, which are not covered by your HMO, including EPSDT, or private insurance.
- **Respite** – relief for the caregiver; maximum of 30 days (24 continuous days) per year; unlimited amounts of time in less than 24-hour blocks of time.
- **Daytime Services** – adult day programs, vocational workshops, and supported employment.
- **Homemaker/Chore Services** – general household activities provided by a trained homemaker, as well as chore services needed to maintain a clean and safe home, including heavy household chores and lawn care.

■ **Personal Support** – assistance needed by the person to plan, organize, and manage community resources.

Got a question? Call Vanessa Williams at 215-685-4618, or email vanessa.williams@phila.gov.

afraid Getting a Job Means Losing Your Benefits?

*By Julia Grant Barol
Pennsylvania Protection & Advocacy*

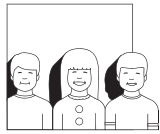
Losing benefits because of getting a job has been one of the scariest aspects of working for people with disabilities. Now you can meet with a benefits Consultant from the Transition To Employment Program (TEP) to get the real information to make a real informed decision. **You will not have to guess about your benefits. You will know ahead of time exactly what to expect and what you should do.**

At PP&A, we have attempted to make the information as available as possible. Education and information is empowerment. Pennsylvania Protection & Advocacy's program provides outreach, and both short-and-long- term planning, for those individuals receiving Supplemental Security Income (SSI) and/or Social Security Disability Insurance (SSDI) who are interested in finding out how their benefits would be affected by work.

You can talk to a representative of PP&A at many local sites. We go where you are used to receiving services to make the process as simple as possible. One of the Philadelphia locations is at The Arc. To make an appointment to speak with Julia Barol, call Wanda Poole, at 215-229-4550, ext. 126, or email wpool@arcppddc.org.



The CHILDREN Are the Bottom Line



*By Oni McMullen, Chair
Right to Education LTF*

My name is Oni
McMullen. I am the

Chairperson of the Philadelphia Right to Education Local Task Force. The primary purpose of the Right to Education Local Task Force is to assist, monitor, improve and strengthen programs and services. The Task Force communicates and monitors special education programs and services so that it can assist and collaborate with the Philadelphia school system to improve service and relationships with students and families.

Over the past thirty-plus years, following the 1972 PARC Consent Decree, the special education system has improved greatly in Pennsylvania and in Philadelphia. Children with mental disabilities are entitled to a free appropriate public school education (FRAPE). Unfortunately, there are still children who are without services, or who have slipped between the cracks in the system due to lack of knowledge of the law, red tape, or because the School District does not have the resources to provide for this ever-growing population. This is no simple dilemma. It will take the cooperative effort of not just school personnel, students and parents, but of governmental and professional agencies, self-advocates, and anyone who desires to help make Philadelphia a place where all children have the right to belong, to excel, and to learn.

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About Oni McMullen: Philadelphia Right to Education LTF's Chair

Oni McMullen is a single parent of a seventeen-year-old son, Daniel, who has autism. As in so many families, Oni became involved in the disabilities movement because of her son's disability. In a "former life," she was a mid-range systems engineer specialist for IBM. When Daniel started school, she left IBM, became a classroom volunteer, and never looked back.

Oni is one of those parents who sees something that needs to be done and sets out to get it done. She worked at Parents Union as a parent trainer and advocate. She was in the first pilot program of C2P2, which she credits to "really opening me up to the needs of individuals." The list of activities and groups to which she has added her talents is long and varied. The latest is, of

course, is her involvement in the re-birthing of the Philadelphia Intermediate Unit's Right to Education Local Task Force.

Several years ago, Oni was in a very bad accident. "I became disabled. I used a walker and was in a partial hospitalization program for a while. It was a really rough time for me," she said, clearly showing the emotion of the memory. Then she shifts focus to her son. "My accident helped to make Daniel more independent. I was depending on him. He really blossomed; I'm so proud of him," she says with tears in her eyes.

Hana Sabree got Oni active again after her accident. She began to volunteer at Vision for Equality. "That re-awakened my desire to make a difference," Oni said. "By nature I am an analyst and visionary. Just give me an issue or topic, and I can put together a whole program to make something happen. I have a deep compassion and such a desire to make things right, that I just can't stand by and do nothing."

Children are the Bottom Line

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The Right to Education Local Task Force in Philadelphia has been dormant since the late 1990's, although many attempts were made over the years to make it active. This year Mike Smith, executive director, and Wanda Poole, advocacy and family services director, of The Arc of Philadelphia, initiated and facilitated a group to re-form the Local Task Force with the funding and support of the School District's Office of Specialized Services.

We set up a planning team to do the detailed work of getting our LTF up and running. I feel we really have a sound foundation. We all are cooperating, contributing, and working as one toward a single purpose. We have had attendees from the Black, White, Hispanic, and Asian communities. We are looking forward to other ethnic communities to come out. We want the Charter schools and Approved Private schools to join us. It is our desire to have a complete representation of all the communities and special education providers in Philadelphia. Also, I can truly say that people in the Office of Specialized Services (the special ed department for Philadelphia) – Dr. Richard Glean, Nancy Erskine and their staff, and Joe Pardini – have been supportive.

