



A life of possibilities for people with intellectual disabilities.

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Cromwell, CT 06416

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Kathy Benton

Mosaic Close Up

Kathy lives in West Hartford, Conn., and when you ask her what is her favorite thing to do she will say to travel, go shopping, her job, and mostly being the President of Mosaic's Dream Catchers Self-Advocacy Group. Kathy takes that responsibility very seriously and feels that it has made such a positive change in her life. She has gained more self confidence and independence from being part of the Dream Catchers. She feels passionately about giving a voice to people with disabilities, to advocate for herself, and to persuade new members join the group so they have a collective vision to instill public awareness, and sometimes force change on the legislative level. She recently took a vacation to Washington D.C to see our nation's capitol and unfortunately was not able to meet President Obama.

The Dream Catchers recently won the Spirit of the Industry Award from Connecticut Community Providers Association (CCPA) and Kathy and one of the Advocate Advisors went up on stage to accept the award at the CCPA's 41st Annual Meeting on December 10, 2010. Mosaic in Connecticut is so proud of Kathy as she was recently elected onto Mosaic's Board of Directors and can not wait to get started in her new role and continue making those connections to advocate for Mosaic, people with disabilities, and herself.



Kerry, what's your special moment?

Mosaic provides a life of possibilities for individuals with intellectual disabilities. We help people define their own happiness. We support them and empower the pursuit of their goals. We celebrate their successes, even if that success is as simple as the pursuit itself.



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Julia Klinger Celebrates her 95th Birthday!

Julia is celebrating her 95th Birthday with a big celebration on February 23rd! She is the oldest person in service throughout all of Mosaic nationally! We serve approximately 3,800 people.

Congrats to Deb Randolph

Congratulations to Deb Randolph who was recognized for her 15 years of employment with Stop&Shop! Deb also had her television debut on Fox CT Morning News speaking to news anchor, Sarah French about her artwork which was showcased at the Hand in H'Art Exhibit in July.

Deb Randolph, Kerry Burrows (Community Relations Manager for Mosaic), Sarah French (Morning News anchor on FoxCT)



Day of Caring

Thank you to all the volunteers who worked so hard to help spruce up many of our group homes and apartments for the 2010 United Way Day of Caring.



Featured Mosaic Moments...

Employee Spotlight

Letter from Executive Director

Mosaic Gives Back

Dream Catchers Corner

The Starlight Ball

A Few Good Laughs in CT

Upcoming Events

Employee Spotlight

A message from
Andrea Ferrucci our
Executive Director



Dear Kerry,

Happy New Year! As we look ahead to the possibilities of 2011, we reflect on and celebrate the accomplishments of 2010.

2010 was a year of many successes and one of challenges as well. Through the year, we supported individuals in service to achieve great things. Goals were attained and dreams realized. Whether obtaining gainful employment, going on vacation, reconnecting with family members, volunteering, joining a new church or choosing to retire, Mosaic staff were essential in supporting the people we support to realize their dreams.

We are proud of our high quality person-centered services and are honored that the people we support and their families have chosen Mosaic. Our mission to support people with intellectual disabilities expands far beyond our programs. Mosaic is committed to advocating for and with the individuals we support. As a state-funded non-profit community provider, these are difficult times. In the absence of adequate funding the agency has worked diligently to cut costs and maintain our high level of supports. The Mosaic Allied Voices initiative (MAV) is an essential component to our advocacy efforts. Mosaic agencies and national office staff work with MAV volunteers at both the state and national levels to advocate for and with individuals who have disabilities and their families. We need your help! Our CT MAV committee is now forming and we are looking for new members. If you are interested in supporting this very important group of committed volunteers, please visit the MAV website www.mosaicalliedvoices.org. Together, we can work to protect and enhance funding to our vital services and have a voice in affecting public policy on disability issues.

Once again, our Mosaic Moments newsletter provides an opportunity for us to demonstrate the tremendous impact our supports have on the lives of those we serve. I am proud of the many accomplishments of 2010 and look forward to 2011.

Thank you for your ongoing commitment to Mosaic – together, we can make great things happen in the lives of people with intellectual disabilities and their families.

To be able to go to work every day and love your job, company, coworkers is what every person desires. When you add in the rewards of helping make a positive difference in a person's life living with disabilities then it is a win win situation. Working as a Direct Support Professional with Mosaic for over 23 years has been that win win situation for Keith Legere. He began his career in Food Service but was found to have a gift to communicate and help people with disabilities. Since there were not very many men in the direct care field he was asked to consider the change in career paths. He has worked within many of the group homes throughout the years which Mosaic operates and has created long close relationships with many. "I really enjoy taking the people in service on community outings and vacations. One of my favorite vacations was camping on Lake George in a tent, cooking by the campfire, and going fishing with a few men who had never experienced that before and seeing their happiness" says Keith. In some careers you may never have the reward of seeing the end result, but in Keith's position he shares in their successes and sees that his dedication, passion, creativity, and patience pays off. Keith loves being part of the Mosaic team to provide a life of possibilities to people with intellectual disabilities and that is why he was named the 2010 Mosaic Outstanding Employee of the Year! Congrats Keith!



