

That's Providence Center

Shaping Lives, Creating Futures.

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Finding Your Voice

Communication Therapies Work to Discover the Individual Within



Participants are using iPads to make their voices heard.

Daniel Billet may not be verbal but he knows how to speak. In fact, Daniel speaks a lot through his knowledge of sign language. This was discovered by his caregivers at Providence Center while working with a speech and language therapist the organization contracted with to help those it serves fully direct their life plans. Once Daniel began using the assistive technologies being employed at Providence Center, the full scope of his abilities to communicate became better known. He is flourishing, particularly now that staff can provide him exactly what he wants.

Several months ago, Providence Center brought Angela Mezzomo, a speech language pathologist at the Anne Arundel County Public Schools, into its programs to discover the voices of those who speak differently. Mezzomo has been working closely with Kim Eisenhart, a Lead Employment Mentor, and nearly 30 participants to discover more of our non-verbal individuals' wants and needs through the use of communications technologies. She is providing communication evaluations, focusing on nonverbal strategies, such as use of communication boards, Picture Exchange Communication Systems (PECS) and voice output communication aids such as GoTalks, Vantages, and tablet based systems. Mezzomo notes that the primary benefit is that these technologies open up the world to those with disabilities, particularly with Providence Center's community-based approach. She says, "The benefits are immeasurable because it provides people a way to communicate with others who are not familiar with their current means of communication. This is of the greatest benefit when interacting with the people in the community."

Providence Center CEO Chuck Coble stressed that the organization's mission of greater independence for those it serves requires we explore each person's goals and desires as effectively as possible. "We offer communication supports/therapy because giving someone a voice is one of the most valuable gifts we can offer. This means they can articulate their choices, their dreams, and their frustrations. It is an essential element of being a member

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Chuck's Notes

From the desk of Chuck Coble, CEO

Recently our partner at Globe Star in Indiana, Anthony "Tony" McCrovitz, came back to Maryland to continue our immersion in Gentle Teaching. As you may recall, Providence Center formally adopted Gentle Teaching as our overall approach to the service and support of

those we serve. Gentle Teaching is predicated on the foundation that all individuals feel safe and loved in relationships of mutual trust at all times. It requires all of us to ask ourselves, "Can one trust me? Can one learn something from me?". We are focusing on how we need to change in order to adequately assist individuals in their purposes, not how the individual needs to change. It forces us as caregivers to reject what we feel are the outcome "norms" and instead focus on what an individual

wants and how they learn, communicate, and process the world around. We have moved far away from the traditional model of compliance, correction, and consequences and are focusing on enhancing each person's quality of life so that learning and growth can occur.

Tony is speaking to our participants and intensely training our staff on what exactly Gentle Teaching is and how we will evolve our services. We have moved beyond the leadership learning stage and into the program rooms and individuals' homes. This is very exciting and our entire organization is working to embrace the culture needed for Gentle Teaching to be successful and, more importantly, for the lives we serve to have purpose and meaning. To do this, and this is a critical point, we need to learn how our participants' best communicate what they want and need. We must be able to establish their voices.

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Paul Reed Smith Visits Providence Center's Woodshop



Brian Creque and Paul Reed Smith get familiar with the Woodshop's layout and capabilities.

He may be an internationally respected music figure and the maker of one of the highest quality guitars in the US, but Paul Reed Smith is a Marylander first with a generous heart and concern for improving lives. He may move in circles with Carlos Santana, Jimmy Buffett, and Clint Lowery, but on August 27, 2014, he was simply a new visitor to Providence Center's Woodshop in Arnold, sharing his knowledge and experiences.

Smith was touring the Woodshop to help streamline its production process and increase its capabilities. His unassuming nature, warm personality, and expertise in woodworking was on display as he examined Providence Center's children's Adirondack chairs, crab mallets and paper towel holders, and other products produced in the Woodshop. Smith will be working with the team there over the next few months to help market the shop's products more widely and create more financial benefits for its participants.

Brian Creque, who recently joined Providence Center as its in-house woodworker, will be visiting the Paul Reed Smith Factory in the coming weeks and work with their experts to create jigs and processes that improve the Woodshop's functionality.

That's Providence Center will feature participants, staff, employers, or people in the community that inspire and empower us. Nominate the person you think is helping Providence Center advance its mission and tell us why you think they should be featured in our Providence Profile. Send your nomination to Audra Harrison, Director of Community Relations, at aharrison@providencecenter.com.



