

# CASE NOTES

Fall 2005

finding a way for people with disabilities

dayonenetwork

## From the Director's Desk - *Joyce Helander*

"Even a 1000 mile journey starts with a single step." A Quote from the Tao Te Ching by Lao Tzu

Every journey, however long it may be, begins with a single step. Once taken, each step can bring you closer to your goal. DayOne is excited to announce our "journey" to build a new office space with completion anticipated by early spring, 2006. This journey may appear overwhelming to some, but to those who share our vision, it is very simple: we have just to begin—one step at a time—to accomplish DayOne's capital campaign goals. We invite you to share the vision with us and help us accomplish our goals. Let's make the journey together, clients and families, providers and businesses, friends of the agency and all who

care from the communities we serve and beyond.

Our total building project cost is \$1,400,000.00. The immediate goal of the three year campaign is to raise \$240,000 by January 2006. This money would be used to first, meet the mortgage needs at closing. That would be \$140,000. The additional \$100,000 would be used on furnishings, including panel systems and electrical for computers, etc.

In year two and three, the goal is to raise an additional \$260,000. This amount would help us bring our total debt under \$1,000,000 for the project, thereby allowing us to access the Illinois Facility Funds loan institution as the primary lender, giving us a real break on interest and reducing our

monthly mortgage payments. Right now due to the cost of the project, we cannot access this fund as the primary lender.

Ownership will give us much needed space to meet our ever increasing service demands. Also, it will provide an environment that is more family friendly for consumers and will provide the services that DayOne offers with greater community presence and visibility, so critical to early intervention for clients. Awareness is key.

DayOne has experienced significant growth over the past years and anticipates this trend will continue. In FY2005 DayOne served 2248 individuals. If current trends continue, this number will greatly increase. Staffing needs grow proportionally to this in-

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## DayOne Walkers for American Cancer Society *by Melissa Spory*

On June 24-25, the Relay for Life walk began and DayOne employees were there to join in the cause. Victoria Strickland, Chris Olsen, Kathleen Sanford, Nicole Hubner, Carey Feltmeyer, Becca Schneider,



Lynn O'Toole, Melissa Spory, Autumn Todd and Cheryl Warren attended, along with friends of DayOne, Meghan Foose and Marie McGinty. Opening ceremonies began

our team would like to reach out and thank everyone who donated to this important cause and to those who kept us in their thoughts as we were walking.

with recognition of survivors and a moment of silence for those not able to be at the walk, followed by an incredible fireworks show. Teams were to remain on the track throughout the night. It was an unforgettable experience and

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## Developing in the Development Department

*By Sheila Luecht*



Dennis McKinnon, S.J. Peters, Linda Chapa La Via, and Joyce Helander.

### **NCILC Golf Outing**

Once again our golf outing was a wonderful experience this year due to the hard work of our golf com-

mittee and the North Central Illinois Labor Council. The day was filled with fun and the food fantastic. Joining us this year was former Chicago Bears player Dennis McKinnon and State Representative Linda Chapa La Via, as our celebrity guest and our honorary host. This year we added more golfers to the event and a "Chinese Auction" with a small live auction. DayOne-Network took home approximately \$9,000.00 through the efforts of this fundraising event. People's Resource Center in

DuPage took home a similar amount. We enjoyed partnering with the North Central Illinois Labor Council and working with the People's Resource Center to make this a great event for every participant. DayOne board members were on hand to help with registration and also to greet guests out on the course. We had a number of staff helping to support this event by their volunteer efforts too. We thank everyone who was present to volunteer and those who donated items for the silent auction items and

## Developing (cont'd)

those who contributed by funding sponsorship opportunities. Thank you all from the bottom of our hearts especially the folks at the North Central Illinois Labor Council, AFL - CIO! We have been invited to participate next year in the "On the Course for a Cause Event." Planning is already taking place. If you want to help, please call me, Sheila Luecht at 630-879-2277 extension 114.

### **Nick's Pizza Fundraiser**

Special thanks to all those who helped us raise funds by eating pizza at Nick's Pizza and Pub in Elgin on July 20. It was a rainy night, but still some ventured out and

we made \$140.00 thru that effort for DayOne. Please patronize Nicks if you like Pizza. It is very good and very inexpensive, not to mention it is a really cool place. They do a number of fundraisers similar to ours at both of their locations, and they really do make a difference in our communities by helping out in this way. We were the very first fundraiser held at Nick's in Elgin, as this is a brand new location for them. Thanks Nick's!