13th Annual Starlight Ball

A formal celebration for people in service made possible by the Employee Campaign through the Mosaic's Wishes and Dreams Fund!



Thank you to our Church Partners and Future Church Friends

Since Mosaic is a faith based organization that was founded in rural Nebraska in 1913 by a Lutheran minister our church relations are so important to us and the people we serve. Mosaic in Connecticut is reaching out to all of our current church friends and looking to connect with new churches across the state to raise awareness about Mosaic's mission and people with disabilities, to involve our people in service with fellowship in their communities, offer volunteer opportunities to church members, join us to advocate for them, and to partner with Mosaic to provide a life of possibilities to people with disabilities.

If your church would like to have a presentation, host a Pastor "Lunch and Learn" event contact Kerry Burrows the Community Relations Manager. We Thank the local Pastors that have reached out to our people in service to invite them into their church for fellowship like Pastor LaMorey from Calvary Fellowship in West Hartford who met Joe at the local Dunkin Donuts and invited him to attend one of the services. Four months later Joe looks forward to meeting him at the same Dunkin Donuts each Sunday morning where they enjoy a cup of coffee together and the Pastor drives him to services. Pastor Masnicki from St. Mary of Czestochowa was so nice to come to visit the women who live in one of our residential group homes in Middletown, and welcomed them to fellowship which they enjoy a few times a month.

Thank You

MARCH IS
NATIONAL INTELLECTUAL AND
DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITY
AWARENESS MONTH



Mosaic Gives Back to the Community

- ◆ For the third year, Heidi was a walking participant with one of her Mosaic Direct Care Staff in the Komen Race for the Cure in Hartford in June supporting Breast Cancer raising \$200 for the charity!
- ◆ Paul who loves cats, continues his active donation collections of needed items for the "Protectors of Animals".
- ◆ Jean volunteers for Meals on Wheels.
- ◆ Jon goes once a month to his local Humane Society and brings them bags of shredded paper to use in the kennels.
- ◆ One group home's staff and clients make seasonal and holiday gift baskets and back to school backpacks for the children at the Waterford Country School Safe Home Program.
- ◆ Joe organizes a neighborhood car wash each summer and donates the money to the Mosaic Wishes and Dreams Fund which supports the annual Starlight Ball.
- ◆ David went caroling to a local nursing home with his choir group from Grace Lutheran Church.
- ◆ Green Valley Day Program donates homemade dog biscuits to the local animal shelter, and they create lovely bookmarks to donate to the town Library.

2010 Mosaic's Outstanding Advocate Award

Congratulations to Mrs. Kilpatrick



Mrs. Kilpatrick (Winner), Darby Biddle (Mosaic staff), Karen Kilpatrick

Easy Way to Help! Become a Mosaic Ally

Support of this effort is critical as state's are making budgetary decisions. Mosaic provides. 3 Reasons we need your help:

- **PEOPLE WITH INTELLECTUAL DISABILITIES ARE YOUR NEIGHBORS** US are directly effected by a person with intellectual disabilities and we need to speak and be heard.
- **PEOPLE WITH INTELLECTUAL DISABILITIES ARE OFTEN IGNORED** their stories are not told. Although they are citizens just like us, their voices are not heard.
- **PEOPLE WITH INTELLECTUAL DISABILITIES MAY NOT HAVE FRIENDS** we can rally around us when we need help and support, people with intellectual disabilities they have been isolated or institutionalized at some point in their lives.

As a MAV First Responder you will receive action alerts when a critical issue arises. You have two minutes to forward the action alert email or to make a phone call. This may happen and we will provide the proper legislative contact information. Visit www.mosaiccalledvoices.org and learn how you can become a voice.

THANK YOU to all who help Mosaic provide a life of possibilities to people with intellectual disabilities! We can't do it without your support.

Wish List:

- Wheel Chair Vans
- Kitchen Items
- Patio Furniture
- Art & Craft Supplies
- Digital Cameras
- Gardening Supplies
- YMCA and Museum/Theater Memberships

Annual Halloween Party



ed Voice First Responder!

isions that directly impact people and the services and supports

BORS, COWORKERS, AND FRIENDS: One in ten families in the
t some time in their lives. They need your voice to help them

RED: Because they may not have access to public officials, often
eir rights are often overlooked.