Les Chapin and Vince Sitoski of the Broadneck Elks receive a thank you platter from Providence Center's Pottery Studio from Director of Community Relations Audra Harrison.

THANK YOU TO THE BROADNECK ELKS LODGE #2608 FOR THEIR RECENT SUPPORT OF PROVIDENCE CENTER

2nd Annual Garden Party at the Greenhouse Awash in Floral Fun



Parents, caregivers, and friends of Providence Center donned their floral dresses, and hats to have some cocktails, dancing, and fun at Providence Center's 2nd Annual Garden Party at the Greenhouse on Saturday, June 21st. With music by the Motown band, The Original Moonlighters, cocktails provided by Bay Ridge Wine and Spirits, fantastic food by The Light House Shelter's B.E.S.T. Catering and the glass greenhouse adorned with the colorful flowers and plants grown by Providence Center's Horticulture program, it was a wonderful evening to bring people together at the organization's greenhouses in Arnold. To make the event even more special, a Participant Night Out was held concurrently at JBB, where participants were treated to great food, a movie, and the interactive music stylings of Bridgette and the Band, getting attendees moving along and playing their own instruments to the sounds.

Thank you to our committee members for putting together a lovely evening: Chairwoman Lynn Zephir, Cheryl Malone, Darlene Reed, True Rowan, and Rita Wells.

Thank you as well to our generous sponsors:

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Tricia Baldwin of Reliable Contracting chats with Alan and Sally Comport.



The Monzo family enjoyed both events of the evening.



Bridgette and Dawn of Bridgette and the Band entertained guests at the Participant Night Out.



True and Ford Rowan with Eileen Boulter and Pam Chapman dined on the food from Lighthouse Shelter's B.E.S.T. Catering.

How Can I Help?

When you make a gift to Providence Center, whether it's a donation or the gift of volunteer time, you are helping to enrich the lives of 500 of our community's residents. There are many ways you can help the men and women with developmental disabilities who count on Providence Center.

Financial Support

- You can make a cash donation payable to Providence Center at 930 Point Pleasant Road, Glen Burnie, MD 21060. **Don't forget to check to see if your employer has a matching gift program.** Donations can also be made by credit card. To process a credit card payment, call our Development Department at 410-766-2212, ext. 110. You can also go online at www.providencecenter.com and donate directly.
- You can donate stocks, bonds, real estate, and name the Center as the beneficiary on a life insurance policy. Contact your financial advisor to learn more about these and other options.
- Planned Giving can make a lasting impact that will serve the future of the Center. Planned gifts are ways a donor can leave money or assets to a nonprofit at his or her death; or a way to invest money so that the donor receives benefits during his or her life and then bequeaths the remaining funds to the nonprofit. To learn more, contact your financial advisor.

In-Kind Donations

Donations of goods and services allow the Center to allocate funds to other program needs. Examples include art supplies for our art program, lawn equipment for our Horticulture Program or medical supplies. Please call our Development Department for a list of desired items and services at (410)766-2212, ext 110.

Donate a Car

Providence Center's car donation program is ready to accept your vehicle in exchange for the tax benefits you will receive for donating to a registered non-profit organization. For more information on our car donation program, contact info@providencecenter.com.

Gift of Time and Talent

Volunteers are a tremendous asset to our programs. You may have gardening skills to help in our greenhouses, an artistic flair to assist in our art programs, an entrepreneurial spirit that can help a participant start his own business, or just the desire to be a friend to someone, spending time over lunch, working on the computer or reading. Volunteer with Providence Center and make a difference in the lives of adults with developmental disabilities.

Volunteers must be at least 16 and go through a background check. We are happy to work with eligible students fulfilling community service requirements but ask that they volunteer a minimum of 40 hours. For more information, please contact Erin Bishop at ebishop@providencecenter.com or at (410)766-2212, ext. 105.

Employer Charity Campaign

If your employer participates in the United Way's Maryland Charity Campaign, you can designate Providence Center as your beneficiary. **Providence Center's Maryland Charity Campaign number is #1256 and Combined Federal Charity Campaign number is #66186.**

A Tax-Wise Giving Opportunity

An opportunity has developed for maximizing your gifts to Providence Center while minimizing the costs to you. Fortunately the popular stock market indices are trending at all-time highs. If you hold a stock and/or a mutual fund that has experienced a significant gain in value, not all of that gain is yours. If that position is sold, capital gains taxes must be paid. However, if the asset is given to Providence Center, you receive credit for the full amount of the gift and these often-significant taxes will be avoided.

