

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



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Cleveland, Ohio
Permit No. 688

40 Years of Service & Ministry to persons with disabilities ~ 1966 to 2006

February 2006

www.clevelandcatholiccharities.org/disability

~ 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 in their pocket or wallet or a nametag with their first name and phone number on it.

*Helpful Hint...*Come with a nametag already on ~ it will help keep the line shorter!!!

The group home or family must provide supervision if needed

Mark your Calendars...

2005 Dance Dates...

OLA/St. Joseph Center

7 - 9:30 pm

2346 West 14th St., Cleveland ~ 216-334-2963

2nd Friday of the month (unless noted by *)

Feb 10; March 10; *April 7; *May 5; June 9; July 14; Aug 11;

Sept 8; Oct 13; Nov 10; Dec 8

Catholic Charities Family Center

Lorain ~ 7 - 9:30 pm

203 W. 8th St., Lorain, OH 44052 ~ 440-244-9915

Friday, March 31

Rose-Mary Center

7:30 - 10:00 pm

19350 Euclid Ave., Euclid ~ 216-481-4823

4th Friday of the month (unless noted by *)

Feb 24; March 24; April 21; May 26; June 23; July 28; Aug 25;

Sept 22; Oct 27; *Nov 17; No December Dance

Sign Up Now for Catholic Summer Programs

www.clevelandcatholiccharities.org/camping

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 19 and ending July 28. There are 4 different locations throughout Cleveland and the surrounding suburbs. 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. For Information:

1-800-CYO-CAMP (1-800-296-2267) or e-mail
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 26 to July 28.

Weekend Retreats!!!

Call
(216) 334-2963
to register

You can sign up now for the February 17-19 Retreat!!!

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

2006 dates: Feb. 17-19; March 17-19; April 13-15; May 19-21; Sept. 15-17; Oct. 13-15; Nov. 17-19; Dec. 15-17

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

Dennis C. McNulty, Director dmcnulty@clevelandcatholiccharities.org; **Marilyn Scott, Program Administrator** mjscott@clevelandcatholiccharities.org; **Flexible Community Response** ~ **Mike Haggerty**, mjhaggerty@clevelandcatholiccharities.org; **Joe Ungarsky, Director, Support Services** (216) 631-3499 x2146jmungarsky@clevelandcatholiccharities.org; **Employment & Training** (216) 426-9870 ~ **Beverly Cinovec, Director** BACINOVEC@clevelandcatholiccharities.org; **Kristal Kent, Supported Employment Coordinator** x21kxkent@clevelandcatholiccharities.org; **Lorain Family Center** ~ **Jim Gepperth, Director** (440) 244-9915 jegepperth@clevelandcatholiccharities.org; **Tess Flannery, Summit County** (330) 762-2961 x224TFlannery@AkronCYO.org; **Headstart** ~ **Mary Baran** mxbaran@clevelandcatholiccharities.org; **Tammi Seifert** 216-334-2944 tseifert@clevelandcatholiccharities.org

Disability Ministries ~ 2486 West 14th St., Cleveland, Ohio 44113 (216) 781-5530 Voice/TTY
Fr. Joseph McNulty, Director; Sr. Corita Ambro, CSJ, Program Director staugch@earthlink.net

Catholic Charities Disability Services & Ministries Newsletter **Celebrating 40 years...1966 to 2006**

Is OLA/St. Joseph Center Open??? YES!!!!

Recently we have received questions whether OLA/St. Joseph Center was still open. The Center is not only open, but will be expanding its programs to persons with disabilities. During the day, the Rose-Mary Center School Program provides education and therapy for children with severe cognitive and physical disabilities.

In the afternoons and evenings, we hope to begin new programs for adults with cognitive disabilities. These opportunities will include after-workshop programs and evening activities. In addition, current programs such as our dances, socials, the adult education program, and the many programs offered by Catholic Charities Disability Ministries will continue to make the OLA/St. Joseph Center truly a "Center" for education, social and religious activities for people with disabilities.

As you know, the education program that previously was offered at the Center was merged into the educational programs at St. Stanislaus grade school, Metro Catholic grade school and Central Catholic high school. We are encouraged that these more inclusive educational options will benefit these students.

So, to answer your questions, we have not ended programs at OLA/St. Joseph Center, but have expanded programs and activities as Catholic Charities and as a Diocese!

The Deaf Access Program at St. Vincent Charity Hospital Congratulations to St. Vincent Charity Hospital (SVCH)! Some two years ago, the administration of SVCH devised a plan to make their hospital one of the few in the United States that specialize in services for the Deaf. The Mount Sinai Foundation recognized the value of their plan and has awarded SVCH \$131,418 to help realize this dream. Disability Services & Ministries is proud to have participated in the design of this program. We will keep you updated as plans begin to realized.

