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Connecting people with disabilities to the resources they need

July Jubilee adds The Main Street Music Festival to the Celebration

The 4th Annual July Jubilee, celebrating the anniversary of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), is coming soon. The Jubilee strives to be a fun and festive community event that everyone looks forward to each summer.

We have made a few changes this year! Here is what we have planned for 2018...

Main Street Music Festival

- Friday, July 27, 6:00 - 11:00 pm
- Live music, food trucks and vendors
- Bands:
 - Mama Ray and Friends
 - Washboard Jo and Friends
 - Congo Jim and the Coconuts
 - The Selle Brothers

Family Fun Festival

- Saturday, July 28, 8:00 am - 2:00 pm
- Vendors, food, entertainment, special guests and more!

Plans are still developing, so check the website, thewholeperson.org/jubilee for more details as they are announced. This outdoor celebration will require many volunteers! Sponsorship opportunities are still available, and already include the Neighborhood Tourist Development Fund of the City of Kansas City, Missouri; Tortoise Foundation; Blue Cross Blue Shield Kansas City; and MainCor. We are grateful for their support.

Sponsoring the July Jubilee at any level offers you the opportunity to highlight your company's philanthropic philosophy and commitment to people with disabilities. Your support provides you a unique opportunity to connect with the Greater Kansas City community, to build brand awareness, and show your company's support of an important cause!



For information about sponsoring or volunteering for the July Jubilee, contact Terri Goddard at 816-627-2220 or at goddard@thewholeperson.org.

MISSION

The Whole Person connects people with disabilities to the resources they need by supporting independent choice and advocating for positive change in the community.

VISION

The Whole Person envisions a fully accessible community where opportunities and choices are not limited by disability.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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Marcia Klostermann,
Vice President

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Rick O'Neal, President Emeritus



An accessible PDF, screen reader compatible file, is available in the newsletter archive on our website.

Community Outreach

As the Community Outreach Specialist, I have the opportunity to share The Whole Person's story with every person I meet. Many people in the community are unfamiliar with our programs and services and are blown away by the depths of our organization. As a person born with a physical disability, I find it natural to talk about how TWP's programs can benefit people with disabilities who strive to live independently. Previously as a volunteer, and then as a consumer using Employment Services, my personal experiences allow me to give those I meet a unique perspective about disability, independent living, and the TWP organization.

In order to reach potential consumers (who may decide to participate in TWP's programs and services), donors, volunteers, and community partners, our team often sets up informational tables at various health, senior, and school resource fairs. You may notice us at many 5K runs and events around the city, talking to new people, answering questions, and providing information. We also offer Disability Etiquette and



Awareness presentations to businesses, organizations, and schools that want to learn more about disability and inclusivity. Recently, I have spoken to the Jackson County Fire Protection District, Oakhill Day School, and 3rd to 5th graders at Bentwood Elementary about how to better interact with people with disabilities. My favorite part about these presentations is that by allowing people to ask questions, they become more comfortable with disabilities and can see that people with disabilities are an equal part of the community.

To set up a disability awareness presentation, please contact Lea Klepees at lklepees@thewholeperson.org.

Lea Klepees,
Development and Community Relations Specialist

TWP Wish List

Help us stock our tool shed for Planting Independence! Items needed are:

- Gardening gloves
- Loppers
- Gardening shears
- Shovels
- Brooms
- Dustpans

We are also collecting travel-sized toiletries to give out to homeless veterans at the upcoming KC Stand Down on June 8th. Needed items include:

- Shampoo
- Body soap
- Toothpaste/Toothbrush
- Deodorant
- Tampons & sanitary napkins
- Cleansing wipes

TWP Programs and Services

- Independent Living Services
- Consumer Directed Services
- Employment Services
- Deaf and Hard of Hearing Services
- Individual and Systems Advocacy
- Telecommunications Access Program
- Benefits Enrollment Center
- Mental Health Services
- Transition Services
- The Whole Family Project
- Blindness Low Vision Experience
- Youth and Adult Services
- Adaptive Sports
- Legal Services

2018 Expressions Art Exhibition Kicks Off

The 8th year of Expressions is off to a wonderful start with a successful opening night on April 6, 2018. Held at Kansas City Young Audiences, over 400 guests stopped by, met this year's Expressions artists, then stayed for entertainment, refreshments, hands-on art activities by Blick Art Materials, and a silent auction. Inclusive groups such as The Golden Stars, Project Access, Tota Voces, and Sassaphras performed during the evening. New this year was a live painting by Kansas City artist, Nicholas Clark. His piece was included in the silent auction to raise funds for The Whole Person.

