



CHOICES

Making Self-Determination Real in Dane County

Summer 2017

IN FOCUS:

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Careers and College

Erik L. has been an employee with Prairie Gardens Assisted Living since 2007. He enjoys chatting with the residents and joking around. Erik was recently recognized for his hard work and presented with a certificate of achievement by his employer.

Bear in Mind...



Monica Bear is Dane County's Community Services Manager for Developmental Disabilities

Last May I was lucky enough to participate in a three mom/three daughter road trip to Chicago to see the musical, Hamilton. Since then,

whether traveling the Midwest to see ailing relatives, camping in state parks or chasing the solar eclipse, the cast recording has served as the soundtrack of our family's summer road trips. Many mornings on the way to work Linn-Manuel Miranda's songs blast from the car speakers serving up the day's anthem. With the Family Care and IRIS transition underway and Dane County staff preparing to sunset our role as local administrators of the Community Integration Program (CIP) in early 2018, Hamilton's lyrics blend together: "Running out of time....Who will tell our story....When our time is up, will we have done enough?... Teach them how to say good-bye... One last time..."

There will be a couple more CHOICES newsletters but Dane County's DD-Adult Unit has begun to do many things one last time. The 2018 budget is being finalized; public hearings are currently scheduled for Wednesday September 13. While Dane County intends to continue funding a safety net for adults with developmental disabilities experiencing behavioral crisis, 2018 will mark the end of County con-

tracts for most DD-Adult service providers. Some good-byes have already begun as brokers leave to work for Managed Care Organizations and IRIS Consulting Agencies. This summer marked the final high school transition coordinated by Dane County.

What a transition it was! 56 of 57 young adults who finished high school have paid employment earning minimum wage or more, working at one of 79 local businesses. In this issue you will see a shout-out to this year's employers as well as bar graphs showing the impressive outcomes achieved through the sustained collaboration between Dane County, local high schools and the Department of Vocational Rehabilitation (DVR). The CHOICES cover photo illustrates the meaningful careers that can develop from these jobs; Eric L. just celebrated 10 years as a dedicated employee at Prairie Garden Assisted Living.

As the CIP program runs out of time, there will be many opportunities for individuals, their families and providers to learn about the Family Care, IRIS and Partnership programs. In September, Wisconsin Department of Health Services will host five member forums to describe the programs and outline the transition process. In October, the Aging and Disability Resource Center (ADRC) of Dane County will begin options and enrollment counseling. Enrollment will start in February 2018 likely end by May 2018. Throughout the transition the ADRC will be available to provide the information and assistance that you need. Family and advocacy groups will continue to organize and inform. I urge everyone to actively participate in this transition.

For more information:

ADRC of Dane County website: daneadrc.org Phone: 608-240-7400

Email: ADRC@countyofdane.com,

WI-DHS Family Care website:

dhs.wisconsin.gov/familycare

WI-DHS IRIS website:

dhs.wisconsin.gov/iris

WI-DHS Partnership website:

dhs.wisconsin.gov/familycare

To connect with families and advocates:

Arc-Dane: arcdanecounty.org

DD Coalition: whatdoesfamilycaremean-fordanecounty.com

Contact: Melissa Mulliken, 608/206-1818

or melissa@mmulliken.com

LOV-Dane: lovdane.org

Family Care Managed Care Organizations (MCOs) operating in Dane County will be:

- Care Wisconsin
- My Choice Family Care

IRIS Consulting Agencies (ICA's) operating in Dane County will be:

- LSS Connections
 - The Management Group (TMG)
 - Advocates 4U
 - First Person Care Consultants
- Additionally Progressive Community Services (PCS) has been pre-certified to be an ICA and hopes to have full certification prior to enrollment.

Partnership MCOs that will continue operating in Dane County will be:

- Care Wisconsin
- I-Care

Upcoming Dates:

September 2017 Tentative WI-DHS sponsored Member Forums

Look for a letter from Dane County Human Services two weeks prior to the first forum. Please read letter carefully in case any changes in date, time or location have occurred.

