

President's Message

By Robert Canuel



As I write this article, we are preparing for the end of our current fiscal year. Each year presents unique challenges and also unique opportunities and as we end this fiscal year there are some wonderful things that I would

like to share with you.

Many of you are aware we recently held our annual wine tasting fund raising event. It was a fantastic success and I was touched by the outpouring of community support for the event. More than 700 people stopped by that evening, many of whom stayed throughout the event, to help us celebrate and to help us raise almost \$50,000. It showed me that our mission and our actions are strongly supported by our community and we will continue to strive to deserve that respect and support. My thanks to Pam O'Neill, Dennis Read and the entire Fall River community for making this event an incredible evening.

Our wellness committee at the agency has been active and participated recently in the Fall River fitness challenge. I have been impressed with the enthusiasm of the staff that have participated in our wellness activities. I am further impressed with their on going level of commitment to this program. On June 14th, we held a kick off walk that began at 1040 Eastern Avenue and more than 100 staff showed up to participate in what will be a virtual walk across America. Staff will use pedometers to record the mileage for their walking activities with the eventual goal to make it across the entire country. I wish to thank Marilyn Grubb, the entire wellness committee and participating staff for making this initiative a success.

We were recently awarded two

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People, Incorporated's 7th Annual Wine Tasting a Success



On May 13, we held our annual wine-tasting event to benefit the programs at People, Incorporated. It was a resounding success as more than 700 people packed the Cultural Center on South Main Street to help us celebrate our continued success as an organization.

"In an economy that has continued to deteriorate, I

was incredibly impressed with the outpouring of community support for the agency. I am proud be able to work in the city, and experience the community participation, goodwill and friendship that I saw on display May 13th. I came away thankful to be a part of a community that even in these difficult economic times, is always willing to step forward and help out", remarked Robert Canuel, President and CEO.

Citizen's Union Saving Bank, for the seventh year in a row, stepped up as our lead sponsor. This year, we raised almost \$50,000, which goes to support the community programs and services that we provide for area residents.

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Family Support Services are closer than you think

We are pleased to announce that People, Incorporated will be providing Family Support Services through the Family Advocacy & Community Education (FACE) Division beginning on July 1, 2010. The FACE Center offers families eligible for the Department of Developmental Services (DDS) with educational opportunities, peer parent support, information and referral, services and support that can enable you to provide the best possible future for your family member. Whether you are a parent of a young child or the brother/sister of an adult, we have supportive resources to meet your needs! The following services are offered at no cost to families and individuals:



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Locations

- People, Incorporated
Main Office
1040 Eastern Avenue
Fall River, Massachusetts 02723
Phone: (508) 679-5233
Fax: (508) 679-6211
www.peopleinc-fr.org
- Day Services
Vocational Services
Troy Productions
900 Rigenbach Road
Fall River, Massachusetts 02720
Phone: (508) 679-5230
Fax: (508) 679-5382
- Day Habilitation Services
30 Third Street
Fall River, Massachusetts 02721
Phone: (508) 324-4401
Fax: (508) 324-4404
- Residential Services
624 Eastern Avenue
Fall River, Massachusetts 02723
Phone: (508) 679-5236
Fax: (508) 837-6885
- Children's Services
Greater Fall River
Early Intervention Program
636 Rock Street
Fall River, Massachusetts 02720
Phone: (508) 675-5778
Fax: (508) 675-9889
- Greater Fall River Healthy Families
636 Rock Street
Fall River, Massachusetts 02720
Phone: (508) 679-3078
Fax: (508) 672-6024
- Young Parents' Learning Center
B.M.C. Durfee High School
360 Elsbree Street
Fall River, Massachusetts 02720
Phone: (508) 675-8194
Fax: (508) 675-8186
- Early Intervention Partnership Program
636 Rock Street
Fall River, Massachusetts 02720
Phone: (508) 675-5778
Fax: (508) 675-9889
- Carriage House Children's Center
636 Rock Street
Fall River, Massachusetts 02720
Phone: (508) 679-4110
Fax: (508) 675-9889
- FACE Center
Diabetes Association Inc.
Community Supports
Spiritual Connections
Human Services Academy
Jack Yates Training
SMILES Mentoring
170 Pleasant Street
Fall River, Massachusetts 02720
Phone: (508) 672-5671
Fax: (508) 672-4546

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separate contracts from the Department of Developmental Services designed to provide family support services and supports. There was much competition for these contracts with five other agencies bidding against us. Our initiative will be a center based support model that will be located on Pleasant Street in the same building which currently houses the Diabetes Association. The grants which will provide a guaranteed \$250,000 in services per year for at least five years will offer support, training, education and services to any family in Fall River eligible for services through the DDS local office. The program will be named the Family Advocacy and Community Education Center. The program will begin on July 1, 2010. I would like to thank Jenny DiBlasi for her leadership in presenting the original grant to DDS and coordinating the start up and continuation of the program under her division.