"It was one of the most loving events that I have ever experienced. It was just beautiful -- the vibes of care and compassion in the room for all attending," said Jan Kobe, one of this year's artists.

Expressions 2018 boasts 15 visual artists and one performing artist. The exhibition has grown since it began as a small single-night event that recognized and presented local artists with disabilities, and this year was no exception. With the help of an expert selection committee, the caliber of art has never been stronger. Artworks represent a variety of artistic methods including painting, drawing, quilting, and 3-D sculpture. Artists will have a number of professional development opportunities throughout the year, including perfecting a portfolio and learning how to market themselves.

In addition to opening night, the artists' works will travel for a year to different venues throughout Missouri and Kansas. Currently, the artwork is at Corinth Library at 8100 Mission Road in Prairie Village, Kansas until mid-August 2018. Next, the exhibition opens at the Westport Center for the Arts in September where it will run through November, followed by the Leedy-Voukos Art Center in December, InterUrban ArtHouse in January 2019, and MainCor from February to March 2019.

For more information, visit our website at www.thewholeperson.org/expressions



2018 Expressions Exhibition Artists (left to right). 1. Tina Blatter; 2. William Dozier; 3. Sylvia Mooney; 4. Ronald Ulrich; 5. Margaret Welch Crow; 6. Omar Al-Shams; 7. John Campbell; 8. Janice Atkins; 9. Kassidee Quaranta; 10. Fazida Yathali; 11. Alex Krahenbuhl; 12. Dustin Bowers; 13. Lana Hughes; 14. Christine Klasinski; 15. Jan Kobe; 16. Guest on-site artist Nicholas Clark. Not pictured: Michelle artepunk Childers.

FACES OF TWP



1. Michael and Wendy accompany consumers to Jefferson City, Missouri for Disability Rights Legislative Day in March. **2.** Kelly participated in the Serve KC Volunteer Fair at Union Station in March. **3.** Anthony and Ali prepare to run the CCVI Trolley Run with the Blindness Low Vision group. **4.** Kayla and Nina get ready for the Spring Pop-Up Shop run by the Employment Team and their consumers. **5.** TWP staff enjoyed lunch from the Cheesy Street food truck. Cheesy Street will be one of the trucks at our July Jubilee event. **6.** JoAnn and Anthony work out of our new Kansas office. **7.** TWP Staff support the Royals on Opening Day. **8.** Mike enjoys a Valentine candygram from Brent, one of our Snack Cart workers.

FACES OF TWP



Planting Independence took place on April 21. Participating volunteer groups included: **9.** Thermo Fisher Scientific employees. **10.** Girl Scouts **11.** Eighth graders from Hyman Brand Hebrew Academy **12.** Mike Wiley, COO, and students from the University of St. Mary **13.** DaVita Kidney Care employees.

EVENT CALENDAR

For specific locations and times, visit our calendar at thewholeperson.org.

MAY 21 and JUNE 4, 18, 25:
Stretching Without Looking

MAY 21:
Beaded Quilt Mural

MAY 22 and JUNE 26:
Consumer Advocacy Group

MAY 23, 30:
Youth Wheelchair Tennis Series

MAY 30:
Deaf Peer Support Group

MAY 30 and JUNE 13, 27:
Tota Voces Choir Rehearsal

JUNE 2, 16:
Tennis for All Abilities

JUNE 12:
Late Deafened Peer Support Group

JUNE 13:
Bowling Blind

JUNE 14:
Brain Injury Peer Support Group

JUNE 19:
Mental Health Peer Mentoring Group

JUNE 20:
Out and About with Canines and Canes

Planting Independence One Yard at a Time!



Saturday, October 20
8:00 am - Noon

Location: A TWP consumer's home in one of several pre-selected areas

The Whole Person is partnering with volunteer groups to perform low to moderate risk activities such as mowing, raking, weeding, and planting at the homes of the people who receive our services.

VOLUNTEER INDIVIDUALS/GROUPS NEEDED!!
Planting Independence is an excellent volunteer opportunity for individuals, families, clubs, schools, scouts, organizations, and businesses.

Please contact Kelly Grooms at 816-627-2232
www.thewholeperson.org

TWP 101 TUESDAYS

Learn the "basics" about The Whole Person
FREE box lunch! Building tours at 11:45 am.
Session ends promptly at 1:00 pm.