We need YOU to become involved. The education of your children is at stake. This is our mission. This is why the RTE Local Task Force needs to exist and be active. We volunteer our time for the quality of life for our children and future generations. The children are the bottom line and are at the heart of all we do.



If you would like more information, or have a need you would like us to address at a Local Task Force meeting, please call the RTE Local Task Force hotline via The Arc at 215-229-4550, extension 2789. Leave a message. We will get right back to you.

Your Voter Power

Liberty Resources is holding a six-week training, from 1 to 4 p.m., every Tuesday, beginning September 14 and ending October 19, to help you use your Voter Power!

Do you know how your local government works? Can you name your State Representative or Senator? How is a law made? Very often, it is unanswered questions like these that keep potential voters away from the polls. Voter Power will cover all aspects of government to provide you an insight into the viewpoints of this year's candidates. Accessibility to polling places and accommodations for casting ballots will also be addressed.

To pre-register, call Fran at 215-634-2000, ext. 225, or email franfulton@libertyresources.org.



How to Register to Vote

- ❑ You should re-register if you have moved, changed your name, or have not voted since before 1992.
- ❑ Register in person at your county registration office - in Philadelphia on the fifth floor of Riverview Place at 520 N. Delaware Ave. (at Spring Garden Street), or in Room 142 City Hall.
- ❑ You can register to vote when applying for or renewing a motor vehicle driver's license or in state welfare offices, vocational rehabilitation offices and armed Services locations. You can also obtain a mail application form from your county registration office or at your neighborhood post office, library or state liquor store, or download it from the Federal Election Commission <<http://www.fec.gov/votregis/vr.htm>>.
- ❑ However you obtain the form, be sure to complete the application in full and mail it to 520 N. Delaware Avenue, 5th Floor, Philadelphia, PA 19123.

This information is from John Fischer's web page at <http://philadelphia.about.com/cs/government/ht/register_vote_p.htm>.

▲ Picture is Worth a Thousand Words: JEVS Community Collaborative Undergoes a Transformation

By Amanda Freese DeFazio, JEVS

An ordinary building in Germantown just got a face lift and its effect can be felt inside the walls and throughout the neighborhood. While JEVS Community Collaborative, formerly the Work Adjustment Center (WAC II), continues to focus on day services for adults with developmental disabilities, a new program model was developed over the past year to increase emphasis on community integration. This past spring, plans got underway with the Philadelphia Department of Recreation Mural Arts Program (MAP) to take the first step in creating more visibility within the neighborhood with the inception of a mural on its facade.

“The mural was important because we wanted to change our look,” says Robin Mack, Director of Community Support Services at JEVS. “The neighbors didn’t shun us, but they were unsure about what we did and thought we were an employment center.” The creation of the mural was an ideal way to get both consumers and members of the community involved.

The mural is aptly called “Ability to Fly,” a title coined by its artist and visionary Ana Uribe. Ana, of Columbian descent, says her inspiration for the mural was two-fold. She was influenced by Marc Chagall, an artist well known for his bold use of color and dreamlike images of people flying. Ana

was also inspired by events in her childhood. As a young girl, her mother made her take ballet lessons so she would be well-mannered and graceful, but she was the worst in the class. “I used to go to bed and dream that I was so good at dancing,” says Ana. “I wasn’t just the best – I would dance then start flying! So I thought it was a very good way to portray disabilities because I saw dancing as my disability.”



As part of the new vision for JEVS Community Collaborative, it was important to include the consumers, who helped paint the mural every day. Ana has been painting murals since 1973, but this was her first experience

working with people with disabilities. “I really enjoyed working with [the consumers],” says Ana. “In the beginning, I thought it was going to be very hard. Instead, I forgot about their disabilities and started to see all the love they have and all the love that everybody has for them.”

The vision for JEVS Community Collaborative is one of a thriving community center where people with disabilities and members of the community can grow and learn together. The program wants to increase opportunities for collaboration and develop new center-based and community-based activities that are all-inclusive. With the creation of the mural, JEVS Community Collaborative is making great strides towards realizing their vision. For more information about JEVS Community Collaborative, call 215-844-7700, or visit our web site at www.jevs.org.



Change and Choice

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questions. More meetings are planned to continue the dialogue between individuals and families and Philadelphia Mental Retardation Services. Many issues were raised in the first round of community meetings, especially the numbers of people who still need service, the importance of documenting need and having good communication, and that families and individuals must sit at the table when decisions are made that affect their lives.

Rosette Proodian, who was part of a committee of parents and consumers who interviewed applicants for high-level staff in the new organizations, said, "I think parents felt good about the choice. If I'm not happy, I have the opportunity to switch. We definitely do need system change, and I'm hoping it will work out. Parents need to be involved though. They should get on the governing and advisory boards."

Individuals and families may request a copy of their recent records from their "old" BSU, particularly their support plans. To carry out the commitment made to all staff providing supports coordination that they would have a job in the new system, MRS organized several job information sessions. The four new organizations are still interviewing and hiring staff. They are also developing advisory committees, boards and encouraging individual and family participation.

The BSUs are completing In-Home Waiver Plans and FDSS plans for the next fiscal year (July 1, 2004, to June 30, 2005) and are also making payments for summer camp. To aid in a smooth transition, the city-wide FDSS Steering Committee will continue to meet during the summer and the FDSS advisory committees can obtain assistance to continue to function as support groups and important links in the communications network during the next fiscal year.