Tuesday, 9/12, Crowne Plaza (4402 E Washington Ave, Madison, WI 53704) 2pm-4pm

Wednesday, 9/13, Crowne Plaza (4402 E Washington Ave, Madison, WI 53704), 3pm-5pm

Tuesday, 9/19, Crowne Plaza (4402 E Washington Ave, Madison, WI 53704), 2pm-4pm

Wednesday, 9/20, Crowne Plaza (4402 E Washington Ave, Madison, WI 53704), 2pm-4pm

Saturday, 9/23, American Family Training Center (American Family Training Center, Building A 6000 American Family Parkway Madison, WI <https://www.wistaf.org/doc/AmericanFamilyMap.pdf>) 10am-12pm

10-1-2017: ADRC of Dane County will begin Option counseling. The ADRC will host numerous group options counseling sessions. All sessions

2-1-2018: Enrollment begins.

People with or without disabilities have interesting careers

By Jeffrey Johnson

When people with or without disabilities graduate from high school they are thinking about what to do next. Someone with a disability can talk to a DVR counselor about what they want to do for a job. Some people may want to go back to school for more training. Some people, like myself, want to write better articles for the Choices newsletter. I went back to school and took a reading class to be a more active reader at the south campus. I also took a writing class at Middleton High School. Both of my classes were through MATC in Madison sometime last year.

Read about a job opening, make sure it's something you think you like or be interested in doing. When you decide it's what you want, then talk to the contact person about applying for the job and the job interview. If you get an interview and it went well, you will hear in a few days that you got the job or not. If you didn't get the job you were looking for, do not quit looking. Think "What kind of work would I like?"

Things someone might do to help figure out what they want to do would include talking to someone about the job and their experiences. Another thing a person could do is find out what the job involves, like how many hours and days of the week someone will be working. The person could visit the place where they might be working. Another idea could be going to the job center or look into the want ads in the newspaper.

Try to write a resume explaining and tell them a little about yourself. What kind of work you are looking for? After graduating from college, some people may want a job as a writer. Some people's goal is to get a job at Newspaper Company like the Capital Times. I learned how to be a more active reader and then I took a writing class learned how to write better stories and articles. I learned about supporting details. If someone likes coffee, he or she may want to work in a coffee shop. People that like to cook may want to go back to school to learn how to be a cook or a chef in a restaurant. The people that enjoy bowling might want to

work at bowling alley in Monona or Madison. People that enjoy sports might want to work in a sports bar.

The people that do go to college may or may not have a career in mind right now. They might have a career in mind later. People that like to work with money may want to work at a bank or credit union or be a cashier in a grocery store.

CAREERS AND COLLEGE:

