

That's Providence Center

Shaping Lives, Creating Futures.

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Transitioning to Adulthood,

Providence Center Welcomes Incoming Class of 27 Young Adults



Rita and her mother Lesa are all smiles about becoming part of the Providence Center family.

Transitioning into adulthood is often marked with excitement, uncertainty, and trepidation for what lies ahead. Becoming an adult is an empowering time filled with hope and the knowledge of lessons learned as kids. This summer, Providence Center will welcome 27 young adults into its programs who are on their way to becoming the men and women that they want to be.

Each new participant brings with them their experiences of having grown up in the public school system. They also each have the knowledge that now is their opportunity to look ahead towards discovering and obtaining their dreams. The move into adulthood can be a transition that can be challenging for anyone. It can be

particularly challenging for those with developmental disabilities and their families as they select the best providers for their loved ones for the years ahead.

Providence Center's Admissions Coordinator Katherine Callahan describes the process as potentially overwhelming for many families as there are various built-in factors that make decisions even more difficult. "Families are often bombarded with information on a given provider and it can be hard to decide which the best place is for their child as they move out of public schools depending on each individual's wants and needs," Callahan said. "Our approach at Providence Center is very straight forward: we provide information on who we are, the variety of program options available, give the opportunity to see our programs first hand, and a challenge the families to check out other providers. This way, families will have the knowledge that they need to make an informed decision and appropriate choice."

That approach appealed to Lesa Helms, whose daughter Rita Ghrist, is in her final year in public school. Helms, a special education teacher for 15 years, thought she would have a leg up in wading through all of the options for providers because of her experience working with students with special needs. "I'm a special educator so I work with kids like my daughter," Helms said in a recent interview. "But even for me it was a bit challenging because you don't know how it works and what you're entitled to. It was a slippery slope to see all that's involved."

Ghrist is the oldest of five children. The family lives in Millersville. Rita and her mother met with Callahan several months ago and took a tour of Providence Center's Cloverleaf Building nearby. "What really struck us about Providence

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Chuck's Notes

From the desk of Chuck Coble, CEO

Every edition of *That's Providence Center* includes space for me, as CEO, to talk about what is happening around us, exciting developments, and pretty much whatever I would like to address. It's a perk of the job. I want to use this edition to talk about a group that is so important to what we do at Providence Center that we literally could not operate without it: our caring and dedicated staff.

In over 40 years in the field of human services, I've seen all kinds of people come and go. I've gotten a good sense of what is required to truly impact the lives we serve in a positive way.

One common characteristic is that they are affected. A staff member recently put it this way: "If you don't think about these lives, than you shouldn't be doing this work." I struggle to put it better.

I am proud to say with confidence that the staff at Providence Center by and large operates in such a caring and professional manner that makes living better and the life our participants want for themselves possible. Because of the deep bonds they cultivate with our participants, our staff is able to help them to push themselves, get out of their comfort zones, and achieve. Our mission is built around assisting those we serve gain greater independence in their lives. By working so closely with participants, their caregivers, and their care team, the staff of Providence Center allows us to have such a dynamic and empowering set of core values centered on the individual and built on trust.

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Center is that when I walked in I immediately felt comfortable. We were greeted right away and they took really good care of us. I just felt like there was just something about Providence Center that really made us feel very, very comfortable. It felt natural and at home.”

Ghrist and her family eventually decided that Providence Center was the best choice for their family. “The primary focus is what makes my daughter happy, healthy, and what will keep her that way, sustains her at her levels,” Helms said when asked how they reached their determination. “Rita can still tell you when she’s bored. She can still show signs of when she’s not happy. So really her happiness and well-being were my number one concerns.”

The admissions process included descriptions of Providence Center’s empowering mission and the variety of programs Providence Center offers, setting it apart from other area providers. “I like the way that the agency is run. We could go into each room and see how each adults needs were being met. I liked seeing all the different work jobs. It was just a really good place to be.” They knew that Providence Center was the place where Rita could be challenged and empowered.

The members of the incoming class at Providence Center have all signed up for their programs of choice, including many opting for Supported Employment, Arts and Crafts, the Center’s contracted services program, and the horticulture program. The variety of programs, the professional support staff, and the ability to adjust an individual’s plan are the main factors that drew many of the new participants and their families to Providence Center in the end.

Rita Ghrist has already begun attending Providence Center one day a week. The family chose to start her at Cloverleaf with the option to access other program opportunities as Rita settles into the new environment. “We like the idea that there is room for growth and room to move around and try things out. It helps me get out of my comfort zone and helps Rita get out of her comfort zone.”