Supports Coordination Organizations' Contacts

**The Consortium: Jean Merkl, Program Dir.
26 S. 40th Street, 19104
215-596-8100 x1324**

The Consortium is a distinctive provider with exceptional leadership that has served all who have come to our doors through the years. We are committed and promise to work closely with you and your family as you exercise your life's choices.

**Partnership for Community Supports:
Carol Frangicetto, Executive Director
8220 Castor Avenue (temporary), 19152
215-728-4637—cfrangicetto@pfcssupports.org**

Our mission is to "provide quality Supports Coordination assuring that individuals and their families have choice and control so they can lead a full and rich life in their community. Partnership for Community Supports will do this by utilizing a person centered planning approach consistent with the principles of "Everyday Lives."

**Person Link: Eileen Keenan, Prgm Director
210 S. Washington Sq. 7th floor, 19106
215-985-6291 – eileen@phmc.org**

PersonLink's approach is based upon working in a positive and cooperative manner directly with individuals and their families, with direct service providers, with funding agencies, with service systems and with other types of community supports. PersonLink, as its name implies, works to link individual consumers and their families to a variety of resources with the goal of providing choices in available services and supports to meet the individual consumer's needs and desired outcomes.

**Quality Progressions: Joel Goldberg, Ex Dir
125 S. 9th Street, Suite 400, 19107
215-939-4147—upperdublinjoel9@msn.com**

Quality Progressions is about providing choices and listening to the people we support and their family. Our goal is for people to achieve greater inclusion and participation in their communities and to have better lives as determined by their individualized plan.

DID YOU

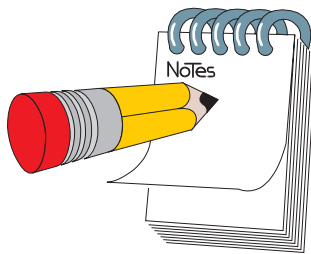
▶ **Family Friends** – matches adult volunteers (50+ years) with children 12 years and younger who have special needs. Family Friends volunteers are carefully screened, trained, and supervised. They are people who love children and want an ongoing relationship with a child and family. A program of the Center for Intergenerational Learning at Temple University, call 215-204-3193 or 215-204-3199 for more information.

▶ “Family Friends” Coloca en parejas adultos voluntarios mayores de 50 años con niños de 12 años o menores los cuales tienen necesidades especiales. Los voluntarios de Family Friends son cuidadosamente verificados, entrenados y supervisados. Ellos son personas que aman a los niños y quieren tener una continua amistad con los niños y la familia. Un programa del Centro de Aprendizaje Intergeneracional en la Universidad de Temple, para más información favor de llamar al 215-204-3193 o 215-204-3199.

▶ **Medicaid Waivers** – The National Association of State Medicaid Directors keeps track of waiver programs at <www.nasmd.org>. This is a very informative website that contains all sorts of information, data, and statistics. It also contains data on children enrolled in MR/DD 1915c waivers by state, age and program.

▶ “Medicaid Waivers” La Asociación Nacional de Directores Estatales de “Medicaid” mantiene un registro de los programas de los “Waivers” en <www.nasmd.org>. Esta página de la Internet es bien informativa y contiene toda clase de información, datos y estadísticas. También contiene datos de los niños matriculados en MR/DD 1915c Waivers por estado, edad y programa.

▶ **Money Skills** – The Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation (FDIC) has launched a free training program



KNOW?

called Money Smart, geared to teach adults how to enhance money and banking skills. The program consists of 10 instructor-led modules on basic financial topics and presents an interesting opportunity for organizations interested in training persons with disabilities.

Out of the 49 million Americans with disabilities, one in three persons live at or below the poverty level. The National Disability Institute is the latest in a growing number of organizations to adopt the Money Smart program to improve access to financial education for persons with disabilities and their families. To learn more about Money Smart, visit <www.fdic.gov/consumers/consumer/moneysmart/index.html> or to order the Money Smart training curriculum for free, visit <www2.fdic.gov/moneysmartregister/index.asp>.

▶ **Destrezas de Dinero-La Corporación Federal de Seguro Depositario (FDIC)** ha lanzado un programa de entrenamiento gratuito llamado “Dinero Inteligente” encaminado a educar a los adultos en como aumentar el dinero y las destrezas bancarias. El programa consiste en 10 módulos de instrucción en tópicos financieros básicos y presenta una interesante oportunidad para organizaciones interesadas en entrenar personas con impedimentos. De los 49 millones de

americanos con impedimentos uno de cada tres vive en o por debajo del nivel de pobreza. El Instituto Nacional de Incapacidad es el más reciente en el

creciente número de organizaciones que están adoptando el programa “Dinero Inteligente” para mejorar el acceso a la educación financiera para personas con impedimentos y sus familiares. Para aprender acerca de “Dinero Inteligente” visite: <www.fdic.gov/consumers/consumer/moneysmart/index.html> o para ordenar gratuitamente el plan de estudios visite: <www2.fdic.gov/moneysmartregister/index.asp>.

Visit www.MyCityMyPlace.com
for resources

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Any websites noted in The Family Forum are provided for your information and are not rated or reviewed. We welcome your input about useful sites you have visited. Email familyforum@phila.gov.

