

**PARENTS ASSOCIATION
BELLEFONTAINE HABILITATION CENTER
10695 BELLEFONTAINE ROAD
ST. LOUIS, MO 63137**

PHONE 314-264-9100 BHC Switchboard
PHONE 314-340-6002 Thrift Shop
WEBSITE www.parentsassociationbhc.com

NEWSLETTER NOVEMBER 2017

PARENTS ASSOCIATION MEETING
SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 12, 2017 2:00 p.m.
Administration Bldg. Room #10



ELECTION OF OFFICERS AND DIRECTORS
FOR 2018 PARENTS ASSOCIATION

All Parent Association members, friends and staff are invited. Keep up with the latest news about Bellefontaine Habilitation Center. Bring your talents and expertise for our advocacy efforts. With everyone's involvement, the lives of the residents at BHC will be the best possible. All are encouraged to stay informed and take some action. Attend a parents meeting, talk with other families, share your concerns and ideas, write a letter, or make a phone call to help provide a safe, healthy, and supportive environment for the residents of BHC and others. They have no voice but ours, so we must continually speak up for them. Refreshments served.

UPCOMING PARENT MEETING: NOVEMBER 12, 2017

2:00 P.M. IN THE ADMINISTRATION BLDG. ROOM #10

2018 PARENT ASSOCIATION MEETING DATES: MARK YOUR CALENDARS!!

FEBRUARY 11

MAY 20

AUGUST 12

NOVEMBER 11

The switchboard phone for Bellefontaine Habilitation Center is 314-264-9100 or 314-264-9101.

Our Parent Newsletter is online at www.ParentsAssociationBHC.com!! Pass it along to friends, family, and political leaders.

To find your legislators, call the Missouri Capitol Switchboard at 1-573-751-2000 or go to www.mo.gov. Get to know your legislators. Invite them to visit a habilitation center. Also at www.mo.gov, choose Government, then Legislative to follow actions on bills and listen to live debates.

Work on the replacement of the heating and cooling system in the Multipurpose Building continues.

The merger of the St. Charles and South County habilitation centers remains "on hold" because the funding to update group homes at the Bellefontaine campus has been withheld from the Missouri budget by the governor.



HAPPY THANKSGIVING TO ALL

Keep informed. Take action. Mary A. Vitale, President, Bellefontaine Parents Association

TRIBUTE FUND

Celebrate a birthday or anniversary, offer get well wishes or congratulations, remember a loved one by sending in a tribute - support the residents at Bellefontaine Habilitation Center. A few examples of the use of funds are: annual picnic, Christmas gifts and decorations, birthday cakes and presents, holiday decorations, treats and dances, household items, and special programs. The tribute form is on the last page of the newsletter.

DONOR

RECIPIENT

OCCASION

Jane Reiss

in memory of Ruth Berkholz



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FUNDS APPROVED BY PARENTS ASSOCIATION BOARD

- \$ 1290.00 Halloween treats for each resident
decorations for each home
pumpkins
- \$ 300.00 Home goods, Apt B



THANKS TO THE VOLUNTEERS' HARD WORK AT THE HIDDEN TREASURE THRIFT SHOP.

THE BHC RESIDENTS BENEFIT FROM ALL THE SHOP PROCEEDS.

EMPLOYEE RECOGNITION LUNCHEON 2017



"All That Jazz" was the jazzy fun-filled theme for the 2017 Employee Recognition Luncheon sponsored by the BHC Parents Association in appreciation of the daily work of the BHC staff. It was held again at the Catering to You Banquet Center on July 27, 2017 with a delicious meal and fun activities.

Saxophonist Leonardo Becton set the mood for the afternoon by entertaining attendees with his talented musical skills shown through a variety of jazz songs. A young dancer, Charlie Holmes, added to the entertainment with her dancing skills. She is from the New Avenue INC Studio, with the instructor Kalonda Cloyd.

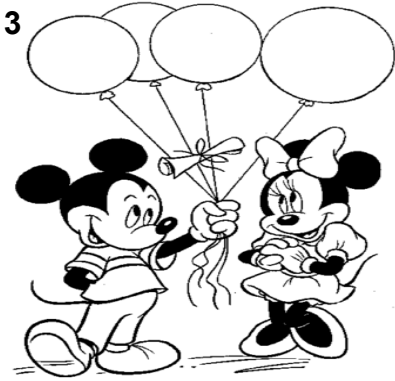
Thanks to the Employee Relations/Recognition Committee for a fun afternoon filled with entertainment, prizes, and staff appreciation.

The Honor Roll of Years of Service below shows the number of years BHC staff members have given care to our loved ones!

