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CARNIVAL! Night of Independence Gala Brings Spirit of Brazil to KC

The **CARNIVAL! Night of Independence Gala** will take place on Saturday, September 28th at Harrah's North Kansas City, bringing with it the exciting spirit of tropical Brazil! Feathers, sequins, and spice will envelop the evening as we honor organizations and individuals who are working to further The Whole Person's mission to assist people with disabilities to live independently. This year, our fund-a-need will support The Whole Family Project, a program which provides American Sign Language (ASL) tutors to children who are non-verbal, along with the child's family and friends who wish to learn ASL.

The night opens with cocktails at 6:00 pm, followed by dinner, spectacular carnival dancers and performers, the music of traditional Brazilian band Balacobaco do Brasil, silent and live auctions and our famous balloon pop. Dress for the event will be black tie with a colorful or creative twist. Pull from the colors and spirit of Brazil and come dressed to have fun!

This year's event chairs are Lindsey and Ian Denney, who have planned an unforgettable evening with the help of an amazing planning committee.

Sponsorship of the **CARNIVAL! Night of Independence Gala** offers individuals and businesses the opportunity to highlight their philanthropic philosophy and commitment to people with disabilities.

If you would like more information on purchasing tickets, sponsorship, or becoming a Table Host, visit our website at www.thewholeperson.org/carnival, or contact Terri Goddard at 816-627-2220 or tgoddard@thewholeperson.org.

To volunteer for the Gala, contact Kelly Grooms at 816-627-2232 or kgrooms@thewholeperson.org.



Shari and Chris Albright enjoyed bidding during the live auction at the 2018 Gala.

2019 Night of Independence Award Winners

The **CARNIVAL! Night of Independence Awards Gala** honors individuals and organizations that are working to further The Whole Person's mission to assist people with disabilities to live independently.

This year's winners will be honored at the Gala on Saturday, September 28, 2019:

Individual Award:

Kevin Moore

Media Award:

KSHB41

Corporate Award:

Sprint

Civic Leader Award:

Mayor Sly James

Volunteer of the Year Award:

Jim Fitzpatrick

Corporate Volunteer Group of the Year Award:

CREMA

Paul H. Levy Founders Award:

Ray Petty

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

Todd Isom, Treasurer

Chris Albright

CJ Charbonneau

Don Harkins

Ashish Jain

Mike McCord

DaRon McGee

Ben McLean



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

Greetings from Deaf Services

By Micki Keck

TWP's Deaf Services program continues to grow with an increase in the number of deaf and hard of hearing consumers and two new programs: Deaf Cultural Awareness training and a basic ASL (American Sign Language) workshop, both available to the community.

Our Community ASL class will return this fall! Due to the high number of enrollments, we will have two classes at two different times, extending the opportunity to a larger audience.

Clark Corogenes has continued to provide excellent consumer services for our deaf and hard of hearing consumers, and he serves as a Commissioner on the Missouri Commission for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing. It amazes me to watch him working with consumers. He has demonstrated outstanding advocacy skills, especially teaching consumers how to use public transportation in the city.



We hold the Deaf Peer Support Group four times a year. The next meeting will be on Tuesday, September 10th from 1:30 to 3:30 pm at The Whole Person. It is a time and place for deaf and hard of hearing participants to get together and mingle. The topic will be "Celebrating Deaf Awareness Month."

For more information on Deaf Services, or to get involved, please contact Micki Keck at mkeck@thewholeperson.org.

We are in need of auction items for our upcoming gala on September 28th!

- Gift cards to local restaurants, shops, or experiences
- Sports event tickets and memorabilia
- Gift baskets
- A weekend stay at your vacation home or a hotel
- Jewelry
- Memberships to museums, fitness clubs, car washes, etc.

If you have items you wish to contribute, please contact Ashley Frerking: afreking@thewholeperson.org 816-214-9729.



Enjoy the unique ice cream flavors **at both of Betty Rae's locations** on **Tuesday, September 10** and **10% of your purchase is donated** back to The Whole Person!

Tag your photos taken that day with **#TWPScoop** on social media to be entered into a drawing for a Gift Card!

