

Providing Help. Creating Hope.



February/March 2019

## Disability Services & Ministries E-Newsletter

Over 50 Years of Integrating Persons with Disabilities into Church and Society  
1966-2019

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### Upcoming Events

#### MARCH

DD Awareness Month

#### March 8

Dance at OLA/St. Joseph Center

#### APRIL

Autism Awareness Month

#### April 2

Light It Up Blue for Autism

#### April 11

Connecting for Kids Meet & Greet

#### April 12

Dance at OLA/St. Joseph Center

### Our Staff

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### Greetings!

Happy soon to be Spring! It's been a busy beginning to the new year so we are sending you a combined February and March 2019 edition of the Disability Services & Ministries E-Newsletter.

For more information about our services check out our [website](#)! Also don't forget to check out our upcoming events by clicking "News & Events" and following us on Facebook, Instagram, and Twitter!

### *Sr. Janet Kondrat, SND 1942-2019*



We are saddened to inform you that Sr. Janet Kondrat passed away on Thursday, February 21. Many of you know Sr. Janet from St. Augustine Parish. She never missed our annual Walk of Hope! And she was such a supporter and advocate for persons with disabilities. We will miss her. Please keep Sr. Janet and her family in your prayers.

The wake will be on Thursday, February 28, from 2-4 and 7-9 with the prayer service at 7:00, and on Friday, March 1, from 9:15-10:15. The Mass of Christian Burial will follow on Friday at 10:30 a.m.

For more information please go to the Sisters of Notre Dame [website](#).

***Register for Camp Happiness!!***

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Program Administrator

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**Headstart**  
[Mary Baran](#)

## Services & Ministries

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Registration packets for Camp Happiness will be mailed to former campers by March 1! The forms are also available to print out on our [website](#). 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 17 - July 26, 2019. We have two locations - St. Francis de Sales in Parma and Center for Pastoral Leadership in Wickliffe.



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. (*Waiver does not cover the cost of transportation*)

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, call 216-334-2963 or [email](#) us, come see us at the upcoming Connecting for Kids Meet & Greet in Rocky River (see below) or visit our [website](#).

Many of our 2018 staff are returning! Soon we will begin interviewing for new counselors. If you or someone you know may be interested in working at Camp Happiness this summer, [email Lauren](#) for more information.



Camp Happiness will be re-accredited by the American Camp Association (ACA) this summer, ensuring that we continue to provide the best camp for your child.

## Connecting for Kids Meet & Greet 2019

**Thursday, April 11  
6:30-8:30pm  
Rocky River Civic Center**

[Connecting for Kids](#) will hold their 8th Annual Meet & Greet on Thursday, April 11, 2019 from 6:30 to 8:30pm at Don Umerley Civic Center in Rocky River (21016 Hilliard Blvd., Rocky River, OH 44116).

This is a free, public event designed for families to learn about local resources, therapies, after-school programs and summer camps for their child (birth - 12) who is struggling (with or without a formal diagnosis). Participants can visit with representatives from numerous organizations, including Camp Happiness, to discuss services and explore program options.

[Register Today](#)

*Although children can attend the Meet and Greet, please be aware that this event is often loud and crowded and may be*

overwhelming to some children.

## 2019 Dance Schedule

**Dance the Night Away  
March 8!  
St. Patrick's Day Dance!  
Wear Your Green!**



CATHOLIC  
CHARITIES  
Diocese of Cleveland

Disability Services

## Dance Night 2019

**OLA/ST. JOSEPH CENTER**  
2346 W. 14TH ST, CLEVELAND, OH 44113

**FOR PERSONS WITH AND WITHOUT  
DISABILITIES**

**AGES 16+ | \$3 | 7-9PM**

March 8	Sept. 13
April 12	Oct. 11
May 10	Nov. 8
June 7	Dec. 13

**Please join us at our dances in 2019!  
Two hours of fun, music and a dance contest!**

- Don't forget that all dancers should bring identification (ID or nametag with telephone number)
- For sensory sensitive individuals, please be advised that our dances do have flashing lights and loud music
- Supervision of dance participants must be provided by a family member or direct care staff (Free admission for family/staff)

Email [Lauren Mailey](mailto:Lauren.Mailey@cccleveland.org) or call  
(216) 334-2963 with any questions

*Due to weather, sometimes we have to cancel - for last minute updates call our voicemail at 216-334-2963 or 2962 or check our website*

## **March is Developmental Disabilities (DD) Awareness Month**

March 5 is DD Awareness and Advocacy Day - an annual event taking place at the Ohio Statehouse designed to educate and

empower people with developmental disabilities, their families, and community members.