### **Oktoberfest "For our Kids"**

Development is working with the Child and Family Connection Program and the Community Access Program to create a special

event that is coming for DayOne families on October 2. This event is to be held on Sunday afternoon on the beautiful campus of the Glenwood School for Boys and Girls. Glenwood is partnering with us to do this special event for our families. It is called Oktoberfest "**For Our Kids**". This event is not a fundraiser and not open to the public, but if all of our families can participate and also those of the Glenwood students, we might expect as many as 400 people to attend. We are looking forward to this special partnership and the opportunity for each organization to

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## Developing (cont'd)

*(Continued from page 2)*

grow and benefit through the joint experience. We have something special to share with each other and we will have a day of hayrides, fishing and family fun to look forward to together. The event takes place from 3:00 pm until 6:00 pm. There is no rain date, we will just move inside if the weather is fussy. Food will be offered along with the fun. A special thanks to Greenwood and their Development Director Amy Collingbourne for all their efforts on this joint project. Find out more

in the Child and Family Connections section of this newsletter.

### November Wine Tasting

The November Wine Tasting is fast approaching. We are in the midst of firming up our plans which we will share with you all very soon. Our date is Friday, November 4, so be sure and mark your calendars. The tasting will feature a fine selection of wine and food. We will also have our silent auction and even a short live auction! We hope that you will attend and bring your friends. Host and



Joyce Helander, Exec Director DayOne Network, accepting check from Matt Dupree, NCILC President, along with George Iaccino, NCILC Secretary/Treasurer, and S.J. Peters, NCILC, Director of Communications

## Developing (cont'd)

Hostess for the evening are Jill and Carr Davis of Geneva.

### Halle Foundation

Early in January we received a call from Beth Bertone whose husband works for the Discount Tire Company. This company located in Arizona has a special foundation called the Halle Foundation. Beth had found us through our internet website and made an appointment to visit us in February with members of her local committee to see if we

would be a fit for their local philanthropy. We wrote a grant request to the Halle Foundation facilitated through the committee's referral and were granted \$3300 for computer equipment to be used in the Child and Family Connections Program. Beth who was instrumental in our efforts recently presented us with the check.

We are very appreciative of this opportunity provided to us by the Discount Tire Company and its Halle Foundation.



Joyce Helander gets donation from Beth Bertone, Discount Tire's Halle Foundation representative

## Special Needs Future Planning Lectures

Brian Rubin has been lecturing on the topic of Special Needs Future Planning since 1982. He has a son with special needs and is quite familiar with this topic. Brian Rubin is scheduled to speak on Special Needs Future Planning for fellow parents and families of children and adults with special needs on the following dates:	Bloomington/Normal	09/05	For further information or questions, you can email Brian at <a href="mailto:brian@snfp.net">brian@snfp.net</a> .
	Arlington Heights	09/05	
	Chicago Heights	09/05	
	Riverwoods	10/05	
	East Peoria	10/05	
	Watseka	10/05	
	LaGrange	11/05	
	Rockford	02/06	
	Lombard	02/06	



Joyce Helander and Wendy Moiser, Board Member, at the NCILC Golf Outing

## Equip for Equality

*by Autumn Todd*

Fifteen years after Congress enacted the landmark Americans with Disabilities Act and six years after the Supreme Court of the United States held that unnecessary institutionalization is discrimination under the ADA, nine Illinois residents with developmental disabilities have recently sued Illinois state officials, seeking an order that would require the state to provide services within a smaller community setting, instead of segregating people in large private institutions. The class-action lawsuit filed in the U.S. District Court of Illinois charges that by warehousing persons with developmental disabilities in large institutions, the state deprives them of their fundamental right to pursue meaningful and productive lives.

According to the complaint, Illinois currently ranks 49th among states in its efforts to place individuals with

developmental disabilities in small integrated community settings. Instead, Illinois' antiquated policies channel them into a system of approximately 250 large, privately-run congregate care institutions where more than 6000 of Illinois' developmentally disabled residents are currently housed. According to the plaintiffs, most of those 6000 individuals could thrive in small community-based residential homes.

The nine named plaintiffs, who are from various parts of the state, are asking the court to order Illinois officials to make community settings readily available to people who want and need them. The plaintiffs are represented by four public interest agencies, Equip for Equality, Access Living, the American Civil Liberties Union of Illinois

and the Public Interest Law Center of Philadelphia, and the law firm Sonnenschein Nath & Rosenthal LLP, which is working in this case as trial counsel on a pro bono basis. "Federal law mandates that the state develop a plan that effectively helps people with developmental disabilities move into and thrive in the community while receiving the support and services they are entitled to. Despite the fact that Illinois is the 10th wealthiest state in the union, the state ranks at the very bottom in terms of its efforts towards providing community based services for individuals with developmental disabilities," says John Grossbart, the partner at Sonnenschein leading that firm's efforts.

