



The Whole Person

People with Disabilities Leading Independent Lives

CHOICE: THE BEGINNING OF LIVING INDEPENDENTLY



ASHLEY BOYER; FOLLOWING HER DREAMS.

Ashley Boyer is a participant in The Whole Person's Consumer Directed Services (CDS) Program. This program assists individuals with disabilities who are 18 and over to maintain their independence within their home. Consumer Directed Services plays an important part in Ashley's daily life. Two years ago, Ashley had just finished high school and was enjoying a summer evening bowling with friends. That evening she suffered an intracranial hemorrhage and lost all mobility and speech. She spent 3 months in the hospital before going home to be cared for by her mother. Frances quit her job in order to take care of her daughter.

It was a scary time for Ashley and her family. "I was 18 years old and this was all new to me. I wanted to be able to turn to my mom for my daily care." But the family could not survive without income and needed a solution. Ashley did not want a stranger providing her personal care. She did not want to even consider the possibility of institutional care. "That was just not going to happen!" Ashley needed her mother to be her personal care attendant.

With the support of The Whole Person and the CDS Program, Ashley was able to choose her mother as her Personal Care Attendant. Ashley's mother assists her with all of her daily living activities, takes her to her many medical and rehabilitation appointments and helps her with her home exercises.

Ashley has made remarkable progress in regaining her independence. She is enjoying getting her college education and hopes to follow her dream of pursuing a career in the medical profession. ●●●●●

If it weren't for The Whole Person, I'm not sure where we would have turned. This program has allowed my daughter to continue her rehabilitation in a stable atmosphere and familiar environment that has allowed her to achieve her goals.

-Frances L. Boyer



ASHLEY WITH HER MOTHER AND PERSONAL CARE ASSISTANT, FRANCES BOYER.

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The Whole Person

People with Disabilities Leading Independent Lives

The Whole Person assists people with disabilities to live independently and encourages change within the community to expand opportunities for independent living.

To find out more, please contact us at one of the following locations:

KANSAS CITY, MO

3420 Broadway, Suite 105
Kansas City, MO 64111
phone 816.561.0304
fax 816.753.8163
toll free 800.878.3037

INDEPENDENCE, MO

11015 E. 39th St., Suite 25
Independence, MO 64052
phone 816.358.5310
fax 816.358.2036
toll free 866.679.0125

PRAIRIE VILLAGE, KS

7301 Mission Rd., Suite 135
Prairie Village, KS 66208
phone 913.262.1294
fax 913.262.2392
toll free 877.767.8896

GLADSTONE, MO

310 NW Englewood Rd., Suite 410
Gladstone, MO 64118
phone 816.561.0304
fax 816.413.8707
toll free 800.878.3037

Board of Directors

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GROWTH & CHANGE

Our new logo is a hopeful, uplifting image that captures the spirit and mission of The Whole Person. The circles symbolize individuals growing, developing and reaching their full potential. Our new design strives to convey people partnering with The Whole Person to achieve goals leading to a more independent lifestyle.

In addition to our fresh new look we have a new location and new staff members to better help you identify and implement resources appropriate to your situation.

NEW SATELLITE LOCATION

Our Accessibility Compliance Department, as well as members of our Independent Living Services and Consumer Directed Services (CDS) programs, office in our newest location in Gladstone, MO.

VISIT US IN THE NORTHLAND AT:

310 NW Englewood Rd., Suite 410
Gladstone, MO 64118
phone 816.561.0304
fax 816.413.8707
toll free 800.878.3037



COMMUNITY OUTREACH



Joseph Matovu is The Whole Person's Assistant Executive Director. Joseph shares information with the Greater Kansas City community; our origin, our mission and the meaningful services we provide. Joseph is spreading the word to area businesses, agencies and organizations about the five core services offered by The Whole Person.

NEW STAFF

WENDY ALLEN
Independent Living Specialist
DELOIS BREWER
Payroll Specialist
BRANDI BRODY
Information & Referral
DANA EGAN
Receptionist
ELAINE FORREST
IT Specialist
SUSAN GREATHOUSE
Administrative Assistant
JAN KROENKE
Accessibility Compliance
JAMIE MANNING
Independent Living Specialist
DONNA MILLER
Chief Financial Officer
KAREN NEAL
Marketing & Communications
KATHY PEMBROOK
Staff Accountant
SCOTT QUIRMBACH
Accessibility Compliance
JENNY REYNOLDS
Disability Rights Advocate
SHEILA STYRON
Public Policy Coordinator
TOM SWEENEY
Disability Rights Advocate
SCOTT VROEGINDEWEY
Employment Advocate
JOHN WILDMAN
Job Developer
MIKE WILEY, Director
Marketing & Communications

FOUNDER OF CITY'S 1ST INDEPENDENT LIVING CENTER



PAUL H. LEVY WAS THE FOUNDER OF KANSAS CITY'S FIRST CENTER FOR INDEPENDENT LIVING, THE WHOLE PERSON.