Did You Know?

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▶ **Remove Illegally Posted Signs** – Bring an illegally posted sign (we buy houses, lose weight now, etc.) to the Town Watch Office on the 6th floor of the Municipal Services Building with the location written on the back of the sign. Town Watch will reimburse you 50 cents for each eligible sign. Contact Town Watch at 215-686-1543. Source: Phila More Beautiful Committee newsletter.

▶ **Remueva los letreros colocados ilegalmente.** Traiga a la oficina de "Town Watch" en el sexto piso del edificio de Servicios Municipales los letreros colocados ilegalmente (we buy houses, lose weight now, etc.) con la dirección escrita en la parte de atrás. Town Watch le reembolsará 50 centavos por cada letrero legible. Contacte Town Watch al 215-686-1543. Fuente: Hoja informativa del comité de Philadelphia más Bonita.

▶ **Promoting Literacy** – One Book, One Philadelphia is a joint project of Mayor Street's office and the Free Library. Its goal is to promote literacy and community by everyone reading and discussing the same book. Read *The Color of Water*, by James McBride, and then join a book discussion or special event. For information, call the Central Library at 215-686-5322, or visit <www.library.phila.gov>. Source: Phila More Beautiful Committee newsletter.

▶ **Fomentando la Alfabetización.** One Book, One Philadelphia es un proyecto conjunto de la oficina del Alcalde Street y las bibliotecas gratuitas. La meta es promover la alfabetización y la comunidad con cada uno leyendo y discutiendo el mismo libro. Lea "The Color of Water" by James McBride, y luego únase a la discusión del libro o evento especial. Para información, llame a la Biblioteca Central al 215 686 5322, o visite <www.library.phila.gov> Fuente: Hoja informativa del Comité de Philadelphia más Bonita.

▶ **Horsing Around** – Visit the Chamounix Equestrian Center for a one hour tour to introduce children to horses and stables. Open to school and community groups, cost is \$5 per child. Call 215-877-4419 or visit <www.worktoride.net>.

Thanks to Emilio Pacheco for the Spanish translation.

Who are the people at Mental Retardation Services to contact about the new Supports Coordination Organizations?

"We are excited about working with the new Supports Coordination organizations," Elayne Blender, Acting Manager of Community Supports and Registration, said. "They are led by enthusiastic and competent people who are committed to helping people lead *Everyday Lives*. The Program Analysts (listed below) will be working closely with the organizations and their consumers and families. Please call them if you have any concerns about your services and supports that cannot be answered by the organization staff." "Please be patient," Elayne requested. "Staff are attending training and are meeting many of you for the first time. You should, however expect respectful and prompt responses to your concerns and questions. Let's work together to make our new Supports Coordination system succeed."

- ❑ Elayne Blender, Acting Manager of Community Supports and Registration – 215-685-5997
- ❑ Carrie Wise, Program Analyst – 215-685-5995 for Personlink at PHMC
- ❑ Vanessa Williams, Program Analyst – 215-685-4618 for Quality Progressions
- ❑ Sharon Young, Program Analyst – 215-685-5996 for The Consortium
- ❑ Deborah Groom, Program Analyst – 215-685-5999 for Partnership for Community Supports

The telephone number for new registrations (for a person who was not previously registered at a BSU) is 215-685-4MRS (4667).

▶ **Cabalgando.** Visite el Centro Ecuestre Chamounix para una hora de excursión para que los niños interactúen con los caballos y establos. Abierto para escuelas y grupos comunitarios, costo es \$5 por niño. Llame al 215-877-4419 o visite <www.worktoride.net>.

Medicaid Information Site

Medicaid is the most valuable public resource for children and adults with disabilities to access health and long-term supports and services in the community. The nation's largest program serving the needs of low-income Americans with disabilities, Medicaid serves nearly 11 million people with disabilities, of whom 7 million are under age 65. With so many federal policy decisions being made related to Medicaid, AUCD has created this site to help network members and the public navigate all the information about new proposals to reform Medicaid and information about legislation and public policy changes related to Olmstead. **Website of the Association of University Centers in Disabilities <www.aucd.org/aucd_medicaid.htm>.**

Parents Wanted for Survey

IRIS Media, Inc. creates research-based educational materials for teachers, families and adults with developmental disabilities. They are currently looking for parents of adult children with cognitive or intellectual disabilities to participate in a research project on future planning. Parents will receive planning materials to evaluate and can earn up to \$100 for their participation. For more information, parents can phone Lisa Cassidy, toll free, at 877-343-4747, ext. 204; email her at <lisa@lookiris.com> or check the website at <www.lookiris.com/concern.html>.

All Buses Accessible

By the time you read this, all SEPTA buses will be accessible. That doesn't mean, probably, you won't encounter problems. Liberty Resources advises you carry with you a form they have developed to help you gather information to make a complaint.



Call Liberty Resources at 215-634-2000 x238 to get a copy of the form.

The City of Philadelphia 2004 Summer Camps Directory Available

The compiling of the information included in the 2004 Summer Camps Directory was a collaborative effort between the Philadelphia Department of Human Services, the Department of Recreation, the School District of Philadelphia and Philadelphia Safe and Sound. The directory features information on an amazing array of fun and educational opportunities including city swimming pools, golf and tennis camps, computer labs, dance classes, art camps and hundreds of other cool things to do on a hot summer day.

