

Inside this issue:

Volume 1, Issue 8

Newsletter Date: April 2011

President's Report	2
Thanks For Your Support	2
HearthStone Respite	3
What is "Aqua-ability"?	3
Family Voices	4
Spring Dance	4
Upcoming Events	4
HearthStone Fundraiser	5
Donate Now!	6

9th Annual Employer Recognition Luncheon

Sheboygan County businesses who make a practice of hiring individuals with disabilities were recognized at the Ninth Annual Employer's Recognition Luncheon on Wednesday October 14th. Held at the American Club in Kohler, the luncheon is sponsored by the Employment Services division of RCS Empowers, The Department of Workforce Development, Division of Vocational Rehabilitation and HearthStone of Wisconsin.

Fifteen outstanding businesses and an Exemplary Employer, Culver's Franchising Systems and its three Sheboygan County stores were given State of Wisconsin awards from Gov. Doyle, presented by Dr. Charlene Dwyer, Administrator of the Division of Vocational Rehabilitation.

Craig Culver, founder and CEO of Culver's Franchising Systems accepted the Exemplary Award. "It's a part of our culture to look for the strengths in all of our associates and to embrace diversity in every way." Culver also revealed the challenges faced by his mentor and father, George Culver, who was profoundly hard of hearing, yet was a tireless entrepreneur and successful businessman.

The featured speaker was Dinah Chaudoir Federer author of "Chasing Normal". She holds a B.A. in psychology and has been in the field of vocational rehabilitation for over 23 years. She was a counselor for the state Division of Vocational Rehabilitation in Wisconsin for 18 of those years. Dinah was born with Charcot-Marie-Tooth disease (CMT). As a disabled adult herself, her consistent message to her newly disabled clients is "There is life after disability!" Her message emphasized how important employment is to everyone, especially those with a disability. "Work is central to our very identity."

Additionally, 109 Sheboygan County employers were given Certificates of Appreciation by HearthStone of Wisconsin, a Sheboygan based non-profit which advocates for people with developmental disabilities



Front: Craig Culver, CEO of Culver's, Josh Holler, Culver's Employee
Back: Dr. Charlene Dwyer, Administrator Division of Vocational Rehabilitation, Robin Pingle, Nick Gundrum, Scott Clark Joy Allison, Diane Rickaby, Brian Lovelien, Joe Bogenschuetz, Jill Horkan, Dave Harmeling, and Ken Horkan all from Culver's Sheboygan and Plymouth Stores.



President's Report

State's Financial Woes Passed on to Consumers

By Jon Rost

In the middle of Wisconsin's political and financial turmoil, Family Care's financial problems are directly affecting those we care about. Just this morning I spoke with a gentleman whose son will soon be displaced because the provider is closing the group home in which he has lived for the past 16 years. It's almost enough to make you long for the days when there were simply waiting lists for Waiver services.

We are hoping against hope that the Legislative Audit on Family Care may provide some insights on how they and other MCOs can provide services more efficiently as opposed to simply cutting re-imbursement rates to providers by 7% to as much as 40%. HearthStone has conveyed our concerns to Sen. Liebham, and Representatives Kestell, Endsley and Le-Mehieu. Hopefully they will work on our behalf to protect those we care about.

In any event, I don't think this will be pretty, but we can't give up. Please talk to family, friends and neighbors and encourage them to contact their representatives and express concerns over vital services to protect the most vulnerable in our community.

Thanks for your concern, your support and your action.

Regards, Jon

Jon Rost,
President,
HearthStone of Wisconsin



Thanks for Your Support

Thank you for your financial support in 2010. Our apologies if your name was inadvertently omitted.