To learn more about Providence Center’s admissions, or to schedule a tour, contact Katherine Callahan at kcallahan@providencecenter.com or at (410)766-2212 ext. 252.

ESTATE PLANNING IS FOR EVERYONE!

By Christine Hubbard, Esq.

Whether your estate is large or small and whether you are young or old, you need estate planning. A sound estate plan will give the people who you select the authority to make healthcare decisions for you and handle your assets in your best interest during any period of incapacity. It will also ensure that upon your death, your hard earned assets will pass to the people and charities selected by you and in a manner that will minimize estate taxes, avoid probate, keep assets in the family bloodlines, hold assets in trust for family members with special needs, and help protect assets from being lost if an heir is divorced or sued.

In most instances, your core estate plan will consist of four documents including: (i) an Advanced Directive and Appointment of Healthcare Agent, (ii) a Power of Attorney, (iii) a Revocable Trust, and (iv) a Pour Over Will (this simple will goes hand-in-hand with the revocable trust). Your Advanced Directive and Appointment of Healthcare Agent names the healthcare agent who will be called on to make healthcare decisions for you upon incapacity and provides guidelines as to how your body is to be handled if you are in a vegetative state or other end of life condition. The Power of Attorney names the person who will have the authority to handle your financial affairs and legal matters if you are unable to do so.

A revocable trust is typically the centerpiece of the plan and directs how your assets will be handled during your lifetime, including any period of incapacity, and upon death. Depending upon the design of your plan, the trust holds your titled assets such as your real estate, bank and investment accounts and vehicles, but excludes: (i) qualified tax deferred retirement assets such as IRAs

and 401ks, (ii) other assets that pass by beneficiary designation such life insurance, and (iii) assets that, according to your plan, are to be owned jointly with others. The revocable trust allows for substantial ease of administration upon incapacity and helps to avoid probate with respect to assets that are held in the trust. Ideally, all assets not held in your trust will pass by beneficiary designation or rights of survivorship upon our death. In that situation, probate would be completely avoided. These benefits are a big deal to those you ask to care for you upon incapacity and handle your affairs upon death. The revocable trust also takes the place of a typical will in that it dictates who will get your assets upon your death and the manner in which the assets are to be distributed. As stated, your trust may contain subtrusts that will help keep assets in the family bloodlines, hold assets in trust for family members with special needs, and help protect assets from being lost if an heir is divorced or sued.

With respect to fulfilling your charitable desires, one of the best and easiest ways to benefit a charity upon death is to name your favorite charity as a beneficiary on your IRAs, 401ks or other tax deferred retirement assets. This will allow the assets to pass to your selected charity free from estate tax and income tax.

Having a sound estate plan allows you to achieve peace of mind, family order, tax savings and your goals with respect to charitable giving. It is truly a gift to those you leave behind.

Christine W. Hubbard, Esq., is an attorney in Annapolis, Maryland who focuses her practice on estate planning, trust administration and business succession planning.

Companies Donate New Walkway to Providence Center

Chaney Enterprises, Belgard, and Garner Exteriors install walkway as part of DIY paver installation demonstration



The new walkway at the Jean Bradbury Building's greenhouse creates a warm welcome for visitors to the horticulture program and retail space.

The entrance to Providence Center's glass greenhouse at its Jean Bradbury Building in Arnold has a new way to welcome participants, staff, and visitors – a beautiful new stone walkway. The walkway was donated by Chaney Enterprises, Belgard, and Garner Exteriors as part of a do-it-yourself demonstration to homeowners for installing pavers. The demonstration was held for nearly two dozen homeowners on Saturday, April 20, 2013. The approximate value of the new walkway is more than \$8000, the entire cost of which was donated by the three companies to Providence Center.

Providence Center Chief Executive Officer Chuck Coble, noting the ongoing renovations to modernize the organization's Jean Bradbury Building currently, said, "This donation by Chaney, Belgard, and Garner couldn't have come at a better time. It truly enhances the significant upgrades we are doing inside our oldest program site. Because our greenhouses serve as both program space and a retail center, the new walkway is a wonderful addition to welcome participants and customers alike. We are very grateful to be the recipient of this donation and for the generosity of Chaney, Belgard, and Garner."