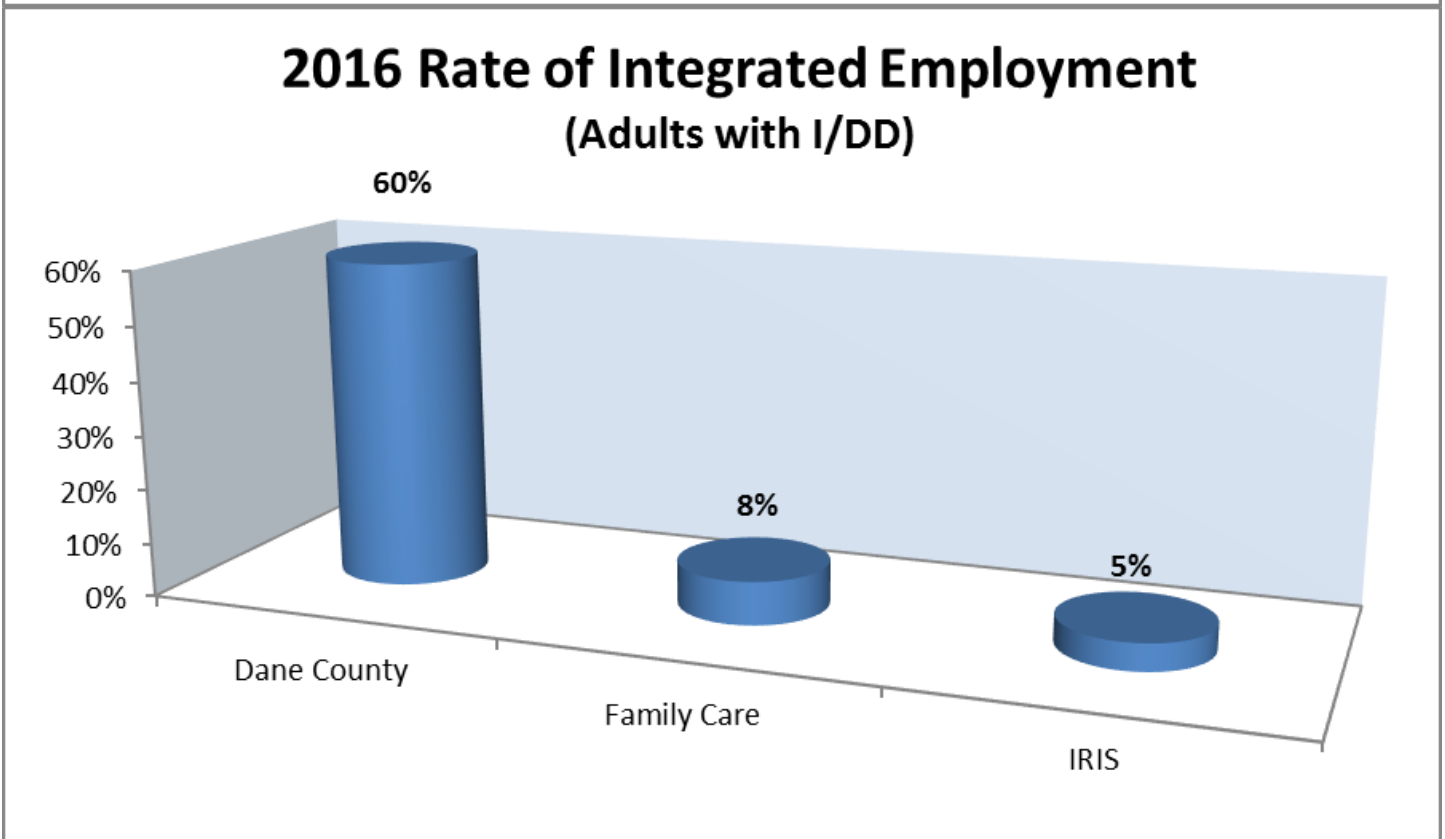
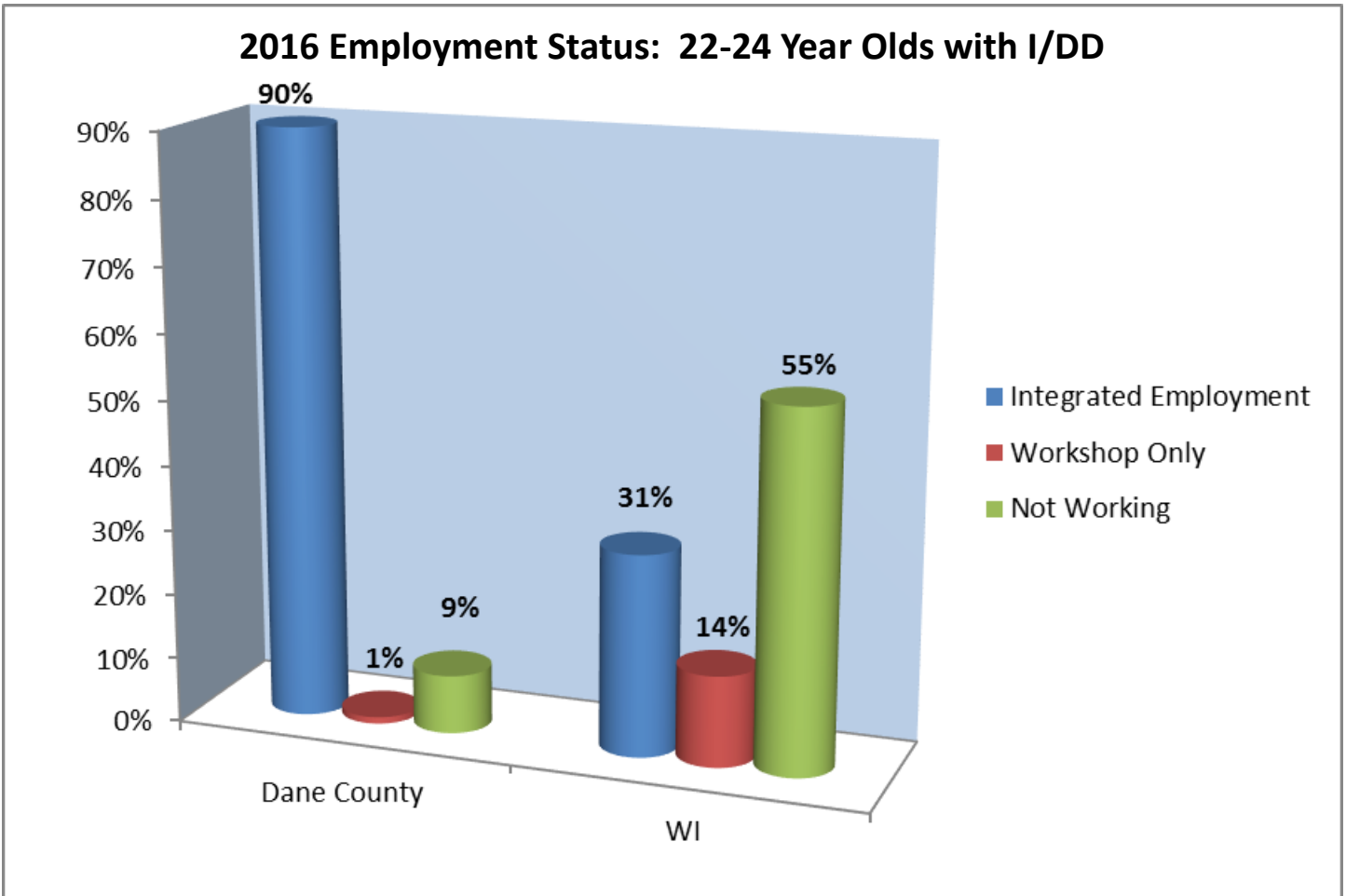
A Personal Story

