

ADVANCING THE VALUE OF AND RESPECT FOR INDIVIDUALS WITH DISABILITIES

State Releases Medicaid Waivers

The State of Indiana has made Medicaid Waivers available for individuals who meet certain criteria. Developmental Disabilities (DD) Waiver slots have been opened for those individuals whose *primary caregiver is 80 years or older*. In addition, young adults, aged 18-24, will be targeted as a priority category for Support Services Waivers (SSW) over the next nine months. This announcement is significant in the fact that hundreds of individuals have been waiting to access

disability-related services because of the lack of available Medicaid waivers.

Individuals with caregivers over the age of 80 may apply for emergency waivers immediately. The first target for SSW waivers will be those who left school in the 2006-2007 school year. Five hundred slots are reserved for these individuals. An additional 1,100 slots for young adults who have left school are planned to be released September, 2007 through June, 2008.

Families should contact the local Bureau of Developmental Disability Services (BDDS) office to determine if they are eligible and to apply. They can be reached at (812) 423-8449. More information is available on the Arc of Indiana website at www.arcind.org by clicking on Medicaid Waiver, or you may contact Kelly Barnett, Vice President of Adult Services for Evansville ARC, at (812) 492-1203.

And the Winners Are...

Congratulations to the Child Life Center and The Really Big Show! Both have won Readers' Choice Awards for three years in row. Evansville ARC's Child Life Center was voted THE BEST childcare center, winning a PLATINUM award for 2007.

In addition ARC's signature fundraising event, The Really Big Show, was once again voted one of Evansville's best community events, receiving a GOLD award for 2007. Many thanks to the readers of the Evansville Courier & Press, our hard-working staff, and all who support Evansville ARC!



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We've Kicked the Buckets!



Before (leaking roof damage)



After (new sealed roof)



Before



After

Thanks to the generosity of several major community donors, our board members, and employees, Evansville ARC has been able to eliminate its roof-top parking by building an 85 space employee/visitor parking lot. This has allowed us to make critical repairs to our roof, which has been leaking for over thirty years! The buckets that formerly caught the water are now gone and the facility is dry. We are preparing to begin the next phase of improvements, which will include repairs and upgrades to our facility, equipment, and furnishings. Watch for more information, as we plan to seek public support for this important endeavor.

DID YOU KNOW?



Evansville ARC accepts gifts of appreciated stock! Stock transfers are quick, simple and may help you avoid capital gains taxes in addition to your charitable deduction. Consult your financial advisor or call the Development office at 428-4500 if you are interested in using stock as a contribution to Evansville ARC.

2007 is the last tax year that individuals over 70 ½ can make qualified charitable distributions from their IRA. Gifts through

this tax break must be made by December 31, 2007 and must be made directly to the charity by the IRA trustee. Consult your financial advisor for more information.

University of Evansville Best Buddies wins "Outstanding Chapter" Again!

The Best Buddies chapter at the University of Evansville was presented with an Outstanding Chapter Award at Best Buddies International's Annual Student Leadership Conference this summer. This is the second year in a row that UE has received this honor. UE was chosen as one of 16 outstanding college chapters from 424 programs throughout the world.

Best Buddies is a nonprofit organization that enhances



the lives of people with intellectual disabilities by providing opportunities for one-to-one friendships and integrated employment. Best Buddies has a strong presence in Indiana, with 50 high school and college chapters located throughout the state including the **University of Southern Indiana, UE**, Indiana University, and Notre Dame. The University of Evansville Chapter Advisor is Diane Triplett.

TheArcLink launches the National FindFamily Registry

For decades, parents of children with disabilities were advised by professionals to institutionalize their children and in effect "forget you ever had them." Of the more than 500,000 people in out-of-home residential settings, experts report that a high percentage have no regular contact with their family. States are gradually replacing their institutions with smaller, community-based residential settings that support family connections, but there has been no good way to actually help make that happen. Now, there is an opportunity for family members to reunite.

"In the Registry, people can easily give basic information on themselves and the people they're looking for. We will contact them if we find a match," said Elbert Johns from TheArcLink. "We will make sure that the person with a disability either has the ability to give consent to release personal information, or is properly represented by a person who can. We'll also make sure that the family member who is seeking contact has a legitimate reason for doing so." Online searching of the Registry will not be offered. To enter information in the FindFamily Registry, go to www.FindFamilyRegistry.org.

LIVE, from Evansville, it's...

Featuring favorite characters from Saturday Night Live!



Presented by:

OLD NATIONAL BANK



Save the Date! February 9, 2008- 7:00 p.m. at The Centre

Tickets go on sale January 10, 2008- \$18 for adults, \$8 for children 12 & under

VIP tickets to the show and reception, \$100, on sale NOW!

For more information call 428-4500

Executive Producer Sponsors:



Kick-Off Party Sponsor:



Meet the Cast & Crew Reception Sponsors:



With additional support from:



Success Story...Megan Seiler

What do you get when you mix independence, perseverance, and big smiles? You get Megan Seiler, a recent "graduate" of Evansville ARC's Child Life Center! Although diagnosed with Spina Bifida at birth, Megan, who is now 6 years old, is moving forward at a whirlwind pace. She is in first grade at Corpus Christi school and is on the cheer team. She recently participated in a local walk-a-thon for Riley Hospital with her sister, Erica, and she is featured on the United Way of Southwestern Indiana's campaign video. In addition, Megan was chosen in August to participate in the coin



Megan Seiler on the sidelines of a Colts game.

toss at the Indianapolis Colts' preseason game. During the festivities, Megan met several of the players and even got to try on a Super Bowl ring! Megan's mom, Dawn, commented, "We had an incredible time! Megan's grin practically touched her ears. She was treated like a star." Dawn and Megan are quite vocal about the great experience they had at the Child Life Center. "The staff at ARC has stimulated Megan's

independence and self-confidence. They really do impact the quality of life for so many individuals." We're proud of you, Megan. Keep up the great work!



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Friends of
Evansville ARC



Community Partner

The mission of Evansville ARC is to advance the value of and respect for all individuals with disabilities by providing opportunities for development, employment, and independence.

Deidra Conner, President

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Amy Mangold, Director

Kathy Oeth, Special Events & Volunteer Coordinator

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Training Center -
Behavioral Supports Services, Child Life Center,
Connections For Life & Day Services For Adults

P.O. Box 4089
Evansville, IN 47724
(812) 428-4500

ARC Industries, Community Job Link,
Successful Transitions & Work Services

2515 Kotter Avenue
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