The 2004 Summer Camps Directory will be available at all branches of the Philadelphia Free Library, Recreation Centers and Health Centers. You may also request a mailed copy of the directory by calling the Department of Human Services at (215) 683-4347. An electronic version of the directory is available on the City of Philadelphia's website under "Features" (<www.phila.gov>), or <http://philadelphia.about.com/od/familyfun/a/summer_camp.htm>.

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Philadelphia Area Treasures to Visit

By Annie Houser

On the Parkway

☆ **Philadelphia Art Museum**, 26th St & Ben Franklin Pkwy, 215-763-8100, 215-684-7600 TDD. Open Tues to Sun, 10 - 5pm, and Wed & Fri nights until 8:45 pm. Admission on Sundays is FREE with donation. \$10/adults; \$7/students & seniors. Showcases paintings, sculpture, and architectural settings from Europe, Asia, and the Americas. Workshops are available for people with special needs. Free, hands-on, family-oriented programs on Sundays. Cafeteria and Gift Shop. Listening systems and sign language interpreters available. Escorts are free. Touch tours available for people with visual disabilities. Call Marissa Clark at 215-684-7602 to help plan your trip and to access the discounted rates. Parking is \$5 on weekends; \$4 with a handicapped tag. Directions: Take Kelly Drive to main entrance on North Side up the driveway and follow signs around the museum to accessible parking. < www.philamuseum.org > .

☆ **Side Trip:** The Azalea Garden, on the West side of the museum, is a relaxing place to picnic. Paved paths lead you through the garden to Lloyd Hall where you will find accessible bathrooms and a snack shop.

☆ **Academy of Natural Sciences**, 1900 Ben Franklin Pkwy, 215-299-1000. Open daily 10-4:30pm; weekends until 5pm. \$9/adults; \$8/kids. Stroll among live butterflies, pet live snakes, turtles and farm animals. Use 19th St. entrance to drop off passengers. Call 215-299-1060 to request parking pass to use free metered parking. Group rates for 10 or more. Cafeteria and gift shop. < www.acnatsci.org >

☆ **Franklin Institute Science Museum**, 20th & the Parkway, 215-448-1200. See the history of technology.

Historic Day Trips

Plan ahead and you can see many of Philadelphia's historic sites in one day.

☆ **Independence Visitors Center**, 6th & Market Sts, 215-965-7676. Open daily 8:30-5pm. FREE. Offers tours and movies about Philadelphia. Underground parking is \$13 for day or take public transportation. Treat yourself to a carriage ride, 215-923-8516. < www.gophila.com > .

☆ **Elfreth's Alley**, located on 2nd St, between Race & Arch Sts. 215-574-0560. Open Mon-Sat, 10-5pm; Sun 12-5pm. \$2/adults; \$1/kids; 124 2nd St is FREE. The oldest continuously occupied residential street in the nation. Craft demonstrations in chair and papermaking. One historic home with garden is accessible. < www.elfrethsalley.org >

☆ **Fireman's Hall**, 147 N 2nd St., 215-923-1438. Open Tues-Sat, 9-4pm. FREE. Around the corner from Elfreth's Alley you will find antique fire trucks and firemen ready to explain the importance of fire

safety. Accessible bathrooms.

< www.ushistory.org/tour/tour.fireman.htm >

☆ **Betsy Ross House**, 239 Arch St, 215-686-1252. Open daily Apr-Oct, 10 - 5 pm., See where the American Flag was made. Look for performers in the courtyard. Gift shop, exhibition room, two rooms in household and bathrooms are accessible. < www.betsyrosshouse.org > .

☆ **Independence Seaport Museum**, 211 S. Columbus Blvd, 215-925-5439. Interactive exploration of Philadelphia's heritage as a port city.

☆ **Liberty Bell**, 6th & Market Sts, 215-965-7676. Open daily 9-5pm. Video presentations and exhibits. < www.nps.gov >

☆ **National Constitution Center**, 525 Arch St, 215-409-6600. Mon-Fri, 9:30-5pm, \$6/adults; \$5/students & seniors. Special needs services. Theater shows run twice each hour. Visitors can vote for the favorite all-time president and be sworn in as president. Or, sign today's Constitution and reaffirm what it means to be an American. Lunch area and gift shop. < www.constitutioncenter.org > .

☆ **United States Mint**, 151 N. Independence Mall East, 215-408-0114. Largest mint in the world.