RSVP by the Friday before each month's session/luncheon to:

Lea Klepees, 816-659-9403, or
lklepees@thewholeperson.org



CLASS IS IN SESSION ON THESE 2018 DATES:

- May 22
- August 28
- November 27
- June 26
- September 25
- July 24
- October 23



The 2nd Annual Night of Independence Gala – *It's Magic*

This year's Gala will be a unique evening of illusion, mystery and magic that will honor individuals and organizations working to further The Whole Person's mission of assisting people with disabilities to live independently.

The evening is September 22nd at Union Station's Grand Plaza and will feature a cocktail reception, live magic performances, dance performances, silent and live auctions, dinner, awards ceremony and dancing. This year's band is none other than Kansas City's own – the M80's.

The "creative black tie" and festive cocktail Gala will be an event sure to make MAGIC cool again for grown-ups!

We are proud to announce that Morgan Perry and Carey Jarvis are serving as this year's co-chairs and they are leading a wonderful new group of committee members who are a blend of community volunteers and TWP employees.

We invite you to nominate people, organizations or companies for our awards. Please visit the website for information on this process or to review past award winners.

The Award Categories are:

- **Individual Award:** Recognizes an individual who has been a champion of people with disabilities through their actions or involvement in organizations, events and their community.
- **Corporate/Organization Award:** Recognizes a business or organization for outstanding accomplishments in increasing the quality of life and promotion of inclusion of people with disabilities in their community.
- **Civic Leader Award:** Recognizes an individual or organization which inspires others to make a difference by engaging with elected officials and key stakeholders in discussions to promote policies that support the mission of The Whole Person and independent living for people with disabilities.
- **Volunteer of the Year Award:** Recognizes an individual who has contributed volunteer hours/service at an extraordinary level of dedication.
- **Organization/Corporate Volunteer Group of the Year Award:** Recognizes an organization or



It's Magic!

Night of Independence Gala

corporate group that has contributed volunteer hours/service at an extraordinary level of dedication.

- **Paul H. Levy Founders Award:** Named for the founder of The Whole Person, this award recognizes an individual who, through his or her life's work, has been a tireless advocate for people with disabilities in the Kansas City metropolitan area.

Please save this date on your calendars and be a part of this wonderful evening. There are Volunteer, Table Captain, and Sponsorship opportunities available. Last year's event sold out, so reserve your table early and make sure you don't miss this magical event.

Grants Program Update

We're midway through the fiscal year and there are grants to report.

The Whole Person is very grateful to the following foundations and other funders who have awarded grants totaling \$251,389 since last October, for a wide range of programs and services for people of all ages and with all types of disabilities.

Many, many thanks to the following grantors for supporting TWP in Fiscal Year 2018:

- Neighborhoods and Housing Services Department, City of Kansas City, Missouri/HUD (for Home Modification/Minor Home Repair Services)
- Soroptimist International of Kansas City (for Home Modification services for women)
- Neighborhood Tourist Development Fund, City of Kansas City, Missouri (for July Jubilee 2018)
- Neighborhood Tourist Development Fund, City of Kansas City, Missouri (for Expressions 2018)
- Missouri Arts Council (for Expressions 2018)
- ArtsKC Catalyst Grant (for Expressions 2018)
- Francis Family Foundation (for Expressions 2018)
- United Way of Greater Kansas City (for Independent Living Services)
- National Council on Aging (to establish TWP as a Benefits Enrollment Center)
- Hall Family Foundation (for The Whole Family Project)
- Tortoise Foundation (for July Jubilee 2018)

Gifts 1st Quarter 2018

Memorials

Jean Bailey Smith | Candice Minear

Tributes

David Westbrook | Hilary Muehlberger

Advocates of Honor

Tom Schad | Yuliya Antonets

TWP Opens a New Office in Kansas

In order to fill a potential gap in independent living services for Kansas residents with disabilities that transpired in February of this year, The Whole Person is excited to announce a new office in Kansas City, Kansas. This office will house TWP staff who currently work with Kansas FMS (Financial Management Services) as well as Information and Referral, Kansas Advocates, Youth Transition, and eventually Employment Specialists working with Kansas Vocational Rehab.

Located at 8040 Parallel Parkway, Suite 300, the office has a KCATA bus stop directly in front of the building, which will afford many Kansas consumers the opportunity to visit their advocates, drop off timesheets, meet with staff or participate in other activities.

The space has six offices, a large conference room and has been decorated in a colorful theme of Diversity and Inclusion. Visitors are welcome between the hours of 8:30 am and 5:00 pm, Monday through Friday.