Ensuring that Providence Center is here for many years to come is a key goal for the organization. Our hope is that the lives we serve are long and full of achieving their dreams. Your

help in securing a strong long-term future for them and for Providence Center provides dividends far beyond dollars and cents. You can help today.

If you would like to explore this option, check with your financial advisor and give them the below transfer information for your gift to Providence Center or contact Mike Long, who assists in managing Providence Center's investment accounts, at michael.long@raymondjames.com.

DTC #0725
FAO: Providence Center, Inc. 79676046

Ledo Pizza and Pasta Fundraiser Nights in Severna Park



Providence Center is partnering with Ledo Pizza and Pasta in Severna Park, located at 552 Ritchie Highway, to host monthly fundraiser nights to benefit our programs for adults with intellectual and developmental disabilities. Stop in to dine-in or carry-out the 4th Tuesday of each month from 4 pm to 9 pm and mention that you are there for the Providence Center fundraiser. Providence Center will receive a portion of the total sales that night, from 10% to 20% depending on the night's total. Following are the scheduled Providence Center fundraiser nights for the next three months: September 23, October 28, and November 25. For more information, contact Aimee Bullen at 410-766-2212, ext. 110.

Finding Your Voice, *continued from page 1*

of a community. We want all of our members to have their say in their lives to the fullest extent possible."

The assistive technology provides a solution for individuals to be able to more independent, productive, and included in society and the community. They increase self-motivation in many ways, including increasing independence and having a greater control over one's own life; participating and contributing more fully to activities in their home, school and work environments and communities; interacting to a greater extent with non-disabled individuals; expanding learning and life experiences; providing new opportunities for interactions and communication; and changing vision of potential by adults, peers and children.

Eisenhart also points to the benefits of Providence Center's aging participants. "For those that are older, the experience that Angela brings and is passing on to me, helps the organization as a whole to provide for those that have been 'lost' or 'left out' of technology's progression from when they were younger. Angela and I are collaborating to help our adults to succeed not only here at Providence Center but in all aspects of their lives."

Chuck's Notes, *continued from page 1*

The trainings with Tony have uncovered what our staff is already doing to provide meaning and purpose and is adding techniques which Tony personally demonstrates and videotapes for future training purposes. The innovative ways Providence Center's caregivers and mentors do their work reinforces that Gentle Teaching has some strong roots here at Providence Center. Now, we want Gentle Teaching to spread and flourish throughout all of our services.

Staff learned that their tools, namely their eyes, hands, words, and presence, affect how participants react to them and learning. They will not take into consideration their tools as they build personal teaching plans. Gentle Teaching is

also very focused on accountability and results. Outcomes have to be verified within staffs' portfolios which will contain videotapes, photos, third party documentation, among other measurements. Gentle Teaching techniques work, they have been around since the 70s, but like all approaches they require a compelling verification process. This is a challenge that the Center embraces.

We are inviting other agencies and Maryland's Developmental Disability Administration to learn along with us and to collaborate with us. I look forward to continuing to update you on our progress and the exciting doors opening through Gentle Teaching.



Commemorative Gifts

This listing reflects commemorative gifts from

May 17, 2014 – July 31, 2014

In Honor of Polly Green

Mr. and Mrs. Melvin Dey

In Honor of Maggie Cadwalader

Mrs. Patricia Rogers

In Honor of Cheryl and Becky Malone

Ms. Kathleen Swartz

In Memory of Kevin Morrow

Mr. and Mrs. James Morrow

In the Community

Providence Center works to actively engage our participants in the community through our Supported Employment program with employment and volunteer positions. Thanks to all of our community partners and we hope that you will consider supporting those partners that support our important work. The following is a list of new employers since March 2014.

Chesapeake Charter
424 Broadneck Road
Annapolis, MD 21409

Fort Meade
1/2 Street, Fort Meade
Severn, MD 20755

Light House Shelter
10 Hudson Street
Annapolis, MD 21401

Maryland State Archives
350 Rowe Blvd
Annapolis, MD 21401

**Meals on Wheels
Woods Memorial
Presbyterian Church**
611 Baltimore Annapolis Blvd
Severna Park, MD 21146

Pet Smart in Glen Burnie
597-C E Ordinance Rd
Glen Burnie, MD 21060

Wendy's in Annapolis
1454 Whitehall Rd
Annapolis, MD 21409

Retail Partners

The retailers and partners below offer their customers, or facilitate the sale of, our products. Through our partnerships, these important supporters of our work are also assisting our participants to gain greater independence by earning a paycheck for the sale of their work. Please consider supporting those retailers that support the artists, potters, woodworkers, and growers of Providence Center:

