



**Catholic Diocese of Cleveland**  
**Catholic Charities Disability Services**  
 7911 Detroit Ave.  
 Cleveland, Ohio 44102

Non-Profit Org.  
 U.S. Postage  
 PAID  
 Cleveland, Ohio  
 Permit No. 688

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[www.clevelandcatholiccharities.org/disability](http://www.clevelandcatholiccharities.org/disability)

**\*\*\*Sign Up Now for Catholic Summer Programs\*\*\***

**Visit our website at [www.clevelandcatholiccharities.org/disability](http://www.clevelandcatholiccharities.org/disability)**

**Camp Happiness** is a 7 week day camp program for children to young adults ages 5-21 with cognitive and other developmental disabilities. It runs from June 21 to August 6, Monday-Friday, 9:30am to 3pm. Sites are located in Lakewood, Parma, and Wickliffe.

Campers enjoy a variety of activities, such as swimming, arts and crafts, indoor and outdoor games and community field trips.

Activities are designed to allow individuals a chance to participate to the best of their ability.

**Call 216-334-2963 or email [mjscott@clevelandcatholiccharities.org](mailto:mjscott@clevelandcatholiccharities.org) for information**

**Augustine Rainbow Camp** is a 5-week program in an inclusive setting at St. Augustine Church in the Tremont neighborhood of Cleveland for campers ages 5 to 13 who are deaf, hard of hearing, blind or who have mild cognitive and developmental disabilities.

This program is open to children with & without disabilities. It runs from June 28 – July 30, Monday-Friday, 10am to 3pm.

**Call 216-781-5530 for information**

**CYO Camp Christopher** in Bath, Ohio, is an 8 week residential camp program for adults, 17 & over, with disabilities. This program allows individuals to participate according to their ability and choice. Swimming, boating, arts, crafts, nature study, relaxing, games, horseback riding, walking and more is offered.

**Call 1-800-CYO-CAMP (1-800-296-2267) or e-mail [campregistrar@clevelandcatholiccharities.org](mailto:campregistrar@clevelandcatholiccharities.org) for information**

**RoseMary Center** is an 8 week day camp program for children and young adults ages 6-21 with severe and profound disabilities. Dates to be announced. RoseMary Center Camp is located at OLA/St. Joseph Center (2346 W. 14<sup>th</sup> St., Cleveland, OH)

**Call 216-334-2963 or email [mjscott@clevelandcatholiccharities.org](mailto:mjscott@clevelandcatholiccharities.org) for information**

**~ Monthly Dances ~**



**Ages...**16 and over **ID...**All dancers must carry their ID with them or wear a nametag with their first name and phone number on it. **Helpful Hint...**Come with a nametag already on ~ it will help keep the line shorter!!!

The group home or family must provide **supervision** if needed



**OLA/St. Joseph Center 7 - 9:00 pm**

**PLEASE NOTE NEW TIME**

**Cost...**\$3.00 for dancers (Staff are Free)

2346 West 14<sup>th</sup> St., Cleveland ~ 216-334-2963

2<sup>nd</sup> Friday of the month (unless noted by \*)

**2010 Dates:** March 12; April 9; May 14; June 11;  
 No Dances in July & August  
 Sept. 10; Oct. 8; Nov. 12; Dec. 10

**Rose-Mary Center 7:30 – 10:00 pm**

**Cost...**\$5.00 (Staff Free but pay \$1 for snacks)

19350 Euclid Ave., Euclid ~ 216-481-4823

4<sup>th</sup> Friday of the month (unless noted by \*)

**2010 Dates:** March 26; April 23; May 28; June 25;  
 July 23; August 27; Sept. 24; Oct. 22; \*Nov. 19;  
 No Dance in December

Fee is \$120.00  
 Send checks to:  
 Disability Services  
 7911 Detroit Ave.  
 Cleveland, OH 44102

***Weekend Retreats!!!***

**Sign up now for the April 1-3, Retreat!!**

*Spaces are limited to 20 retreatants & fill up quickly!*  
 Retreats held at River's Edge (3430 Rocky River Dr.)

Call  
 (216) 334-2963  
 to register

**2010 Dates:** Mar. 5-7; Apr. 1-3 (Holy Week); May 7-9; Oct. 29-31; Nov. 19-21; Dec. 3-5 (Journey to Bethlehem)

**2011 Dates:** Jan. 21-23; Feb. 18-20; March 18-20; April 8-10; May 13-15

Meet New  
 Friends!