Day Trips in the Delaware Valley

☆ **American Helicopter Museum**, West Chester. 610-436-9600, Open Wed - Sat, 10-5pm, and Sun 12-5pm. \$6/adults; \$5/seniors; \$4/kids. Over 35 helicopters, some of which you can climb into. See the only V-22 Osprey on public display. Helicopter rides available the third Sat. of each month, 11-3pm, for 35\$/person. Gift shop and picnic area. Directions: 76 WEST to 202 South, take Boot Rd exit and turn left off of ramp. Right on Wilson Dr. Left onto Airport Rd and right on American Rd. Signs at every turn. Drive time: 1.15 hr. < www.helicoptermuseum.org >

☆ **Side Trip:** QVC Studio, Open daily 10-4pm. \$7.50/adults; \$5/kids. 1-800-600-9900. A behind the scenes look at the QVC Studio. < www.qvctours.com >

☆ **Amish Farm & House, Lancaster**, 717-394-6185. Open daily. \$6.95/adults; \$6.25/seniors; \$4.25/kids. Self guided tours for 1st floor of house and farm are FREE. Learn about the simple lifestyle of the Amish people and explore a 25 acre working farm complete with animals, crops, barns, a windmill, and more. Try your hand at milking "Buttercup" the cow. Amish buggy rides are available Wed - Sat for \$3 or less per person. Directions: 76WEST to 202 South to 30 West. Drive 35 miles. First driveway after covered bridge. Drive time: 1.5 hr. < www.amishfarmandhouse.com > .

☆ **Side Trip:** Kitchen Kettle Village, Intercourse, PA, 800-732-3538. Open Mon - Sat, from 9-5pm. Gift shops and Amish fixin's galore. < www.kitchenkettle.com >

☆ **Bowman's Hill Wildflower Preserve, New Hope, PA**, 215-862-2924. Open daily 9-5pm. \$5/adults; \$3/seniors; \$2/kids. Enjoy picturesque woodlands, meadows, a pond with wildflowers, birds and wildlife. Accessible trails. Indoor exhibit has a wildflower

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REPEATABLES

We have discontinued most Repeatables for the summer months.

FDSS Steering Committee will meet on July 29 and August 19. Call 215-685-5997 for time and place.

WEDNESDAYS

☆ 3rd Wed 12-2pm Youth Group, Liberty Resources, 1341 N. Delaware, 215-634-2000 x221

FRIDAYS

☆ 1st & 3rd Fri 7-9pm Easter Seals Phila teen social club, 3975 Conshohocken Ave, Kendra Brooks, 610-565-2353 x231



Dionne and Chris starting out for Longwood Gardens.

On the Go with PDDC's Community Program

My name is Bernadette Lennon. Our son, Christopher, who is 31 years old, has developmental disabilities. He attends the CATCH Adult Day Program, and he has been there many years with wonderful people who have also been there a long time.

Last year Chris and I talked about maybe him getting into a program where he would be out in the community one or two days each week. After discussing it with everyone involved, we decided to request this in his ISP. We knew it would involve a bit of paperwork, and an addendum, but thanks to everyone involved it finally came to pass.

Chris is now going out one day a week into the community. He's involving himself in the local libraries, going on trips, and really enjoying himself with the help of PDDC's recreation and respite program. Eventually, we hope to work this into two-days a week out in the community and three days at his Adult Program. It has proven beneficial both to Chris and to us, his parents. Thanks to

Day Trips

Con't. from Page 12

video. Gift shop and picnic areas. Directions: I-95 NORTH to New Hope Exit 51. Left onto Taylorsville Rd for 7 miles. Left onto River Rd and go 2.5 miles. Left into the Preserve. Drive time: 1.30 hr. < www.bhwp.org >

- ☆ **Side trip:** Canal Boat Ride, New Hope, 215-862-0758. Daily rides \$10/adult, \$8/child. Take a leisurely ride in a mule drawn boat and listen to traditional American songs. < www.canalboats.com > .
- ☆ **Elmwood Park Zoo, Norristown,** 610-277-3825. Open daily from 10-5pm. \$7.25/adults; \$5.50/seniors; \$4.95/kids. Wild and domestic animals including jaguars, bobcats, alligators farm animals and ponies to ride. Picnic area, food concessions, and gift shop. Directions: 76WEST to 202 North to Norristown. Left on Johnson Highway and follow signs. Drive time: 45 min. < www.elmwoodparkzoo.com > .

- ☆ **Longwood Gardens, Kennet Square,** 610-388-1000. Open daily 9-6pm. \$14/adults (\$10 on Tues); \$6/youth (16-20), \$2/kids (6-12). Acres of gardens, and woodlands with paved walkways leading you to greenhouses, fountains, sculptural gardens, and a swan lake. Look for the Festival of the Fountains on Tues, Thurs, and Sat nights. Cafeteria and gift shop. Bring your own lunch. Directions: 76WEST to 476 South to Rt. 1 South. Continue 15 miles. Entrance is on right. Drive time: 1 hr. < www.longwoodgardens.org > .

- ☆ **Brandywine River Museum, Chadds Ford,** 610-388-2700. Open daily 9:30-4pm. \$8/adults, \$5/seniors & children. Audio tours \$3. See American landscape painting and the art history of the Brandywine Valley. Located a few miles north of Longwood Gardens on Route 1.

- ☆ **Paws Farm Nature Center, Mt. Laurel, NJ,** 856-778-8795. Open Wed – Sun, 10-4pm. \$5/adults; \$3/kids. Butterfly garden, nature trails and a dairy barn with miniature horses and pot-bellied pigs. Directions: Ben Franklin Bridge to Admiral Wilson Blvd. Follow signs to Route 38 East past Cherry Hill and Moorestown Malls. Continue on Route 38 East past signs for Route 295 and begin looking for Hartford Road. Turn right onto Hartford Rd. Go to the 2nd light and turn left on Hainesport-Mt. Laurel Rd. PAWS is ¼ mile on left. Drive time: 1.15 hr. < www.pawfarm.com > .