We were recently notified that our Healthy Families program, which is a part of our children's division, has successfully received a new five year grant. The competition was significant and included a state-wide organization in competition with our proposal. This program provides important and necessary support to young families throughout the Fall River area and is a vital component of our agency. I wish to thank Laura Dellaire and each of the other employees at our Agency that assisted her in preparing a great proposal.

On June 17, 2010 we will have our open house at Read Street in Somerset, MA to celebrate the completion of a new home for our Agency that is being completed by students from Diman Vocational High School. It has been a pleasure to be able to work with the

faculty and students at Diman again this year and we look forward to having another completely accessible home at the agency.

I also want to let everyone know that we have been involved in a series of discussions with the board and staff of SMILES Mentoring, Inc., one of the largest and most creative mentoring programs in the state. At the present time, SMILES has more than 500 community volunteers in New Bedford and Fall River schools working with young children to help them stay in school and succeed in their academic and personal lives. These discussions have culminated in a mutual decision for the SMILES organization to become a part of the People, Incorporated family. On July 1, 2010 SMILES, through a unique affiliation agreement, will become a member program of our agency. We are excited about the many opportunities this will create for each organization and look forward to a long and successful partnership with them. I wish to thank Jim Mathes, their Executive Director, and Nick Christ, the President of their Board, for their openness to the idea of developing this unique collaboration for the benefit of our community students and families.

So, as we continue to be bombarded with threats of economic decline, cutbacks and funding issues across the commonwealth, it is good to know that staff at our agency continue to work extremely hard to put us in the best position to continue to succeed at what we do for our consumers and our community. I offer my sincere thanks to our board, staff and our community for their support, hard work, and positive contributions to our mission.

PI C.A.R.E.'s Employee of the Quarter



Congratulations go out to Marilyn Grubb, Community Supports Program Director in our Family Advocacy and Community Education Division, for being voted the PI C.A.R.E.'s Employee of the

Quarter. Marilyn has gone above and beyond her role to better the agency as well as the families and individuals we serve. She has offered her expertise with grant writing to other divisions within the

agency and has been an active member of the quality assurance team. Marilyn was at the forefront of organizing the agencies participation in the Fall River Fitness Challenge and has facilitated the agencies first Wellness Committee.

To show our appreciation, Marilyn will be presented with a \$50 gift certificate as well as People, Incorporated logo items. Thank you Marilyn for your dedication and hard work to the individuals we serve.

If there is someone that you would like to nominate for our PI C.A.R.E.'s Employee recognition program, please call 508-679-5233 and speak to Jennifer Lazaro (ext. 46).

People, Incorporated's 7th Annual Wine Tasting a Success

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Dennis Read, Chairman of the Wine Tasting Committee along with Pamela O'Neill, Director of Communications and Development.

Guests participated in a grand raffle which included such prize categories as the New England Sports Enthusiast Tickets, Gorgeous Getaways, Jewelry, Home Improvement Spectacular, New England Golf Tours, Fine Dining, and a Spa Sensations Package. Each raffle package was valued at a minimum of \$1,500 up to \$2,100. Our Wine Tasting Committee, chaired by Dennis Read of Read Insurance & Financial Services, LTD, included, Mark Duval, Kevin Furtado, Attorney Gary Howayeck, Robin Jones, Linda Moniz and Pamela O'Neill.

Special thanks to People's Liquor Warehouse for supporting our event, along with our incredible food vendors, Blount Fine Foods, Diman Regional Vocational Technical High School, Exclusive Buffet Catering, Karen's Country Kitchen and Deli, LePage's Seafood & Grille, Nonni's Italian Kitchen and Pasta Shop, The Quequechan Club Mansion, Sagres Restaurant, Starbucks Coffee Company, Trio, Venus de Milo Restaurant and Whites of Westport. Without their contributions, we could not have had such a successful event.

We thank all our supporters who gave, helped out and attended this premier event. It was a fantastic party and we look forward to doing this with all of you again next year!



Pete and Ron Cardi with Robert Canuel, President and CEO of People, Incorporated.