31-39 years – 17 staff	25-30 years - 34 staff
19-24 years – 63 staff	14-18 years – 70 staff
9-13 years – 100 staff	5-8 years – 64 staff
1-5 years – remaining staff	



The many years of staff experience helps to give BHC residents a high level of care.



“DISNEY MAGIC” AT THE BHC PICNIC-SEPTEMBER 2017

On September 13, 2017 the annual Bellefontaine Habilitation Center Picnic for the residents brought a day of DISNEY magic to the campus. The magic began with department Disney themed floats, a “Cinderella” carriage, and local fire and police department vehicles.

The main activities were then held in the gym which had been entirely transformed into a DISNEY Wonderland with DISNEY decorations everywhere the eye could see. This DISNEY Wonderland setting was truly magical!!

Clowns, music, games, caricature artist, mime, face painting, horse and carriage rides, and food and drink filled the afternoon with fun.

Everyone enjoyed treats of fruit, Hawaiian Ice, funnel cakes, cotton candy and soft-serve ice cream.

Thanks goes to:

- BHC Picnic Committee
- BHC Staff
- BHC Parent’s Association
- Balloon Clown
- Belly Dancers
- Caricature Artist
- Casino Queen
- City Mime
- D&T Funnel Cakes
- Dandy Soft Serve
- NAEIR
- 7-Up Bottling
- Sports Energizers
- St. Louis Carriage
- Terry Hobbs



Parade Participants: Bellefontaine Police Dept., Riverview Fire and Police Depts., St. Louis County Police, Shriner’s, QE, St. Louis Carriage, Unit 3 Float, Apt. A Float, Apt. B Float, 1608 Float, Staff Development Float, Parent Association, CHNE Ambulance, and St. Louis Motorcycle Club

MUCH APPRECIATION GOES TO:

BHC PARENTS ASSOCIATION

THE PICNIC PLANNING COMMITTEE

ALL BHC STAFF MEMBERS

THE SPONSORS

THE PERFORMERS

The picnic day gave the residents a touch of “Disney magic” right on the BHC campus!

RESIDENTS WERE ON THE GO THIS SUMMER

During the months of July, August and September, BHC residents enjoyed a wide variety of opportunities.

ON-CAMPUS ACTIVITIES: BHC Picnic, Movie nights, Bingo, Volleyball, Dances, Gym activities

COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES:

Cardinal baseball game, Universoul circus, Tan Tar A resort, Centene Family Center, Anheuser-Busch, Regal Cinema, Robs Barber shop, Great Clips, St. Charles Riverfront, Forest Park, Keiner Plaza, Jack of all Fades, Spanish Lake Park, Central West End, Set it off, True Word Christian Ministries

Out to Eat:

Dairy Queen, Wing Stop, 5 Guys Burgers, Bandanas, St. Louis Fish and Chicken, Subway, Asian King, QT, Fazolis, Schnucks, Crown Candy, White Castle, Maggie Moos, Sonic, Culvers, Applebees, Whistle Stop, Fitz's, TGIFridays, Steak n shake, Doozles, Golden Corral, Red Lobster, Sweetie Pies, Cold Stone Creamery, Hometown Buffet, Ted Drews, 54th Street grill, Andys Ice Cream, McDonalds, McAllisters, Imos, Jack in the Box, Hooters, IHop, Smoothie King, Old Country Buffet, Dennys

Shopping:

Walmart, Kmart, Flea Market, V-Stock, Shoe Carnival, Home Depot, Dollar Tree, Family Dollar, Mills Mall, Chesterfield Mall, Bath & Body Works, Game stop, Goodwill store, Galleria, Puzzle Warehouse, Here Today

Much appreciation to staff for helping residents plan and participate in so many different activities.

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FEDERAL REIMBURSEMENT FUNDS TO THE STATE OF MISSOURI 2017

HABILITATION CENTER	FY 2017 ICF/MR COLLECTIONS
Bellefontaine	\$18,005,779.00
Higginsville	11,510,093.00
Northwest Community Services	14,535,098.00
Southwest Community Services	6,706,648.00
Southeast Missouri Residential Services	8,289,232.00
St. Louis DDTTC (St. Charles, S. County)	18,580,494.00
TOTAL	\$77,627,344.00

Habilitation centers continue to earn millions of dollars in federal Medicaid reimbursement funds for the state of Missouri at the rate of approximately \$60.00 for each \$100.00 of expenditure for habilitation center services!!!

Providing these comprehensive services in habilitation centers is successful and very cost-effective.

Receiving comparable services "in the community" would not save money.

Habilitation centers are good homes for residents. They are successful, stable, and sustainable, giving comprehensive, consistent, and cost-effective care to the residents.

Do you know of a family that might need the services of a habilitation center? Call the Parents Association at 314-340-6002.

