

21 PLUS, INC.

21 PLUS TIMES

FALL ISSUE 2012

"Meaningful lives for people with disabilities"

MESSAGE FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

After a wonderful summer everyone is back in full swing at 21 Plus. The big news here is that we have been targeting the many improvement projects in our group homes. Our spring letter campaign raised \$10,000 to be used to replace a 20 year old kitchen in one of our condos. Thanks to all who supported this appeal. Thanks to the OceanFirst Foundation we were able to add a new kitchen and flooring to our Mizzen home, and are on our way to an overhaul of our Southampton group home thanks to family members at that home. We will continue to chip away at the list of projects until the list is completed. The remaining projects total approximately \$75,000.

The newest group home in Seaside Park opened in late August. We are still in need of large pictures, large table lamps, and a paddle fan. The two women who moved in really like their home. We are currently interviewing people at Woodbridge Developmental Center who would like to move into the community. We will submit proposals to the state to open two more group homes. This is a wonderful opportunity for 21 Plus to give someone a chance to experience what it's like to live in the community.

In December, you will receive our end of the year letter campaign for the 21 Plus Foundation which is the fund raising arm of 21 Plus. Our goal is to increase our donations in 2012 by \$50,000 over last year's total. The Foundation supports those needs that are unmet by the State of New Jersey. They have helped this year with employee training, employee retention events, group home needs, website maintenance, and other areas that help to improve our services. Watch for the letter around the first week of December.

Thank you to all of the friends who continue to support our work and who understand the important part that we play in the lives of people with disabilities. We couldn't do it without you.

Shirley A. Melus

21 PLUS, INC.

Is a non-profit, tax exempt organization registered with the State of New Jersey and the US Department of the Treasury classified 501(c)(3).

21 PLUS FOUNDATION ACCEPTS REQUESTS

For more information contact:

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Finance Director
732-240-3118, x24

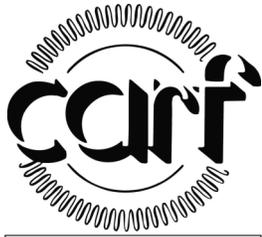
Visit our website at

www.21plus.org

DID YOU KNOW?

FOR INFORMATION ABOUT SERVICES FOR YOUR LOVED ONE CALL:
DIVISION OF DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES
732-863-4500

FOR RESPITE SERVICES, CALL:
21 PLUS
732-240-3118, x19



Commission on Accreditation of Rehabilitation Facilities has accredited 21 Plus, Inc. for its Adult Training Centers and Supported Employment Programs.

WOULD YOU LIKE TO MAKE A DIFFERENCE IN SOMEONE'S LIFE? CALL HUMAN RESOURCES AT 732-240-3118, x21 OR EMAIL JOBS@21PLUS.ORG

21 PLUS IS A MEMBER OF THE NEW JERSEY ASSOCIATION OF COMMUNITY PROVIDERS

EMPLOYEE APPRECIATION DAY

Well, once again 21 Plus, Inc. had the opportunity to celebrate and honor employees at the 16th Annual Employee Appreciation Day, on September 27, 2012. The event took place at the Holiday Inn, with a continental breakfast and buffet lunch. Employees were entertained by Chris Anthony, a mentalist, who performed a myriad of astounding illusions.



Many awards were presented at this event for years of service, working hours above and beyond, and the All-Star Awards (peer nominations). Our Community Partner Award was presented to the United Way of Ocean County for their support. Lastly, Mulbah Reed, Twin Oaks staff, was honored with the New Jersey Association of Community Provider's Leadership Award.

Through the speeches and letters presented by family members as well as the video and photo presentations, the day was filled with inspiration and praise. To add fun to the festivities there were games and many wonderful gift baskets!



NJACP LEADERSHIP AWARD WINNER

Each year, the New Jersey Association of Community Providers offers member agencies the opportunity to recognize excellence within the workforce through the NJACP Leadership Award. 21 Plus Inc., the Board of Directors and it's employees would like to congratulate Mulbah Reed on winning this years prestigious 2012 NJACP Leadership Award. Here are a few excerpts from the information packet that was submitted to win him this distinguished honor.