People, Incorporated staff Herman Medeiros, Jeff Arruda, and Dorothy Arruda enjoying the evening's festivities.

People Walking Across America



On June 14, People, Incorporated kicked off "People Walking Across America", a pedometer based walking program that is part of the organization's voluntary worksite wellness initiative. The goals of the program are to promote the benefits of physical activity; increase participants' awareness of their current level of daily physical activity; and encourage the development of habits

that support increased levels of activity. Participants will each receive a pedometer with which to track the amount of steps they take every day. Teams of up to ten individuals will make the journey together by reporting their cumulative steps. Teams will be made up of both employees and adults who participate in People, Incorporated programs.

The "virtual" trek will follow Route 6 as it existed in 1940 when it was the "longest transcontinental highway". The trip will begin in Provincetown, at the tip of Cape Cod and end in Long Beach, California. The route covers 3,517 miles which translates to over 7 million steps. Participants will receive health tips, encouragement, and small gifts as they work, walk, and have fun together. They will face team challenges along the route as they battle for possession of the Leaders' Trophy. Most importantly, participants will have the opportunity to experience improved health and well-being as they become more aware of the benefits of increasing their levels of daily physical activity.

We Keep Moving for Camp Kyle

The ninth annual Keep Moving for Camp Kyle Walk-A-Thon took place on Saturday June 5, 2010 at Heritage State Park. Over 100 participants gathered to walk, with teams including members from the Center For Sight, Old Navy, Best Buy and individual walkers all to support Camp Kyle. Camp Kyle is a summer day camp for children with diabetes, their siblings and friends. The mission of Camp Kyle is to foster friendships among young people with diabetes through a safe, fun, active program while enabling them to learn about and face the common challenges of diabetes. Proceeds of this walk help to minimize costs for campers and their families. Walkers, family and friends enjoyed entertainment, including carnival games, live music, and raffle prizes. Special thanks to our Lead Sponsor for the event, Fall River Ford, and all of our sponsors and community members who donated their time or supplies to this event. Camp Kyle runs from July 5 through August 13 at Camp Buxton in Rehoboth MA. For more information about camp or to register, please contact the Diabetes Association at (508) 672-5671.



Providence Bruins Mascot, Samboni, nuzzles up to People, Incorporated's Director of Operations, Bill Perkins



Keep Moving for Camp Kyle Walkers



Team members from Center for Sight

Collaboration of the Quarter

Carol Nagle, Fall River Family Services

It is often very difficult in the human service field to create collaborative opportunities to work together. There are several reasons for this which include financial competition, conflicting missions or the lack of initiative to develop new and better service systems. In order to actually achieve success in the area of collaboration, it requires a commitment from the top of each organization involved, trust and a willingness to try something different. Each of these traits is necessary but the most important trait is the recognition and acceptance of the idea that we will do better things for our clients if we work together.

For these reasons, we are happy to announce that Carol Nagle of Fall River Family Services has been named our collaborator of the quarter. Carol is the CEO of Family Services and under her direction we are happy to report that our two organizations recently co-wrote a collaborative grant to the Department of Early Education and Care for the purpose of providing mental health consultation

services to child care providers in and around the region.

As we all know, the Fall River neighborhood continues to struggle in many areas as the world wide economic turmoil has hit our community particularly hard. It is especially important that the non-profit community step up and take a more active leadership role in helping to solve many of our more significant issues. The willingness of Carol to take that step is why we have selected her as our collaborator of the quarter. Each of our organizations has been an important provider of services to the area and collectively we reach many of our citizens each and every day. Carol approached the idea of collaboration with openness, trust and a willingness to share their resources for the betterment of our community. At People, Incorporated, we believe strongly in the power of collaboration and are happy to have Carol and her agency share that belief.

Congratulations Carol and thank you!

Center for Sight Celebrates its success with the Diabetes Association, Inc.



Kneeling from left to right: Christine Macewen, Catherine Cardozo and Sherie Labege. Standing from left to right: Carol Ferreira, Nancy Santos, Roseanne Moniz, Kimberly Tavares, Kelly Matos, Susan Gallant and Andrea Cordeiro.