NOVEMBER 2017 PAGE 5

CURRENT MISSOURI STATE OPERATED PROGRAMS- DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES

With the closure of Nevada, Marshall, and Northwest habilitation centers in the last several years current state operated services listed on the Missouri Department of Mental Health website (www.dmh.mo.gov) include:

Bellefontaine Habilitation Center
10695 Bellefontaine Road
St. Louis, MO 63137
314-264-9101



Higginsville Habilitation Center
100 West 1st St., P.O. Box 517
Higginsville, MO 64037
660-584-2142

Northwest Community Services/Optimistic Beginnings
1547 W. Commerce Dr.
Marshall, MO 65340
660-886-2201

Southwest Community Services
2041 A/B East Hunter
Nevada, MO 64772
417-667-7833



Southeast Mo. Residential Services (SEMORS):

Poplar Bluff
2351 Kanell Boulevard
Poplar Bluff, MO 63901
573-840-9370
and

Sikeston
112 Plaza Dr., P.O. Box 966
Sikeston, MO 63801
573-472-5305



St. Louis DDTC:

St. Charles Habilitation Center
22 Marr Lane
St. Charles, MO 63303
636-926-1300
and

South County Habilitation Center
2312 Lemay Ferry Road
St. Louis, MO 63125
314-894-5400

Southwest and Northwest Community Services provide state operated Independent Supported Living (ISL) homes in the community.

Bellefontaine, Higginsville, St. Charles, South County and SEMORS/Poplar Bluff-Sikeston are the remaining habilitation centers.



MEDICAID CHANGES-BE WATCHFUL -BLOCK GRANTS AND PER CAPITA CAPS

There are many suggestions on the state and federal level to change the structure of the entire Medicaid program in order to save money. Two of the proposals are block grants and per capita caps. How these changes could affect residents of habilitation centers is unclear at this time. Be alert on any proposals to restructure the Medicaid program.

Current Medicaid rules:

Needed services are provided by the state, and then the state is reimbursed approximately 60% of the expenses.

How would a block grant work?

Under a block grant, states would receive a pre-set amount of funding for Medicaid. If the money runs out the state is responsible for any other funding.

How would a per capita cap work?

Under a per capita cap, federal funding per enrollee would be capped. If the money runs out the state is responsible for any other funding.

For further information go to the following website:

www.kff.org/medicaid/issue-brief/5-key-questions-medicaid-block-grants-per-capita-caps

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KEEP A WATCH ON PROPOSED CHANGES TO MISSOURI'S GUARDIANSHIP LAW

Revisions to the Missouri Guardianship Law will probably be introduced again in the 2018 legislative session. The revisions were proposed by Missouri's Working Interdisciplinary Network of Guardianship Stakeholders (MO-WINGS). www.mo-wings.org

The MO-WINGS task force used the National Guardianship Summit Standards and Recommendations as a guideline to Missouri revisions. www.naela.org/NGN

Revisions include the concept of "supported decision making" where a team of persons is assembled to assist the disabled person in making decisions. "Supported decision making" does not have the legal protections that come with court-appointed guardians. Keep a watch on further efforts of revisions.

Depending on what is passed, guardianship rights could be weakened.

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REMEMBER; 2016 MO HOUSE BILL 1565 SIGNED INTO LAW

www.house.mo.gov/billtracking/bills161/sumpdf/HB1565T.pdf

Will this affect your family member with a disability? Something to think about:

Starting in July 2017, individuals who receive Medicaid funding will be able to keep \$2,000 and married couples can keep \$4,000 in assets double the current limit. The limits will increase yearly until they hit \$5,000 for individuals and \$10,000 for married couples in July 2020. After that, they'll increase with cost-of-living adjustments. Money in medical savings accounts and independent living accounts will not count toward asset limits.



VOR DOCUMENT - "RIGHT TO INTERMEDIATE CARE FACILITIES FOR INDIVIDUALS WITH INTELLECTUAL DISABILITIES (ICFS/IID)" — www.vor.net

Individuals who qualify for Intermediate Care Facilities for Individuals with Intellectual Disabilities (ICFs/IID)* under Medicaid have a legal right to such facilities for as long as they remain eligible and choose to do so. Despite a deinstitutionalization effort by those opposed to congregate care, the ICF/IID program remains a legally enforceable federal entitlement under Medicaid. States which have included ICF/IID in their Medicaid State Plans, but instead offer only Waiver services, are in violation of federal Medicaid law.

Right to ICF/IID services is legally enforceable:

Participation by states in the Medicaid program is voluntary; however, once a state elects to provide services, the state's provision of those services is "mandatory upon them." 42 U.S.C. § 1396a(a)(1).

