Greetings!

Welcome to the February 2016 edition of the Disability Services & Ministries E-Newsletter.

Remember to check our website for more information and be sure to click on "News & Events" for more upcoming events. And don't forget to "Like" us on Facebook and "Follow" us on Twitter.

Valentine's Dance!! Friday, February 12

Friday, February 12 - Wear your Red - Wear your Pink!! It's our Valentine’s Dance!!!

Have you been looking for something fun to do on a Friday evening? Do you like dancing to music? Do you like meeting new friends?

The monthly dances at OLA/St. Joseph Center may be just the thing you are looking for!! Come and try it out...you will not regret it! We have a fun DJ, who also happens to be the Director of Disability Services - Dennis McNulty!

The dances are for adults ages 16 and over with

DID YOU KNOW??

Camp Happiness
March is Developmental Disabilities (DD) Awareness Month

Every year we celebrate DD Awareness during the month of March. How will you choose to bring awareness this year?

The Public Images Network, and its parent organization, Ohio Public Images, Inc., a not-for-profit corporation, were established in 1983 to promote positive awareness of people with developmental disabilities...

Ohio Public Images and the Public Images Network were organized to create effective awareness materials that can be shared by hundreds of organizations that have a similar mission.

Ohio Public Images 2016 awareness campaign is "What's Your Story?" and is designed to capture the interests, abilities and personalities of those we support. Through each story, we can educate the community on how we are all connected.

Developmental Disabilities (DD) Awareness & Advocacy Day - March 8 in Columbus

The DD Advocacy and Awareness Day is an annual event that has taken place for over a decade at The Ohio Statehouse in March which is DD Awareness Month. The purpose of this event is to educate and empower people with developmental disabilities, their family members and other community allies to come together on a single day to
Celebrating 50 Years of Disability Services

#DisabilityServices50years

We continue to celebrate 50 Years of providing programs for persons with disabilities. All of the stories we share throughout the year will be collected in one place on our website in an ongoing blog.

Please send your stories & pictures to Marilyn Scott with "50 Years" in the subject field. Share them on our Facebook or Twitter pages using the hashtag #DisabilityServices50years.

Fr. Joseph Goebel, our first Director 1966-1972

When Disability Services first began in 1966, we were known as the Apostolate for the Mentally Retarded. The name has changed over the years to reflect the times and the removal of the words "mentally retarded". In addition to the different names we've had, we've also had many different Directors. Throughout the year, we'll share with you a bit about each of these Directors.

Our first Director was Fr. Joseph Goebel. He served from 1966-1972. In addition to being our first director, he served two 4-year terms on the Cuyahoga County Board of Mental Retardation (now CCBDD), was on the Governor's advisory council for disabilities, and was the first vice-president of the "National" Apostolate for the Mentally Retarded.

Fr. Goebel was responsible for beginning so many of our programs, including Camp Happiness with Bill Tighe (who will definitely get his own post!). He was also chaplain at Rose-Mary Center!

The pictures below show a few articles we found in some photo albums given to us by Pearl Cahoon, another who will get her very own post! She was the long time secretary,
and more, including being the Interim Director of the Apostolate! The Apostolate could not have survived without Pearl!

**DID YOU KNOW ABOUT... Catholic Charities Community Respite???

Community Respite is based out of Camp Christopher but uses Northeast Ohio as a playground for fun and exploration. The program was designed on the belief that inclusion in community activities allows an individual to learn
from personal observations and interactions instead of on those of other people. Community Respite offers a wide variety of travel opportunities and social gatherings throughout the year. To learn more check out their website or email Tess Flannery or call her at (330) 762-2961.

**Upcoming Camp Fair / Camp Happiness**

**Saturday, February 27 - Summer & Beyond**

Sponsored by the Educational Service Center (ESC), this camp fair is from 10am to 1pm at ESC offices at 6393 Oaktree Blvd., Independence, OH 44131. Click here for a flyer.

**Come learn more about Camp Happiness!!**

Camp Happiness is a six-week summer day camp for children and young adults, ages 5-21, with cognitive disabilities. Camp is from June 20 - July 29, 2016. We have 3 locations - Parma, Lakewood & Wickliffe. Our staff make sure that the campers have a fun and adventurous summer, with field trips, swimming, arts & crafts and lots of singing! If you are interested in learning more, come see us at this upcoming camp fair or check our website.

**Sincerely,**

Dennis McNulty & Marilyn Scott
Catholic Charities Disability Services