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#GivingCan Transform the Lives of People with Disabilities

Conversations abound this time of year over who we should support with a year-end gift. It is, after all, the season of giving! At The Whole Person, we know that **#GivingCan** help connect people with disabilities to resources that will empower them to be more independent and engaged in their communities.

This year, **Giving Tuesday** is December 3rd. TWP will be kicking off our year-end **#GivingCan** campaign. We will share story after story of how your **#GivingCan** and has changed lives. We need your assistance in spreading the word. When you see the campaign on your social media feed or when the email shows up in your inbox, please share it with your friends and family. You also might be inclined to share how services from The Whole Person have impacted your life.

Read more stories and learn what #GivingCan do at:
thewholeperson.org/GivingCan

Show us what #GivingCan do!

Support at any level is greatly appreciated! Learn about our Advocates of Honor program.

#GivingCan build ramps

Jeremy Tercey has cheerfully donated his time volunteering at The Whole Person since the summer of 2016, collecting and shredding sensitive documents.

The house Jeremy lives in presented numerous functional access challenges. To enter and exit his home safely and independently, he needed a wheelchair ramp to accommodate the size and weight of his power wheelchair. Jeremy also needed grab bars and a barrier free shower to replace the bath tub.

Jeremy submitted an application to **TWP's Home Modification Program**. Upon approval, Ron Bibbs, our ADA/Home Access Coordinator, collaborated with **Metropolitan Lutheran Ministries** and completed construction of a new wheelchair ramp for Jeremy in May 2019, making it possible for him to be independent and have easy access to pursue his creativity as a photographer.

In July 2019, Ron secured funding on Jeremy's behalf from both **Friends of Man** and **Midwest Special Needs Trust** to totally reconfigure Jeremy's bathroom, allowing him to age in place, in the home of his choice. TWP's Home Modification Program covered the remaining costs.

TWP's Home Modification Program utilizes skilled, experienced volunteers and local contractors to design and build wheelchair access ramps and other residential modifications such as grab bars, hand rails, door widening, stair lifts and basic bathroom modifications such as zero or low-barrier shower pans in place of existing bath tubs. The average costs for the renovations range from \$500 to install grab bars up to \$3,500 for a full bathroom remodel. In some cases, TWP can access funding for eligible recipients, based on location and income, which can make these projects a free or low cost service.

#GivingCan build ramps which give independence, comfort and safety



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

Carla Oppenheimer, President

Marcia Klostermann,
Vice President

Tony Waterhouse-Leal,
Secretary

Chris Albright, Treasurer

Andy Patrick

Ashish Jain

Ben McLean

CJ Charbonneau

Don Harkins

DaRon McGee

Mike McCord

Patricia Stillwell

Todd Isom



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

TWP Celebrates Another Great Year

Dear Friends,

It's hard to believe we are closing in on the end of 2019. This has been a fast, furious and overall really great year for The Whole Person. I am the lucky gal who manages the Resource Development, Outreach and Adaptive Sports Departments – and I can tell you with all honesty that there is never a dull moment in our corner of the TWP world.

In the past year, The Whole Person served 2,322 people in our various programs and services. Our outreach efforts produced 223 outreach activities and our stories appeared in the media 25 different times, highlighting our events, programs and stories about our consumers. This past year, 393 different people donated 4,347 hours of service to The Whole Person. We spruced up a record number of yards (60) at our annual Planting Independence Yard Clean Up. TWP continues to host our annual signature events: the Expressions Art Exhibition, the Main Street Music Festival and the Night of Independence Gala. We will once again host the Wheel it Forward Wheelchair Tennis Tournament this coming April. Watch for details to come on our newest adventure which will be a Pickle Ball and Corn Hole Tournament benefitting our Adaptive Sports programs. We also sponsor a variety of events around the metro for other organizations serving people with disabilities, including Ms. Wheelchair Missouri, the CCVI Trolley Run, Midwest Ability Summit, AIDS Walk KC, Day at the Lake, the Kidney



Walk, the Out of the Darkness Walk, the Ability KC Luncheon and the Missouri Commission for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing.

