

Catholic Charities Health & Human Services  
Disability Services  
Diocese of Cleveland  
7911 Detroit Ave.  
Cleveland, Ohio 44102



Non-Profit Org.  
U.S. Postage  
PAID  
Cleveland, Ohio  
Permit No. 688

May 2005

<http://www.clevelandcatholiccharities.org/disability>

Call  
(216) 334-2963  
to register

***Weekend Retreats!!!***  
*Spaces are limited to 20 Retreatants & fill up quickly!*  
Retreats held at St. Joseph Christian Life Center  
located along the shores of Lake Erie (18485 Lake Shore Blvd.)

Fee is \$90.00  
Send checks to:  
Disability Services  
7911 Detroit Ave.  
Cleveland, OH 44102

The 2005 monthly Retreat dates are: Sept. 16-18; Oct. 21-23; Nov. 18-20; Dec. 16-18

### Faith & Sharing Retreat 2005 ~ "All are Welcome at the Table"

Thursday, June 2 thru Sunday, June 5

at St. Joseph Christian Life Center

Come reflect on the true meaning of the Gospel: the Word, witnessed and written down

Hear Fr. Donald Dunson, Author of the 2003 book "No Room at the Table"

Contact for more information: [FaithAndSharing@gmail.com](mailto:FaithAndSharing@gmail.com); Chris Alvarado at 216-344-2232 or Eric Johnson at 440-826-3742

### You can still sign up for Catholic Summer Programs

**Camp Happiness** is a 6 week day camp program for children to young adults ages 6-21 with developmental disabilities. It runs Monday-Friday (9:30-3:00), beginning June 20 and ending July 29. There are 4 different locations: Center for Pastoral Leadership in Wickliffe; St. Augustine Academy in Lakewood; OLA/St. Joseph Center in Cleveland (Tremont); and Parmadale in Parma. Campers enjoy a variety of activities, such as swimming, arts and crafts, indoor and outdoor games and community field trips. Activities are designed to allow individuals a chance to participate to the best of their ability. The cost for 6 weeks of camp, including transportation is \$1,656. Call 216-334-2963 for information.

**CYO Camp Christopher** in Bath, Ohio, is an 8 week residential camp program for adults, 18 & over, with disabilities. This program allows individuals to participate in the program according to their ability and choice. Swimming, boating, arts, crafts, nature study, relaxing, games, horseback riding, walking and more is offered. Cost for a week of Special Populations Camp is only \$365.

Open House April 6 from 5-8 pm or May 15 from 1-5pm

1-800-CYO-CAMP (1-800-296-2267) or e-mail [campregistrar@akroncyo.org](mailto:campregistrar@akroncyo.org)

**Augustine Rainbow Camp** is a 5-week program in an inclusive setting at OLA/St. Joseph Center in the Tremont neighborhood of Cleveland for campers ages 5 to 16 who are deaf, hard of hearing or blind. Also serves children with mild, moderate and severe mental retardation & developmental disabilities. This program includes children with & without disabilities. Rainbow Camp runs from June 28 to July 30.

[www.clevelandcatholiccharities.org/camping](http://www.clevelandcatholiccharities.org/camping)

### ~ Monthly Dances ~



Enjoy friends, dancing, snacks, prizes and great music!  
Cost ~ \$3.00 for dancers (Staff are Free) / Ages ~ 16 and over



ID ~ All dancers must have their ID

If they do not keep the ID in their pocket or wallet, then they need to wear a **nametag** with their name and phone number on it

*Come with the nametag already on ~ it will help keep the line shorter!!!*

Supervision ~ If supervision is needed, the individual group home or family must provide.

### Mark your Calendars...2005 Dance Dates...Now in 3 Locations...

#### OLA/St. Joseph Center

7 - 9:30 pm

2346 West 14<sup>th</sup> St., Cleveland

216-334-2963

2<sup>nd</sup> Friday of the month

June 10; July 8; Aug. 12; Sept. 9; Oct.

