

DAWN AWAKENINGS

Awaken to Independence

Spring 2011

Open House
Wednesday, May 25, 2011
3:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m.
Where: DAWN Office
254B Mountain Avenue, Suite 301
Hackettstown, NJ 07840
Come visit our new location serving
Sussex and Warren counties

Join us at DAWN's new branch office located at 254B Mountain Avenue, Hackettstown, NJ. from 3:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m. DAWNcil staff members will be available to answer any questions you may have regarding our services. For more information call DAWNcil at (973) 625 – 1940 or toll free at 1-888-383-DAWN or e-mail at info@dawncil.org

SUPPORT GROUP FOR TEENS WITH AUTISM

A support group has been formed for teens 13-17 with autism, to work on learning and practicing social skills with a professional counselor and education majors from Kean University. The group will meet two Saturdays a month for three hours.

Parents can stay for the group which will be lead by the facilitator of the group, Bridget Barge. There will be some guest speakers set up which will be comprised of professionals who either have a disability themselves or to offer valuable services for our students. One of the first planned speakers will be an attorney who specializes in Estate Planning for parents of children with special needs.

For further information, please contact Ms. Bridget Barge, group facilitator at: (862) 400-3273.

FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S DESK

These are very exciting times for DAWN Center for Independent Living. After many years of advocating for additional resources to more effectively serve residents of Sussex and Warren county, we are pleased to announce the opening of our branch office in Hackettstown. The location of the office was selected to ensure that individuals from both counties could access us utilizing the Para-transit systems. The office will be hosting an Open House on Wednesday, May 25th from 3—7pm. I hope you will consider joining us. If you can't join us on the 25th, please stop in at your leisure. The office houses a resource room filled with information about programs and services pertinent to persons with disabilities, we have computers available for the anyone who does not have a personal computer available to them.

Most recently we have received computer equipment and software for individuals who are blind or visually impaired from the Commission for the Blind and Visually Impaired. This equipment and software is available in both our Denville and Hackettstown locations. The computers are equipped with JAWS, Kurzweil, Zoom text, screen readers, CCTV and a scanner to enable individuals to who have visual impairments to independently access the web, review important documents and other computer related tasks they otherwise may not have access to. If you are interested in using the equipment and need transportation to the office, please contact the staff and they will assist you in making the arrangements.

Finally, we hope you will join us for some important upcoming fundraising events to support recreation and socialization Programs at DAWNcil. . I hope you will consider joining us.

SAVE THE DATE

Annual Summer Picnic – Saturday June 11, 2011 – Hedden Park, Dover, NJ – 12:00 – 4:00 pm. Menu will include Hamburgers, Cheeseburgers, Veggie Burgers, Hotdogs, Corn on the Cob, BBQ Chicken, Potato Salad, Garden Salad and Watermelon. Dues Paid Members - \$20.00 Non – Dues Paid - \$30.00

Lucky Strike Night – Bowlathon – A fundraiser for DAWNcil to be held on Friday August 12, 2011 – Rockaway Lanes, Route 46, Rockaway, NJ. - 7:00 – 10:00 pm. – Minimum Donation, \$ 20.00 (Includes 3 games and rental shoes). Organize a Team. Have Fun. Walk ins welcome! Proceeds will benefit recreation and Socialization programs.

Franki's Fund Annual Event – Dinner and Tricky Tray/silent Auction will be held on Saturday, November 6, 2011 – Zeri's Inn, 372 Route 46 East, Mountain Lakes, N.J. from 12:30 – 4:30 pm. The mission of Franki's Fund is to offer young adults with special needs ages 14 – 25 an opportunity to explore artistic and vocational pursuits. Donations of various ranges can be made.

Holiday Gala - Saturday December 10, 2011 - 12:00 - 4:00 pm - Skylands at Randolph, Randolph, N.J., 792 Route 10 West, Randolph, N.J. - \$30.00 dues paid members, \$40.00 non - dues. To RSVP for any of these events call DAWNcil at (973) 625 – 1940 or toll free at 1-888-383-DAWN, our TDD number is 973-625-1932.

DAWN CENTER FOR INDEPENDENT LIVING OFFERS HOME MODIFICATION PROGRAM FOR INDIVIDUALS WITH SPINAL CORD INJURIES LIVING IN MORRIS, SUSSEX AND WARREN COUNTIES

DAWN Center for Independent Living is pleased to announce the availability of funds made possible through a grant from the Craig H. Neilsen Foundation. The grant will provide home modifications to people with spinal cord injuries living in Morris, Sussex and Warren Counties. Priority will be given to persons at risk of institutionalization if modifications are not made to their home. Medical and financial need must be demonstrated. Types of modifications may include but not limited to ramps, widening of doorways, raising countertops, grab bars, floor level showers and stair glides. Applicants must provide two cost estimates of the work to be done as well as before and after photos. The amount available per recipient will average \$2,000 - \$4,000 on a first come, first serve basis.

