

TWP CONNECTS

SUMMER 2019 NEWSLETTER

ISSUE 14

Connecting people with disabilities to the resources they need

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LIVE MUSIC FREE MUSIC FESTIVAL



 **The Whole Person**
People with Disabilities Leading Independent Lives

JULY 27 11AM-11PM **FOOD TRUCKS VENDORS**
WASHINGTON SQUARE PARK
MAIN STREET MUSIC FESTIVAL



SUPPORTED BY:



THEWHOLEPERSON.ORG/MUSIC

Come Join Us!

This summer marks the 29th anniversary of the signing of the Americans with Disabilities Act. The Whole Person will celebrate the occasion with a brand new spin on the event that we have called the July Jubilee for the past four years. The Main Street Music Festival will be held on Saturday, July 27th at Washington Square Park in the Crossroads across from the Westin Crown Center.

This event will feature five local bands, our own inclusive choral group, Tota Voces, a beer garden, a kid's corner, food trucks and vendors. "It is our hope that people will bring their lawn chairs or a blanket and come and spend the

day with us," says Terri Goddard, the Manager of Resource Development for The Whole Person. "We have diverse genres of music represented and many, many roving entertainers. We want this to be an event that becomes part of the summer tradition for families in Kansas City and a fun way to spend the day. They say music is the international language for bringing people together, and that is what we are doing," Goddard says.

The event is funded by the Neighborhood Tourism Development Fund, Blue Cross Blue Shield and KCTV-5's Take 5 to Care, our media sponsor.

Washington Square Park
100 East Pershing, KCMO

Conga Jim and the Coconuts,
12:30 - 1:30 pm

Rex Hobart's Honky Tonk Trio,
3:00 - 4:30 pm

A La Mode Jazz, 5:00 - 6:30 pm

Victor and Penny, 7:00 - 8:30 pm

Sellout, 9:00 - 11:00 pm

For information on the Main Street Music Festival visit us on the web at thewholeperson.org/music.

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

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Tony Waterhouse-Leal, Secretary

Todd Isom, Treasurer

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Ashley Boyer

CJ Charbonneau

Crystal Duey

James Geary

Ashish Jain

Mike McCord

DaRon McGee

Ben McLean



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

Employment Services Extends to Kansas

New training program

The Whole Person (TWP) is now accepting referrals for people who live in Kansas through a collaboration with Kansas Vocational Rehabilitation. Along with extending employment services to Kansans, TWP is also working with Pre-Employment Transition Services, which assists high school students in job exploration, counseling, and an array of services that help them prepare for employment.

The Employment Department is also in the process of launching EmployAbilities – a three-stage, eight week, comprehensive private-pay employment training program for residents of Kansas and Missouri created by TWP. The program's goal is to provide young job seekers (at least 18 years old) with developmental disabilities an opportunity to refine their working and job-seeking skill sets. While EmployAbilities will focus on training in the TWP catering kitchen, students will acquire skills that will serve them in any employment environment where they have an interest in working.

During Stage 1, the students will focus on creating goals and identifying challenges they might face due to their disabilities during classroom time. The instruction will focus on organizational skills, life skills, and advocacy. During Stage 2, the students will spend five weeks in the catering kitchen gaining valuable kitchen skills and will receive their food



handler's permit upon completion. Lastly, during Stage 3, students will merge their experience from classroom instruction and kitchen training to begin the biggest step, the job search.

For more information on EmployAbilities, stop by our Open House on June 19 from 4:00-7:30 pm at 3710 Main, KCMO. For more information, or to RSVP, visit thewholeperson.org/openhouse.

If you have any questions about employment services or EmployAbilities, please contact Megan Barnett at mbarnett@thewholeperson.org or 816-595-3339.

Katie Crump,
Employment Services Manager

Toiletry Drive for Wonderland Camp

TWP is collecting toiletries for Wonderland Camp! Held at the Lake of the Ozarks, Wonderland Camp provides a fun, educational, and safe camp experience for people with disabilities of all ages, while offering a respite from daily caregiving for their family members and caregivers. Travel-size and full-size toiletries such as body soap, shampoo, toothpaste, toothbrushes, deodorant, etc. are suggested donations. Drop off your donation at TWP (3710 Main Street) by June 21, 2019. For more information, contact Karen Gridley at kgridley@thewholeperson.org.