Public Policy

April was a productive month for the The Whole Person's Public Policy team. The State of Missouri is slowly reversing the cuts imposed last session. At the end of the month, the House added \$1.8 million back to the IL (Independent Living) State Grant and both the House and the Senate have agreed to increase the provider reimbursement rate by 1.5%. Both of these items (the IL Grant and the provider reimbursement rate) were "agreed to" by the legislature, but they are not certain until the Governor approves the budget.

Adaptive Sports

The Whole Person's Adaptive Sports program has sprung this spring!

Wheel It Forward Tournament

Nineteen competitors from the Midwest rallied at the Northland Racquet Club to test their mettle in The Whole Person's "Wheel It Forward" tennis tournament on April 6 - 8. Several of TWP's Kansas City No Coast wheelchair tennis team members placed at the top of their divisions in singles and doubles. **All players listed below are No Coasters.*

B Singles: 1st Ricardo Lucien, 2nd Katie Garcia, 3rd Jarvis Stirn, 4th Brian McMillan

B Doubles: 1st Katie Garcia, 2nd Jarvis Stirn, 3rd Matt Bollig & Ricardo Lucien

C Singles: 1st Hilary Muehlberger, 2nd Nikki Sanders, 3rd Lanie Rodgers

C Doubles: 1st Lanie Rodgers & Rick Haith, 2nd Hilary Muehlberger & Nikki Sanders

Youth Power Soccer Workshop

On April 14th TWP hosted its first Youth Power Soccer Workshop at Will Shields 68's Inside Sports, an accessible fitness facility in Overland Park, Kansas. Four young people from the greater Kansas City area and two from St. Joseph, Missouri participated in this fun workshop. All of those who attended reported an interest in starting a series of practices and creating a competitive team. The Youth Power Soccer Series will be coming this fall. Thank you Mobility First & 68's Inside Sports for supporting this program!

Youth Wheelchair Tennis Series

The six week Youth Wheelchair Tennis Series is currently up and running at the Northland Racquet



No Coast members at the Wheel It Forward Tournament.



Power Soccer Workshop participants.



Youth Wheelchair Tennis Series participants.

Club. Practices are from 6:00 - 7:00 pm Wednesdays, from April 18th - May 30th. (No practice on May 9th).

All Abilities Tennis Program

The All Abilities Tennis program is held from 11:00 am - 12:30 pm on the 1st and 3rd Saturday of every month. The program is specifically designed for "all abilities." If you can swing a racquet you can play, regardless of age or disability.

*Connecting people with disabilities
to the resources they need.*

3710 Main Street, Kansas City, MO 64111
thewholeperson.org

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NEWSLETTER
BY EMAIL!**

Sign up at:
thewholeperson.org/newsletter



JOIN OUR EMAIL LIST

Signing up for our email list is a great way to stay connected to TWP. Visit thewholeperson.org to sign up.

MEDIA CONTACTS:

For media inquiries, interviews or statements, please contact:
Terri Goddard
Resource Development Manager
816-627-2220
tgoddard@thewholeperson.org

GIVING OPPORTUNITIES

Contributions from Individuals,
Honorariums and Memorials

Corporation and Foundation Gifts
Planned Giving

For more information on planned giving, contact Terri Goddard, Resource Development Manager at tgoddard@thewholeperson.org, or call 816-627-2220.



The Whole Person
People with Disabilities Leading Independent Lives

★ MAIN STREET MUSIC FESTIVAL ★
LIVE MUSIC • FOOD TRUCKS • VENDORS
FRIDAY, JULY 27 • 6-11 PM

★ FAMILY FUN FESTIVAL ★
SATURDAY, JULY 28 • 8 AM-2 PM
3710 MAIN STREET, KCMO
THEWHOLEPERSON.ORG/JUBILEE

JULY JUBILEE
CELEBRATING INDEPENDENCE!

MAIN STREET MUSIC FESTIVAL

BANDS APPEARING 7/27
Congo Jim & the Coconuts | Mama Ray
The Selle Brothers | Washboard Jo

Sponsored by:
Tortoise Foundation | MainCor & MSCID | Kansas City

Celebrating the 28th Anniversary of the Americans with Disabilities Act



SAVE THE DATE!

September 22, 2018
Union Station
Grand Plaza

It's Magic!

Night of Independence Gala

A unique evening of illusion, mystery and magic benefitting The Whole Person

The Whole Person
People with Disabilities Leading Independent Lives