Chaney Enterprises Community Relations Specialist Sherry Santana said the companies chose Providence Center because of the long relationship Chaney Enterprises has with the organization and the location of the JBB site to homeowners that wanted to learn more about the options and ease in enhancing their outdoor living spaces. "Providence Center is a wonderful organization doing so much good in our communities," Santana said. "We know they will enjoy the walkway for many years to come. It creates a beautiful entry into the glass greenhouse and Chaney Enterprises is proud to support their work with this enhancement."

Belgard Hardscapes joined with Chaney to provide the pavers for the walkway. Garner Exteriors did the installation and demonstration to guests.

Belgard Hardscapes Sales Representative Andy Crouch was pleased to be a part of the project. "Belgard works to improve homes and communities," Crouch said. "By providing the materials needed to make this installation happen, Belgard is pleased to partner with Providence Center to create an upgraded area that lends nicely to the unique structure of the greenhouse. This is a sturdy product that will endure the traffic from Providence Center's staff, clients, and visitors."

Garner Exteriors David Jochnowitz lead the demonstration for guests as his team did the install. "The walkway looks fantastic and creates a showplace atmosphere for Providence Center's retail customers," Jochnowitz said. "It's always great to work on projects like this that will benefit an important non-profit like Providence Center. Garner Exteriors is grateful for the opportunity and a proud partner of Chaney Enterprises and Belgard."

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, Communications Manager, at aharrison@providencecenter.com.

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 Visa or MasterCard. 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 Providence 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 Institute, 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 Institute, 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.**

Danny's Day Foundation Hosts Dinner Banquet for Providence Center Participants, Foundation Awards Center Grant for SMART Boards



Pat and Neysa Ernst, parents of the Foundation's namesake Daniel Ernst, spread St. Patrick's Day cheer in honor of their son.

A new foundation that honors the life of a young man taken too soon has been formed to turn sadness into hope for those with disabilities. The foundation chose Providence Center as the first recipient of funds raised in memory of Daniel Patrick Ernst, a Pasadena resident who passed away in February of 2011. Ernst had a connection with Providence Center in that he had worked at one point at a local restaurant with a Providence Center participant whom Ernst befriended.

The Danny's Day Foundation awarded the Center \$5700 in grant funds for the purchase of two SMART boards for its program sites. The grant was awarded at a dinner banquet held on Sunday, March 10, 2013, at the Doubletree Hotel in Annapolis for Providence Center participants, caregivers, and staff. The banquet featured a dinner buffet, DJ and dancing, an ice carving demonstration, and cookie decorating.

The decision to form a Foundation honoring Danny was spearheaded by his parents, Pat and Neysa Ernst, also Pasadena residents. Pat Ernst is a local chef that started the company, "Moving Flavors." Members of the Foundation's Board of Directors include Curtis Eargle, Paul Glomp, Larry Kushner, and Ford Gaitley.

The grant for two SMART boards is significant because of the technology's educational benefits for those with disabilities. The technology is commonly used in classrooms and will now benefit the participants of Providence Center. SMART boards engage users by allowing them to express their ideas, improve communication, and participate in the learning process. The funds for the grant were provided from the Foundation's proceeds of its annual golf tournament held in August at Sparrows Point Golf Course.

Providence Center CEO Chuck Coble expressed gratitude for the event and the funds for the boards. "I am completely humbled by the kindness and generosity that the Ernst's and the Danny's Day Foundation have shown to the extraordinary men and women we serve at Providence Center," Coble said. "The participants had a wonderful evening with great food and entertainment. Difficult circumstances often reveal the true heroism within the human spirit and there is a profound symbiosis between the men and women of Providence Center, Danny Ernst, and the goals of the Foundation. We are so proud to be beneficiaries of the Foundation's efforts in Danny Ernst's name."

Foundation founder Pat Ernst stated, "This was a great evening that was full of fun and new friendships that help us keep Danny's spirit going. My son was always the life of the party and loved organizing events. We worked hard to make this a special day for Providence Center and know that Danny was a big part of the celebration. He will live on in the good that we can do for others."

Neysa Ernst added, "We hope that those who attend programs at Providence Center will gain so much from the new SMART boards. If this technology assists just one person to gain greater independence and achieve their dreams, this was an incredibly worthy investment."

The mission of the Danny's Day Foundation is to honor, support, and enrich the lives of developmentally challenged individuals in our region. It will provide enjoyable experiences for this special population, advocate, and champion their worth in everyday society, help them reach their full potential, and in so doing, live out the philosophy "always remember on the path of life, stop to make a difference."



Participants and staff danced to the DJ spinning tunes.