Saturday Classes, Marilyn Scott The students and staff from the Continuing Adult Education Program enjoyed their Holiday break! But we are now looking forward to learning many new things this year! We have several field trips planned, including the Science Center and NASA and we will also be focusing on learning more about the United States of America!

Catholic Charities Family Center in Lorain, Jim Geppert Staying connected with other organizations in the community is important to a family center like ours. For example, we communicate with the Lorain County Board of MR/DD (LCBMR/DD) to coordinate dances for adults with developmental disabilities so that we don't plan an important event on the same day as they do. The LCBMR/DD even helps us promote our services to mutual clients. Our last dance held January 20th to ring in the New Year was very successful with over 60 people in attendance!

Recently, we helped a volunteer named George get connected to the LCBMR/DD. We were growing concerned with his ability to live independently in the community. A support administrator met with him at our site and conducted an assessment. During the process our outreach worker and the support administrator were able to restore George's state identification and eventually his Medicaid eligibility providing him with access to healthcare. We all feel better knowing that George is now able to receive services from the Lorain County Board of MR/DD if he needs them and we continue to be blessed with George's presence and volunteerism at our center!

Catholic Charities Services Head Start, Mary Baran 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. We are now enrolling children (ages 3 to 5, not going to kindergarten) for next school year. Although the school year has been in session for a few months, we are always actively recruiting and enrolling children, including those with special needs. If you are aware of any child that would benefit from a free preschool program, please contact Mary Baran, Disabilities

Specialist, at 440-345-3005. 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 his/her entry into the program.

Catholic Charities Services Employment and Training & Supported Employment, Kristal Kent Kristal has done a great job in finding potential employment opportunities for persons with disabilities who have been referred through CCBMRDD or BVR/BSVI. Don't let these jobs go to waste! Call us at (216) 426-9870 for more information or to make a referral.

CCS Employment and Training can assist in finding employment or reemployment for anyone. Call (216) 426-9870 for information about all of our services.

From Disability Ministries

The Beatitudes Faith Formation Program is designed to provide a nurturing and prayerful environment for special needs children to be introduced to Jesus and His love. In addition, instructors attend to and assist with the preparation of the children for the Sacraments. The program is held on the second Saturday of each month at St. Augustine Church's Walsh Hall from 11:00 - 1:00 p.m.

Lunch and refreshments are provided. If you would like to register your child or need transportation, or be part of this program in any way, please call the rectory at 216-781-5530.

St. Augustine Signing Choir receives praise! The following was received from a teacher whose school was visited by the Choir. "Just wanted to let you know that the signing choir just performed at our school today and they were absolutely awesome! I had seen them perform at St. Columbkille one year and they were absolutely beautiful in their movements which is what I remembered, but I had no idea they could "dance" and perform like they did for us today. They were totally fabulous and our students and staff were overwhelmed!...It was exciting to see the students try to sign the songs along with them -- even the ones the group didn't try to teach them...Afterward, students and staff commented on how "beautiful" it was...Anyhow, thanks again for helping make this happen for us in our school -- the group was well received!!!!!"

Community Information... Did you know that during Hurricane Katrina, the most underserved group were the deaf and hard-of-hearing? Less than 30% of shelters had access to American Sign Language interpreters, 80% did not have TTY's, and 60% did not have TVs with open caption capability.

This statistic is taken from the N.O.D. Emergency Preparedness Initiative's Report on Special Needs Assessment for Katrina Evacuees (SNAKE) Project. Read Disaster & Disability: Katrina's Impact at <http://www.nod.org> to learn more.

Preparing for the Future workshops These workshops sponsored by the Cuyahoga County Board of MR/DD will be offered in two parts twice this year. These workshops will help you answer questions about legal and financial planning, residential options and person-centered planning.

Dates are April 22 & 29 from 9:30 - 2:30 at Middleburg Heights Library or October 14 & 21 from 9:30 - 2:30 at Maple Heights Library.

Call 216-736-2717 for information. Cost is \$50/family.

MAKING CHOICES - OPENING DOORS Choices in Residential Supports and Services. This is a two-session workshop to help with the most important decisions about where to live. It is presented by CMR, an agency that serves persons with mental retardation and developmental disabilities and their families. These sessions will be offered on Saturdays, May 6 and May 13, 2006, from 10:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m. at Hillcrest Hospital - Auditorium A (6780 Mayfield Road, Mayfield Heights, OH) or Saturdays, September 23 and 30, 2006, from 10:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m. at Fairview Park Branch - Cuyahoga Public Library (21255 Lorain Road, Fairview Park, OH). Cost is \$50/family or for CMR Members: \$35 Registration is limited. Call now to enroll - (216) 341-5488 or Email: cmr-clev@cmr-cleveland.org