**Continuing Adult Education Program (CAEP)**

Saturdays, from September ~ May

at OLA/St. Joseph Center – 2346 W. 14<sup>th</sup> St., Cleveland, OH 44113

The CAEP is dedicated to meeting the continuing educational needs of adults with cognitive and other developmental disabilities ages 21 & over. Students have the opportunity to learn new things & meet new friends!

For information contact Marilyn at 216-334-2963 or [mjscott@clevelandcatholiccharities.org](mailto:mjscott@clevelandcatholiccharities.org)

**Catholic Charities, Disability Services** ~ (216) 334-2963 Fax (216) 334-2905 Ohio Relay Number (TTY) ~ 711

**Dennis C. McNulty, Director** [dmcnulty@clevelandcatholiccharities.org](mailto:dmcnulty@clevelandcatholiccharities.org); **Marilyn Scott, Program Administrator** [mjscott@clevelandcatholiccharities.org](mailto:mjscott@clevelandcatholiccharities.org);

**Employment & Training** (216) 426-9870 ~ **Vanessa Lee, Director** [vxlee@clevelandcatholiccharities.org](mailto:vxlee@clevelandcatholiccharities.org); **Tess Flannery, Summit County** (330) 762-2961 x224

**TFlannery@AkronCYO.org**; **Headstart** ~ **Mary Baran** [mxbaran@clevelandcatholiccharities.org](mailto:mxbaran@clevelandcatholiccharities.org); **Tammi Seifert** 216-334-2944

[tseifert@clevelandcatholiccharities.org](mailto:tseifert@clevelandcatholiccharities.org)

**Disability Ministries** ~ 2486 West 14<sup>th</sup> St., Cleveland, Ohio 44113 (216) 781-5530 Voice/TTY

**Fr. Joseph McNulty, Director; Sr. Corita Ambro, CSJ, Program Director** [staugh@earthlink.net](mailto:staugh@earthlink.net)

### **Catholic Charities Migration & Refugee Services**

**Brings Hope to a Child with Disabilities & His Family!**

When I first met Muhammad, he was sitting on the floor; he looked up at me with his big brown eyes and smiled. Muhammad quickly reached up for my hand and from that moment on, I knew both our lives would change. This was the first refugee child requiring special needs that I would help resettle. We had limited information about his condition or past treatment prior to his arrival in United States.


We were told that a single father was coming with his 12 year old son and six year old daughter. The boy was diagnosed with cerebral palsy at birth. They would be arriving from Kenya in the middle of the night with a medical escort. The family had been living in a refugee camp for the past 11 years and the father had cared for the boy and lovingly carried him on his back since birth.

Migration & Refugee Services face many challenges resettling refugees on a daily basis. We were anxious to learn about programs and resources available to significantly improve Muhammad's life. We were easily connected with the Board of Disabilities, who was able to assess Muhammad's condition and guide us through the next steps to better meet his daily needs.

Our next challenge was to enroll Muhammad in school. Although, the school had previous experience working with refugee children and language barriers, they had never worked with a special needs refugee student. The main challenge and concern was the lack of medical history. Unlike children in the United States that are diagnosed with cerebral palsy at birth, there is no paper trail that outlines treatment, abilities and future needs. We worked tirelessly with a dedicated team from the school and today Muhammad is happily attending middle school and thriving.

I can see already the change in Muhammad, his face light up when you ask him about school. I can see the change in his father, who no longer carries the boy on his back but instead pushes his first wheel chair and works while his children are at school. I can see the change in his sister, as she waits with excitement for her big brother to get off the bus. I have been deeply touched by this experience and I'm filled with a great sense of satisfaction and excitement, knowing how much can be done to better the lives of special needs refugees.

For more information about Migration and Refugee Services please contact Stacy Dever 216-939-3708.

 **March is DD Awareness Month in Ohio!** The theme is, Just Like You, to reinforce the fact that individuals with developmental disabilities have the same emotions, wants, needs and desires as everyone else.

It is often attitudinal barriers that affect everyday life for people with developmental disabilities. In addressing those barriers through positive awareness efforts, fears and negative attitudes can be replaced with knowledge and understanding.