The TWP Cares committee reached out into our community and volunteered at the American Cancer Society Hope Lodge, Thelma's Kitchen, and Boo at the Zoo. The TWP Cares committee also did a toiletry drive for Stand Down, an event for veterans, and for Camp Wonderland, a camp for people with disabilities in the Lake of the Ozarks.

In this season of giving, I ask that you consider supporting The Whole Person and help us continue to transform the lives of people with disabilities in our community. We believe that **#GivingCan**. I hope you will join us in this campaign. Have a wonderful holiday season!

Terri Goddard
Manager of Resource Development and Community Outreach
thewholeperson.org/givingcan

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
- Kansas Resident Services
- Transition Services
- The Whole Family Project
- Blindness Low Vision Experience
- Youth and Adult Services
- Adaptive Sports
- Legal Services

Carnival Gala Raises Funds for TWP

More than 300 guests rocked Harrah's ballroom on September 28 for The Whole Person's 3rd annual Night of Independence Gala, CARNIVAL! Feathers, sequins and gems adorned dresses, ties, and heads throughout the festivities.

TWP's Resource Development team, along with the Gala's planning committee, secured dozens of donated items, gift cards, and travel for the silent and live auctions, as well as TWP's now-famous "balloon pop." New this year was an interactive game "Heads or Tails," in which guests could purchase beaded necklaces to try their luck at winning an awesome weekend trip to Arkansas.

Emcee Cynthia Newsome, news anchor for 41 Action News, did an amazing job getting the crowd excited about the auctions as well as our award winners: Kevin Moore (Individual Award), KSHB-TV 41 Action News (Media Award), Sprint (Corporate Award), Sly James (Civic Leader Award), Jim Fitzpatrick (Volunteer of the Year Award), CREMA (Corporate Volunteer Group of the Year Award), and finally Ray Petty (Paul H. Levy Founders Award).

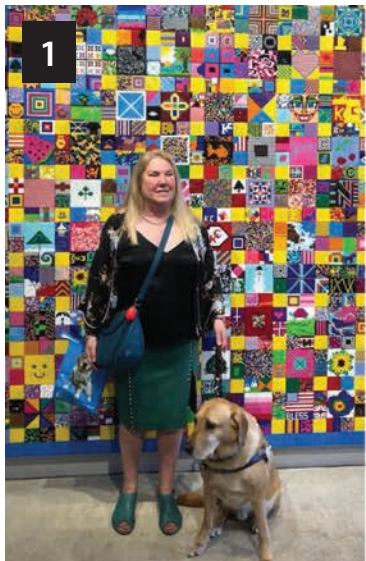
Gala attendees ended the night with the rhythmic beats of the band *Balacobabo do Brasil*. At evening's close, The Whole Person raised \$137,000 to support programs and services that help people with disabilities live independently. Thanks to everyone who attended, as well as our sponsors and table hosts who helped to make the evening a success!

Save the date for next year's *Night of Independence Gatsby Gala* – Saturday, September 26, 2020 at The Abbott.



Photo Montage: 1. Guests enjoyed dancing at the end of the Night of Independence Gala: Carnival!. 2. Julie DeJean, CEO; Carla Oppenheimer, Board President; and Lindsey and Ian Denney, Co-Chairs present Ray Petty with the Paul H. Levy Founders Award. 3. John Moore and Deana Hayne from Sprint accepted the Corporate Award. 4. Kevin Moore received the Individual Award. Tom and Kim Curry accepted the award in his honor. 5. Mayor Sly James received the Civic Leader Award. 6. Members of the Board (l to r; Ash Jain, Carla Oppenheimer, Chris Albright, Tony Waterhouse-Leal, CJ Charbonneau, and Marcia Klostermann) posed for a group photo at the event. 7. Laura Artman accepted the Corporate Volunteer Group of the Year Award for CREMA. 8. Jim Fitzpatrick received the Volunteer of the Year Award 9. Robin and Travis trying to win at the Balloon Pop. 10. Emcee Cynthia Newsome and Melissa Greenstein accepted the Media Award for KSHB41.