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

Main Street Music Festival Rocks the Block



Kid's Zone



Tota Voces Choir
Photo by Steve Yates



Johnny Jo's
Pizzeria



Conga Jim
and the Coconuts



Rex Hobart's
Honky Tonk Trio



Chris Haywood
Photo by Larry Eichner



Washington Square Park

Photo by James Savona



A La Mode



Victor & Penny

Photo by James Savona



The Rub BBQ



Photo by James Savona



Sellout!
Photo by James Savona

If you have been around The Whole Person for the last few years, you may recognize an event called July Jubilee, a celebration of the anniversary of the signing of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA). This year, the event was reimagined with a brand-new twist to debut the Main Street Music Festival with more activities and a new location.

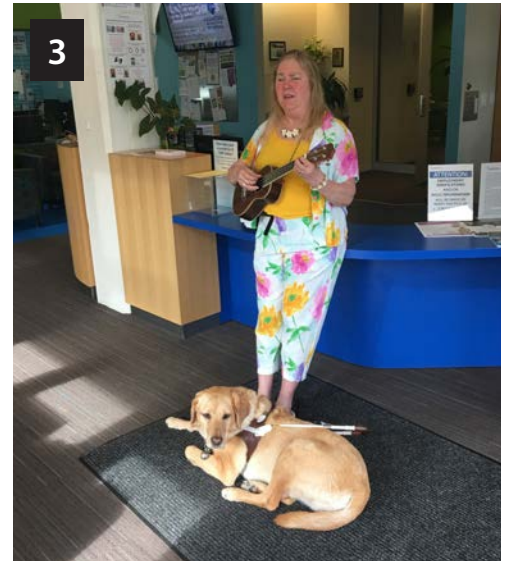
On Saturday, July 27th, the Resource Development and Marketing teams, along with the help of our invaluable volunteers, successfully threw a celebration for the ADA's 29th anniversary. Before most of the city had rolled out of bed, preparations were underway to welcome hundreds of guests to the family-friendly music festival, held at Washington Square Park at the corner of Main and Pershing in Kansas City, Missouri.

Throughout the day and into the night, the stage pumped music from Tota Voces (TWP's inclusive choir), Conga Jim and the Coconuts, performers Hidden Jungles and Bri Woods, Rex Hobart and the Honky Tonk Trio, A la Mode, Victor & Penny, and finally the party sounds of SELLOUT! We also heard about ADA improvements (past, present, and future) from KCMO Director of ADA Compliance Meg Conger and Councilman Dan Fowler from Kansas City's 2nd district, as well as words from Ms. Wheelchair America 2020, Hilary Muehlberger, about how adaptive sports help people with disabilities gain independence.

Washington Square Park proved to be a great location choice with its many shade trees and a cool summer breeze, and guests set out chairs and blankets to listen to music, have a bite to eat from the food trucks, and sip on a drink from the libations tent. Kids enjoyed face painting and bounce houses, and everyone enjoyed visiting our vendor tents to browse items for sale and learn about community businesses and organizations, as well as our Art Market where Expressions artists displayed, demonstrated, and sold their works.

Thank you to event sponsors KCTV5 Take 5 to Care, Blue Cross Blue Shield, Neighborhood Tourist Development Fund and the City of Kansas City, Missouri, Ability KC and the Miller-Mellor Association.

FACES OF TWP



1. Robin Bentley received the keys to her new home in July, thanks to a partnership between Habitat for Humanity and TWP. **2.** TWP partnered with Kansas City Parks and Recreation to hold an Adaptive Archery Workshop this summer. **3.** TWP employee Sheila provided entertainment on Employee Appreciation Day at The Whole Person. **4.** Kendra met Governor Mike Parson at the Youth Leadership Forum Legislative Day. High school students with disabilities from all over the state of Missouri meet to gain a better understanding of how their government works. **5.** Rick and Intern Jarret attended the Day at the Lake event in July. **6.** Hilary Muehlberger, who was elected Ms. Wheelchair Missouri in the spring, went on to win Ms. Wheelchair America in the competition in July. **7.** The Westport Center for the Arts hosted a reception for 2019 Expressions artists. **8.** Carlos gave Pre-Employment Transition training to local high school students in July.

SOCCER FOR ALL ABILITIES CLINIC



Sporting KC's Soccer for All Abilities Clinic took place on June 20th and it was a major hit! Sporting KC's athletes came out and coached 38 participants of all abilities. Participants also had the opportunity to stop by vendor tables to learn about various resources in the community.