A bright, funny, good man has died. Paul H. Levy, 63, son of the late Dora and Sam Levy, died November 29, 2009. He lived in Kansas City his entire life and was a graduate of Southwest High School and UMKC. Paul began his career on the Advertising and Promotion staff of the Kansas City Star and Times, and then was the editor for weekly Squire Publications as well as a national auto racing weekly, Motorsports International. Paul then worked as the Public

Relations Director for Bernstein-Rein and Boasberg, promoting Kansas City throughout the country. Unable to continue with this job because of the progression of Multiple Sclerosis, Paul founded The Whole Person Center for Independent Living to enable people with disabilities to live more independently and productively. He later founded and served as Director of the Coalition for Independence, and founded Andrew's Way Transitional Housing for people with mental illness to honor his step daughter, Claudia. He initiated the Independent Living Services Program for the Rehabilitation Institute. Paul is survived by his loving wife of 31 years, Marianne.

- Source: Legacy.com as published in the Kansas City Star on November 30, 2009.

Without Paul Levy, there would not have been The Whole Person and without The Whole Person, there would not have been so many barriers removed for people with disabilities in Greater Kansas City. I have enormous respect and admiration for the work he did, both at The Whole Person and beyond. It was a privilege to work with him. Kansas City has lost a true star!
Maggie Shreve, Chicago, Illinois

I was one of those thousand points of light that Paul illuminated to advance the cause of those with seemingly less opportunity than the average Joe. Paul, I thank you for your tutelage, wisdom, vision, perseverance and wit.

Joe Marvil, Sr., Olathe, Kansas

I first met Paul Levy in 1979. Paul became my main mentor. I became a member of the volunteer group he had founded; The Whole Person, Inc. Paul Levy remained my closest friend. Paul, you will be missed by all in the disability community for your wisdom and great insight.

Joseph Matovu, Kansas City, MO

CONNECTING RURAL COMMUNITY TO PROGRAMS

Association of Programs for Rural Independent Living

The purpose of APRIL is to provide leadership and resources on rural independent living. At this year's APRIL conference, TWP sponsored Carrie Greenwood as part of the Youth Committee.

Carrie originally got involved with the APRIL conference in 2001. She had just completed work at the Kansas Youth Leadership Forum and was invited to attend and share her experiences as a youth leader in the independent living movement. Carrie was one of just a few young people to attend this national conference. Carrie agreed to be a part of APRIL's on-going collaboration with rural youth with disabilities. This youth committee focuses on bringing rural youth into the independent living movement.

"Our theme at this year's conference was The Rural World: Bringing Youth On-Board. We focused on the issues of youth with disabilities living in other countries. We examined stereotypes and how economic issues impact the daily lives of young people with disabilities in other countries." Goals for 2010 include plans to improve communications via the APRIL website and creating a youth component of APRIL's Peer-to-Peer Program.



CARRIE GREENWOOD

CREATING COMMUNITY: Looking Back at 2009

Consumers and staff at The Whole Person enjoyed meaningful events this year. These gatherings promoted empowerment, independence, self-reliance and integration for people with disabilities. The Whole Person is about PEOPLE. People with disabilities of all ages. We are about parents, spouses, brothers & sisters and all the significant others of people with disabilities. We gather to celebrate, educate and advocate. We hope you will join us at future community and organization events.

ANNUAL PICNIC

Nearly 100 participants and staff gathered in June at Loose Park to enjoy our Annual Consumer Picnic. In addition to the great food and fantastic prizes, everyone had an opportunity to learn about Accessible Recreation in Kansas and Missouri. Participants collected helpful information at the resource booth and the Talent Showcase was a huge success! A survey taken after the event revealed that the educational programs and the fellowship were appreciated by attendees. "The food was great as well as time spent with others", commented one participant.



FALL YOUTH GATHERING

On a crisp, sunny Saturday in October, families of The Whole Person Youth Group and staff met to explore the Corn Maze at Louisburg Cider Mill. Everyone had a great day of pumpkin picking, hay rides and munching on cider donuts! Participants completed a brief survey of Independent Living goals as we all sipped cider in the picnic area. For more information about Youth Services at The Whole Person, contact Letiah Fraser at 816.561.0304 or lfraser@thewholeperson.org.



