

CHS Community News

Editor:

Carole Tagg

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Chair of CHS Board of Directors Receives Prestigious Award



CHS is very proud to announce that our own Board of Directors Chairperson, Frederick M. Misilo, Jr., became the third recipient of the Joseph Andrade Award for Leadership from The Arc of Massachusetts. The award was presented at The Arc's Annual Meeting on April 28, 2011 in acknowledgement of Fred's leadership and accomplishments relative to expansion of the network of The Arc of MA, where Fred has served as Director and Past President.

CHS extends our congratulations to Fred and also our sincere gratitude for all of Fred's outstanding achievements and work for the benefit of CHS. Fred's commitment and life work on behalf of people with disabilities and their family members not only reflect his own personal values, but also demonstrate the life force behind the mission of CHS — **"A PASSION FOR WHAT'S POSSIBLE."**

(Fred is an Officer of Fletcher Tilton, PC where he serves as Chairperson of the Elder Law and Special Needs Practice Group,)

A Message from the Executive Director

Dear Friends of CHS,

Thanks to the strong partnerships formed by our individuals, staff, families, community volunteers, and Board members, the Cooperative for Human Services continues to celebrate outstanding achievements everyday. Together our efforts have resulted in remarkable and sustained progress towards meeting our strategic goals and making our organization better.

- ◆ CHS continues to develop its capacity to serve individuals with multiple disabilities by greatly expanding our variety of barrier free residences. We have completed major construction to our Browning Road residence in Arlington (page 2) and are in the process of completing major renovations to two new residential homes in Saugus and Medford.
- ◆ Services to individuals and families continue to grow. Read about Roger's Roundups held this past summer (page 4) and about two new and very popular activities — the CHS Cooking Class and Sports Night (page 7)!
- ◆ We have relocated our Individual Support Service Program to a larger space, just next door to the former location. There, we have created a kitchen, computer lab and recreation area for program participants to come together to share their experiences, attend training classes and to build friendships (page 3).

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See Also.....

Volunteer Day



TD Bank Volunteer Day

Roger's Round-ups 2011



Summer BBQ's page 4

Board of Directors

Fred Misilo, Jr., Esq., Chair
Fletcher, Tilton & Whipple, PC
Chair, Elder Law & Special Needs
Practice Group

Helen Cushman, Clerk
Religious Educator
Family Member

Stephen B. Darr, Treasurer
Mesirow Financial Consulting, LLC
Senior Managing Director

Lori Maida
Shore Educational Collaborative, Inc.
Director of Human Resources

Carol E. Tully, CPA, JD
Wolf and Company, P.C.
Director of Tax Services

CHS Board Members Join in Family Fun!



Browning Road Renovation

This time last year CHS announced plans to begin construction to renovate and build an addition to our Browning Road residence in Arlington. This reconstruction is part of our continuing overall strategic goal to improve wheelchair accessibility in our existing homes while also expanding the capacity of our residential program — all in a cost effective manner. These projects are designed to meet the changing needs of the individuals currently served, as well as the needs of new individuals with multiple disabilities. CHS has renovated 12 homes over the past decade.



Before the Renovation

This small, ranch style home, located in a

quiet residential neighborhood in Arlington had 2 bedrooms, 1 bath and an outdated kitchen. It was not wheelchair accessible.

Building the Addition & Remodeling

The project included adding space to the right side of the home to create a new “Great Room,” as well as a major addition to the rear of the home, adding 3 large spacious bedrooms.

Interior improvements included new floors, removal of walls, a new kitchen, a first floor laundry area, new front and rear ramps, a deck and staff office space in the lower level.

A new barrier free bath with a wheelchair shower was added and the old bathroom was updated.

A new roof, windows, doors, skylights, and an energy efficient cooling system completed this \$250,000 project.



After the Renovation

The residence at Browning Rd. was completed in the spring. This barrier free home now has 5 bedrooms, 2 baths (one with a wheelchair shower), a new, modern open-concept Great Room (living, dining & kitchen), front and rear wheelchair ramps, a new deck and laundry area with new energy efficient systems, skylights, floors and windows. All who have visited this home have been wowed, including our Board of Directors and state officials!