<http://uscode.house.gov/view.xhtml?req=granuleid:USC-prelim-title42section1396a&num=0&edition=prelim>

If a state elects in its Medicaid State Plan to offer qualified individuals services in an ICF/IID, it must provide that "all individuals wishing to make application under the plan shall have the opportunity to do so, and that such assistance shall be furnished with reasonable promptness to all eligible individuals." 42 U.S.C. § 1396a(a)(8). <http://uscode.house.gov/view.xhtml?req=granuleid:USC-prelimtitle42section1396a&num=0&edition=prelim>

The right to ICF/IID services has been tested in Federal District and Appellate Courts in Florida. In *Doe v. Chiles*, 136 F.3d 709 (1998) the State of Florida argued that ICF/IID services are an optional Medicaid program. The Eleventh Circuit rejected the argument, noting that "even when a state elects to provide an optional service, that service becomes part of the state Medicaid plan and is subject to the requirements of federal law." *Id* at 721. The 11th Circuit found, "In sum, we hold that the appellees have a federal right to reasonably prompt provision of assistance under section 1396a(a)(8) of the Medicaid Act, and that this right is enforceable under section 1983."

<http://caselaw.findlaw.com/us-11th-circuit/1306318.html>

The Home and Community Based Waiver is optional, not mandatory, and cannot be imposed on an individual who qualifies for and chooses an ICF/IID. In fact, the HCBS waiver will not be granted and may be revoked unless the state offers ICF/IID services to those who qualify.

The Medicaid Act provides that the Home and Community Based Service waiver "shall not be granted" to states unless the state provides satisfactory assurances that "such individuals who are determined to be likely to require the level of care provided in a hospital, nursing facility or intermediate care facility for the mentally retarded are informed of the feasible alternatives, if available under the waiver, at the choice of such individuals, to the provision of inpatient hospital, nursing facility services or services in an intermediate care facility for the mentally retarded." 42 U.S.C. § 1396n(c)(2)(C).

<http://uscode.house.gov/view.xhtml?req=granuleid:USC-prelim-title42section1396n&num=0&edition=prelim>

CMS Regulations implementing this law stipulate that "CMS will not grant a waiver...and may terminate a waiver already granted" unless a state provides certain "satisfactory assurances" including assurances that "the recipient or his or her legal representative will be 1) Informed of any feasible alternatives available under the waiver, and 2) Given the choice of either institutional or home and community-based services." 42 C.F.R. § 441.302(d).

<http://162.140.57.127/cgi-bin/textidx?>

[SID=42049c80e5fc366349391435bb959f15&mc=true&node=pt42.4.441&rgn=div5#se42.4.441_13_02](http://162.140.57.127/cgi-bin/textidx?SID=42049c80e5fc366349391435bb959f15&mc=true&node=pt42.4.441&rgn=div5#se42.4.441_13_02)

The right to ICF/IID services as a valid service offering was affirmed – NOT struck down – by the Supreme Court decision in *Olmstead v. L.C.*

"We emphasize that nothing in the ADA...condones termination of institutional settings for persons unable to handle or benefit from community settings...Nor is there any federal requirement that community-based treatment be imposed on patients who do not desire it." *Olmstead v L.C.* 527 U.S. 581, 601-02 (1999)

<https://www.law.cornell.edu/supct/search/display.html?terms=98-536&url=/supct/html/98-536.ZO.html>

*Note: ICF/IID is now used in federal regulations. Federal statute still uses the original term – Intermediate Care Facility for Mentally Retarded (ICF/MR).

NOVEMBER 2017 PAGE 8

TRIBUTE FUND FORM (please print)

ENCLOSED CONTRIBUTION _____

IN MEMORY OF _____

ON THE OCCASION OF _____

PLEASE SEND TO (name) _____

(address) _____

FROM (name) _____

(address) _____

MAKE CHECKS OR MONEY ORDERS PAYABLE TO "BHC Parents Association"

MAIL TO: PARENTS ASSOCIATION 10695 BELLEFONTAINE ROAD ST LOUIS MO 63137

HAPPY HOLIDAYS

THE HIDDEN TREASURE SHOP

SHOP TILL YOU DROP!! BEST THRIFT SHOP PRICES!!



BLDG #1901 FIRST BUILDING ON THE LEFT AS YOU ENTER BHC CAMPUS.

WEDNESDAYS, 10 A.M. TO 3 P.M. AT BHC

Please leave donated items at the Parents Association shed near the Thrift Shop.



PARENTS ASSOCIATION, INC.
BELLEFONTAINE HABILITATION CENTER
10695 BELLEFONTAINE ROAD
ST. LOUIS MO 63137

FORWARDING AND ADDRESS
CORRECTION REQUESTED