CAST N' BLAST

FISH ON! Cast N' Blast is an annual event offering people with disabilities an opportunity to try out recreational sports such as archery, fishing and air rifles. In addition to staff and participants from The Whole Person, we were joined by the Rainbow Center, West-Central Independent Living Solutions, Truman Neurological Center and ICAN (Individualized Creative Alternative Network).

Special thanks to The Missouri Department of Conservation, a valuable partner with this fun, rewarding event.



COMMUNITY SERVICE

The Whole Person's Mental Health Consumer Group advocates for people with mental illness. The group hopes to encourage respect for people with mental illness and to promote self-respect in people with this disability. Participants, staff and community volunteers gather to beautify the city's parks; providing a valuable community service. Our community partner is The Kansas City Parks and Recreation Department and their Partners for Parks program. For more information about this program, contact Faye Skidmore at fskidmore@thewholeperson.org or 816.561.0304.



DISABILITY MENTORING DAY

Greater Kansas City Disability Mentoring Days are made possible in part thanks to the efforts of Brian Ellefson, Susan Herrin and Barney Mayes of The Whole Person. In the month of October, a day is set aside to promote career development for students and job seekers with disabilities through hands on career exploration, job shadowing, employer workshops and job accommodation information. Other goals for the event included enhancing employment opportunities for people with disabilities, dispel employers' myths and fears about hiring people with disabilities and increase confidence of students and job seekers with disabilities.



DAY OF CARING

The Whole Person staff members volunteer for this annual United Way event. This year we met at KCV Behavioral Healthcare in Kansas City, Kansas. Our mission: to create a wall mural in the "Chill Room", a place for the youth of this residential treatment facility to calm down and take a break. Our day of service was appreciated by the kids at the center who want us to come back and paint more rooms!



DAY AT THE LAKE

The Whole Person has supported and participated in this annual adaptive water sports clinic for many years. The Rehabilitation Institute of Kansas City started this event to help persons with disabilities and other members of the community experience the thrill of summer water sports. Individuals 16 and older living with a spinal cord injury, amputation or blindness learn to water-ski using adaptive equipment. Rides on personal watercraft, such as Jet Skis, and boats are also available.



HELPFUL RESOURCES

ANGEL FOOD MINISTRIES

Angel Food Ministries is a non-profit, non-denominational organization dedicated to providing grocery relief and financial support to communities nationwide. Angel Food is available in a quantity that can fit into a medium-sized box at \$30 per unit. Generally, one unit of food assists in feeding a family of four for about one week or a single senior citizen for almost a month. Contact Angel Food's 24-hour hotline at 1-877-366-3646 for answers to common questions, including menu information and host site contact information.

DISABILITY.GOV

This U.S. Department of Labor website connects Americans with disabilities to thousands of trusted resources on disability-related issues, programs and services. Disability.gov is not just for Americans with disabilities, but also for parents of children with disabilities, employers, workforce and human resource professionals, veterans, educators, caregivers and many others.

HEALTH CARE REFORM

By DAVID C. ROBINSON

What millions of Americans, including Americans with disabilities, want and need is real health care reform — affordable, accessible high-quality reform with a strong public option that holds down costs and enables all Americans to stay healthy.

It's next to impossible for people with disabilities to live independently without insurance. People with disabilities often can't buy insurance because premiums are unaffordable for someone with a pre-existing condition.

We need meaningful health care reform that will make health care affordable and eliminate pre-existing condition exclusions.

Our long-term care system is also in serious need of reform. Too many people are going into nursing homes or other institutions when they could be safe and healthy in the community, receiving personal care or home health services in their own homes. About 1,400 people with disabilities are waiting for services in Kansas; 4,000 are waiting for services in Missouri.

People with disabilities deserve real choice, including public and private options. Health care should be affordable for all Americans no matter where they live, whether rich or poor, regardless of age, disability status or existing medical conditions.

Published in The Kansas City Star on January 25th, 2010. Read the complete article by visiting our website at: www.thewholeperson.org

HOMESHARING

The mission of The HomeSharing Program is two-fold: one, to enable older homeowners to maintain their own homes, thereby avoiding relocation to retirement or nursing homes; two, to secure safe, affordable housing for students and workers in the community who are willing and able to assist the older homeowners. Contact: (816) 410-8346 or www.kclinc.org/homesharing

COMPASSIONATE EAR WARMLINE

(913) 281-2251 or 1(866) 927-6327

Feeling lonely or blue? Want to reach out? We are here for you. Peer phone support listening service. Trained volunteers experienced with mental illness. 7 days a week. 4 pm - 10 pm Mental Health America of the Heartland, Advocacy & Recovery Services.