FACES OF TWP



1. Sheila and Paxton visit the Kansas Beaded Quilt exhibit. TWP's Blind, Low Vision Experience (BLVE) group were contributors to the group. **2.** The Brain Injury Association of Missouri (BIA-MO) recognized Sarah Carlson, TWP Independent Living Advocate/Adult Services Specialist, for her outstanding contribution to the brain injury community. **3.** The BLVE group enjoyed the end of summer with an outing on a pontoon boat at Lake Jacomo. **4.** TWP Staff decked out in Chiefs gear for the start of the season. **5.** Ashley and Monique dressed as pirates on the first day of Kindness Week at TWP. **6.** Shannon and Brian enjoyed the pontoon boat ride with the BLVE group. **7.** Lea performing community outreach at Brookside Charter school. **8.** Lea enjoys ice cream at a fundraiser for TWP at Betty Rae's. **9.** Micki helps lead a tour at The Deaf Culture Festival, held at The Nelson-Atkins Museum of Art. (photo courtesy of The Nelson-Atkins Museum of Art)

FACES OF TWP



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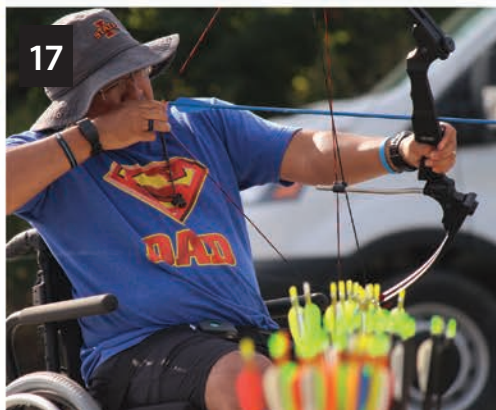
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10. Missouri State Senator Lauren Arthur joined the Community Advocacy peer group to hear the concerns of our advocates. **11.** Shannon, Rick and Porter attended an assembly at Harrisonville High School to educate youth on people with disabilities. **12.** In October, the Blindness Low Vision Experience (BLVE) toured the Louisburg Cider Mill. **13., 14.** For opening day of the Access + Ability exhibition at the Nelson-Atkins Museum of Art, The Whole Person, Mobility First and Kansas City Parks and Recreation held a field day highlighting adaptive sports designed for all. **15., 16., 17.** TWP's Adaptive Sports Program held the All Abilities Outdoor Adventures event with Kansas City Parks + Rec.

EVENT CALENDAR

For specific locations and times of the events listed, visit our calendar at thewholeperson.org.

- NOV. 26:**
Consumer Advocacy Group
- NOV. 27 | DEC. 4, 11, 18:**
KC No Coast Wheelchair Tennis
- NOV. 27 | DEC. 11:**
Tota Voces Choir Rehearsal
- DEC. 2, 16, 23, 30:**
Stretching Without Looking
- DEC. 3, 17 | JAN. 7, 21:**
Mental Health Peer Mentoring Group
- DEC. 5:**
TWP Holiday Open House (see back page)
- DEC. 9:**
Bowling Blind
- DEC. 10**
Deaf Peer Support Group
- DEC. 12 | JAN. 9:**
Brain Injury Peer Support Group
- DEC. 18**
Out and About with Canines and Canes
- DEC. 19**
Shop for a Cause at STUFF Fundraiser
- JAN. 3:**
TWP Getting Social Missouri
- JAN. 24:**
TWP Getting Social Kansas

*Temperatures are dropping!
Help keep our community
warm this season!*

Donate any of the items below by bringing them in to The Whole Person's KCMO office.