For ideas on how to celebrate your neighbors with disabilities who are creating opportunities for success in their communities visit [www.publicimagesnetwork.org](http://www.publicimagesnetwork.org)

**Spread the Word to End the Word** On March 3, 2010, Best Buddies, Special Olympics and supporters from across the world will unite in support of a grass roots movement challenging the use of the R-word, an outdated word that must be recognized for its hurtful impact on people with intellectual and developmental disabilities. Spread the Word to End the Word awareness day will engage schools, organizations and communities by raising the consciousness of society about the dehumanizing and hurtful effects of the R-word and encouraging everyone to stop using this word by signing our pledge and encouraging their friends to do the same. Please help achieve the goal of 100,000 pledges by visiting [www.r-word.org](http://www.r-word.org) and taking the pledge today.

**Breathe at the Church of the Holy Angels** Having, and raising, a child (or children), with 'special needs' is not only challenging, it is a life-changing circumstance. It is usually difficult, if not impossible, for parents to find competent and affordable outside care, meaning it can be difficult, if not impossible, for these parents (and the typical siblings) to take a much-needed break from their care-takers roles.

At the Church of the Holy Angels in Bainbridge, Ohio, this necessary respite opportunity is offered via the parish's **Breathe** program, offered at no charge to participating families.

At the request of Fr. Dan Schlegel, Tom Grist, himself a father of four, including a ten year old daughter with autism, headed up a core team to bring this program to Holy Angels.

Modeled in part after a program initiated by Key Ministry, Holy Angels offers periodic evenings of fun, food, music and activities for children with special needs, (and their typical siblings) while parents can take a few rare hours for themselves. A team of over 100 volunteers makes it easy for parents to know their children will be safe and well-cared for, and will have an evening of fun designed especially for them and their siblings.

All children are assigned a one-on-one "Breathe Buddy". Because typical siblings sometimes feel like less attention is paid to them, the Breathe volunteers devote special time to them as well, and these children enjoy getting to know other typical siblings with whom they share similar experiences.

In order to help make this a safe program for these children, periodic training sessions are held for the volunteers, background checks are conducted, volunteers are divided into supervised teams, and the families and volunteers are encouraged to develop lasting and continuous relationships.

For more information call Tom Grist at 330-995-6546 or the Church of the Holy Angels, 440-708-0000.

**Cuyahoga County Board of Developmental Disabilities Just-A-Buck store!** To help you get ready for St. Patrick's Day, stop in at Just-A-Buck early for a great selection of St. Pat's decorations, stickers, hats, headbands, beads, balloons, themed party products and serving ware...everything you need for a festive March 17<sup>th</sup>! **And everything is just \$1.**

*Remember that by patronizing this store you're helping men and women with developmental disabilities earn a living, contribute to our community and enjoy the pride that having a job brings.* Just-A-Buck is located in the Midtown Shopping Center at the corner of Broadview and Snow in Parma

The **Beatitudes Faith Formation Program** is designed to provide a nurturing and prayerful environment for children with special needs to be introduced to Jesus and His love. In addition, instructors attend to and assist with the preparation of the children for the Sacraments. The program is held the 2nd Saturday of every month from 11am to 1pm. Lunch and refreshments are provided. This program is held at St. Augustine Church's Walsh Hall (2486 W. 14th St. in Cleveland's Tremont neighborhood).

The **New Faith & Light Community** meets the first Friday of each month at 6pm at St Augustine Church (2486 W. 14th St. in Cleveland). Call 216-781-5530 for both ministries.

**Flying Fingers** For those who wish to learn sign-language and/or improve their signing skills, the *Flying Fingers* program will help you do so. Meetings take place on the second Tuesday of each month, from 6:30 - 8:00 p.m. at St. Augustine Church (2486 W. 14th St. in Cleveland's Tremont neighborhood). Call 216-781-5530 for information.

**The Earned Income Tax Credit (EITC) Can Help People With Disabilities** The EITC and Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA) locations are two vital resources that are underutilized. The EITC when coupled with the use of a VITA location and financial literacy is a proven strategy to help low-income individuals raise themselves out of poverty. To learn whether an individual is eligible for the EIT, visit the website below. The program will also assist in determining correct filing status, determining whether child(ren) meet the tests for a qualifying child, and estimate the amount of credit an individual may receive. <http://www.irs.gov/individuals/article/0,,id=130102,00.html>

**Be part of The 2010 Census Team!** The Census Bureau is looking for workers! Earn good pay. Get paid weekly. Work flexible hours. Receive paid training. For more information, visit: [www.2010censusjobs.gov](http://www.2010censusjobs.gov) or call: 1-866-861-2010. Fed Relay: 1-800-8339 TTY.