WESTPORT COOPERATIVE SERVICES

Serving People with Disabilities and Seniors with Programs like Meals on Wheels, Medicare Counseling & Senior Companions. Contact: (816) 753-7039 or www.westportcooperative.org

The Whole Person is advocating for the civil rights and equality of people with disabilities by influencing and implementing legislation and policy at the local, state and federal level.

ARE YOU REGISTERED TO VOTE?

As a voter with a disability, you have the right to

- cast a private, independent ballot at your polling place
- an accessible polling place
- vote from home if you choose.

For more information on voting and disabilities, contact your Election Board at the locations listed below or call The Whole Person at (816) 561-0304.

Missouri Election Boards

Kansas City 816-842-4820

Jackson: 816-325-4600

Platte: 816-858-4400

Clay: 816-415-8683

Cass: 816-380-8108

Kansas County Election Boards

Johnson: 913-782-3441

Wyandotte: 913-573-8500

MISSOURI AGRABILITY PROJECT

The AgrAbility Project was created to assist people with disabilities who work in agriculture. The project links the University of Missouri Extension with The Whole Person to provide practical education and assistance that promotes independence in agricultural production and rural living. Those eligible for services may have any type of disability and/or chronic disease, whether it is physical, cognitive, or illness-related.

The Missouri AgrAbility project engages Extension educators, disability experts, rural professionals and volunteers in offering an array of services, including:

- identifying farmers, ranchers or farm workers with disabilities and referring them to appropriate resources;
- providing on-site technical assistance on adapting and using farm equipment and tools
- providing on-site technical assistance on modifying farm operations and buildings
- providing agriculture-based education to help prevent further injury and disability
- providing training to help Extension educators and other rural professionals upgrade their skills in assisting farmers, ranchers and farm workers with diseases, disabilities or disorders; and
- developing or coordinating peer support networks



Promoting Success in Agriculture for People with Disabilities and their Families

**For more information,
please contact
Clayton Porter at
cporter@thewholeperson.org
or 816.561.0304**

TED KENNEDY, DISABILITY RIGHTS ADVOCATE

Senator Ted Kennedy died this year after a long struggle with brain cancer. Kennedy was a strong advocate for the civil rights of people with disabilities. This was part of his commitment to civil rights for all people. Kennedy worked for the passage of numerous crucial pieces of legislation which have enhanced our fight for dignity and equality.

Senator Kennedy's legislative achievements affecting the lives of people with disabilities range from civil rights to employment, and from housing to health care. Senator Kennedy:

- fought for the ADA introducing amendments which protected people with disabilities under the Fair Housing Act;
- ensured that children with disabilities would have access to health care under Medicaid;
- successfully fought for mental health parity and funding for anti-stigma training;
- proposed legislation which enabled people with disabilities to work and keep their Medicaid benefits;
- supported legislation requiring polling places to make accommodations for voters with disabilities;



The laws he fought for implemented and supported crucial advances in our struggle for dignity and inclusion. There would be many more barriers if it were not for Sen. Kennedy's dedication to our issues.



TURNING POINT
The Center for Hope and Healing

CAMP COURAGE

The Whole Person was happy to contribute to this year's Camp Courage sponsored by Turning Point. Turning Point's mission is to empower and transform the minds, body and spirit of individuals and their families living with serious and chronic physical illness. Children participating in Camp Courage were able to create lasting memories and friendships.



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3420 Broadway, Suite 105 • Kansas City, MO 64111

www.thewholeperson.org

United States
**Census
2010**

Kansas City Region

WATCH FOR YOUR CENSUS QUESTIONNAIRE!

- With only 10 questions, the 2010 Census questionnaire takes approximately 10 minutes to complete.
- Census data determines the number of seats each state will have in the U.S. House of Representatives.
- Census data also can help determine the allocation of federal funds for community services, such as school lunch programs and senior citizen centers, and new construction, such as highways and hospitals.
- By law, the Census Bureau cannot share an individual's responses with anyone, including other federal agencies and law enforcement entities.

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

You are invited to attend a

Kansas City Town Hall Meeting

With Mayor Funkhouser

Disability Related Issues

Hosted by The Whole Person

Wednesday, April 21st

**All Souls Church,
4501 Walnut St.,
Kansas City, MO 64111**