For more information on ticketing and other trips, visit < www.gophila.com > .

PDDC's program, Chris is enjoying a little of everything, regardless of his disabilities.



For information about PDDC's In-Home and Community-Based Services, call Dionne Beaman at 215-229-4550 ext. 180, dbeaman@arcpcddc.org

Sun

Mon

Tue

Wed

Thu

Fri

Sat

July 2004

4 INDEPENDENCE DAY



Sunoco Welcome America Celebration on the Parkway All day events, vendors, music, fireworks FREE

5 Tour the Phillies' new home. See the dugouts, bullpens, Diamond Club & Majestic Clubhouse. \$5-\$8 three tours daily. 215-952-8367



6 Liberty Resources holds summer workshops on Independent Living, Nutrition, & Advocacy. Info 215-634-2000 x 225 Under the Stars movie "Wizard of Oz" at Mercer Museum in Doylestown 215-345-0210. Admission

7 Saul Brody and Friends (Bluegrass) play noonday tunes in the Gallery at Market East 12-1:30p - 7/7-10 Autism Society Natl. Conference in Seattle, WA 1-800-3AUTISM



1 Tall Ship tours 10a-5p at Penns Landing Great Plaza 215-922-2fun - Y100 Brings the Rock to You 7-9p at Penns Landing Great Plaza



2 *Easter Seals - Chicago and Earth, Wind and Fire at the Tweeter Center 6:30p. Tickets by Ticketmaster 215-336-2000

3 All-You-Can-Eat Ice Cream Festival 12-5p Music, Ice Cream, and FUN!! Admission. Festival Pier at Penns Landing 215-922-2FUN



11 Hispanic Fiesta 12p-8p at Penns Landing Great Plaza 215-922-2FUN



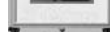
12 East Coast Summer Series on Aging Conference at Sheraton University City 7/12-15 1800-537-9728



13 Center City Spikes Volleyball Tournament 5:30-7:30p 4 Penn Center, 16th and JFK 215-440-5500 -AHEAD 2004 Conference: Leading the dance: networking for college students with disabilities for info 781-788-0003



14 Bastille Day Celebrate Mickey Mouse: 75 inspEARations at Penns Landing, Walnut Plaza. 15 unique statues by Mickey's biggest Philadelphia fans FREE



15 Employment Conference: Latinos with Disabilities in Chicago, IL info 866-367-5361 \$150 fee.



16 *Easter Seals Singer/Songwriter weekend with 88.5 6p-9p at the Great Plaza at Penns Landing \$10

17 Renaissance Artist Puppet Theater Company presents "Alice Through the Looking Glass" at Morris Arboretum 215-247-5777



18 Chocolate weekend at The Academy of Natural Sciences, pottery making, chocolate tasting, live animals. 215-299-1000



19 TITANIC display at the Philadelphia Seaport Museum featuring artifacts, documents, photographs, and personal belongings of passengers. 215-413-8658

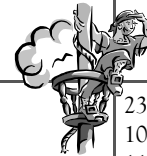
20 Center City Spikes Volleyball Tournament 5:30-7:30p 8th and Market Streets 215-440-5500



21 Mornings in the Garden: Herb Society Members Tyler Arboretum workshop 10-11:30a -7/22-25 NDSS National 25th year Conference. Empowering, Reaching, Achieving 1-800-317-7554



22 Pirate Ship exhibit at the Philadelphia Seaport Museum. Try on costumes, learn to duel and fire a cannon 12p-5p - Hazardous waste disposal day 9a-3p 215-662-1663



23 7/24 Smith Playground 105th Birthday Celebration 11a-3p. All are welcome! 215-765-4365



24 2004 National Youth w/ Disabilities Leadership Conference in Wash., DC 1800-410-7069 -SE Cherokee celebration 12-8p. Crafts, dancing, and authentic Native American foods at Penns Landing Great Plaza

25 Executive Chef Eddie Hales cooks up some chocolate at the Academy of Natural Sciences 215-299-1000



26 ADA Anniversary "Life within the Family" at the oldest Presidential house Deshler-Morris House noon-4p, 215-596-1748

27 James A. Michener Art Museum Exhibit: Red, Hot and Blue- a salute to America Musicals 215-340-9800

28 Mid-day Jazz break with Jazz East 12-1:30p 1717 Arch Street, Bell Atlantic Tower 215-440-5500















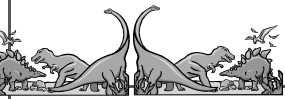
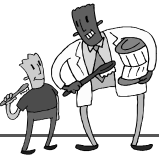

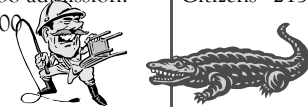
29 *FDSS



30 Glass Marbles exhibit at the National Liberty Museum. Hundreds of glass marbles from around the world- flowers, critters, swirls and more. 215-925-2800