14; Nov. 11; Dec. 9

#### Catholic Charities Family Center

Lorain ~ 7 - 9:30 pm

203 W. 8<sup>th</sup> St., Lorain, OH 44052

440-244-9915

Friday, May 20<sup>th</sup>

#### Rose-Mary Center

7:30 - 10:00 pm

19350 Euclid Ave., Euclid

216-481-4823

4<sup>th</sup> Friday of the month

*(unless noted by \*)*

May 27; June 24; July 22; Aug. 26;

Sept. 23; Oct. 28; Nov. 18\*; no dance

in December

**Catholic Charities, Disability Services** ~ (216) 334-2963 Fax (216) 334-2905 Ohio Relay Number (TTY) ~ 711

Dennis C. McNulty, Director [dcmcnulty@dioceseofcleveland.org](mailto:dcmcnulty@dioceseofcleveland.org); Tom McFadden, Principal, OLA/St. Joseph Center [olastjoe@dioceseofcleveland.org](mailto:olastjoe@dioceseofcleveland.org); Marilyn Scott, Program Administrator [mjscott@dioceseofcleveland.org](mailto:mjscott@dioceseofcleveland.org); Flexible Community Response ~ Jerry Slabe, [fjslabe@dioceseofcleveland.org](mailto:fjslabe@dioceseofcleveland.org); Joe Ungarsky, Director, Support Services (216) 631-3499 x2146 [jmungarsky@dioceseofcleveland.org](mailto:jmungarsky@dioceseofcleveland.org); Employment & Training ~ Beverly Cinovec, Director (216) 426-9870 [BACINOVEC@dioceseofcleveland.org](mailto:BACINOVEC@dioceseofcleveland.org); Supported Employment, Cuyahoga Co. ~ (216) 426-9870 Tom Mendelsohn, Program Administrator x16 [txmendelsohn@dioceseofcleveland.org](mailto:txmendelsohn@dioceseofcleveland.org); Kristal Kent, Supported Employment Coordinator x32 [kxkent@dioceseofcleveland.org](mailto:kxkent@dioceseofcleveland.org); Lorain Family Center ~ Jim Gepperth, Director (440) 244-9915 [w8thst@dioceseofcleveland.org](mailto:w8thst@dioceseofcleveland.org); Tess Flannery, Summit County (330) 762-2961 x224 [TFlannery@AkronCYO.org](mailto:TFlannery@AkronCYO.org); Headstart ~ Mary Baran [mxbaran@dioceseofcleveland.org](mailto:mxbaran@dioceseofcleveland.org); Tammi Seifert 216-334-2944 [tseifert@dioceseofcleveland.org](mailto:tseifert@dioceseofcleveland.org)

**Disability Ministries** ~ 2486 West 14<sup>th</sup> St., Cleveland, Ohio 44113 (216) 781-5530 Voice/TTY

Fr. Joseph McNulty, Director; Sr. Corita Ambro, CSJ, Program Director [staugch@earthlink.net](mailto:staugch@earthlink.net)

**Catholic Charities Disability Services & Ministries Newsletter**  
**Since 1966**      **Diocese of Cleveland, Ohio**

**Employment & Training – Supported Employment**

Catholic Charities Services Employment and Training is available to help anyone in need of employment services. No one is turned away.

Please join us in welcoming Tom Mendelsohn, Program Administrator, and Kristal Kent, Supported Employment Coordinator who began working with us in April. Tom will take primary responsibility for assisting adults referred by Ohio Rehabilitations Services Commission/Bureaus of Vocational Rehabilitation and Services for the Visually Impaired (BVR/BSVI) in preparing for and finding employment, and Kristal will work with people referred by the Cuyahoga County Board of MR/DD.