- Gloves or mittens (adult and youth sizes)
- Socks (adult and youth sizes)
- Mylar blankets

TWP 101 TUESDAYS | MO

Learn the "basics" about The Whole Person at our Missouri office. **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:

Ashley Frerking, 816-214-9729, or afreking@thewholeperson.org



CLASS IS IN SESSION ON THESE 2020 DATES:

- | | |
|---------------------|------------------|
| ■ January 21, 2020 | ■ April 21, 2020 |
| ■ February 18, 2020 | ■ May 19, 2020 |
| ■ March 17, 2020 | ■ June 16, 2020 |

PROGRAMS

SERVICES

EmployAbilities Welcomes Five Students

EmployAbilities, a new TWP job training initiative, kicked off its pilot program on Monday, September 30th. Five participants, all individuals with developmental disabilities, either hope to move up in their current role in the food service industry or pursue new employment in food services at the end of this eight-week program. Participants spent their first two weeks in Stage One with a TWP Employment Specialist to create goals and build healthy work habits,



Shirolyn helps one of the students prepare a catering platter.

such as organization, self-advocacy, effective communication, and problem solving. Participants then moved on to Stage Two, where they will spend five weeks in TWP's Catering Kitchen. Participants are learning how to read recipes and create menu items, as well as prepare individual and catering orders for sandwich and dessert platters. They are also learning food safety and sanitation guidelines necessary to work in a kitchen. Participants receive weekly feedback and are working to create a portfolio showcasing all of their creations. Recently, participants learned how to weigh ingredients and use equipment such as a meat slicer and cheese grater. They are catching on quickly! In mid-November, participants will return to the classroom for Stage Three, where they



Students receive hands on training in the catering kitchen at The Whole Person.

will work with the TWP Employment Team again to obtain their food handler's permit, as well as prepare to meet with employers and celebrate their success at their graduation ceremony on Friday, November 22nd. This has been a fun learning experience for both the participants and TWP staff. EmployAbilities will accept new applications soon for the next class, which will begin in early 2020.

TWP's Kansas Office Sees Increase in Consumers

By JoAnn Glenn
Manager, Kansas Payroll Team

TWP's office at 8040 Parallel Parkway, Suite 300 in Kansas City, Kansas provides Home and Community Based Services (HCBS) and support for eight Kansas counties: Atchison, Douglas, Jackson, Jefferson, Johnson, Leavenworth, Shawnee and Wyandotte. TWP opened this new location to better serve Kansas consumers. Appointments and meetings have included advocacy, benefit enrollment assistance, and TWP 101 luncheons.

We receive daily calls regarding the services we offer and we've seen an increase in consumers in the HCBS program. Currently we have a list of 15 new consumers; some have created

Person-Centered Service Plans while others are in the process of enrolling in the program.

Some calls, considered Information & Referral, are new consumers doing their research on housing, benefit enrollment assistance, equipment, home modifications, transportation, etc.

On September 27th The Whole Person started a new peer support group, TWP Getting Social, at our Kansas Office. After a brief overview of TWP, the participants played a few rounds of bingo and won TWP swag for prizes.

While the group was small for the first meeting, participants hope it will grow. We look forward to more Getting Social meetings in 2020. With interest expressed, we hope to have the Mental Health Peer Group and the Independent Living Skills Course also held at the Parallel Parkway location.