FAMILY OR FRIENDS: Although we have family and friends that
ntellectual disabilities may not have family or friends because
lives.

cal legislative action or decision is being made and we ask to take
all to your state and local legislators. There may be 2-3 times a year
nformation for your convenience. Please sign up today visit:
oice for people who might otherwise be unheard.

Music, Art and Pets Make a Positive Difference



Mosaic in Connecticut has been adding music, art and pet therapy to the list of activities many of the individuals in service participate in and we have seen such a positive benefit to their lives.

Music Therapy is a creative, fun, highly interactive way of using music to accomplish non-musical goals for people with special needs. "By intergrating Music Therapy into a regular schedule, you are enabling your clients to safely and effectively increase expressive communication, motor skills, relaxation, learning, and builds self confidence" says Elizabeth Keyes MT-BC who works with a few of our group homes.

Mosaic has incorporated Pet Therapy to enhance the lives of the people we serve. With each visit from the furry friends we see their excitement, smiles, laughter, more socialization, increase in

motor skills and movement, and postive benefits to their overall happiness. It is well documented that holding and petting animals can reduce blood pressure and alleviate feelings of tension, anxiety, and loneliness. Animals are non-judgemental, give unconditional love, and are useful in assisting with non-verbal individuals and those with autism.

Many people in service already enjoy participating in art and craft projects as a leisure activity. Each summer Mosaic has the Hand in H'Art exhibit to showcase their artwork. Mosaic is now seeking to offer formal art classes and Art Therapy to the people in service. The American Art Therapy Association defines art therapy as "Employing the creative process of art making to improve and enhance the physical, mental and emotional well-being of individuals of all ages." Art therapy can have emotional,

physical, cognitive, and social benefits. Thanks to our donors whose support helps Mosaic be able to offer such amazing programs to the people we serve.



Laughter is the Best Medicine

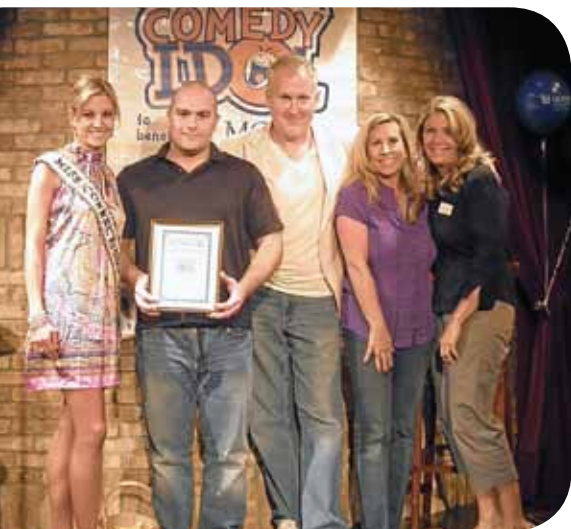
Mosaic made dreams come true for amateur comedians at the 2nd Annual Connecticut Comedy Idol Competition held at The Funny Bone Comedy Club in Manchester, CT on September 15, 2010. All eight finalists competed live in front of our large audience and celebrity judge panel. Adding his own wit and comedic one liners was Damon Scott, afternoon personality from 96.5 WTIC-FM as emcee. "This event aligns with our mission of helping make dreams come true for the people we serve. Sometimes it is just the pursuit of the dream that is the success, and in some instances for the amateur comedian it was getting up on a real comedy stage in front of a live audience." says Kerry Burrows (Community Relations Manager).



The 2010 Winner of Connecticut Comedy Idol was Matt Donaher from Cambridge, Mass with his nerdy persona and unique style, and Runner Up was Mike Finoia with his likeable charm from North Haven, Conn. Both

entertained a larger audience along with 3 professional comedians at Mosaic's 2nd Annual Laugh Out Loud Comedy Night held on Friday, November 5, 2010 at the Crowne Plaza in Cromwell. Our wonderful emcee for the evening was Rachel Lutzker who is heard on 105.9 The River each weeknight on "Acoustic After Dark" and seen each morning as the traffic reporter on FoxCT. Both events allows Mosaic to share the mission, advocacy, and success stories about the people with intellectual disabilities that we serve, but also about the challenges they face and how people can help and

get involved, and raise needed funds to support providing a happy, healthy, life for all the people we serve. A heartfelt **THANK YOU** to each one of our event sponsors for supporting our fundraising efforts.