This year's theme is, "Supports Matter".



The event is going to be streamed live or you can follow the event's [Facebook page](#) or click [here](#) for more information.

Though we celebrate people with disabilities all year long, we are encouraged to spread awareness during the month of March.

**Look for information next month for Autism Awareness and Light It Up Blue on April 2nd!**

### *People First, Cuyahoga County!*



**Calling all self-advocates!**

**Join PEOPLE FIRST to connect with your community and use your voice to make a choice!**

**The Arc of Greater Cleveland sponsors meetings every month and transportation reimbursement is available for attendees!**

**What?** People First of Cuyahoga County is a local chapter of the nationwide self-advocacy group that gives individuals with intellectual and/or developmental disabilities training to build skills in decision-making so they can advocate for themselves.

**Who?** The group is open to all individuals with intellectual and/or developmental disabilities in Cuyahoga County.

**When?** The meeting schedule for 2019 follows:

**March 18**

**April 15**

**May 20**

**June 17**

July 15  
August 19  
September 16\*  
October 21  
November 18  
December 16\*

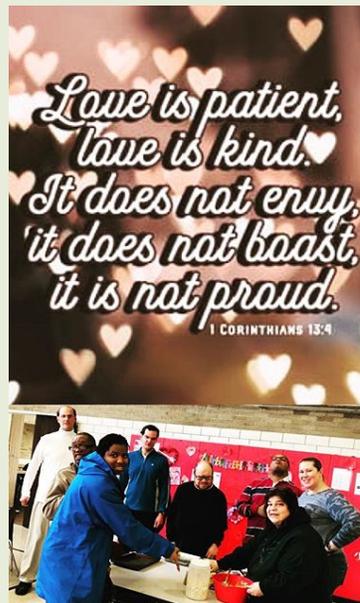
All meetings, unless otherwise noted, held from 6:30 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. at Cleveland Clinic Independence Family Health Center (lower level, Conference Room A) 5001 Rockside Road, Independence, Ohio 44131

**Healthy snacks are provided at each meeting!**  
Visit [The Arc of Greater Cleveland](#) for more information

### **Saturday Program**

January and February were busy months for our Saturday program participants! Participants toured The Greater Cleveland Aquarium, attended a paper-making workshop at the Cleveland Public Library, and witnessed daring Clevelanders take the polar plunge at Edgewater Park to support the Special Olympics!

*We also continued our new program **Healthy Lifestyles!** We are currently focusing on our values and how we stay emotionally and physically healthy throughout our week. Students also learned how to make chili and picked the winner of our chili cook-off!*



If you or someone you know may be interested in joining us on Saturdays, you can [email](#) or call Lauren for more information.

**Happenings Around the Diocese**  
**Church of the Resurrection**  
**Glee Club and BeAttitudes!**

Great things are happening at the Church of the Resurrection in Solon for persons with disabilities! They are living our mission - to integrate persons with disabilities into the life of Church and community.

### **Glee Club**

Do you love to sing and play music?! Do you want to join Glee Club? Church of the Resurrection has collaborated with The Groovy Garfoose to provide this fun activity for young adults, ages 18 and up, with disabilities. You will get the opportunity to sing, play instruments & dance to chart-topping songs. All of this preparation ends with a performance for friends & family on the last day of class. No musical experience necessary!



They are in their current session now - they meet on Mondays from 6-7pm for 5 weeks at Church of the Resurrection (32001 Cannon Rd., Solon, OH 44139). Cost is \$50 per person.

Call 440-248-0980 to learn more and to enroll in a future session.

Services provided by [Sarah Chappell](#), MT-BC of [The Groovy Garfoose, LLC](#) *\*\*This group is non-denominational\*\**

### **BeAttitudes**

Church of the Resurrection also offers a special prayer and worship service for persons with disabilities. BeAttitudes is offered on Sundays, four times a year, at 12:45 PM followed by a social in the Parish Hall. The next gathering is Sunday, March 10.

This is a wonderful opportunity for participants to come together spiritually and share in prayer and readings. Call Resurrection for more information - 440-248-0980.

Marilyn Scott & Lauren Mailey  
Catholic Charities Disability Services