ADVOCATES OF HONOR MONTHLY GIVING CLUB

Tiffany Bohm-Taff | Stephanie Boykin-Brand

Laura Casselman | Kari Chester

Julie Corrigan | Kim Curry

Sherry Duncan | Brian Francis

Ashley Frerking | Nadia Fry

Terri Goddard | Karen Gridley

Briana Haines | Aida Halaoui

Jaylene Hanson | Shaun Harris

Jennifer Hertha | Doshon Hunley

Jim Johnson | Teri Jones

Kim Krueger | Kerry Matson

Justin McWilliams | Samuel McWilliams

Patricia Mullen | Carla Norcott-Mahany

Charles Porter | Jason Purinton

Chekasha Ramsey | Mary Simmons

Shannon Springer | Carlos Starnes

Tom Sweeny | Monique Todd

Pallavi Vikram-Arcot

Deborah Alicia Wofford | Callie Yeater

TWP Rolls Out Transportation Service

The Whole Person (TWP) has recently added another program: a transportation service providing rides to and from both medical and personal appointments. Individuals in both Kansas and Missouri who need transportation for non-emergency medical appointments can contact UnitedHealthcare. For individuals who do not have Medicaid, private pay is available for medical or personal appointments. TWP is in the process of adding Logisticare to the list of providers to schedule transportation, so that either UnitedHealthCare or Logisticare may be called to request the TWP transportation

service. Each ride is billed to Medicaid, and a personal care attendant, caretaker, or family member is welcome to ride along. Kyle Samborski, TWP staff member, oversees the new transportation service and four new drivers. "All drivers are trained in transporting people with disabilities, and the vehicles themselves are fully accessible," said Samborski.

To schedule an appointment through UnitedHealthcare, call the phone number listed on your insurance card. To schedule a private pay ride, contact Kyle Samborski at 816-627-2274.



Steve and Charles start early picking up individuals.

Kansas City No Coast Tennis Team Success at US Open!

Five members of The Whole Person's competitive wheelchair tennis team tested their mettle vs the best competition the sport has to offer at the September 2019 US Open in St. Louis. This tournament is one of four International Tennis Foundation Super Series events held annually worldwide, and one of only two in North America. Players come from all over the world to compete.

All five of the No Coasters finished in the top three of their divisions.

"The US Open was a fantastic experience for me. Thanks to financial help from The Whole Person, I not only got to participate as a wheelchair tennis athlete but was able to meet and learn from elite tennis players from around the world!" said Jeff Walker, No Coast Tennis player.

"Competing in the US Open was an experience I wouldn't trade for the world. I had the opportunity to see the top ranked players in the world compete and even received some coaching tips and words of encouragement. I made some friends and plan to participate in new tournaments they spoke highly of," said Hilary Muehlberger, No Coast Tennis Player.

Congratulations to all No Coasters for a successful tournament!



No Coasters participating the US Open in St. Louis: (top left to right) Jarvis Stirn, Jeff Walker, Hilary Muehlberger, Katie Garcia and Nikki Braby.

Accessible Sports Regional Roundtable

The Whole Person is thrilled to announce that Jarret Cronin has been hired as the Inclusion and Outreach Specialist for a new metro-wide collaboration, Accessible Sports in Greater Kansas City (AS-GKC). Jarret's position is supported by our second Healthy Communities grant from the Health Forward Foundation. In his role, Jarret meets with community partners and conducts outreach to new organizations in order to bring a diverse group to the AS-GKC Regional Roundtable, which meets quarterly. The overarching goal for AS-GKC is to be the central hub for accessible sports throughout the metro region. This requires all community partner pages and calendars to be completely updated on the AS-GKC website, www.as-gkc.net. Thus far, Jarret has secured seven new community partnerships for a total of 32, and he has many more in the works.



Jarret Cronin at an AS-GKC meeting.

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

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

**RECEIVE OUR
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

JOIN US FOR AN
UGLY
SWEATER PARTY!

HOLIDAY OPEN HOUSE
THURSDAY, DEC. 5TH
4:00-7:00PM
3710 MAIN ST., KCMO
Refreshments/Music/Activities/Santa
IT'S ABOUT TO GET UGLY...
(You do not need to wear an ugly sweater to attend)

Join us for a
**Holiday Shopping
Charity Party at**
a store named...
STUFF
Thursday, December 19
5:30-7:00pm
Free gift wrapping & refreshments!
**TWP will receive 15%
of your purchase!**
Learn more at: astorenamedstuff.com
316 W. 63rd St. (Brookside), KCMO
Artist originals, handmade gifts,
rugs, fine art, artisan jewelry, scarves,
home/body products, stationery & more!