Center for Sight recently celebrated their 35th anniversary and the staff organized a “dress down day” each month whereby staff would pay to dress out of uniform and the money raised from this would be donated to a local charity. The staff purchased tee shirts with the Center’s 35th anniversary logo and they wore them once a month with jeans. When doctors Hofeldt, Kelly, O’Brien and Vergnani of Center for Sight learned about the staff’s philanthropy, they offered to match the amount raised by the staff! Staff members voted and Center for Sight chose the Diabetes Association, Inc., as the recipient for the funds that were raised. Center for sight provides comprehensive medical, surgical and laser eye care to patients throughout the Southcoast area as well as greater Providence, RI. “We are so grateful to Center for Sight for providing premier services in a state-of-the-art facility. In a community with a high prevalence of diabetes, we are very fortunate to have physicians who are trained in diabetic eye disease and diabetic related eye problems and who are committed to giving back to the community”, remarked Robert Canuel, President and CEO.

Sharing the Harvest



Jennifer Higgins, Mitch Coughlin, Jason Souza, Christine Perreira and Lynn Medeiros.

Sharing the Harvest Community Farm is a collaboration between the Dartmouth YMCA, United Way of Greater New Bedford and the Hunger Commission of Southeastern Massachusetts, a program of the United Way. It was established in 2006 as a grassroots effort to alleviate hunger for children and families throughout the Southcoast region.

People Incorporated has been volunteering with the Dartmouth YMCA for the last two seasons on this project. Last year, we came to the farm once a week and helped out all year. This year, we have increased our commitment to twice a week for the year. Already, the People, Incorporated team has helped dig holes for the YMCA’s new apple trees, helped shape the raised beds, and weeded the strawberries. Working together, Sharing the Harvest volunteers have strengthened the communities in tremendous ways and has donated tons of nutritious food to those in need in our communities.

Congratulations to Staff

Megan Scheffer, Accounting Manager, received her MBA from the University of Massachusetts, Dartmouth Campus.

Dorothy Arruda, Residential Coordinator, completed her degree to become a Registered Nurse from Bristol Community College and will be taking her boards shortly.

Gabe Andrade, Employment Specialist recipient of the 2010 John S. Brayton Jr. Memorial Community Service Award.

Pamela O’Neill, Director of Communications and Development and **Jeannine Boisvert**, Director of Human Resources for receiving the Outstanding Campaign Coordinators award at the 63rd Annual United Way Awards Reception held on Wednesday, March 24, 2010.

Ryan Raposa and **Judy Messenger** for participating in the Fall River Fitness Challenge and attaining the highest percent of weight loss within People, Incorporated.

Edward Hill, graduation from the Southcoast Leadership Program

Family Support Services are closer than you think

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- The Family Support Series provides information and education on issues and topics that are important to you. These free conferences are held in the community and feature speakers who are experts on topics that affect individuals with developmental disabilities.
- The Family Education Series provides parents of school-aged children with information and support in the evenings at a school site or the center. Topics include: How to Navigate Systems to get Children What They Need, Planning for your Child's Future, Helping your Child Succeed in School, and topics on various developmental or behavioral disabilities.
- Service Navigation (short-term and extended) provides families with an avenue of service planning which can include a Family Advocacy Design Session, a planning process in which the facilitator and a group of supportive family, friends and service providers come up with "what is the best we could imagine for your child/family" and then build a strategy to achieve those ideas. This process is a great way to plan for the best possible future for your loved one and can help in selecting the services and/or supports that can help achieve that future. Collaboratively, a family support plan is developed and services are put into place to help families reach their goals.
- The Resource Center provides families with information on a wide range of services and supports that are available in the community. Families can come into the center to get

brochures and information, utilize the center's computer or consult with a Family Support Advocate.

- The Family Leadership Council is a great way to have input into what topics are important to you and your family. We will be recruiting family members who have an interest in advising the center on new programming, evaluation and other topics that relate to DDS.
- Peer Parent Support Group provides family members with an opportunity to talk with other parents/family members to share best practices, discuss issues and receive peer support. This group will be hosted at the center weekly.
- The Parent to Parent Mentor Program will engage parents who have demonstrated leadership abilities to mentor parents who are in need of additional support. Parents will receive training and ongoing support!
- The People's Advocate Publication is a quarterly magazine that features topics that are important to you!
- Family Social Opportunities will be hosted at the center and will involve parents and their children/family members. Families will get together for fun activities, dinner, movie nights and much more.

The FACE Center is located at 170 Pleasant Street, Fall River, MA 02720. For more information about what the FACE Center offers, please contact Jenny DiBlasi at (508) 679-5233 x27.