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

Expressions Art Exhibition 2019 Opening Night



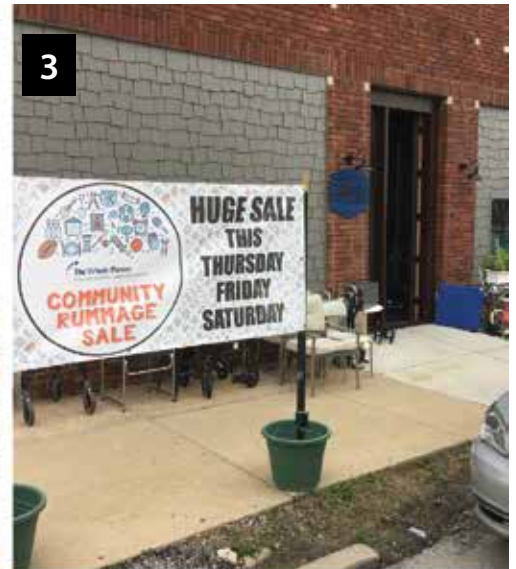
1. Expressions Artist Omar Al-Shams. 2. Expressions Artist Taj Moses. 3. Expressions Artist Denise Pilcher 4. Expressions Artist Clint Hanson. 5. Expressions Artist Antwan Pettis. 6. Expressions Artist Winzel Starr. 7. Expressions Artist William Dozier 8. Expressions Artist Paige Culver. 9. Nicholas Clark created an original painting on site during the opening night. 10. Expressions Artist Tom Hawks. 11. Expressions Artist Jeffrey Golden. 12. Expressions Artist Luna Elfindale. 13. Expressions Artist Marci Eddings. 14. TWP Employee Travis Rash speaks with Expressions Artist Troy Berry. 15. Expressions Artist Tristan Sherman. 16. Expressions Artist John Campbell. 17. TWP intern Pamela Chavez enjoys the opening night exhibition. 18. The opening night event included a silent auction to support future Expressions' programs. 19. Volunteers (left to right) Daniel, Kimberly and David Kirk. 20. Expressions Artist Clint Hanson displayed sensory sculptures that were meant to be touched. 21. The 2019 Expressions Selection Committee: (Front row, left to right) Emily McCullough and Lea Klepees. (Back row, left to right) Linda Link, Poppy Di Candeloro, Colin Mosely, Heather Lustfeldt and Meghan Dohogne. (Not pictured: Kathyne Husk). **View the Expressions exhibition now** at the Mid-Century Library in North Independence (317 W 24 Hwy, Independence, MO 64050) until June 22, 2019. For more information, visit www.thewholeperson.org/expressions

Expressions 2019 Sponsors



Kansas City Young Audiences
Suzanne Crandall

FACES OF TWP



1. Congratulations to No Coast Tennis member Hilary Muehlberger, who was elected Ms. Wheelchair Missouri. **2.** Tonya helps set up for the TWP Community Rummage Sale. **3.** This year's Community Rummage Sale was held at Remodel Moore. **4.** The Whole Person's Deaf and Hard of Hearing Support group met in March. **5.** TWP employees Warren, Daphne, Tristan and Tiffanie participated in the AIDS Walk Kansas City in April. **6.** Deaf Services Advocate Clark Corogenes visited Topeka for Deaf/Hard of Hearing Day. **7.** Carlos and Ruthie represented TWP at a community event. **8.** Rick Haith speaks with members of the TWP Kansas City No Coast Tennis Team at the annual Wheel It Forward Tournament.

FACES OF TWP



9. TWP Planting Independence sponsor Westlake Ace Hardware had several groups volunteer for the Spring 2019 event. **10.** Employees of VMLY&R cleaned up a yard. **11.** Crema had a group of volunteers for Planting Independence. **12.** Employees from Davita came out to help with the Planting Independence event. **13.** Members of the Girls That Like Bacon softball team enjoyed doing yard work for one of our consumers.

EVENT CALENDAR

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

JUNE 1, 15 | JULY 6, 20:
All Abilities Tennis

JUNE 3, 17, 24:
Stretching Without Looking

JUNE 4, 18 | JULY 2, 16:
Mental Health Peer Mentoring Group

JUNE 5, 12, 19, 26 | JULY 3, 10, 17, 24, 31:
KC No Coast Wheelchair Tennis

JUNE 7:
TWP Getting Social

JUNE 10:
Bowling Blind

JUNE 11
Deaf Peer Support Group

JUNE 12, 26 | JULY 10, 24:
Tota Voces Choir Rehearsal

JUNE 13 | JULY 11:
Brain Injury Peer Support Group

JUNE 19:
Out and About with Canines and Canes
EmployAbilities Open House

JUNE 20:
Sporting KC Abilities Clinic

JUNE 25:
Houlihan's Plate It Forward Fundraiser

JULY 27:
Main Street Music Festival

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
afreerking@thewholeperson.org
thewholeperson.org/ks



- July 9, 2019
- 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:

- June 25, 2019
- August 27, 2019
- September 24, 2019
- October 22, 2019
- November 26, 2019





CARNIVAL!

Gala Brings Spirit of Brazil to KC

The **CARNIVAL! Night of Independence Gala on Saturday, September 28, 2019**, will honor individuals and organizations

that are working to further The Whole Person's mission of assisting people with disabilities to live independently. This year's Co-Chairs are Ian and Lindsey Denny.

CARNIVAL! will be an extravaganza of international cuisine, spectacular carnival dancers and performances presented by That's Entertainment KC and a traditional Brazilian band, Balacobaco do Brasil, which plays popular music from Brazil including samba, forró, xote, baião, Axé Music, MPB, and bossa nova. The evening will also include a silent and live auction, and our famous balloon pop will return this year. Studio Dan Meiner will provide the ambiance and Harrah's North Kansas City will play host to this festive occasion.