## Community Access Corner *by Lisa Jacino*

At last the community access programs have changes and information to share with all our readers. As of 7/01/05 the ISSA program has an additional 56 new clients, which resulted from the final phase of the DT conversion along with 8 new placements. Due to this growth we are welcoming a new service coordinator into this program. Candis Parish, who has been with DayOne as a service coordinator in our PAS/Case Coordination program since August of 1993, will transfer to the ISSA program. Leslie Hart, who previously worked at DayOne, will join our PAS/Case Coordination program as our transitional service coordinator. Leslie's case load will consist of individuals who are in the transitional age group (16 to 22). We are hoping that this restructure will allow us to forge forth with improving our transitional services to the individual, family and school system. All the staff remains very busy with enrolling individuals into the Illinois PUNS data base. We have been concentrating on those people who are already being served through our agency, but we have also been meeting with and enrolling new individuals. **For all of**



Lisa Jacino, Community Access, Amy Collingbourne, Director of Development, Glenwood School for Boys & Girls, Joyce Helander, Executive Director, DayOne Network, Gayle Bridger, CFC Program, Sandi Hix, CFC Program, at Glenwood's Rathje Campus in St. Charles.

**you readers that need additional information on the PUNS or are interested in enrolling in the data base please call 630-879-2277 X105 or your assigned service coordinator.**

We have recently received information from attorney Robert Farley, Jr., concerning a possible change in the DHS priority placement guidelines. Although this is not necessarily new news, but more of a benchmark to let everyone know that if there is a circumstance of primary caregivers being 62 years of age or older, it is more likely probable the client will receive residential funding for CILA placement. Mr. Farley has

assisted many clients with funding issues and has recently assisted an individual and his parents to obtain CILA placement based on their age (father was 62 and mother was 58). Although there are issues related to health and the individual's behavior this decision does bring hope to those of us who advocate for appropriate services.

That appears to be all I have at this time, so I hope everyone enjoys the rest of the summer. Although it is hot, just remember in a few months we will be wishing for warmth!!!

## Volunteering at DayOne Network

*by Melissa Spory*

On June 27-28, 2005, DayOneNetwork was proud to have Barb Moisa, a client from AID-Thompson Center in Aurora, volunteer her services. Barb prepared the mailing for sending out the provider survey, stuffed and sealed many envelopes, and completed a wide variety of other office duties. Barb was thanked with a DayOneNetwork t-shirt which she proudly wore on the second day of volunteering. Barb

was pleased to help and can't wait to assist in any way she can in the future.

DayOneNetwork is pleased to have volunteers come and help in any way they can. If interested in volunteering, please contact Sheila Luecht at 630/879-2277 x 114

Barb Moisa and her Service Coordinator Kathleen Sanford.



## Child and Family Connections *by Brenda Klemm*

Greetings from the Child and Family Connections (CFC) program here at DayOne Network. Summer has brought many changes and new faces to CFC.

In April of 2005 Tawnya Rothstein, service coordinator left CFC to become a stay at home mommy for her first child, Ryan William. Though we were sad to see her go, we wish her all the best in her newest and most important role!

In March of 2005 we welcomed Lynn O'Toole, service coordinator, formerly of Child and Family Connections #3, specifically covering the DeKalb area. She brought with her much experience and wisdom regarding the Early Intervention staff and has very much positively affected

our staff! Welcome Lynn!

In May of 2005 we also welcomed India Washington, service coordinator, who recently graduated from Northern Illinois University with a degree in Sociology. She recently completed an internship with Safe Passage in DeKalb, which is an organization who specializes in helping victims of sexual assault and domestic violence. Welcome India!

In June of 2005, we welcomed Lisa Ochoa, service coordinator. She was formerly a home visitor/family support worker for both Family Focus-Healthy Families and also Lifelink-Early Head Start in Downers Grove. She enriches our staff with her many talents, including fluency in Spanish and also her extensive experience with home visiting. Welcome Lisa!

In July of 2005 we welcomed Kara Colantuono, service coordinator. She came to us from Bright Horizons in Lisle where she was a Head Teacher. She also has worked as a Master Teacher at the Child Development Lab at Northern Illinois University and a consultant to the IEP team for a child with Pervasive Developmental Disorder through a local school district. She brings her extensive knowledge and experience of typical development which is an asset to CFC. Welcome Kara!

See the Staff Spotlight section for more information about India and Lisa!

July also brought many changes to the Early Intervention system. The Depart-

### DID YOU KNOW???

By Melissa Spory

- Every person has a unique tongue print.
- There is enough iron in the human body to make one small nail.
- It takes approximately 200,000 frowns to create one permanent brow line.

## Child and Family Connections (cont'd)

ment of Human Services (DHS) provided the state with directives and clear expectations regarding natural learning environments in accordance with the federal legislation, Individuals with Disabilities Act. DHS also implemented changes to the funding system with regarding to the utilization of private insurance for all developmental therapy, to be phased in over the next few months. DHS also modified the system of billing insurance for all providers, increasing the providers' responsibility for billing insurance and changing the role of the CFC in the process. We hope that these changes both improve the quality of our services to families along with bring Illinois into adherence with current research regarding natural environments.