By Gregory Cain

When you talk about college and careers, it's not an easy subject to reflect on, partly because you hear so many different opinions on the topic. When I went to college the first time, I didn't go for me! I didn't end up finishing, but I did end up going back for psychology. I stayed in that course for one and half years, at that time I was thinking I was thinking of a careers, but I still didn't feel it was for me. I guess you could say I was at a crossroad in my life where I didn't know what direction I going in so I did end up going back for business. I thought it would be something that sounded I could do, but after a year I was tired of it. I started saying to myself what I am going to do with my life, I have so much education but I was still in a funk! There one thing I knew I was good at it was making people laugh, so I thought I would do that, but because I was in trouble most of the time my life with in a direction, I wasn't proud of.

But when I was incarcerated, I found out there are things with all my smarts, I could help people learn to read and write, and get their GED. At the same time, I recognized that I had a talent for writing, and at the same time it was something I liked doing, so what I would say about college is it is a good thing, but it's not for everyone. Stay true to yourself.

Dane County continues to lead Wisconsin and the Country in integrated employment for adults with intellectual and developmental disabilities.
Here's how we stack up against the rest of the state:



Dane County's commitment to vocational support for young adults is based on the belief that paid work is the most cost effective way for people with disabilities to gain respect, share ordinary places, achieve a sense of belonging and make meaningful contributions to our community. The paycheck isn't bad either!

Thanks to the following businesses who hired 57 young adults who completed school this year.



Annie was recently hired by Healthgrades after completing the Project SEARCH program at the UW/VA Hospitals.



Allison at her job at Alliant Energy.

Access to Independence • Alliant Energy • American Family • Aveda • Bad Dog Frida • Bike Repair Business Microenterprise • Biomats 4 Autism • Boston Store • BrightStar Senior Living • Brittingham Boats • Burman Coffee Traders • Capitol Senate Page • Central Wisconsin Center • Children's Dental Center • Clean Power at Military Affairs Bldg. • Community Living Alliance • Crown Plaza • Cycle Point • Cycle Point at MARC West • Dental Health Associates • Diakonos Designs • Doubletree Hotel • Encore • Exact Sciences • Fleet Services • Gates and Brovi • Goodwill Store Fitchburg • Holiday Inn Express • Hotel Red • Inn on the Park • Jimmy John's • Jungs • Kenworth Trucking • Latitude Corporation • La-Z-Boy • Liliana's • Lucky's 1313 • Madison Mallards • Madison United Healthcare Linen • Malt House • Marigold Kitchen • Marshall EMS • MATC Fitness Center • Metcalfe's • Noel • Noodles • Oasis • Oregon Community Pool • Oregon Ice Arena • Palace Cinema • Pasqual's • Pick N Save • Prairie Athletic Club • Preschool of the Arts • Roman Candle • Sardine • Self-Cullen's Links of Love Microenterprise • Shop Bop • Stellar Services • Stoughton Meadows • Sujeo • Sun Prairie YMCA • Texas Roadhouse • The Old Fashioned • UPS • UW Hospital at TAC • UW West Clinic • UW-Madison Camp Randall Kitchen • VA Hospital • Verona HS • Viking Brew Pub • Village of Oregon • Waunakee School District • WI Historical Museum • Wisconsin Housing and Economic Development Authority

