



THE

FALL/WINTER 2014

CHALLENGER

Challenging the community, families, and individuals to make a difference

A PUBLICATION OF THE DARLINGTON COUNTY DISABILITIES & SPECIAL NEEDS BOARD

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Darlington County Disabilities and Special Needs Board

Our Mission: To enhance the lives, develop the abilities, and promote the independence of people with disabilities.

2014 Halloween Fun



“We, the ones who are challenged, need to be heard. To be seen not as a disability, but as a person who has and will continue to bloom. To be seen not only as a handicap, but as a well intact human being.”

The Family Advisory Council

Thank you to Pam Amerson with Sonoco Products Company, Wendy Stokes and the Family Advisory Council that made the Pancake Breakfast a success.

Special Thank you to Applebee's for allowing us to hold the fundraiser at Applebee's. Thank you to everyone that purchased a ticket or made a donation. We raised over \$1,000.00. We are now selling World's Finest Chocolate-\$1.00 per bar-assorted flavors



Flapjack Fundraiser for DCDSNB

By Jana E. Pye
Editor
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Folks from all over Darlington County arrived at the Applebee's in Hartsville Saturday morning to order breakfast to assist the Family Advisory Council of the Darlington County Disabilities and Special Needs Board- the "Scott Center".

The FAC promotes understanding between families and DCDSNB as a forum for the exchange of information, ideas and concerns, as well as a

chance to meet and fellowship with other family members.

The FAC provides support through a wide range of fundraising activities to fund parties and social events such as the Thanksgiving Dinner, Christmas Party, Valentine Social, and Spring Picnic. These events are highlights of the year for consumers.

Volunteers included staff and family members of individuals served by the DCDSNB.

Contributions may be sent to: DCDSNB, 201 N. Damascus Church Rd., Hartsville, SC 29550 - "FAC" in subject line.

From the FINANCE DEPARTMENT

The Darlington County DSN Board's Office of Finance consists of three staff members. These members are responsible for handling all financial transactions for the agency as well as the Foundation, Family Advisory Council and the staff support team. The staff receives, receipts, deposits and balances all revenue received by each group. Cash balances are monitored daily to ensure appropriate cash is on hand for daily operations. Payroll is processed bi-weekly for approximately 110 employees and 50 consumers as well as monthly for approximately 12 respite care providers. All purchasing requests are processed by the finance staff daily and all invoices are processed for payment once a week. The staff balances monthly 8 bank accounts for the agency as well as 45 bank accounts for consumers. Various reports are completed monthly, quarterly and annually to meet both state and federal requirements. The finance staff also acts as backup for the receptionist.



Ruth Blocker
Executive Director

Nursing Department
Dawanda Brown, Director of Nursing/QID/DDP

We would like to Thank the Foundation for purchasing updated CPR and First Aid equipment .

CASE MANAGEMENT DEPARTMENT
Teshawn Moses, Case Manager Supervisor
Geraldine, Bonnie, Sheneeka, and Shaunkita,
Case Managers

Congratulations to Sheeneka Sanabury in her new role as a ID/RD, CSW and HASCI case manager.
Congratulations to Ms. Bonnie Ellison in receiving her Master’s Degree in Psychology.
The case management department is ecstatic about the release of ID/RD waiver slots across the state of S.C. This gives families and Consumer the options to receive services that are not readily available without a waiver.

Congratulations to Mr. Wilton Griffith on his Retirement in August 2014. Wilton was with DCDSNB for 15 years, and will be missed by all staff and consumers. Thank you for your service!

Board Chair, Mrs. Hattie Hughes, Wilton, and Executive Director, Mrs. Ruth Blocker

Wilton with BTG Staff

Wilton and the Consumers



THE STAFF SUPPORT TEAM

We have been busy this year with Bake Sales, Spaghetti Lunches, Hot Dog Lunches, and Selling Tee Shirts. We still have shirts for sale if you would like to purchase one. Small—Xtra Large \$10.00. 2XL-4XL is \$12. The money we raised is used to honor our Staff with little prizes throughout the year, and a nice Christmas Party. We would like to thank everyone for your help and support of all fundraisers.

CHRISTMAS 2014



We enjoyed the consumer Christmas Party at Bridging The Gap provided by The Family Advisory Council..

The staff enjoyed a Christmas party at HCC provided by Staff Support Team.



HUMAN RESOURCE DIRECTOR—ANNE BRUMLEY

The Staff Support Team and Mrs. Blocker presented a pin and certificate to the following employees for Employee of the Month. Congratulations! THANK YOU for your dedication!



July Employee of the Month is **Ms. Verniell Hannibal**, Reagan ICF House Manager, Ms. Verniell is patient, compassionate, and kind to all consumers that we serve. She is always concerned with their comfort and dignity.



August Employee of the Month is **Jasmine Miller**, Direct Support Professional, Jasmine has a positive attitude and always willing to help. The consumers really enjoy Jasmine taking care of their needs.



September Employee of the Month is **Vanessa Cabbagestalk**, Medical Transporter—Vanessa always has a great attitude about her job and is very dependable.



October Employee of the Month is **Gwen Sansbury**, Yarbrough House Manager/ CTH II Coordinator, Gwen always works quietly and professionally in her many responsibilities.



November Employee of the Month is **Bonnie Ellison**, Case Manager—Bonnie is always a team player that shows initiative and willingness to fill-in as needed. She loves her consumers and provides excellent service to them.



December Employee of the Month is **Joni Pendergrass**, Early Intervention Supervisor—Joni loves her consumers and goes above and beyond to provide excellent service and family training to them.