Enterprise Fleet Management Supports CHS

CHS Receives \$1,000 Grant from Enterprise

A sincere thank you to Enterprise Holdings Foundation for their generous \$1,000 donation to the CHS Annual Appeal.

Pictured below are (from Left to Right) Glen Charney, CHS Chief Financial Officer, Kevin J. Leahy, CHS Executive Director, Becci Miller, Account Manager, Enterprise Fleet Management and Jenessa Conroy, Senior Client Service Representative, Enterprise Fleet Management.



Enterprise Volunteers Beautify CHS Homes



Volunteers from Enterprise Fleet Management sponsored a very successful Volunteer Day on October 12, 2011. Over 25 volunteers from Enterprise spent the day completing indoor and outdoor fall cleanup activities and interior painting at two CHS residences. Their enthusiasm and energy were contagious!

Thanks from everyone at CHS!

Individual Support Service Program Holds Open House at New Malden Location

On Tuesday, October 4, 2011 over 150 guests, including program participants, family members, volunteers, friends and staff from Cooperative for Human Services, Inc. celebrated the grand opening of the new location of the Individual Support Service Program at 40 Eastern Avenue, Malden. The new site is larger than the old location and includes staff offices, meeting rooms, a computer library and a social center for program participants. The Open House featured a light buffet and desserts baked by program members. Visitors enjoyed a tour of the premises and an informational power point presentation about the program.

The highly successful Individual Support Service program has operated since 1981. The flexible support services offered by this program have enabled hundreds of adults with developmental disabilities to live independently in their communities. The program currently serves 70 individuals who live in Malden and the surrounding communities.



Ray Vienneau and Francis O'Keefe with CHS staff member Bruce Ericson at the Open House

For more information contact Janis Ellis-Ballerini, Director of Clinical Supports, 781-273-2123 x230

ROGER'S ROUND-UP'S 2011 — CELEBRATING FAMILIES!



Roger Plourde, Director of Residential Services hosted the 2nd Annual Roger's Round-up Events in June, July and August! This year more family members and close friends than ever joined in the fun!



Roger took command, grilling up chicken, hamburgers, hot dogs, sausages and corn-on-the-cob. All complemented by a great spread that always included a variety of salads, fruits, vegetables and deserts.

Games were played, songs were sung and good conversation created fun filled events that will long be remembered.



ANNUAL APPEAL REPORT

2010-2011 Campaign Results



Cooperative for Human Services had a successful 2010-2011 Annual Appeal Campaign, made more remarkable given the economic times we all face. We received 82 donations (69 in FY 10) an increase of 19% over the previous year. During this campaign year we achieved a total of \$14,915 (\$14,373 in FY 10), a 4% increase in donations! This appeal represents the highest level achieved over the past 5 years.



Individual donations ranged from \$5 to \$1,000! CHS extends our sincere gratitude and thanks everyone who donated last year!! Your donation is more important than ever — helping build community inclusion and strengthening services for the 350 individuals with

ATTENTION STATE & FEDERAL EMPLOYEES

Did you know that CHS is an approved non-profit organization for both Federal and State employees who contribute to their respective Combined Charities Programs? If you, your friends or other family members are employed by a State or Federal agency, this contribution can be directed to the Cooperative for Human Services, Inc. by indicating our provider number on the pledge card. Our MA Combined Employee Campaign Number is 700417 and our Combined Federal Campaign of Eastern MA number is 42522. Thank You!