HERE I AM LORD

By Jeffrey Johnson

Camp Luwisomo is a church camp that opened in the 1940's or 1950's by a group of people wanted to start a camp. The chapel of St. Barnabas at Camp Luwisomo used to be a barn. My roommate Joe and I arrived at Camp Luwisomo on Sunday and checked in to the main building. That where most of the adult campers were staying. For the first activity, everyone met in the green room on Sunday evening for the opening ceremony when all the campers met their camp counselors. The counselors all have "camp names". The counselors that I met were Bug, Tater, and Arrow. I talked to some new campers and played UNO with them. My counselor, Tater, and I had a few things in common. We both like to write: She likes to write poetry and I like to write articles for Choices Newsletter.

It has been a lot of fun this week. We were singing camp songs. I have been driving my roommate Joe crazy singing the sheep song. Tater asked me what I like in the Olympics One of the staff named Cory said was its fun to get to know people with and without disabilities. She likes getting to know people and learn about Jesus.

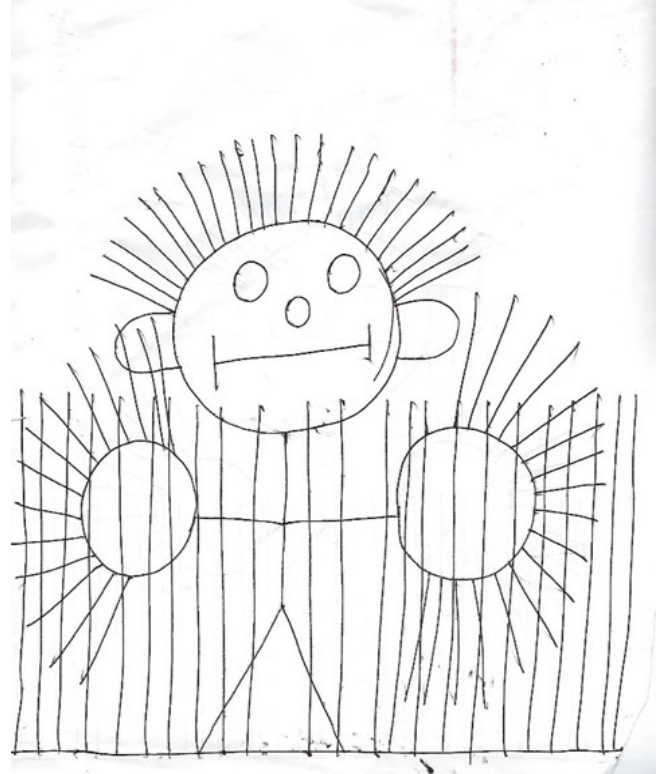
I asked the counselors, Alex and Bug, what would make them come back next year. They both agreed the campers would make them come back next year. I interviewed Crystal on Thursday she is a camper she has been coming for many years. I said to her what did you like doing at camp this year. She really likes swimming, horses, bowling, camp fires, wagon rides, arts and crafts she loves her doll Mike. Thursday I talked to a lady her name was Pterodactyl is one of the youth counselors it her first year coming to Camp Luwisomo. She likes to play volleyball. I think the kitchen staff did a fantastic job making meals for all the counselors and campers. There are some really nice counselors at Camp Luwisomo. This has been a great summer for all of the campers this year at Camp Luwisomo. The kitchen staff did a fantastic job for all of the campers and counselors here this week.



COMICS

"Summer"

By Bill Worthy



Fashion Show for All Abilities 2017



By Jeffrey Johnson

The fashion show for all abilities was at the Monona Terrace Community Convention Center Ballroom Friday, April 21st from 6:00 -8:00 pm. This was the fashion shows 11th year. The fashion show started back in 2007 to promote a community awareness regarding accessibility and respect for people with disabilities.