Daniel & Mary Adams
Ed & Melinda Adams
Kathleen Adams
Robert & Alice Adams
Joseph Arndt
Robert & Ronna Cline
Charlie & Juanita Conrardy
Pam J Gannon
Richard & Carol Gross
Marvel Harrison

Ladies of the Lake
Jane McWilliams
Piggly Wiggly -
Washington Square
Ronald & Barbara Preder
John & Dorothy Reindl
Adam Robb
Jerry & Sandra Robb
Eric Rost
Jon & Carol Rost

Tom & Ruth Rost
Alan Rudnick
Frank & Terri Sterzen
Gus & Linda Tiboris
Jesse & Sharon Tresino
Jacob & Audrey -
Van Dixhorn
John & Margie Watt

The only way of finding the limits of the possible is by going beyond them into the impossible.

Arthur C. Clarke

Respite - " an interval of rest or relief."

Respite is a service in which another adult assumes the role of care giver for individuals with disabilities for short periods of time. This kind of support for family members of individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities reduces stress and allows the caregivers to engage in "down time" together or individually. Sometimes just being able to go for a walk by yourself, go to a movie with your spouse or partner, or get in the car and go to the grocery store by yourself can be a relief.

Sometimes respite can give a caregiver three or four hours of much needed sleep, knowing that a responsible, caring, and trained adult is ensuring the safety of your loved one. It doesn't mean we don't love our child, brother, sister; or love being with them. It means we are deserving of our own time and space. Taking care of ourselves is the best thing we can do so that when a loved one needs us, we have the physical and emotional reserves to care for them.

The Hearthstone Respite Care Project a collaboration of Hearthstone of WI, Sheboygan County Health and Human Services, and the Family Resource Center completed its sixth full year in 2010. The program ended the year with 65 families enrolled. 17 individuals received services on 42 occasions. The Project had the good fortune of receiving over six thousand dollars in grants in 2010 from the Early Bird Rotary of Sheboygan and the "Ladies of the Lake" - Elkhart Lake.

Sheboygan County families with developmentally disabled members who need that little time away, a sense that people care and want to help; contact the Family Resource Center (Plymouth 920-892-6706 / Sheboygan 920-457-1888).

What is "Aqua Ability"

By Barb Zipperer, Aqua Ability Manitowoc Two Rivers-Y

What is Aqua Ability?

For the past 5 years, the Aqua Ability Program has been a place where individuals with varying abilities could learn to swim, exercise and connect with their community. Aqua Ability is an aquatic based motor development program for individuals with a variety of abilities and challenges. The objectives of Aqua Ability include helping individuals develop pride and self-confidence, while providing them with an opportunity to enhance their physical abilities (i.e. aquatic), and making friends. Each participant's program is tailored to their unique and individual needs in a supportive, nurturing, and safe environment.

Aqua Ability serves children as well as adults, with a variety of diagnoses including cerebral palsy, spina bifida, arthritis, developmental delay, sensory integration disorder, autistic spectrum disorder, Parkinson's and many other disorders. Aqua Ability accepts individuals with a variety of abilities and challenges.

All program participants work with certified Water Safety Instructors or Certified Adapted Aquatic Instructors. Aqua Ability classes are currently held Monday thru Thursday in Manitowoc, at the "Y".

For more information please contact the "Y" at 920-482-1522. Carolyn Jensen the Aquatic Director will be happy to answer any questions.





“Hearth” to symbolize a loving, caring home; “Stone” to symbolize permanence”

www.hearthstonewi.org

Yet Another Voice

By Kathy Arndt

Family Voices of Wisconsin is the home of the Wisconsin Family to Family Health Information and Education Network. Family Voices of Wisconsin is part of a national grassroots network of families and advocates who support children with disabilities and/or special health care needs. We provide information, training and support around health care and community supports to families throughout Wisconsin, including the well received "Did You Know? Now You Know!" training program. www.fvofwi.org

A core commitment of Family Voices is to involve and support parents in decision making roles that affect program design and policy recommendations on local, regional and statewide levels.

The Wisconsin Board for Developmental Disabilities (WBPDD) has produced several inspiring videos now available on You Tube. "My transition Story" features Ben Fleischman's transition from high school to the workforce. "Self-Directed Supports" features Jerry Cywinski and shows how self-directed supports have made a positive impact on his life.