2010-2011 ANNUAL APPEAL CONTRIBUTORS

Sponsors: (\$1000 — \$2000)

Stephen B. Darr and Linda J. Fermery
Enterprise Holdings Foundation
Fred Misilo, Fletcher, Tilton & Whipple, PC
Ann and David Perkins
Marjorie, Norman and Steven Wilson
Dennis A. Conlin, Conlin's Pharmacy

Benefactors: (\$500 — \$999)

Michael Cardoza
Rick Catino
Richard & Barbara Forsley
Carol E. Tully
Michele & Victor Ramirez, Ramirez Landscaping
Joseph M. Callahan, Cabot Risk Strategies LLS

Patrons: (\$200 — \$499)

George Coleman, Jr.
Kathia Manzi
Helen Cushman
Antoinette Dallaire
Rachel & Norman Dionne
Leona Grell
Sally and Walter Hollister
Ann Powers
Karen and Lou Barrett, Johnson's Transmission
Steve Kirkland, Kirkland & Shaw Plumbing & Heating
Mary Bardwell
Lynne Fisher
Georgia & John George

Roland Gregoire
Estelle M. Greenberg
Marjorie & Alfred Haddad
Haig Hedison
Helco Electric
Sally & Walter Hollister
Carl H. Kazanjian
Keane Fire & Safety Equipment
C. Joan & Leo Krant
Joanne Levingston
Lexington Auto Service
Anonymous

Friends: (\$5 — \$199)

Virginia Albanese
Gail and Phillip Brykman
Robert Coleman, Jr.
Kathleen and Fred Conover
Simone D'Eon
Lynne Fisher
Roland Gregoire
Joan and Haig Hedison
Karen and Francis Kilty
Erin K. Leahy
Audrey Magown
Frank Manheim
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Robert Yorke
Dave Zinetti, Edgeworth Appliance Co.

Faulkner Brothers, Inc.
Resources for Human Services
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Rosalie and Richard Nutile
Ride-Away Handicap Equipment Corp.
Marjorie and Alfred Haddad
Irene and Richard Knight
Ellie Flynn
Georgia and John George
Estelle Greenburg
Carl H. Kazanjian
Joan and Leo Krant
Joanne Levingston
James T. McNeil
George Murphy
Joseph and Marilyn Oliveri
Priscilla Robinson
Charlotte Strong
Arthur Sullivan
Arthur J. Sullivan
Susan and Richard Texeria
Marianne Vezerian
Becci Miller and Jenessa Conroy, Enterprise
Jim Monroe, Monroe Graphics
Anonymous

JOIN THE CHS — TD BANK AFFINITY MEMBERSHIP PROGRAM

IT PAYS TO BELONG!

Recently, CHS joined the TD Bank Affinity Membership Program—a **program to help non-profit organizations raise funds** to support community programs and services.

Sign up for a new checking, money market, savings, CD or IRA Account at TD Bank and identify yourself as a member of the CHS Affinity Group!

Each year **TD Bank will make an annual contribution to CHS based upon a percentage of the average balance of all CHS enrolled accounts.** Contributions are calculated at 1/2 % on checking balances and 1/4 % on other accounts.

Member accounts are not affected in any way by this contribution. All information regarding accounts is held in strict confidence by TD Bank.

Already have an account at TD Bank? Existing customers are eligible too!

Just let your TD Bank representative know that you want to be a member of the CHS Affinity Partnership.

Visit your local TD Bank or call 1-888-751-9000 to join!

CHS COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES

CHS Woman's Group Volunteer for Arghand



After hearing a representative from Arghand Essentials speak about an enterprising business in southern Afghanistan, the CHS Women's Group (a group of 12 women served by Cooperative for Human Services, Inc. Individual Support Program) decided they wanted to help. The first project they selected was helping Arghand Essentials to package one of their fine liquid soaps into pump spray bottles.

A representative from the company came to the CHS Burlington office with all of the necessary supplies. She taught the members of the CHS Women's Club

how to fill the pump containers, attach the pump and pack them for shipping. It was a fun learning experience for all participants.

Our participants learned that Arghand Essentials is a line of high quality, all-natural, sustainable skincare products, made from crops grown in Afghanistan. Profits from sales are used to sustain and expand the fledgling business.

