



PEOPLE & PROGRESS

PROVIDING OPTIONS & OPPORTUNITIES FOR PEOPLE WITH DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES

SPRING/SUMMER 2005

Catch the Spirit of SRVS

Exotic Wines. Inventive Foods. One-of-a-kind auction items. Good times with great friends. There are a number of reasons that people come to the Spirit of SRVS. But no matter the reason they choose to come, those who attend the Spirit of SRVS leave knowing that they have helped SRVS continue to provide options and opportunities for people with developmental disabilities.

This year's Spirit of SRVS will be held Saturday, August 27, 2005, from 6:30pm to 10:30pm. Now in its seventh year, the wine tasting and silent auction will be held at the Hilton Memphis.

To date, sponsors for the event include Bank of Bartlett, Business Link Communications, Cook & Huddleston, Dr.

Bruce Lynch, Employee Benefit Specialists, Inc., Grand Casino Tunica, Hilton Memphis, Huey's, Master Design Salon, News Radio 600 WREC and Southwestern Distributing. Sponsorship levels include Champagne at \$5,000; Merlot at \$2,500; Cabernet at \$1,000; Chardonnay at \$500 and Sauvignon Blanc at \$250.

Tickets can be purchased in advance for \$35.00 (\$25.00 tax deductible), or at the door for \$40.00 (\$30.00 tax deductible). Tickets can also be purchased online at www.srvs.org.

If you are interested in sponsoring, volunteering, donating or attending, please contact Marta Vinzant in the PR & Development office at 901.869.9234.

Sea Isle "Hops" for SRVS

On Friday, April 8th, over 250 students, parents, teachers and community residents gathered in the cafeteria at Sea Isle Elementary for the "Sock Hop for SRVS."

Coordinated by the Sea Isle Elementary Parent Teacher Association, the Sock Hop featured dancing, a cake walk, and competitions for hula hoop and limbo. Admission to the Sock Hop was free, and families were encouraged to bring various items from the SRVS wish list to give as a donation. The Sea Isle community responded enthusiastically, as SRVS received an amazing 516 pairs of socks, along with a variety of t-shirts, underwear, art supplies, and more - all for people in the community with developmental disabilities.

"So often, the schools are the ones asking for help. It's good to see the children so excited about helping others," Sea Isle PTA President Susan Meloche said. "I think it is important that children learn how to give as well as receive."

This is not the first time that SRVS has benefited from the kindness of the Sea Isle Community, as a group of teachers also helped with the "Christmas Angels" program during the holidays. "The outpouring of support from everyone at Sea Isle has been so wonderful," SRVS PR Director Melinda Rodgers said. "Words cannot express how thankful we are to the students, teachers and parents at Sea Isle Elementary."

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YOU MAKE A DIFFERENCE!

BlueCross BlueShield of Tennessee for their generous donation of \$200,000 that has helped with renovations to the SOS Workshop.

Everyone who donated to and/or helped with the Imagine the PossABILITIES Annual Campaign. We exceeded our goal of \$40,000 by \$8,364. Thanks again!

The Duration Club for their grant of approximately \$6,000 that will assist Employment Concepts with their Mobile Work Crews.

A Word from Jeffrie

If you looked up the word help in the dictionary, it would read "to give assistance or support to," (www.m-w.com). Help is a big part of everyday life, and we all need it.



SRVS receives help from many different outlets within the community. Recently, Sea Ilse Elementary School helped acquire donated items for SRVS, and AARP volunteers helped prepare taxes for some of SRVS individuals. SRVS is able to help so many because of the help we receive from so many.

But, it is not just SRVS and the community that is offering all the help. Sometimes, the community needs help too, and when it does, SRVS individuals step up to plate. SRVS individuals help the community through the jobs they perform, like Josh, who works at Pizza Hut.

As you can see, help is a four letter word that changes lives. And, I would like to thank everyone who has helped us, our individuals and the community.

SRVS has been giving help to people with developmental disabilities since 1962 by providing them with options and opportunities. We provide many essential services, such as the Kramer Activity Center, Community Participation, SOS Industries, Community Living, Employment Concepts, Family Supports and numerous other services. We give our assistance and support to people with developmental disabilities because they need our help.

However, we cannot do it alone. Just as everyone else needs help, so do we.

Individuals Shine in the Community

The company that lays claim to the "Best Pizzas Under One Roof" can now add Diane Server to their best list.