Commemorative Gifts

This listing reflects commemorative gifts from
February 28, 2013 – May 1, 2013

In Memory of Cindy Askew

Mrs. Betty J. Askew

In Honor of Gretchen Peterson

Ms. Wanda Cantlin

In Memory of Maggie Cadwalader

Ms. Pat Rogers

In Honor of Michael Boulier

Mrs. Maureen Ashley

In Memory of Patricia Shaddeau

Mr. Chester H. Shaddeau, Jr.

In Honor of Dillon Kelley

Mr. Rick Powell, PMG, Ltd.

Commemorative gifts in honor or in memory of a loved one can be made by contacting Aimee Bullen at abullen@providencecenter.com or at (410)766-2212 ext. 110.

Chuck's Notes, *continued from page 1*

We have four program sites and nearly 500 participants that come through our doors each day. I try to visit our programs often – not only as the “boss” but because of the love I have for this work. Every time I am in our programs, I witness our staff treating our participants with the dignity that we all deserve. Dignity regardless of abilities or disabilities. I see the respect they have for one another as people and the bonds that are built that make trying something new a little bit easier.

I just want to take this space and opportunity to acknowledge the dedicated staff of Providence Center. They make this a great place to work. They work to develop the kind of connections that are so needed in the lives of those we serve. As I reflect on the recent passing of an individual that had been with us since the age of three, I know that families choose us because of the enrichment and support we provide their loved ones and our work to help them achieve a life of their own choosing. I want to say thank you to all of those that help make these beautiful lives better.

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 hope that you will consider supporting those partners that support our important work. The following is a list of new employers since February 2013.

Employers

General and Mechanical Services

1007 Skidmore Drive
Annapolis, MD 21409

Honeysuckle Consignment Shop

1584 Ritchie Highway
Annapolis, MD 21012

Crab Galley

7410 Laurel Bowie Road
Bowie, MD 20715

McDonald's

1941 West Street
Annapolis, MD 21401

Baguettes Bistro

7514 S. Ritchie Highway
Glen Burnie, MD 21061

Retail Partners

The retailers below offer their customers our products while also assisting our participants gain greater independence by earning a paycheck through the sale of their work. Please consider supporting those retailers that support our important work.

Whole Foods Annapolis

Annapolis Seafood Market- Severna Park Location

Wegmans Crofton

The Annapolis Pottery

Bay Ridge Wine and Spirits

Angels Food Market

Blossom and Basket Boutique

Nadina's Cremes

Side Street Framers

Homestead Gardens

Announcements

❖ Congratulations to **Cindy Crowner** for celebrating her 25th year with Providence Center. Cindy is a valuable, hard-working, and caring member of the Providence Center family. Congratulations, Cindy!

❖ Thank you to the **Jesse and Hertha Adams Charitable Trust** for \$20,474 to renovate the original glass Horticultural greenhouse.

❖ Thank you to the **Knights of Columbus Councils #1384 and #11214** for their respective gifts of \$900 and \$1,132 for Providence Center's programs and services.

❖ Thank you to **Paula Meekins** and the **Lakeshore Democratic Club** for their grant of \$10,000.

❖ Thank you to the **Rotary Club of Annapolis** for their grant of \$1,000 for the purchase of laptops for our Supported Employment Mentors.

❖ Thank you to the **Toyota Dealer Match** program for their grant of \$2,500 for the purchase of laptops for our Supported Employment Mentors.

❖ Thank you to **Jacqueline Hildebrand** for her donation of a kiln, wheel, glazes and clay to our Pottery Studio.

❖ Thank you to **F&F Landscaping** for their donation of 500 pots to our Horticulture Program.

❖ Congratulations to **Kimberly Eisenhart** on her promotion to Lead Mentor in our Supported Employment program.

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



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

Save the Date!!

Garden Party at the Greenhouse

Featuring entertainment by Radio City
Friday, June 14, 2013
7:00 PM – 10:00 PM
Greenhouse at Jean Bradbury Building
370 Shore Acres Road
Arnold, MD

For sponsorship or more information, contact
Aimee Bullen at abullen@providencecenter.com
or at (410)766-2212 ext. 110.

10th Annual Jalopyrama

Renowned hot rod car show
Saturday, October 19, 2013
Annapolis National Guard Armory
18 Willow Street
Annapolis, MD
For more information, visit
www.jalopyrama.com. A portion
of the proceeds from this family-friendly,
fun event benefits Providence Center's
programs and services.

Providence Center Kiwanis Aktion Club

Wednesday, June 5, 2013
Wednesday, July 3, 2013
Wednesday, August 7, 2013
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

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.