This new industry is operated by the Arghand Trust, a US non-profit organization that is registered in Massachusetts. Its mission is to help create fair and sustainable economic opportunities for men and women while developing a viable economic alternative to opium production, the major industry in southern Afghanistan. The organization was founded in 2005 by Sarah Chayes, a former correspondent for National Public Radio who covered the fall of the Taliban, then stayed behind to help rebuild the war-torn country.

TD BANK VOLUNTEER DAY

Last November, twelve managers from TD Bank sponsored a fabulous Volunteer Day for CHS. These very energetic volunteers helped with clean up and winterizing projects at our residences, as well as, arts and crafts projects to make floral decorations to beautify our homes. Other projects included making cards to send to people who are homebound due to illness and decorating cookies which CHS individuals later delivered to local area nursing homes.

The afternoon was a huge success! The most rewarding outcome was watching new relationships develop between the volunteers, staff and program individuals.



A Message from the Executive Director

Continued from page 1

- ◆ Volunteers are making a difference in nearly every part of CHS. We have a highly qualified and dedicated Board of Directors to lead our organization. This this year we have had two Volunteer Days, one sponsored by TD Bank (page 6) and the other by Enterprise Fleet Management (page 3).
- ◆ The individuals we serve continue to grow and actively participate in community life. They proudly give back to their communities through volunteerism too! Recently, the CHS Women's Group began helping a global enterprise, Arghand Essentials (a business cooperative in southern Afghanistan) pack some of their products (page 6).
- ◆ Donations went up by 4% this past year, a noteworthy accomplishment in these dire economic times (page 5). We are so very grateful to everyone who supported us.



We encourage you to help us continue our successes. When you attend our events, donate to our Annual Appeal and volunteer your time and talents you become part of CHS. As always, I welcome your comments, suggestions and ideas. Please call me at 781-273-2123 x 211 or send me a message at kleahy@cooperativeforhs.org.

Sincerely,
Kevin J. Leahy
Executive Director

Great Food & Good Exercise

CHS Cooking Class

Every Tuesday night a group of individuals from CHS's Individual Support Services Program meet for an evening of fun, cooking and learning about "Healthy Living." They meet at the Elks Club in Malden where volunteers help teach new, delicious and nutritious recipes. The results are tasty and eating with your friends is cool too!



CHS Sports Night

Individuals from several of CHS's residential homes meet on Tuesday nights as well — not to cook, but to get exercise and play team sports. Teams are organized and participants play basketball, soccer and baseball at various community locations. It's a fun way to get fit, meet new friends and enjoy the nice weather!



Visit Our Updated CHS Website: www.cooperativeforhs.org



Want to learn more about CHS?

This November marks the unveiling of our new, improved CHS website, developed for CHS by Agency 3, a Boston Web Design Company. The new format provides easy access to expanded information about our organization, programs & services, individuals & staff and activities & events. There are lots of great pictures of our homes, individuals and events too!

The site features CHS Volunteer and Donation Opportunities, as well as background and contact information for our leadership team. A photo gallery offers new photographs on a regular basis and there is a new Family Support Section with information designed especially for family members and friends. Please visit us soon!

Please Contribute

Cooperative for Human Services, Inc.

A PASSION FOR WHAT'S POSSIBLE

___ YES, I/we want to help the Cooperative for Human Services continue its mission to provide quality residential, independent living, guardianship and other support services to individuals with developmental disabilities. Please accept my/our tax deductible contribution of \$_____ .

Name: _____

Address: _____ City: _____ State/Zip _____

E-Mail Address: _____

Gifts can also be made in memory, in honor, or in celebration of a special person or occasion.

In Memory of: _____

In Honor of: _____

In Celebration of: _____

Please make check payable to Cooperative for Human Services, Inc. and mail to:

Cooperative for Human Services, 17 New England Executive Park, 3rd Floor, Burlington, MA 01803

Telephone: (781) 273-2123 Fax: (781) 238-6163 THANK YOU!

Cooperative for Human Services, Inc.
17 New England Executive Park, 3rd Floor
Burlington, MA 01803