This event was hosted by Jonathan Suttin from 105.5 Triple M Radio and Rachel Friedman from Dane County Human Services. The stylists were from Paul Mitchell schools. The DJ for the fashion show was Lasisi Ibrahim. Photographers were Tapan Shah, David James Photography, Anthony Gartner.

This year we had 75 models and 30 retailers. The retailers included Old Navy, Gap, Boston Store, and Suzen Sez. The models could choose how they got too dressed up. The guys could choose to dress up in sporting clothes, casual or dress clothes. The girls could dress up in a nice dress or nice pants and blouse.

The first thing the models needed to do is setup an appointment with one of the retailers to be fitted for the fashion show. Models could pick out their own outfit and could buy the outfit if they wanted it either before or after the show.

I enjoyed walking down the runway and doing my little dance, stopping and posing for the camera. It's a great honor for everyone to be in the fashion show. It very fun to be on stage. Many people had friends and family there to watch them and give them support. We had some first time models this year. I really think the kids did a great job for their first time. This was my second time being in the fashion

show. I asked my dad if I could walk down the runway without wearing my helmet. It was really nice of him to let me do that. That made it a lot more fun for me.

I really enjoyed being a model for a day I think the show was very exciting for me and other models. Everyone seemed to have a lot of fun.

I recommend trying out for the fashion show some time. Let you friends and family know that you might want to try to be model. It is a lot fun and is for a good cause. I think we should thank Chantel Brown for starting this

event to spread awareness in the community for people with intellectual disabilities and physical disabilities.



THE VOLUNTEERS AT THE FASHION SHOW!!

By Gregory Cain



I can't begin this essay without thanking Chantel Brown for her vision, and her pursuit of an all Abilities Fashion Show. Now having said that, I cannot forget all the volunteers for all their great work, and the people at the Waisman Center like Rachel Weingarten, and all the Retailer Coordinators.

I would especially like to thank all the people who help all the models get dressed, because without them a lot of us couldn't get all our clothes on, so you see it takes many people to put the show together. I can't forget the Stylists, also the Emcees, and the DJ who does a great job keeping the music going.

As the years go on, we would like to see the audiences get bigger, and bigger not just because it's a great cause, so we can have more models. Because in this writer's opinion; there are more people who would like to be in the show, but we have to turn them away.

And that's not even saying what it will do for retailer's businesses purchases power, the bigger the show gets, the more sponsors we pick - up! So as you can see it's a win-win situation for all concerned.

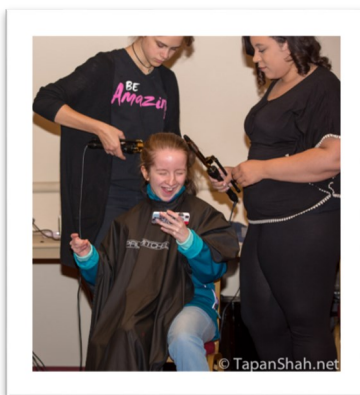
So as you can see you're not just doing a good thing to make you feel good, you're picking - up more customers, and you should want to participate anyway it's all for a good cause!! It makes your heart feel good, so I hope to see more sponsors.

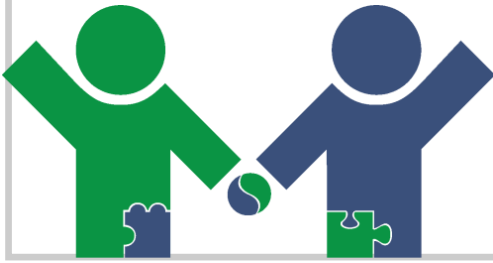
VSA Wisconsin

By Jeffrey Johnson

Very Special Arts of Wisconsin has programs and workshops for people with disabilities in Madison. This past weekend my roommate Joe, our home staff Brent and I went up to the art fair on the square. We walked around looking at paintings by some local artists. My roommate Joe and my friend Phil Porter both had art on display at the VSA both. There were also several other people with disabilities trying to sell their art. The art fair is where you can meet a lot of people and a lot of people go to the art fair every year. They even have paintings made by other people that do this for a living. It is a very fun event to attend every year.