(L-R) Ashley Bickford, Miss Connecticut USA one of the Celebrity Judges; Mike Finoia of North Haven, CT, Runner Up of 2010 Connecticut Comedy Idol; Damon Scott, Afternoon Personality on 96.5 WTIC-FM and Celebrity Host for the event; Kerry Burrows, Community Relations Manager of Mosaic; Andrea Ferrucci, Executive Director of Mosaic



(L-R) Ashley Bickford, Miss Connecticut USA one of the Celebrity Judges; Damon Scott, Afternoon Personality on 96.5 WTIC-FM and Celebrity Host for the event; Matt Donaher from MA, 2010 Winner of Connecticut Comedy Idol; Patrina Kelly, CIGNA representative who awarded the \$500 prize; Andrea Ferrucci, Executive Director of Mosaic

Save the date: 3rd Annual Connecticut Comedy Idol will be at a new venue! Friday September 23, 2011 at The Cabaret Theatre at Mohegan Sun Casino. The Laugh Out Loud Comedy Night will be Friday November 4, 2011 once again at the Crowne Plaza Cromwell with Rachel Lutzker as our celebrity emcee! We are



currently seeking new members to the Comedy Committee. If you would like more information

on joining, sponsorship opportunities contact Kerry Burrows (kerry.burrows@mosaicinfo.org).



(L-R) Andrea Ferrucci, Executive Director of Mosaic; Robby Printz, professional comedian; Dave Rattigan, professional comedian; Rachel Lutzker, Celebrity Emcee ; Matt Donaher, Winner of CT Comedy Idol; Mike Finoia, Runner Up of CT Comedy Idol; Kerry Burrows, Community Relations Manager of Mosaic

SAVE THE DATES

3rd Annual Connecticut Comedy Idol Competition
Friday, September 23, 2011
 3rd Annual Laugh Out Loud Comedy Night (LOL)
Friday, November 4, 2011

Dream Catchers Corner

Mosaic's Dream Catchers self-advocacy group encourages individuals in service to be self-reliant through education, support of peers, sharing resources and tools, presentations, and the development of leadership skills. Members serve as role models by becoming involved in community projects and being productive members of the community.

What a busy year this group has had, especially the last two quarters. During the summer months, The Connecticut Community Providers Association (CCPA) provided the Dream Catchers officers the opportunity to develop their leadership skills and put those skills to action by hosting a nonpartisan question and answer sessions with each of the candidates for Governor. The officers saw the need to be better informed on the issues and brought back what they learned to their members.

This forum was a wonderful opportunity for the members of the Dream Catchers to advocate for themselves. They were able to voice their concerns about inadequate state funding. Each Officer asked a different candidate the same question, "would their services and support they get from their staff be jeopardized due to the lack of funding."

Although each Candidate answered this question differently and the question seemed straight forward, for the officers and the members the question represented 2 years of hard work with

monthly meetings, writing bylaws, holding elections for officers, and public speaking classes, this in itself was a proud moment and gave the officers, members, and all people in service with Mosaic a chance for their voices to be heard.

Mosaic's Dream Catchers Self-Advocacy Group were honored to receive the 2010 Spirit of the Industry Award at the 41st

Annual Meeting of the Connecticut Community Providers Association (CCPA). The Spirit of the Industry Award recognizes and honors a group or organization that has an extensive involvement in championing the cause for people with disabilities, a record of advocacy, and a spirit of sensitivity and awareness. Since 2008 the Dream Catchers carry out the vision and promise that they would encourage individuals Mosaic serves to be self-reliant through education, support of peers, sharing resources and tools, presentations, and the development of leadership skills to advocate for people with disabilities and themselves.



The members of the Dream Catchers are planning to continue their vision into the future by learning about the newly elected Legislators, communicating their concerns to them and hosting a Legislative Breakfast at the State Capitol Building on Wednesday, March 23, 2011.

Jim Eccleston, Staff Development Manager and Advisor to the Dream Catchers

Kerry, mark your calendar! Upcoming Events:

Hand in H'Art Show

Keeney Memorial Cultural Center
200 Main Street/Old Wethersfield
Date: August 1-31, 2011
Time: During Museum hours
Location: Watson Gallery



Art Reception

Light refreshments to be served
Date: August 25, 2011
Time: 6:00 pm - 8:00 pm
Location: Rotary Room/Keeney Memorial Cultural Center

3rd Annual Connecticut Comedy Idol

The Cabaret Theatre at Mohegan Casino
Date: September 23, 2011
Time: 8:00pm - 11:00pm
(showtime is 9:00pm)



3rd Annual Laugh Out Loud Comedy Night

at the Crowne Plaza Cromwell
Date: Friday, November 4, 2011
Time: 7:00 pm - 11:00 pm
Location: Cromwell, Conn.



14th Annual Starlight Ball (Celebration for people in service)

Courtyard by Marriott/Cromwell
Date: Sunday, December 4, 2011
Time: 2:00pm - 6:00pm



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