People, Incorporated proud to participate in Disney's Give a Day, Get a Day Program

In January, People, Incorporated became part of the "Disney Give a Day, Get a Day" program. Facilitated by the Hands-on Network, the program gave individuals and families the opportunity to exchange volunteer service for a one-day pass to a Disney Park. People, Incorporated agreed to participate by providing volunteers with opportunities to serve, with a particular emphasis on activities that would be suitable for families with children aged 6 and up.

Many families participated in the opportunity to run a self-organized food drive to benefit the two food pantries run by People, Incorporated. One pantry was located at the Community Learning Center at the Carlton Viveiros School in Fall River and the other currently benefits families with young children who participate in the agency's Children's Division. The donations came at a time when more and more families were looking for assistance due to difficult economic conditions.

Other individuals volunteered their time to provide enriching activities for the adults with developmental disabilities who participate in People, Incorporated programs. Activities included two softball clinics provided by the Johnson & Wales Women's Softball Team; a tennis clinic with the Salve Regina Women's Tennis Team that included passes to the Tennis Hall of Fame; and a cake decorating demonstration by a professional cake decorator and her assistants.

Disney brought the program to a close in March as it reached its target of one million passes. One hundred and forty-eight



Ryan and Kiara Hartman are two of the many volunteers who participated in Disney's Give a Day Get a Day Program.

volunteers had received passes through People, Incorporated by donating over \$3,000 in food and goods to the food pantries and an additional 98 hours of various volunteer services.

Celebrating our Newest Residence on Read Street in Somerset



People, Incorporated and Diman Regional Vocational Technical High School hosted an open house on Thursday, June 17, 2010 from 4-6 p.m., to celebrate the completion of their second, fully accessible home at 1665 Read Street in Somerset, Massachusetts.

As our residential population ages and their needs change, it is imperative that our Agency be fully receptive to those needs and adapt where necessary. This single-level home features a ramped entrance way, overhead tracking and extra-wide hallways and doorways to accommodate individuals that may use wheelchairs. There is also a four-foot-high bathtub which permits easy access for people with disabilities. Maintaining independence for clients is very important to People, Incorporated and by providing fully accessible homes, we are able to provide a consistent, flexible and individualized service based on each person's strengths and needs. Part of our mission is to create opportunities for people to remain in the community and specifically to live as independently as possible while providing a sense of belonging and family. Diman Regional Vocational Technical High School shares in our mission and values and this home is a shining example of what is good about community collaborations.

This home is the second project between People, Incorporated and the Diman Regional Vocational High School home-building program. Between 80 and 100 students participated in the project and the Diman home-building program includes the school's shops in carpentry, electricity, facilities management, heating, ventilation and air conditioning, metal fabrication and welding, and plumbing. Under the watchful eye of house and mill carpentry department head Stephen Marciszyn, Diman students logged countless hours on the project, learning first-hand the tricks of the trade while also making the lives of disabled people a whole lot easier. Diman has been building homes for people in the communities of Fall River, Westport, Somerset and Swansea since the early 1970s.

In Memoriam...

People, Incorporated would like to extend our sincerest condolences to the family and friends of:

Michael Cadieux
Charlie Finnucci

Michael Sa
Manny Tavares

You will be fondly remembered.



Mark Your Calendar

**Mildred F. Midura
Scholarship Application
deadline:
July 1, 2010**

The Jack Rua Invitational Golf Tournament

**Tuesday, August 17, 2010
12:30 pm Shotgun
Crestwood Country Club
Rehoboth, MA**

Call Pam O'Neill at 508.679.5233 x11
or Jason Rua at 508.673.5808
for tickets and info.

***Reserve your spot today!
The tournament is expected
to fill up early.***



1040 Eastern Avenue
Fall River, MA 02723



Helping People, Incorporated

As a non-profit agency, we rely on the generosity of members of the community, family members and our employees to help keep our mission alive. Many people often ask, "How can I help?" There are many different ways you can make a difference in the lives of people with disabilities and other at-risk life situations. You can invest your time by volunteering for one of the many programs supporting children and adults in the Fall River community, you can make a donation of a product or service to any of our programs, or you can remember People, Incorporated in your will and as you plan your estate. There are so many ways to give back to the agency that has been providing quality services for over 40 years and has directly impacted the lives of over 1,000 families in 2009 alone!

Please consider making a contribution to People, Incorporated. As a 501 (c) (3) organization, your donation may be tax deductible. To donate, please make check payable to People, Incorporated and mail to our administrative office at 1040 Eastern Avenue, Fall River, MA 02723 ATTN: Director of Communication & Development.