EVENT CALENDAR

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

SEPT. 1 | OCT. 4:

TWP Getting Social

SEPT. 3, 17 | OCT. 1, 15:

Mental Health Peer Mentoring Group

SEPT. 4, 11, 18, 25 | OCT. 2, 9, 16, 23, 30:

KC No Coast Wheelchair Tennis

SEPT. 4, 18 | OCT. 2, 16, 30:

Tota Voces Choir Rehearsal

SEPT. 7:

All Abilities Outdoor Adventures

SEPT. 7, 21 | OCT. 5, 19:

All Abilities Tennis

SEPT. 9:

Bowling Blind

SEPT. 10

Deaf Peer Support Group

SEPT. 12 | OCT. 10:

Brain Injury Peer Support Group

SEPT. 16, 23, 30:

Stretching Without Looking

SEPT. 18

Out and About with Canines and Canes

SEPT. 21:

Adaptive Kickball Workshop

SEPT. 24 | OCT. 22:

Consumer Advocacy Group

SEPT. 28:

CARNIVAL! Night of Independence Gala

TWP 101 | KANSAS

Learn more about The Whole Person's Kansas Programs and Services by attending one of our informational sessions! Sessions start at 12:00 pm and end promptly at 1:00 pm at the Kansas office. Lunch will be served.

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

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



■ September 17, 2019



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:

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



CLASS IS IN SESSION ON THESE 2019 DATES:

■ September 24, 2019 ■ November 26, 2019
■ October 22, 2019



University Academy Students Raise Money for TWP

University Academy Student Ambassadors held a fundraiser in support of The Whole Person in early June, raising **\$508.18**. On the morning of June 28th, TWP staff members Kelly Grooms and Lea Klepees visited the school and were presented with the students' donation, which they raised by selling donuts to the student body for \$1 each.

Founded in 2000, University Academy is a charter school in Kansas City, Missouri which emphasizes college preparation, career development, community service and leadership. The student ambassadors are stellar examples of the school's mission, demonstrating excellence in academics, social service, and leadership. The group of about

25 students discussed different social issues and charities in Kansas City and selected The Whole Person to promote inclusivity and opportunity for people with disabilities in their community.

The Whole Person's community outreach team has been invited in recent years to speak to the school's middle school classes about people with disabilities. The opportunity for students to learn from people in the community with disabilities, as well as the chance to ask questions, has increased the students' awareness of people with disabilities as well as the need for better access and inclusion. When visiting local schools, the TWP outreach team's goal is to help students feel comfortable engaging people with disabilities, and to equip



University Academy students pose with the donuts they sold at their fundraiser.

them to be advocates for change. To inquire about a disability awareness presentation at your school, organization or business, please contact Lea Klepees at 816-659-9403 or LKlepees@thewholeperson.org.

Catering With a Cause

The Whole Person now offers delicious catering to the community! The Whole Person Catering, a social enterprise of TWP, is a new way to provide hands-on job skills training to job seekers who have developmental disabilities. The program is led by Employment Services manager Katie Crump and professional five-star restaurant-experienced Chef, Tiffany Bohm-Taff. TWP's EmployAbilities Catering Program opens up the job market in the food industry for people with disabilities in our community.



Samples of catering platters available from The Whole Person Catering.

"I love the food that comes out of this kitchen! Quality, tastes great! Very impressed and would recommend it to anyone!!!"
— Kari C.

TWP Catering serves a gourmet menu of sandwiches, salads, sides, and desserts to individuals and groups alike. To learn more or place an order, visit thewholepersoncatering.com.

MEMORIALS

April Dunlay Adicks

ADVOCATES OF HONOR MONTHLY GIVING CLUB

Yuliya Antonets | Tiffany Bohm-Taff
Stephanie Boykin-Brand | Laura Casselman
Kari Chester | Gabi Collins
Julie Corrigan | Sherry Duncan
Ashley Frerking | Terri Goddard
Karen Gridley | Briana Haines
Jaylene Hanson | Shaun Harris
Jennifer Hertha | Jim Johnson
Teri Jones | Jim Keeney
Lakeitha Kelley-Lavan | Kim Krueger
Kerry Matson | Justin McWilliams
Samuel McWilliams | Melanie Middlebrook
Cynthia Moran | Patricia Mullen
Shelly Murphy | Carla Norcott-Mahany
Charles Porter | Jason Purinton
Chekasha Ramsey | Susan Schinstock
Tristan Sherman | Sheila Styron
Tom Sweeny | Monique Todd
Pallavi Vikram-Arcot | Scott Vroegindewey
Margaret Welch Crow | Mike Wiley
Callie Yeater

