Greetings!

Welcome to the April 2018 edition of the Disability Services & Ministries E-Newsletter. Happy New Year to you and your families! We hope that this year is a healthy and happy year!

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 follow us on Facebook and Twitter.

Congratulations Marilyn Scott

Marilyn Scott is the new Director of Catholic Charities Disability Services!!! This is GREAT for Disability Services, Catholic Charities, the Diocese of Cleveland and for the persons with disabilities that we serve!!! Please congratulate her!!!

Marilyn has worked for Disability Services for 25 years. She has grown in her professional abilities starting as Secretary and moving to Intake Specialist to Supervisor of the Supported Living Program to Program Coordinator to Program Administrator and, most recently, Program Director. Marilyn continued to develop her skills through all these roles. Marilyn has risen to each new challenge and has become the professional she is. Marilyn is ready!!!

Marilyn is ready for this new challenge. She will make a great Director because she knows the operation, on the governmental level as well as the Church aspect of Disability Services. More than this, Marilyn knows the people! Long ago she answered her call & fell in love with serving people who were & are, often, marginalized and delegated to the fringes of society.

As you know, Marilyn has great personal qualities. She is hard working, enthusiastic and has a desire to serve persons with developmental disabilities. Her great sense of humor is an added asset. Marilyn continues, because of the person she is, to achieve the best services for the children and adults she serves. For Marilyn, persons with disabilities come first.

On a personal note, after I announced my plans to retire, I prayed that Catholic Charities would select a person to lead
Disability Services who would be a fitting successor to the individuals who created this organization some 52 years ago. Disability Services has always been dedicated to the integration of persons with disabilities into the life of Church and society. Marilyn is the answer to the prayers.

Hurrah Marilyn!!!

--Dennis C. McNulty... The guy Marilyn put up with for 25 years!!!

DANCE THE NIGHT AWAY!!
Spring Dance in Tremont!

April 13, 2018
7-9pm | $3 at the door
2346 W. 14th St., Cleveland

Dancers, and any family/friends coming with you, must be age 16 and over. All dancers pay $3 - Staff/Caregivers are Free. Everyone gets a pop, a bag of chips AND two hours of entertainment! We also have a dance contest where you can win different prizes each month!

2018 Dance Dates: April 13; May 11; June 8; July 13; October 12; November 9; December 14. Click here to print a flyer.

Due to weather, there are times we have to cancel - for last minute updates call 216-334-2963 - we will change our voice mail; email Marilyn or check our website.

Camp Happiness Summer 2018

You can still sign up for Camp Happiness! Call for registration or go to our website and print out the forms. We are excited for another fun-filled summer for those who attend and work at Camp Happiness!

Camp Happiness is a six-week summer day camp for children and young adults, ages 5-21, with cognitive disabilities, from June 18 - July 27, 2018. We have two locations - St. Francis de Sales in Parma and Center for Pastoral Leadership in
St. Francis de Sales is a new location this year, replacing St. Leo the Great, and we are very excited to be there! It is located on the corner of State & Snow in Parma and they have been very welcoming!

You can sign up for 1 week or multiple weeks. The weekly cost is $350 and there are many options for payment and assistance. Camp Happiness is a Waiver provider (IO, Level One & SELF) under Community Respite.

We are also hiring Counselors for Camp Happiness! If you are interested or you know someone who would love to work at camp, visit our website to complete an application.

2nd Annual Camp Happiness Match Challenge

Thank You to the Logsdon Family Foundation for once again challenging us to a $10,000 Match.

Last year, kids with disabilities were able to go swimming and go on community field trips! We were able to pay for those field trips and we were also able to assist campers with their weekly fees! So many of our families struggle to send their kids to camp each year. Yet camp is so important for children with disabilities socially!

Consider making a donation today to help more kids attend Camp Happiness this summer!!

Donate Now

Connecting for Kids Meet & Greet
Thursday, April 19 from 6:30-8:30pm

Visit Camp Happiness at the Meet and Greet at the Don Umerley Civic Center, 21016 Hilliard Blvd. in Rocky River.

This is a free, public event where families can learn about local resources, therapies, after-school programs and summer camps for their child who is struggling (with or without a formal diagnosis). Participants can visit with representatives from more than 70 organizations to discuss services and explore program options.

Click here to learn more about this upcoming event.
April is World Autism Month

Every April, Autism Speaks kicks off World Autism Month beginning with the UN-sanctioned "World Autism Awareness Day" on April 2. We are encouraged to "Light It Up Blue" to increase awareness.

Disability Services will be taking their 4th Annual #LIUB Selfie and will share our pictures on our Facebook page!

If you have autism or support someone with autism, share your story. Your stories will help increase understanding and acceptance!

St. Andre's Scholars program at St. Edward High School

The St. Andre's Scholars program at St. Edward High School seeks to make a quality Catholic Education available for students with moderate cognitive disabilities while strengthening the St. Edward community by embracing a more diverse range of students.

They are currently accepting inquiries for students who are interested in applying for the St. Andre Scholars Program.

You can learn more about this wonderful program by visiting their website.

May you have a Blessed Easter

Sincerely,

Dennis McNulty & Marilyn Scott
Catholic Charities Disability Services