Diane Server is the manager of a Pizza Hut delivery store that employs one of our supported employees. Diane truly believes in the potential of this employee and recognizes his strengths and abilities, which has made his employment such a success. Josh was hired to fold boxes and glue coupons to them. By working with Josh, Diane recognized that he had potential to develop his skills further, so she included new tasks. Diane, Josh and his Employment Consultant worked out strategies and accommodations for him. He has now learned how to count and bag chicken wings, and Diane has aspirations for Josh to make pizzas someday.

Josh's relationships with his coworkers became very real thanks to Diane's instant

natural support and implement with his coworkers in a very "normal way". A favorite story about Josh and his coworkers involves a behavior he has when he's focusing on his work—he hums loudly. Well, he was humming one day and his best friend at work, Willie, began humming too. All the crew began humming. Josh stopped, looked around at everyone and said "Well, that's just plain irritating!" They told him that's how he sounds and he decided to quit doing it.

Diane sees in Josh what we, in this field, see in all of our individuals—the capacity to succeed, learn and improve the quality of their lives through employment. Josh has aspirations to be a store manager one day. This is a direct reflection on Diane's management style. Diane continues to help others and is hiring another one of our supported employees.

AARP Volunteers Help SRVS

Tax time can be a headache for anyone. Many people put off doing their own taxes until the last minute – much less volunteer to prepare other's taxes. But that is exactly what volunteers from the AARP did recently for some SRVS individuals.

AARP Tax-Aides Pat Bryant, Maureen Langenus and Pat Rogoski came to SRVS one March afternoon to prepare federal tax incomes for our individuals with developmental disabilities. While most of the returns were electronically filed on the spot, there were also a few that were not filed electronically. These wonderful volunteers still took the time to make sure that the paper return was done.

The volunteers, who also help area nursing homes and disabled residents, learned about SRVS during an individual's outing to the library, where the Tax-Aides also volunteer. After this initial contact, SRVS Service Coordinator Evelyn Ellington contacted Rogoski, and the two worked out a plan for the volunteers.

"They were very glad to help, and because of the limited resources that SRVS has, they came to us," Ellington said. "They have the infrastructure and experience to do it and they have no overhead."

The volunteers are already discussing how to operate for next year with contact earlier in the year to have a set time to begin the tax preparation.

"They were very patient and kind in their interactions with our recipients," Ellington said. "We are so grateful for their willingness to assist our individuals."



THANK YOU DONORS FOR GIVING TO SRVS

Donations from January 2005 - May 2005

Director's Society
(\$10,000+)
Mournir & Nemat Shazly

Ambassador
(\$5,000-\$9,999)
The Duration Club

Champion
(\$1,000-\$4,999)
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Mickey & Patty Brigance
Claude & Octavia Chafin
Conwood Company
First Tennessee Foundation
Thomas & Frances James
Marshall & Carol Morris
Michael Starnes
Grand Casino Tunica
Gary & Tami Wilson

Visionary
(\$500-\$999)
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Employee Benefit Specialist
Robert & Frances Metheny
Marty & Jill Moore
NBC - Trustee of Helen Goza Charitable Trust
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Friends
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Rachel Vaughn
Jagoe Brown Wade
Lillie Mae Watkins
William & Cynthia Wedaman
Karen Stuart & Richard Wheeler
Lewis & Jane Wood
Steven & Deb Word
Jason & Christy Yarbro
Terry Zeller
Steve Ziskind

In Memory...
of Harold Lewis Abrams
Thomas & JoAnn Meegan
Sam & Suzanne Siegel
of Dr. & Mrs. John Albritton's mother
Phil & Sukey Brooks
of Ernest Blythe
Allen & Jeffrie Bruton
of Amos Bremmer
Allen & Jeffrie Bruton
of Aubry William Brown
Timothy & Jo Shaner
of Ben Ross and Julia Camp
Katherine Uhlmann
of John F. Church III
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of Barbara Drobeck
Tommy Johnson & Melinda Rodgers
of Mrs. Laura M. Epstein
Sam & Suzanne Siegel
of Dr. Paul Folis
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Katherine Uhlmann
of Isabelle Hurtgen
Steven & Deb Word
of Ruth Lee Johnson
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of Betty Kay
Kathy Hallmann

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of Tom Kent
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of Rosemary G. Kvasnicka
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Sam & Suzanne Siegel
of Elise Rubel
Sam & Suzanne Siegel
of Marie & Joe Russell
Sue Russell
of Wilbur J. "Bill" Schmal
Sam & Suzanne Siegel
of Amanda Scott
Mack Scott
of Leonard Weiner
Sam & Suzanne Siegel
of Tag Weldon
Basil & Anne Bland, Jr.
of Will Williams
Sam & Suzanne Siegel
of Curry Yarbro
Jason & Christy Yarbro