This giving event supports programs and services for people with disabilities throughout the Kansas City metro area. The fund-a-need this year will benefit The Whole Family Project, a program that provides sign language tutors for children who are deaf, hard of hearing, or non-verbal.

Dress for the event will be black tie with a colorful or creative twist! Watch for more details to come on this extremely festive evening or visit us on the web at thewholeperson.org/news-events/special-events/carnival.

Sponsorship opportunities are still available. Contact Terri Goddard at 816-627-2220 for more information.

Join Our Monthly Donor Club!

The Whole Person's Advocates of Honor is a monthly giving club that supports our mission: To connect people with disabilities to the resources they need by supporting independent choice and advocating for positive change in our community. Your participation helps people with disabilities in the Kansas City metro area lead independent lives.

When you sign up for TWP's Advocates of Honor, you will receive recognition on The Whole Person's website and in our newsletters, annual report, and the program for our annual Gala. You will also receive an enamel pin to proudly show off to your family, friends, and peers.

Advocates of Honor allows you the flexibility to choose the amount you wish to give, the method of payment, withdrawal options, and the date each month when you wish the payment to be made.

We invite you to join with others who are passionate about supporting people with disabilities in our community. Go to thewholeperson.org/honor to show your support today! Please contact Ashley Frerking if you have questions about our monthly giving club at 816-214-9729 or afrerking@thewholeperson.org.

MEMORIALS

Steven Hurst

ADVOCATES OF HONOR MONTHLY GIVING CLUB

Yuliya Antonets | Tiffany Bohm
Stephanie Boykin-Brand | Laura Casselman
Kari Chester | Gabi Collins
Julie Corrigan | Sherry Duncan
Ashley Frerking | Terri Goddard
Karen Gridley | Jaylene Hanson
Briana Haines | 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

Public Policy Update and June 11 Candidate Forum

The Whole Person will host a **Kansas City At-Large and In-District Reception and Candidates Forum on Tuesday, June 11th at 6:00 pm (3710 Main Street)**. Come out and mingle with Mayoral Candidate, Jolie Justus and ask pertinent questions to those running for City Council.

Missouri's 100th General Assembly adjourned on May 17th. Accomplishments for this session include extension of the Non-Medicaid Eligible (NME) Program until 2025 (pending funding), increased funding for more IL Waivers and establishment of a statewide hearing aid distribution program.

The Kansas State legislature failed to pass Medicaid expansion.

For more information about public policy issues, please contact Kendra Burgess at kburgess@thewholeperson.org or 816-627-2204.

TWP Announces Community Housing Partnership

TWP has exciting news regarding housing! Our largest project currently in progress is the Habitat for Humanity Community Partnership. This opportunity gives consumers an unparalleled chance at purchasing their own accessible home – for less than what they may pay for rent.

Families are selected into the program based on three criteria:

1. A demonstrated need for housing
2. A demonstrated ability to pay back a zero percent interest mortgage
3. A willingness to partner with TWP and Habitat for Humanity to complete 350 sweat equity hours for their home

So far, we have had tremendous success with this program. A consumer,



Travis Rash (left) welcomes Robin Bentley (right) to her new Habitat for Humanity home.

Robin Bentley, has been selected and should move into her home within the next 90 days. For more information about this program, please contact

Travis Rash, Housing Coordinator, at travisr@thewholeperson.org or 816-627-2279.

Wheelchair Tennis Tournament Hosted Athletes from Midwest Region

The Whole Person's adaptive sports program hosted its annual Wheel It Forward competitive tennis tournament on April 5, 6, & 7 at the Northland Racquet Club. Competitive wheelchair tennis players came from all over the Midwest region to compete and test their mettle against The Whole Person's "Kansas City No Coast" wheelchair tennis team.

TWP's Kansas City No Coast competitive team defended their home turf well, with many athletes placing within the top three of their divisions.

In addition to competitive wheelchair tennis, TWP offers recreational tennis through the "All Abilities" program held on the 1st and 3rd Saturdays of each month from 11:00 am to 12:30 pm at the Northland Racquet Club. There is a \$5/week fee, with scholarships available for those who qualify.



The Whole Person Kansas City No Coast Tennis Team participated in the annual Wheel It Forward Tennis Tournament.

Kansas City No Coast, the competitive wheelchair tennis team, practices every Wednesday from 6:00 pm to 8:00 pm at the Northland Racquet Club.

If you are interested in learning more about tennis or our other adaptive sports programs, please contact Rick Haith at rhaith@thewholeperson.org or 816-627-2229.

*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.



TICKETS ON SALE NOW!

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 28
HARRAH'S NORTH KANSAS CITY
6:00PM-11PM

Featuring the sights and sounds of a Brazilian Carnival, this festive gala will feature a cocktail reception, silent and live auctions, dinner, awards ceremony and lots of lively dancing to Samba and Bossa Nova music!

thewholeperson.org/carnival



SATURDAY JULY 27

WASHINGTON SQUARE PARK
100 E. PERSHING RD., KCMO

11AM-11PM

LIVE BANDS • FOOD TRUCKS
VENDORS • ACTIVITIES

thewholeperson.org/music