"Mulbah has a genuine way about himself and speaks with each individual about why and how important it is to manage their responsibly and he easily gets them to complete the task. He does it with dignity and respect. He treats everyone as a person and with respect. He doesn't speak down or demean the residents and that is why they love him. "

"Mulbah's stellar work performance, work ethic, personality and genuine care and concern for the ladies are what bring me to nominate him for the NJACP Leadership Award. Having been in the field for over 13 years, I have seen many direct care staff working with our individuals, but no one is more commendable and deserving of this award than the great Mulbah Reed!"

Mulbah will receive his award at the NJACP Conference in Atlantic City in November.



21 PLUS GOLF CLASSIC SPONSORED BY SHORE COMMUNITY BANK

21 Plus Foundation held its 6th Annual Golf Classic on July 23, 2012. The event was a huge success, with 80 golfers and raising over \$23,000.

The outing began with a barbeque lunch, and was followed by a dinner and live auction. Kevin Williams of WOBN served as emcee again this year. The live auction included prestigious items such as tickets to the HBO Boardwalk Empire premiere party and a threesome at Merion Golf Club, which will host the 2013 U.S. Open.

Proceeds from the golf classic benefit the 21 Plus Foundation, which was created to perpetuate the mission of 21 Plus, Inc., making lives meaningful for people with disabilities.

GEORGIAN COURT TRACK TEAM CONTINUED GENEROSITY

Last spring the GCU track team decided to generously adopt our Twin Oaks group home and maintain their yard in the spring and fall. They did a fabulous job last year and went above and beyond maintaining the yard as they hung out for games and a BBQ lunch afterwards. It was such a huge success and was the beginning of new found friendships for the team and the ladies of Twin Oaks. They returned on Saturday 9/29 with mulch, bulbs and flowers in hand to plant for the new season. They got right to work and did a lot of weeding and pulled out the dying sunflowers they had planted last year being sure to save the seeds to replant for this year! They planed bulbs that will come up in the spring as well as some annuals. ST, IB, CDO and CW made a few trips outside to check on their progress and offered the hard working girls some water. After their hard work, they invited the ladies to the back patio for some socializing and pumpkin decorating. SOG, CW, IB and CDO joined them. The Twin Oaks ladies had spent the morning baking for the GCU track team and brought the goodies to the patio for everyone to enjoy. GCU track team and the ladies seemed to enjoy each others company with lots of smiles and laughs. When the Twin Oaks ladies informed the team they planned on going to their meet in Philly on 10/21 the CGU track team was esthetic. They screamed and yelled with joy, and explained how thrilled they were to have their friends come cheer them on not only for a typical meet but for their championships! The stated the ladies would give them added incentive and inspiration to win! To be continued.



“WHAT IS THERE TO DO IN DELAWARE?”

The answer to that question is “Tons!” Resident Sharon attended a family reunion in August. Sharon invited friends, Mark and Tim to come along on the trip. All three were troopers through the traffic which added lots of time to the ride. The group had just enough time to check in at their hotel before having dinner with some of Sharon’s family. Everyone had a great time with lots of laughs.

The next day, Sharon was dropped off at her family’s house to spend the day. Her family graciously invited Mark and Tim and staff to a barbecue they were having later in the day, and we gladly accepted. Meanwhile, Mark and Tim went on an adventure and visited a few Delaware sights. First the crew visited a few sites in Historic Dover. The Biggs museum was the first stop where paintings and old furniture collected by the museum’s founder and local artists was viewed. Nearby was the Governor’s residence. The crew took a tour of this beautiful residence and learned some interesting facts about the town. Even though it is the current residence of the Governor, we were unable to meet him. Our third stop was the “Hall” House. This house was built by Governor Hall, and another amazing historic venue. Tim and Mark were interested in the music box and “square” piano in the house.



Once at the barbecue, we had a great time with Sharon’s family and ate some delicious food. Sharon’s family was so welcoming and treated us as if we were part of their family. Staff, Tim and Mark all voiced our thanks at being invited. We were saddened to have to leave, but needed a good night’s sleep.

Next day, Sharon’s family picked her up to attend a beautiful church mass. The rest of us found a nature reserve where we took a self-guided tour. It was absolutely beautiful and Tim and Mark both thoroughly enjoyed it. After that, we checked out a mall, had dinner and picked up Sharon before heading back to New Jersey. Lots of memories were made and overall, our Delaware trip was a huge success!

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