September 2018

Disability Services & Ministries E-Newsletter
Over 50 Years of Integrating Persons with Disabilities into Church and Society
1966-2018

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>In This Issue</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>In Sympathy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Summer wrap up</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2nd Annual Camp Match Challenge - extended</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Saturday Program</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Our Very Own Marilyn Scott</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Autism Research Project</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Quick Links</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Disability Services &amp; Ministries Website</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Upcoming Events</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>August</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Camp Happiness Match Challenge</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>September 15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Saturday Program Begins</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>October 12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dance at OLA/St. Joseph Center</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Greetings!


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.

In Sympathy

We are saddened to inform you that our first Director of Disability Services & Ministries, Reverend Joseph A. Goebel, passed away August 21, 2018.

Fr. Goebel was born October 7, 1925 and Ordained April 29, 1950. In April of 1966, Fr. Goebel was assigned to be the Bishop Issenmann's representative for the Welfare of Children with Special Needs. This began his time as the first Director of the "Apostolate for the Mentally Retarded" (now Disability Services), from 1966 until 1972. In 1967, he was assigned Parochial Vicar at St. Augustine Church, continuing his work with persons with disabilities.

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 the Disability Services programs, including Camp Happiness, along with Bill Tighe. He was also chaplain at Rose-Mary Center.

Funeral Mass Saturday, August 25, 2018 at 9:30 a.m. at SS. Robert & William Church, 367 E. 260th St., Euclid, OH 44132. Interment All Souls Cemetery. The family will receive friends AT THE CHURCH FRIDAY, AUGUST 24th. VESPERS AT 3 P.M. FOLLOWED
BY VISITATION UNTIL 7 P.M.

In lieu of flowers, the family would appreciate contributions in memory of Fr. Goebel to the El Salvador Mission of the Diocese of Cleveland, c/o Diocesan Mission Office, 1404 East Ninth Street, 3rd Floor, Cleveland, OH 44114 and the Ursuline Sisters of Cleveland, 2600 Lander Rd., Pepper Pike, OH 44124.

You can read his obituary [here](#) | Click [here](#) for archive articles from Disability Services

Please keep Fr. Goebel and his family in your prayers during this time.

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**Summer Wrap Up**

It's official, another successful camp experience is in the books! New friendships were formed and old friends reconnected. We would love to hear about your child's experience. Who knows, your story could make our next newsletter. If you would like to share, please e-mail Scott.

The definite highlight for me had to be field day. The campers and staff had so much fun with the "Christmas in July" theme. Ole Saint Nick himself even made a guest appearance. Dancing, singing, relay races, skits and my personal favorite, grilling! What more could you ask for?

In a close second was the end of the summer cookout. It was nice to see and meet so many family members. We even had a few grandparents attend. Our campers are fortunate to have such wonderful, accepting and fun families.

A big THANK YOU once again goes to the Order of Alhambra for providing the food, the cooks and the service! To see the fun and excitement please visit our facebook page.

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**2nd Annual Camp Happiness Match Challenge - Extended**

We are now at $6,087.36 with only a few more weeks to go! Thank you, thank you! Remember, your donation goes toward our Camp Happiness summer programs. We're more than halfway there with a goal of $10,000. We will receive an additional $10,000 from the Logsdon Family Foundation if we reach our goal.
Our fee for camp has gone up over the last couple years to $350/week and many of our camp families cannot afford to send their kids for more than a couple weeks.

Please consider making a donation today to help more kids attend Camp Happiness next summer!! Donate and then share with your family and your friends! Donations can be completed on-line (see link below) or by sending a check to Catholic Charities.

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

Donate Now

Saturday Program
Saturday Program begins Sept. 15!

The Continuing Adult Education Program - otherwise known as the Saturday Program - will begin on September 15, from 9:30am to 3:00pm.

The Saturday program is an educational and social program for adults with cognitive disabilities, ages 18 and over. Participants attend on Saturdays between September and May. A typical day includes time in the morning for talking and sharing; participants then attend classes in math, reading, current events and history; they break for lunch; and spend time in the afternoon creating art projects, exercising or working on the computer.

Other Saturdays we spend out in the community on field trips to local museums or restaurants or doing fun activities! Often we bring speakers in to discuss jobs, safety and health!

If this sounds like something you may be interested in, please get in touch with Scott Gossett to find out more. New participants are required to meet with us first to spend a couple hours at the program. This helps determine if the program is appropriate and if the participant wants to attend.

Cost if $88/month or $792 plus a one-time fee of $60/year. The Saturday program is Waiver Certified.

Our very own Marilyn Scott
Recently, Marilyn Scott took over the role as Director for Catholic Charities Disability Services. Before her new title, she took on many roles and responsibilities within Catholic Charities. The following is a brief interview with Marilyn. Families and staff are extremely fortunate to have someone like Marilyn overseeing day to day operations.

Scott- What brought you into the field?
Marilyn- It was kind of by accident. I had graduated from Kent in 1992 with a Sociology degree and was looking for a job. My niece was a student at OLA St. Joseph Center and Dennis McNulty was the principal and director for the "Apostolate for the Mentally Retarded", our name at the time. They needed a secretary and because my niece had a disability, I considered the offer. So I kind of fell into it by accident.

Scott- As of August the 11th, you've been here 26 years. How does it feel?
Marilyn- It doesn't feel like it's been 26 years, it feels less. I'm proud to have been at the same job for that amount of time. I don't know that many of my friends could say the same thing. The years went by really fast and it sometimes still feels like yesterday was my first day. I started as a secretary, moved to an intake specialist position and then became the supervisor/coordinator for the Supported Living program. After being on call 24/7 for three years, I felt I needed a change. Thankfully, Dennis had a position open within Disability Services. I started as the Program Coordinator, moved to the Program Administrator, then to Program Director and now in my current role as the Director.

Scott- Given your many roles within Disability Services, what was your favorite?
Marilyn- I was hesitant at first with taking over camp due to having just given up being on call 24/7 with the supported living program. I was afraid of losing my summers. It ended up being some of my favorite years. I never looked back and ended up loving it because I was more involved with our participants.

Scott- How many camps did you have at the time?
Marilyn- We had four, Lakewood, Cleveland, Wickliffe and Parma.

Scott - One word association, I'll give you a word or two and you say the first thing that comes to mind in one word. Walk of Hope?
Marilyn- life
Scott- Friday dances
Marilyn- energy
Scott- Saturday Program
Marilyn- Social
Scott- Camp Happiness
Marilyn- fun
Scott- Catholic Charities
Marilyn- service
Scott- Dennis
Marilyn- Mentor and friend.

Scott- What will you miss most about your old position?
Marilyn - the 1:1 interaction.

Scott - What are you looking forward to the most with your new position?
Marilyn - Being able to expand our programs and offering more to individuals with disabilities.

Scott - What advice would you give to myself or someone in the Program Administrator's role?
Marilyn - Take one day and program at a time. Work together and always try to be in communication with each other. Always listen to the participants, they drive the program.

Scott - When you retire, what kind of mark do you hope to have left behind?
Marilyn - From an employee perspective, I hope people would think I did so much for individuals with disabilities by creating and continuing programs and services. From the participant's perspective, I hope the same thing and that people feel I didn't let them down.

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**Autism Research Project**

Parents or Guardians of young adults (16-30 years of age) with autism are needed to participate in a research study through Case Western Reserve University. The study will focus on the experiences of families caring for individuals with a diagnosis of autism spectrum disorder. Information from the study will help create services to support families like yours in the community. If interested please click [here](#) or contact [David Biegel](#).

Marilyn Scott & Scott Gossett
Catholic Charities Disability Services