We wanted to share some excerpts from a recent letter that was sent to the staff at DayOne Network, along to the Early Intervention Bureau at the Department of Human Services. It read:

*Dear Ms. Gully (Early Intervention Bureau Chief),*

*I want to start out this letter by saying Thank You...As a tax payer and more importantly a recipient of Early Intervention Services, I could not feel better about how my tax dollars are being spent.*

The mother of this child writes about her son won't allow anyone to hold his hand, try shoes on, trim his hair or eat any solid foods. She tells her story like....

*Lisa Steenson was assigned as by care coordinator...what an amazing example of human kindness. The documents are abundant and in triplicate and Lisa just sat there and went through each one with me until I was comfortable...I could not be more grateful for her energy, compassion and service.*

The mother goes on to describe her feelings about her therapists Tania Pope (speech therapy) and Sheryl Klebenow

(occupational therapy):

*Thanks to their efforts and amazing knowledge my son can now get a haircut, buy new shoes get his nails trimmed and hold hands with his friends without incident... the most amazing part is that my son eats almost anything you put in front of him. He loves cheeseburgers and French fries...eats fruits and vegetables, cookies and ice cream. We are finally able to go out to dinner without having to bring something along for him to eat.*

The mother closes her letter by letting us know that her son has been discharged from Early Intervention services and been given a clean bill of health. She writes...*my husband and I are forever indebted to all of you. We thank you from the bottom of our hearts. May this program continue to flourish as the years go by.*

*Ann Hart of Oswego, IL.*



## From the Director's Desk (cont'd)

*(Continued from page 1)*

crease. For more about our history, our growth and supporting statistics, please contact us for a project analysis sheet.

Taking the journey with us will benefit our clients and the community greatly. You can be a part of the excitement by pledging a financial donation. Soon our pledge materials will be ready and you will see how you can make a difference. If you would like to give immediately, and be a part of the first

steps in our journey, please call myself, Joyce Helander at ext. 108 or Development Director Sheila Luecht at ext. 114. Your immediate gift will keep us on target and the project will continue in a timely manner in order to move in this early spring. As we balance our expenses, our location and our needs, sooner is better. Help us on this important journey for DayOne.

Watch for future newsletter issues for more to come about the campaign and how you can make a

difference for our future through your pledge. Helping us with a pledge to take our first steps would mean a great deal toward achieving our goals. Remember—"Giving is an energy that not only helps others but creates even more for the person who is doing the giving." Richard Carlson, Ph.D.

For more information on DayOne's giving policy or to be part of our Campaign Committee efforts, contact Joyce Helander, Executive Director or Sheila Luecht, Development Director, ext.114.

## Staff Spotlights

*by Melissa Spory & Autumn Todd*

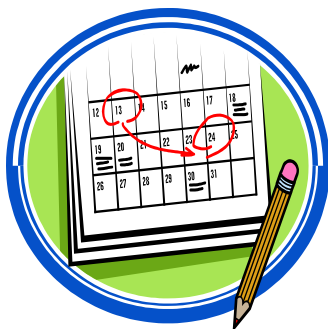
### **India Washington**

India Washington became a new service coordinator for Child and Family Connections in May 2005. India attended Northern IL University and received a BA in Sociology in 2004. Her favorite aspect of the job is getting to meet with the families. India states that "being a coordinator helps me know that I might be making a difference in the future for some child. I love children and will do what I can to make their futures brighter." India is a mother and loves spending time with her family. She enjoys family gatherings, movies, arts and crafts, and good fiction books.



### **Lisa Ochoa**

Lisa Ochoa became a new service coordinator for Child and Family Connections in June 2005. Lisa attended Aurora University and received a BA in Psychology in 2002. Her favorite aspect of the job is being able to communicate in two languages with the families. Lisa states that "there is a point in working with families when you feel you have made a real connection and there is a point when you know you have earned their trust and that they are sharing something very intimate about their family with you. Lisa is a mother and loves being outdoors. She enjoys going to parks, riding her bike and fishing.



## Dates to Remember

Sunday October 2 - Oktoberfest "Just for the Kids"

Friday Nov 4 - November Wine Tasting, Geneva Golf Club

finding a way for people with disabilities

**dayonenetwork**

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Case Notes is published quarterly by DayOne Network (formerly Kane Kendall Service Coordinators) organization providing case coordination and other services for the developmentally disabled citizens of Kane and Kendall Counties including the entire city of Aurora and Hanover Township.

**We're on the Web**

[www.DayOneNetwork.org](http://www.DayOneNetwork.org)

## Staff

Joyce Helander	Sheila Luecht
Leticia Arias	Laura Maier
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Kara Colantuono	Sherri Nocchi
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Cindy Curtis	Lisa Ochoa
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