31



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<p>1 The Peanut Butter and Jam Jazz session for children 2-4p 215-922-2FUN</p> 	<p>2 Take part in experiencing the citywide museum theme for the summer of 2004-Nothingness! 35 area museums participate in the Big Nothing exhibit. Info call Phila Museum of Art 215-763-8100</p>	<p>3 Performance Under the Stars movie "Jailhouse Rock" combines rock and roll history and family fun. 6:30p Mercer Museum 215-345-0210</p> 	<p>4 Enjoy Che Che Cole' salsa on the Independence Visitor Center lawn 5th and Market St. 215-440-5500</p> 	<p>5 Caliente Concerts 7-9p Salsa and Merengue down at the Penns Landing Great Plaza. Free dance lessons given at 6p by Grupo Fuego. 215-922-2Fun</p>	<p>6 *Easter Seals WJJZ Smooth Jazz 7-8:30p at Penns Landing Great Plaza. Steve Cole performing with dance instruction by Soul Line TV</p>	<p>7 Behind the scenes tour of Becura a WWII submarine 12-1p reservations recommended. Speak with veterans about their experiences at Seaport Museum 215-413-8658</p> 
<p>8 The Philadelphia Russian American Chamber of Commerce presents the Russian Mosaic Festival 12p-8p at Penns Landing Great Plaza</p> 	<p>9 Disability Rights Tour will be traveling to New York to campaign for the Human Rights of People with Disabilities. For info call 202-661-4722</p> 	<p>10 The Institute for achievement of Human Potential holds a lecture on brain injured children 8/10-11. 8801 Stenton Ave 215-233-2050</p>	<p>11 - R is for Rosenbach at the Rosenbach Museum and Library 50th Anniversary exhibition 10a-5p. 150 rare and unusual objects. 215-732-1600</p>	<p>12 Leadership Exchange in Arts and Disability at JFK Center for Performing Arts Wash., DC. Workshops, performances, and Awards Dinner 202-416-8727</p> 	<p>13 Hope Lodge and Mather Mill outdoor summer concert on the front lawn of the farmhouse 7p 215-646-1595 553 S. Bethlehem Pike -Olympic Games begin in Athens, Greece thru 8/29</p>	<p>14 PA Parent "Back to School" Fair 11a-6p Learn about education options for children. FREE. Penns Landing Great Plaza 215-922-2FUN</p> 
<p>15 Tucker Tales Puppet Theater at the Walnut Plaza 2-4pm 215-922-2fun - 12p-8p Caribbean Festival at Penns Landing Great Plaza. Island food, rhythmic beats, dancing and crafts</p> 	<p>16 Almost nothing to see here... Emerging and internationally renowned artists will bring their masterpieces to the Gershman Y, prepare to have your senses heightened. 215-446-3001</p>	<p>17 It's what's outside that counts! The Gershman Y presents "Facades" an architectural landscapes photograph exhibit. 215-446-3001</p> 	<p>18 *Liberty Resources Youth Group Sidewalk Soundbites afternoon concert. Series: Nate Murray (soul) 12-1:30p 1818 Market Street 215-440-5500</p>	<p>19 *FDSS Baseball in Philadelphia at the Atwater Kent Museum. Explore the history of the great Athletics of Philadelphia Phillies and The Negro League. 215-685-4830</p> 	<p>20 *Easter Seals Asociacion de Musicos Latino Americanos present live Latin music at the Mercado Farmers Market 6-9pm 215-426-0388 Front and Palmer Street</p> 	<p>21 Festival of India 12-8p at the Penns Landing Great Plaza for food, music, folk dancing, and celebration of Indian Culture</p>
<p>22 The Philadelphia Zoo presents Children's Special Sundays 2-4p at Walnut Plaza 215-922-2fun</p> 	<p>23 Norman Rockwell's America at the Atwater Kent Musuem explores through 335 of Rockwell's Saturday Evening Post covers, 1916-1963 \$3 215-685-4830 15 S. 7th Street</p>	<p>24 Nothing to do! Visit the Big Nothing art exhibit at the Institute of Contemporary Art \$3. City-wide collaboration of art that explores themes of nothingness 215-898-7108 36th and Sansom Streets</p>	<p>25 Advancing Health Promotion for People with Disabilities 8/25-27 Baltimore, MD for info on registration 301-545-6140</p> 	<p>26 Take the Schuykill Stroll a walking tour of Boathouse Row, discover area sculpture and Fairmount Waterworks. 6-7:30p \$6</p>	<p>27 43rd Annual Philadelphia Folk Festival 8/27-29 Crafts, children's activities, & more than 40 acts at Old Poole Farm 215-247-1300</p> 	<p>28 African American Cultural Extravaganza 12-8p Art, food, crafts, and entertainment. Penns Landing Great Plaza 215-922-2fun -Hazardous waste collection day 9a-3p 215-662-1663</p>
<p>29 Children's Special Sundays presents Dinosaurs! 2-4p at the Walnut Plaza 215-922-2fun</p>	<p>30 Boscov's Safari Quest at the Philadelphia Zoo, features new African animals, live entertainment, guides, and storytelling. Free with zoo admission. 215-243-1100</p> 	<p>31 Visit the Rosenbach Museum and Library for two new exhibits through September "Privacy Writes" and "Cities without Citizens" 215-732-1600</p>	<h1>August 2004</h1>			

PDDC

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Hold the Date
NOVEMBER 3, 2004



13th Annual My City My Place Brighter Futures Awards

David Hingsburger, Keynote Speaker
Resources ✦ Awards
Workshops ✦ Discussions
Pennsylvania Convention Center