***The Darlington County Disabilities Foundation
appreciates all of our generous donors.
The following Donations were received after the last printing of the
Challenger.***

The 2014 Angel Tree Project was a success once again this year due to our generous community supporters. We were able to provide gifts for many needy consumers in Darlington County. We would like to thank the following businesses and individuals for participating in this wonderful project: Bizzell's Food & Spirits, Faith Baptist Church, Takis Restaurant, Lakeview Baptist Church, First Baptist Church, Heritage Bank, and Hardees of Hartsville, Mr. Clayton Richardson, Mr. & Mrs. Jimmy Ratley, Norton Funeral Home, Brown, Pennington, Atkins Funeral Home, The Conner Law Firm, Mrs. Roberta Jones & all the anonymous donors

A donation to the Foundation was received from:

United Way of Hartsville, United Way of Darlington
(The Estate of Ms. Margaret S. Goodson and Ms. Helen S. Goodson), Mr. Thomas Goodson, The Pilot Club of Hartsville, Novo Lex, Mrs. Mary Thomas, Sonoco Products Company, Mrs. Debbie Fink, St. Luke United Methodist Church and several anonymous donors

The Foundation received donations in **Memory of Mrs. Deb Newsome** from the following: Mr. & Mrs. Frank Benson, Ms. Irene Ingram, The Gardner Law Firm, Mr. & Mrs. Thomas Inabinet, Jeanne Garforth, Mr. & Mrs. Eddie Drayton, Mrs. Debbie Fink, Mr. & Mrs. James McGee, Jr & Mr. & Mrs. Alex Brown

The Foundation received donations in **Honor of Dr. B. Jane Hursey** from the following: Mr. & Mrs. Kenneth Sandifer, Edneasha Johnson, Jean McLellan, Lisa Bruce, Hope Hardison, Mr. & Mrs. Stewart Funderburk, & Tina Moore. The Foundation received a donation in **Honor of Mrs. Hattie E. Hughes**, from Ms. Merle Baxley

The Staff Support Team received donations from:

Pepsi Cola, Coca Cola, Poston Packing, Jiffy Lube, Zaxby's, Ruth's Grill,
Wendy Coward, Byron Wilson

We appreciate all donations and use them as we strive to provide services to over 500 individuals with Disabilities and or Special Needs in Darlington County.

Thank you for enriching the lives of our consumers. We appreciate your generosity.

DCDSNB - Darlington

County Disabilities & Special Needs Board

DCDF - Darlington County Disabilities Foundation

DDSN - (SC) Department of Disabilities and Special Needs

ICF - Intermediate Care Facility

CTH - Community Training Home

Abbreviation / Acronyms

FAC - Family Advisory Council

EI - Early Interventionist

SST - Staff Support Team

DSP - Direct Support Professional

BTG - Bridging the Gap Enterprises

CM—Case Manager

Early Intervention

We would like to welcome two new Early Interventionists, Tara Rivers and Demetress Adams-Ludd . Both of these young ladies have a background in working with children in a unique and special way and most of all enjoys doing it. They have made a smooth transition into the department learning CDSS and the new Baby Net system "Bridges" along with DDSN and Baby Net Policy and Procedures.



Demetress Adams-Ludd and
Tara Rivers



IN LOVING MEMORY



In loving memory of Mrs. Deb Newsome. Deb was employed with DCDSNB for ten years. Deb served as the Early Intervention Supervisor. Her sweet spirit will be greatly missed.



In loving memory of Shirley Myers. Shirley was employed with DCDSNB for fifteen years. She worked at Bowen House. Everyone will miss Shirley's loving and kind presence.

In Loving Memory of

Ms. Sally Louise Benjamin Graham, Mother of Maurice Coleman who works at Bowen House. Mrs. Hattie Goodson, Mother-in-law of Marie Goodson who works at BTG. Mrs. Shirley Myers, staff of DCDSNB for 15 years. Mrs. Martha Peterson, Sister-in-law of Winnie Arnold who works at Bowen House. Mr. Cleveland (Boot) Bostic, Father of James Jackson who works at BTG. Mrs. Deb Newsome, staff of DCDSNB for ten years. Ms. Mozell Frazier, Mother of Janice Dickson who works at Washington House, Mr. Quincy Smith, Community Consumer, Mr. Charles Ivey, Residential Consumer

INTERESTED IN MAKING A DIFFERENCE?

Our 2015 Frederick C. Bowen House Campaign is seeking funds to build a new home for individuals with Intellectual Disabilities and Special Needs on land donated by the Bowen family. All funds received will go toward the construction of the new home for residents of our community. These homes are an integral part of our mission to enhance the lives, develop the abilities, and promote the independence of people with disabilities.

Please consider being a sponsor for this campaign and help to change the lives of those less fortunate in our community.

Thank you for your consideration!

Donation Form

Please use this form to communicate with us your ability to sponsor the campaign to fund a new home for the Darlington County Disabilities and Special Needs Foundation.

Company Name _____

Company Address _____

Company Telephone _____

Contact Person _____

Please return this form to: Mrs. Ruth Blocker, Executive Director

DCDSNB Scott Center 201 N. Damascus Church Rd. Hartsville, SC 29550

Yes, I would like to be a sponsor of the Frederick C. Bowen House Campaign

\$250.00 Bronze Sponsor

\$500.00 Silver Sponsor

\$750.00 Gold Sponsor

\$1,000.00 Platinum Sponsor

Other amount _____

No, I am unable to sponsor at this time

Darlington County Disabilities & Special Needs Board

201 North Damascus Church Road

Hartsville, SC 29550

Telephone: 843-332-7252 • Fax: 843-332-3168 • Website: www.dcdsnb.org

Ruth Blocker, M.A.

Executive Director

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UNITED WAY