Interested in information and updates on the health care reform bill.. "The New Health Care Reform Law - What It Means for Young Adults" brochures are available at www.HealthCare.gov/center/brochures/index.html

HearthStone Young People's Dance 2011

A "Super" time was had by all as HearthStone's Young People celebrated at the Annual Spring Dance. The theme for this year was "A Super Bowl XLV Party". Green & Gold filled the room at the Plymouth Youth Center as 40 young people, family and friends gathered for the celebration that included food, dancing, karaoke, and plenty of fun. A special "Thank You" goes to Lakeside Pepsi for the donation of water and soda. Also, "Thanks" goes to all of the volunteers that helped with everything that made this event a great success. Hopefully, we can celebrate another Super Bowl victory next year. Stay tuned for more great HearthStone events. We would love to see you there!



HearthStone's Young People having a "Super" Time.

Upcoming Events



Friday, May 13th, 2011 - 7:00 a.m., HearthStone Monthly Meeting
Fountain Park Restaurant in Sheboygan

Friday, June 10th, 2011 - 7:00 a.m., HearthStone Monthly Meeting
Fountain Park Restaurant in Sheboygan

Friday, July 8, 2011 - 7:00 a.m., HearthStone Monthly Meeting
Fountain Park Restaurant in Sheboygan

Show your support for Hearthstone while you save money and earn cash back!

Hearthstone is participating in an exciting new fundraising program. The company now has its own website featuring thousands of partner stores like Target, Walmart, Best Buy, Apple, The Home Depot and many more. When you make a purchase on WWW.marketamerica.com/hearthstone, Hearthstone receives royalties and you earn up to 35% cash back on qualified purchases.



The benefits don't stop there. You earn 0.5% cash back on the purchases of everyone you refer to our website. Now, you can take advantage of the ease and convenience of Internet shopping to buy the products and services you want, while feeling good about helping one of your favorite organizations.

Our new fundraising website has a variety of benefits.

- Check out the Hot Deals page to get access to coupons and exclusive deals to help you save even more.
- Go to the Partner Stores page to find specific stores that you'd like to shop from.
- Use the Search feature at the top of the page to search over 35 million different products and services for things you're looking for.
- Discover unique products and services like GENE SNP™ DNA Analysis, Isotonix® line of high quality nutritional supplements, Cellular Laboratories® luxurious skin care line, Transitions™ Life Style System for weight management, and many more.
- Find the perfect gift in our Gift Ideas area.

Getting Started is Easy!

1) Visit our website at WWW.marketamerica.com/hearthstone

2) Register as a Preferred Customer

- Click "Sign in" in the upper right hand corner
- Select the "No I am a new customer" option
- Follow the prompts
- You are now eligible to earn up to 35% on qualified purchases

3 Go Shopping

- Use the search box at the top of the screen to find a specific item or type of product you're looking for
- Use Shop Partners to find a specific partner like Target or Walmart
 - Use "Shop All Departments" to shop via category
- Use Hot Deals to find special deals and coupons to save even more money
- Look for the  icon to find out exactly how much cash back you'll earn from purchases made from that store or on a particular product

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Permit 122

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Yes, I'd like to help HearthStone help our special population

Please help us help others right here at home. Your contribution is fully tax deductible
HearthStone of Wisconsin is a 501(C)3 non-profit corporation.

Yes, I'd like to donate:

_____ \$25 _____ \$50 _____ \$75 _____ \$100 _____ \$250 _____ \$500 _____ other

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone _____ Email _____

If you'd like to donate
securely on-line, visit:
www.hearthstonewi.org

You can make a difference. Volunteer for HearthStone

In addition to your financial support, you can help HearthStone with your
donation of time and energy. We are an entirely volunteer organization. With your help,
our expenses are minimized and more goes to the people we serve.

Volunteer opportunities

- Educational meetings Fundraising Maintain our growing database
 Website update Newsletter production Events for our young people

HEARTHSTONE OF WISCONSIN

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