Please refer to the following contact information:

Catholic Charities Services, Employment and Training - Supported Employment, 3135 Euclid Avenue, Suite 101, Cleveland, OH 44115. Tom Mendelsohn can be reached at 216-426-9870 x16 or [txmendelsohn@dioceseofcleveland.org](mailto:txmendelsohn@dioceseofcleveland.org). Kristal can be reached at 216-426-9870 x32 or [kxkent@dioceseofcleveland.org](mailto:kxkent@dioceseofcleveland.org).

Supported Employment receives referrals from the Cuyahoga County Board of MRDD and from the Ohio Rehabilitations Services Commission/Bureaus of Vocational Rehabilitation and Services for the Visually Impaired. Individuals referred are eligible to receive job readiness and life management skills training, job placement assistance, job coaching and job site support, job retention and follow-along services, and links to natural and community supports. Individuals participate in our programs following an intake assessment based upon referrals received.

Kristal Kent has a BA degree in Criminal Justice with minors in Psychology and Sociology. Kristal has eight years experience working with adults with disabilities and/or mental illness. She is a QMRP and previously has worked with Koinonia Homes, Inc., Connections in Ohio, Inc., and Phoenix Residential Centers, Inc. In addition, Kristal has prior military service both active duty and reserves in the Army. Kristal is a great advocate for persons with MR/DD and looks forward to helping them achieve competitive employment.

Tom Mendelsohn has a BA degree in Sociology and a MS degree in Urban Studies with previous work experience with the Cleveland Sight Center, TBO Company, LLC. (a national staffing company), and the Resident Empowerment Organization. In each of these positions, he assisted adults with special needs with educational and vocational training, as well as providing job development and placement support. Tom has found through his many experiences that he truly enjoys using his many skills and contact networking to help people improve their quality of life.

**Camp Happiness, Marilyn Scott**

We are in the midst of registering campers for our 6-week summer program. And we have hired staff for all four Camp Happiness sites as well! We are looking forward to another fun filled summer! If you or anyone you know has a child age 6-21 with cognitive disabilities, please give us a call or e-mail – 216-334-2963 or [mjscott@dioceseofcleveland.org](mailto:mjscott@dioceseofcleveland.org)

**Saturday Classes, Marilyn Scott**

The Saturday classes are preparing for the end of the school year! Last day of classes is Saturday, May 21. On May 14, students took a 1 hour tour of Cleveland on Lolly the Trolley and had lunch afterwards at Dempsey's in Tremont! Everyone had a wonderful time and is looking forward to summer break! The Saturday students did a great job this year in their classes! We are all very proud of each and every one of them! Classes will begin again in September – look for more information in August!

**Catholic Charities Family Center in Lorain, Jim Gepperth**

Dances in Lorain Continue! We are grateful to the Associate Board of the Catholic Diocese of Cleveland Foundation for their recent grant of \$1,200 that will allow us to continue our popular "Friendship Connections" program. Six fun-filled dances will be held for adults with disabilities and their caregivers in the next year to encourage new friendships and to have some well-deserved fun. Our next dance happens on Friday May 20<sup>th</sup>.

**Catholic Charities Head Start, Tammi Seifert / Mary**

**Baran** Catholic Charities Services Head Start is enrolling children (ages 3 - 5, not going to kindergarten) for Fall. The enrollment process has begun and will continue until school begins in Sept. 2005. If you are aware of any child that would benefit from a free preschool program, please contact Tammi Seifert, Disabilities Coordinator, at 216-334-2944. Please indicate if your child has any special needs or diagnosed disabilities, so that accommodations and services can be coordinated for the child, prior to entry into the program. Head Start is a publicly funded preschool program that offers comprehensive services to children and families that are age and income eligible, including children with disabilities or special needs.