Wegmans - Woodmore
9001 McHugh Drive
Lanham, MD 20706

Victoria's Fancy Foods
550B Ritchie Highway
Park Plaza Shopping Center
Severna Park, MD 21146

Lighthouse Market
9128 Bay Avenue
North Beach, MD 20714

Kathy's Corner Shop
100 S. Main Street
North East, MD 21901

**The Cat's Pajamas
Art Studio**
28 S. Main Street
North East, MD 21901

Brentwood Arts Exchange
3901 Rhode Island Avenue
Brentwood, MD 20722

Here, a Pop-Up Shop
Amy Fresty & Ellen Lunay

Homestead Gardens
522 Ritchie Highway
Severna Park, MD 21146

Announcements

❖ Congratulations to the following Providence Center staff members for their recent promotions:

James Kimble to Staff Accountant, **Patricia Rice** to Senior Program Coordinator, **Matt Hase** to Director of Operations, **Jennifer Snow** to HR Generalist, **Nikita Hollingsworth** to Lead Mentor at JBB, **Lauren Angel** to Lead Community Mentor at Cloverleaf, **Nicole Olczak** to Lead Community Mentor at JBB, and **Megan Shenton** to Admissions Coordinator.

❖ Thank you to the **Jesse and Hertha Adams Charitable Trust** for their support of \$23,096.12 for the renovation of our Baldwin Industries.

❖ Thank you to the **Broadneck Elks Lodge #2608** for their recent donation of \$500 for our programs and services.

❖ Thank you to the **Enterprise Holdings Foundation** for their grant of \$1,500 towards the purchase of a whiteboard to enhance our vital training program.

❖ Thank you to everyone who participated in the most recent **United Way Campaign**. Your donations through the **Maryland Charity, Combined Charity Baltimore City, and Chesapeake Bay Area Combined Charity campaigns** totaled \$2,652.50.

❖ Thank you to **Phil A'Becket** for your donation of Ravens tickets and to everyone who liked us on Facebook and participated in our Ravens ticket raffle.

❖ Thank you to the **Maryland Transit Administration** and **Federal Transit Administration** for a 5310 grant of \$52,000 to fund a new bus to support our transportation program.

❖ Thank you to the **Anne Arundel County Executive Community Support** program for a grant of \$25,000 for our Baldwin Industries renovation.

A full listing of donors will be featured in Providence Center's 2014 Annual Report.

Contracted Services at Baldwin Industries

Providence Center's Baldwin Industries is an innovative business entity that serves companies while supporting our participants. Baldwin operates as a subcontracting business providing a diverse range of services to businesses and agencies throughout the Baltimore-Washington Metropolitan Area. These services include:

retail and wholesale packaging, product assembly, hand packaging, wafer sealing, heat sealing, delivery and pick-up, mass mailings, door hanger and flyer distribution, office cleaning, group enclaves for work at employers' sites and individual placement with supported employment services.

Do you have assembly or production work that Providence Center could help with?

Contact Toron Green at (410)766-2212 ext.305.



Providence Center
930 Point Pleasant Road
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 facebook.com/providencecenterinc

 [ProvidenceCntr](https://twitter.com/ProvidenceCntr)

Save the Date!!

The Inspiration in All of Us – Providence Center’s 2014 Fall Event

Thursday, October 16, 2014
6:00 PM – 10:00 PM
Loews Annapolis Hotel
Tickets are \$150.00 each.
Sponsorships welcome.
More information available
at www.providencecenter.com.
Register online today.

Providence Center Kiwanis Aktion Club

Wednesday, October 1, 2014
Wednesday, November 5, 2014
4:00 PM – 6:00 PM
Cloverleaf Building
Millersville, MD
For more information, contact
Rosemary Elger at relger@providencecenter.com
or at (410) 766-2212 ext. 205

11th Annual Jalopyrama

Saturday, October 25, 2014
8:00 AM – 5:00 PM
Annapolis National Guard Armory
For more information,
visit www.jalopyrama.com.

The mission of Providence Center is to provide services that allow individuals with disabilities to enjoy increased self-determination in leading a more independent, valuable and functioning role in society. These support services are individually designed and professionally managed to enable these individuals to exercise higher levels of control over their lives.

For more information on how you can help our participants achieve their dreams, contact Aimee Bullen in Providence Center’s Development Department at (410)766-2212 ext. 110.