TWP and VMLY&R Team Up to Paint Consumer's Habitat Home

On Wednesday, July 10th, The Whole Person and VMLY&R, a locally-headquartered marketing agency, teamed up to paint TWP's first Habitat Home. Thanks to the generosity of Sherwin-Williams, TWP consumer Robin was given the opportunity to pick out colors to paint the inside of her new house. Ten volunteers from VMLY&R gifted their time to paint different rooms in the house; even Robin had the chance to jump in and do some painting of her own. After the event, VMLY&R donated the remainder of the supplies for the project back to Habitat for Humanity and Robin. The event helped Robin finalize



Employees from VMLY&R helped Robin Bentley (center) paint the interior of her new Habitat for Humanity home.

the volunteer hours she needed to put in for the home. Now Robin will have a personalized home that she will enjoy for years to come!

To learn more about TWP's partnership with Habitat for Humanity, contact Travis Rash, Housing Coordinator, at 816-627-2279 or travisr@thewholeperson.org.

Around the Horn in Adaptive Sports

ACEing Autism Tennis Program

ACEing Autism is a tennis program for children with autism and is based out of Los Angeles, California. After a short stint in Kansas City, ACEing Autism asked The Whole Person to organize and present the program in the hopes that it becomes a mainstay in Kansas City.

Power Soccer Series

GOAL!! TWP's Youth Power Soccer program is returning this fall. The series will run for eight consecutive weeks, September 5th – October 23rd from 6:00 – 8:00 pm at the HyVee Arena. The Whole Person is excited to start its own competitive power soccer team in the fall of 2019 and compete against other teams around the region. Register before September 5th at thewholeperson.org/powersoccer

Kansas City No Coast Tennis

The Kansas City No Coast wheelchair tennis team is comprised of nine athletes who compete at the national level. All athletes are ranked in the top 100 nationally on the United States Tennis Association's website. The highest ranked KCNC athletes are Brian McMillan who is

currently ranked 9th in singles and 45th in doubles in the men's B division, and Katie Garcia who is ranked 15th in singles and 5th in doubles in the women's A division.

All Abilities Outdoor Adventures

The Whole Person is teaming up with the Kansas City Parks and Recreation Department to host All Abilities Outdoor Adventures on Saturday, September 7th from 9:00 am to 12:00 pm at Prairie Hollow Lake in Lee's Summit. Participants will take part in fishing, adaptive archery and marksmanship. Lunch and equipment will be provided. All Abilities Outdoor Adventures is for ages 8+. Those under 18 must be accompanied by a guardian. Be sure to register by September 2nd at thewholeperson.org/outdoor

Kickball

TWP is also partnering with KC Parks & Rec to offer an Adaptive Kickball



The ACEing Autism program ran for six weeks this summer. Pictured here are participants (blue shirts) and volunteers (left to right) Luke, Dayne and Bobby Dykstra in the white shirts.

Interactive Workshop for people of all abilities. The demo is on Saturday, September 21st from 2:00 to 4:00 pm at 9th & Van Brunt in Kansas City, Missouri. All are welcome, but the participants that will benefit most from this program are those who can't physically participate in a typical kickball game. Register by September 7th at thewholeperson.org/kickball

To learn more about any of TWP's adaptive sports programs contact Rick Haith, Recreation Outreach Coordinator at 816-627-2229 or rhaith@thewholeperson.org.

*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

 **WHERE KC plays**



**ALL
ABILITIES
OUTDOOR
ADVENTURES**



**Saturday, September 7, 2019
9:00 am - 12:00 pm
Prairie Hollow Lake –
James A. Reed Wildlife Area**

**REGISTRATION REQUIRED:
thewholeperson.org/outdoor**



VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

**EXPRESSIONS ART EXHIBIT
MARCH 6, 2020**

**PLANTING INDEPENDENCE
SPRING 2020**

**NIGHT OF INDEPENDENCE GALA
SEPTEMBER 28, 2019**

ADAPTIVE SPORTS | ONGOING

**BLINDNESS LOW VISION
EXPERIENCE (BLVE) | ONGOING**

For more information, contact:
Kelly Grooms
816.627.2232
or
kgrooms@thewholeperson.org