My roommate Joe takes an art class every Tuesday at VSA in Madison. I am going to try to take an art class at VSA in the fall Joe and I both love to paint. That is one thing we have in common and can do together. There are younger adults and older adults with disabilities that can take classes at VSA. There are different classes at VSA including creative arts, visual art, dance, drama, music, and more. At VSA, you can make your own instruments, that's part of the fun! Fall sessions September, 11th. VSA is place where you can meet people with and without disabilities. VSA Wisconsin is looking for volunteers' in these areas: Exhibition Assistants, Choir director assistant, accompanist, Special Events, Fund Raising, Special Projects and Young Professionals Committee. VSA Art classes are offered Monday through Thursday in the late afternoons and early evenings, and occasionally day-time classes or workshops are held at VSA in Madison.





Make a Difference! An Invitation to Provide Citizen Support

Wisconsin is changing how it delivers long-term support. People who currently receive assistance administered by Dane County will need to enroll in a program called Family Care, IRIS or Partnership. Once a person has decided which program is best for them they must decide which company they would like to oversee their supports. The Aging and Disability Resource Center of Dane County (ADRC) will offer information and assistance throughout the process. Some adults with developmental disabilities have requested additional support through the enrollment process. A cadre of committed citizens is needed to make this happen. To provide citizen support one cannot be currently employed by Dane County, a Managed Care Organization, one of their contracted providers or an IRIS Consulting Agency.

Interested in providing citizen support? Come learn more:

What: Introductory/Overview meeting
Date: Thursday August 24, 4:00-6:00 p.m.
Location: Waisman Center Community Outreach Office
122 E. Olin Ave. Suite 100 Room A/B, Madison WI, 53713

Citizen support is a 12-15 hour commitment between August 2017 and early 2018. It includes:

- ◆ Attending one 2 hour introductory, overview meeting at 122 E. Olin on August 24, 2017.
- ◆ Attending one face-to-face meeting with the individual requesting assistance and their current team members (approximately 2 hours plus transportation).
- ◆ If requested, accompanying individual and/or their family to one of five State of WI Department of Health Services (WI-DHS) facilitated member forum in September 2017 (approximately 2 hours plus transportation). Dates and location TBD.
- ◆ Accompanying individual and/or their family to enrollment counseling at the ADRC (approximately 1 hour plus transportation). Timeframe will vary by individual; likely between October 2017 and January 2018.
- ◆ A follow-up meeting with the individual and their team (approximately 2 hours plus transportation).
- ◆ Phone calls and emails as needed to coordinate meetings, and follow-up as requested (approximately 3 hours).

To RSVP contact Wendy Hecht at wendy@teamworkdane.org or (608)442-8785. Wendy can also help if you are interested in providing citizen support but cannot attend the August 24th meeting.

CHOICES Newsletter



The University of Wisconsin-Madison
Waisman Center
Room A 109
1500 Highland Avenue
Madison WI 53705

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...And the “Oh, Yeah’s...”

CHOICES is published quarterly to provide information about Self--Determination in Dane County.

The Next Issue

will be out Fall 2017. Contact the editor with ideas for articles before September 15. Articles due by October 15 or until the issue is full.

To Place a Connections Ad:

Submit Connections Ads to: Rachel Weingarten, Editor, 122 E. Olin Ave., Ste. 100 or weingarten@waisman.wisc.edu
We will run your ad for at least 3 issues unless you tell us otherwise.

Announce a Transition:

Tell us about a new job, an Engagement, a marriage, a new place to live, or say goodbye to someone who has passed away.

Choices is on the [COW](http://cow.waisman.wisc.edu/publications.html) Website

<http://cow.waisman.wisc.edu/publications.html>

CHOICES by e-mail

Prefer to reduce paper coming in the mail? If you would prefer to receive a link via e-mail, please e-mail Rachel Weingarten:

weingarten@waisman.wisc.edu

Web versions do not include Connections ads or Transitions information

Contributors to this issue:

Jeffrey Johnson, Bill Worthy, Gregory Cain, Doug Hunt, Mellissa Amati, Monica Bear, and Rachel Weingarten

Please send your stories, comments, and suggestions

Contributions, comments and suggestions are encouraged and may be directed to:

Rachel Weingarten, Editor

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Future CHOICES publications:

We are asking for articles related to the following topics:

Fall 2017:

MAKING DECISIONS ON MY OWN: SUPPORTED DECISION MAKING

Articles due by October 15, 2017

People with disabilities, brokers, family members, support staff, or citizens at large are encouraged to submit articles.