In Honor...
of John Barzizza
Lewis & Jane Wood
of John and Wanda Barzizza
Bobby & Janette Krauch, Jr.
of Holli Bayer
Norman Bayer
of Nancy Casad and Bill Bradford
Dr. Bruce Lynch
of Jeffrie Bruton
Dr. Steven Rice
of Paul Drake
Sam & Suzanne Siegel
of Edwin Hughes
James & Maretta Countess
of Tom & Frances James
Robert & Frances Metheny
of Jackie Joiner
Thomas & JoAnn Meegan
of Edith Linkon's birthday
Sam & Suzanne Siegel
of Mrs. Robert Lockwood
Basil & Anne Bland, Jr.
of Julayne McLeod
Lynne Hinton
of Carol & Marshall Morris
Mary Clouse
of Adam Rice
Dr. Steven Rice
of Werner Rubel's birthday
Sam & Suzanne Siegel
of Eddie and Mary Shields
Christine Abston
of John Walker
Angela Jacobs
of June Weldon
Basil & Anne Bland, Jr.

In-kind
Barnhill's Buffet Inc.
John & Wanda Barzizza
Betrice Brown
Harry Mae Conway
Julia Dean
Mike Dreyfus
Maurice & Pat Gary
Demetrius Gillum
Stacie Wood Larry
Memphis Firefighter Association
Eric Miller
Nike, Inc.
Donna Palmer
Linda Rogers
Sue Russell
Sea Isle Elementary
Mournir & Nemat Shazly
Underwriters Safety & Claim
Lillie Wallace
W.K. Weldon

United Way
Kathy Culver
Marlon Higgins
Andrea Koonce
Marlon Higgins
Susan Myers
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R. Joseph Vandergrift
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John Richardson
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Violet Z. Stevenson
Angela J. Moore
Barbara D. Thomas
Laon Sullivan
Yulanda R. Turner
Amanda L. Lanier
Marcia Prewitt
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Geneva Porter
Patrice Knox
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Carolyn C. Hardy
Sandra L. Houston
Michael D. Allen
Penelope W. Aviotti
Jerry W. Maness
Kathy W. Hallman
Catherine R. Barzizza
Shannon Fogerty
Mavis Juneann Hughes
Allen D. Bruton
John C. Heckmann
Danny W. Wilson
Elizabeth B. Byrd
Ward Manley Wilcox
Janice Scavone
Karen L. Stuart
Deborah L. Lipsey
Cindy Swift Bruce Bueltemann
Cameron C. Brown

Celebrating with SRVS

This Spring/Summer has been a very busy and rewarding time for SRVS. With so much going on with our organization, it is only natural to expect that there is going to be some celebrating, and we have a lot to celebrate.

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Our Imagine the PossABILITIES Annual Campaign has been a great success, not only have we reached our goal of \$40,000, but we exceeded it. Even better, the goal was exceeded before the campaign deadline of June 1st. We raised \$48,364 through Imagine the PossABILITIES. We would like to thank everyone for their hard work and donations. You truly made a difference.

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Our celebrating continues with the SOS Celebration that took place on Wednesday, June 29, 2005 in the SOS Workshop. This celebration highlighted the renovated Workshop and new Workshop Program capacity and efficiencies. The celebration was also a time to give thanks to area business contractors, United Way of the Mid-South and BlueCross BlueShield of Tennessee for their generous support of SOS and the assistance they have provided and continue to provide in the Workshop renovations

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and residential team efforts. Area companies highlighted include: FedEx, Bell Memphis, Cintas, ExcelleRx, Business Products, Inc. and Cadna Rubber Co.

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And further celebration is needed due to the Duration Club Grant of approximately \$6000 that we received to be used toward Employment Concepts to assist with the Mobile Work Crews. This grant will help purchase new equipment to be used by the crews and assist with the formation of an additional Mobile Work Crew.

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We hope you continue to celebrate with us throughout our upcoming projects and events.

SRVS People & Progress is produced quarterly by SRVS for individuals, their families, staff members, individual donors and our many supportive friends in corporations, foundations and government. We gratefully acknowledge the funding support of the Tennessee Department of Mental Health and Mental Retardation; Tennessee Department of Human Services (Division of Rehabilitation Services); City of Memphis and Shelby County Government, United Way of the Mid-South; Title V Program support from Senior Services, Inc. and US Housing and Urban Development (HUD).

Chairman of the Board
John Barzizza

Executive Director
Jeffrie Bruton

Editors
Melinda Rodgers & Toni States

SRVS has 80 facilities serving the needs of local citizens with developmental disabilities.



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