**OLA/St. Joseph Center Elementary School, Tom**

**McFadden, Principal** End of the Year News ~ Congratulations to our fifteen graduating students, who will be a significant member of the Class of 2009. May you all continue to excel in all that you do and may God bless each and every one of you fine young people. The graduates are: *Edward Buchanan, Kenneth Contreras, Brittany Dye, Mireya Garcia, Alexa Gervasi, Michael Hamm, Erik Hatszegi, Corey Mitchell, Jeremiah Russell, Eric Tehorik, Peter Thuransky, Nicole Volpin, Demmanuel Wade, Jazmine Westley, and Chrishelle Worley.*

There are many end of the year activities and events planned! Some include: an all school mass on Friday, May 20, at 10am; also on May 20 at 7pm is Confirmation at St. Augustine Church; field trips are planned; the spring music program is on Friday, May 27 at 2pm; last day of school for our graduates is June 6, with graduation that evening at 7pm at St. Augustine Church; and last day for the rest of the school is June 8.

**The Future of the OLA/St. Joseph Center**

Since we announced that OLA/St. Joseph Elementary School would be closing in June, 2005, we have received several questions and concerns as to the future of the Center itself.

Disability Services will continue to operate the OLA/St. Joseph Center as a disability center, providing a continuum of services and ministries to persons with cognitive disabilities (mental retardation), as it has since 1966. The mission of Catholic Charities Disability Services is not changing. Our mission, "to include persons with disabilities in to the life of our Church and society," remains as the services we offer evolve with changing needs.

In addition to our continuing to use the OLA/St. Joseph Center for community meetings, monthly dances for persons with disabilities, providing a continuing adult education program and summer camp for children with severe cognitive disabilities, other future program options for persons with disabilities could include a day services program, employment programs, after school respite program and other social and educational programs.

There are many possible ways that the OLA/St. Joseph Center can serve persons with disabilities going into the future. But we need your help. You have been very generous in supporting us in the past and we hope that you will assist us in creating our new center! And as always, we trust that you will pray for our success. Your dedication to people with disabilities has always been a light for our Church community.

Please feel free to contact Dennis McNulty with any questions or concerns. (216.334.2962 or [dcmcnulty@dioceseofcleveland.org](mailto:dcmcnulty@dioceseofcleveland.org))

**From Disability Ministries**

Students from OLA/St. Joseph Center will join members of St. Augustine Parish for Confirmation on Friday, May 20 at pm at St. Augustine Church. Fifteen persons with disabilities will be receiving confirmation along with 30 other young adults and adults, as well. Bishop Roger Gries will be the celebrant. Congratulations to them!

**Liturgies for the deaf and hearing impaired** are celebrated throughout our Diocese every weekend. On Saturday evenings you can attend an interpreted Mass at: St. Mary's in Chardon at 4:30pm; St. Augustine Church in Cleveland at 5:30pm; or St. Peter's in Brookpark at 4:30pm. On Sunday's you can attend an interpreted Mass at: St. Augustine's in Cleveland at 8:30am; St. Vincent's in Akron at 11:00am; St. Anthony's in Parma at 10:00am, St. Noel's in Willoughby Hills on the 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of the month at 11:00 am. There is also a fully signed liturgy, with the priest signing, at 10:00 am at St. Augustine in Cleveland.

**Community Information**

**Preparing for the Future Workshops** ~ These workshops provide families a "toolkit" for putting together a Life Plan. For more information call 216-736-2717. Dates are: Sept. 7, 14, 21 & 28 at Euclid Adult Activities Center; and Oct. 5, 12, 19 & 26 at Westlake Developmental Center. They meet from 6pm to 9pm and cost is \$50.

**Learn how proposed changes in Social Security will affect people with disabilities** Social security provides benefits to 47 million people in the United States, including 7 million people with disabilities. Current talk on privatization of social security will have a significant impact on the benefits received by people with disabilities. The Consortium of Citizens with Disabilities has put together 7 fact sheets "to educate people about the potential devastating effect of major program changes" at

<http://www.aamr.org/Policies/legislation.shtml>