



Message from Donna



Over the last few months my travels have taken me to meet with policy makers - educating and advocating on behalf of the folks we serve.

Earlier this month the efforts by agencies joining together across the state prompted a review and postponement of proposed Medicaid cuts. Due to the significant amount of testimonies presented to regulators they had to postpone the reductions. While this is good news for now, it doesn't mean

that the battle is over just yet. We continue to fight for the funding necessary to provide the highest quality services for the people we serve.

Looking ahead to the next fiscal year we are facing an even greater challenge as Gov. Patrick attempts to balance the expanding cost of Medicaid services against the need for essential care. The cuts we may be facing in the next fiscal year will require even harder work from advocates and greater education for policy makers.

We will continue to work with our Legislators, Administration and Trade Associations to steer through this challenging economic climate.

Thank you for your continued support of Community Connections.

Donna Sabecky, President & CEO

Spaghetti Supper Success

Congratulations to all who supported the Spaghetti Supper at the Liberal Club in Fall River! Through your generous support we raised a total of \$5,785. The Liberal Club prepared a delicious Italian meal while staff and members of the Board of Directors served over 350 hungry attendees.



The raffle was the highlight of the evening with thousands of tickets being sold. Staff worked especially hard to gather items and gift baskets from local businesses. Special thanks goes out to our dedicated Fall River managers, their staff, families, clients and friends who all worked to make this event such a success.

Extraordinary Staff... Extraordinary Results



Chris Corey pictured center with Sue Johnson and Donna Sabecky

Community Connections recently celebrated a milestone anniversary with Chris Corey, Fairhaven Life Skills Case Manager. Her 20th anniversary was celebrated with a staff luncheon in Fairhaven. Congratulations Chris and thank you for all your hard work each day.

Dominic Macone Joins the Board of Directors



We are pleased to announce that Dominic Macone, President and owner of Heritage Print Solutions of Sandwich, MA, has been appointed to the Community Connections Board

of Directors. "We are honored to have Dominic on our team and look forward to creating great things together" said John Beyer, Chairman of the Board.

Established in 1994, Heritage Print Solutions provides custom printing, promotional materials and apparel. Dominic has been actively involved with Community Connections fundraising efforts for a number of years and we are excited to have him join our Board of Directors.

If you would like to sign up to receive future newsletters via email please sign up at www.CommunityConnectionsInc.org

Serving Massachusetts South Coast, South Shore and Cape Cod

In the News - Music Therapy Program

Our collaboration with the New Bedford Symphony Orchestra and the Cape Cod Symphony Orchestra to bring classical music into our programs has proved greatly successful.

The music program plays five minutes of classical music with an introduction each day of the week. The repetition and consistency creates a relaxing and smooth start to the day. It was originally introduced to grade schools and to our knowledge, is the first adaptation of it's kind for people with disabilities.



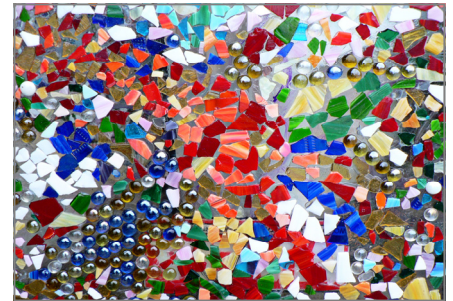
David MacKenzie (left), conductor of the New Bedford Symphony Orchestra visits the Fairhaven center for an upcoming news article

This program has recently been featured in both the Cape Cod Times and The Herald News. Keep an eye out for an upcoming article in the New Bedford Standard Times about the music program in the Greater New Bedford Area.

Event & Program Fundraising

Catch up with our program's most recent community involvement, fundraisers and events online at www.communityconnectionsinc.org or on Facebook at facebook.com/communityconnectionsinc.

Yarmouth Art Show



"Glass Mosaic" by the Art Therapy Group

During the month of April, artwork by the Yarmouth Art Therapy group was on display at the Cultural Center of Cape Cod. Participants showed individual and group pieces that they created over the last year. Additionally, some of those pieces were sold as a fundraiser for the art therapy program.

Grant Updates

Thanks to a grant from the Town of Yarmouth, our South Yarmouth programs will have a wheelchair accessible garden built for their enjoyment this summer.

Another recent grant from the Hess and Helyn Kline foundation supported program equipment needs. Funds supported the purchase of a Rolling Walker for our Somerset program, and our installation of the Safe-Lift system in Mashpee.



Community Connections Inc.

Opportunities for People with Disabilities
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