Established in 2002, the Craig H. Neilsen Foundation is a private foundation dedicated to supporting cutting-edge research to find a cure for paralysis due to spinal cord injury (SCI) and innovative rehabilitation programs to improve the quality of life for those living with SCI. Mr. Nielsen, himself a quadriplegic for 21 years until his death in 2006, recruited experts in the SCI community to peer review all grant requests for scientific and clinical research, post-doctoral fellowships, and quality of life program grants.

If someone you know is interested in the Home Modification Program or other DAWN services contact Marc Moldé at (973) 625-1940 or e-mail him at: info@dawncil.org Funds are limited and may expire soon.

ADVANCING OPPORTUNITIES HOUSING REHABILITATION PROGRAM

The Advancing Opportunities Housing Rehabilitation Program serves individuals living with the family who are registered with the Division of Developmental Disabilities (DDD) in Morris, Sussex and Warren Counties. Services provided include: 1.) Advice on how to make a home safe and accessible: one of our Rehabilitation Technicians will come out to the home, meet with the family and help them understand their options. 2.) Funding (up to \$2,000) to help pay for accessibility modifications.

To receive services from the Housing Rehabilitation Program consumers should: 1.) Contact their DDD manager; 2.) Case manager **must** send a referral for eligible families to Advancing Opportunities Assistive Technologies Services Department; 3.) Advancing Opportunities will arrange a home visit upon receipt of referral; 4.) Advancing Opportunities will complete an assessment report and send it to the family with a copy of their DDD case Manager; 5.) The family is responsible for obtaining estimates of work or equipment specified in the report.

Families and case managers can also contact us directly. Please contact Garth Heid at: 866-322-1918.

WHEELCHAIR SOFTBALL

Wheelchair softball is an exciting and challenging sport that enables anyone with a physical disability to play. Games take place every Tuesday evening on the accessible field located at Central Park of Morris County, Central Ave., Parsippany, NJ. To learn more about wheelchair softball go to:

<http://www.wheelchairsoftball.org>.

Games take place every Tuesday at 6 pm until the end of the summer, weather permitting. For more information on Wheelchair Softball please call Tom Ripley at njwheelchairsoftball@gmail.com or (973) 723 - 2074.

AMENDMENTS ACT DEFINES DISABILITY

The Equal Employment Opportunity Commission (EEOC) final regulations to implement the ADA Amendments Act (ADAAA) which went into effect in 2009, are now available on the Federal Register website at www.ofr.gov.

The regulations are designed to simplify the determination of who has a disability and make it easier for people to establish that they are protected by the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA). The ADAAA overturned several Supreme Court decisions that Congress believed had interpreted the definition of disability too narrowly, resulting in a denial of protection for many individuals with disabilities. It states that the definition of disability should be interpreted as broadly as possible.

The regulations list a set of principles that guide the determination of whether a person has a disability. For example, the principles state that an impairment doesn't need to prevent or significantly restrict the performance of a major life activity to be considered a disability. Impairments that are considered to be disabilities under the ADAAA are epilepsy, and cancer (if in remission), HIV, diabetes, and bi-polar disorder.

In addition to the ADAAA regulations, the commission has released two question - and - answer documents to aid the public and employers which can be found at www.eeoc.gov.

JEWISH VOCATIONAL SERVICES ACCEPTING APPLICATIONS FOR CAREER CAMP 2011

Jewish Vocational Services (JVS) is now accepting applications for its Career Camp 2011 for Teens with Disabilities. Two sessions will be held. The first one will be held from August 1 to August 12, 2011 for students with mobility and cognitive impairments (sponsored by the Kessler Foundation); the second session will be held for students diagnosed with an Autism Spectrum Disorder (sponsored by the Blanche and Irving Laurie Foundation).

The objective of Career Camp is to help prepare students for work, education and training. Career Camp 2011 will provide students the opportunity to engage in vocational activities designed to simulate job tasks and give hands-on experience developing a variety of different job skills. Camp activities will focus on vocational exploration, appropriate work behaviors, and social skills development. Classroom instruction will be interactive and include resume writing, completion of job applications, and practicing interviewing skills. Campers will

also take field trips to community employment sites to learn about the range of jobs available in areas such as health care, culinary arts, animal care and horticulture.

Founded in 1939, JVS is a nonprofit community-based organization that provides a broad range of vocational, education, rehabilitation, training, health and human services on a nonsectarian basis to individuals and companies in New Jersey. The mission of the agency is to help members of the community maximize their abilities and potential and become economically self-reliant productive citizens.

For applications and additional information please contact Peggy Himsl, Director of Rehabilitation Services at (973) 674 - 6330, ext. 241 or by e-mail at: phimsl@jvsnj.org

ADVOCATES FOR ALTERNATIVE AND NEW JERSEY DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES PLANNING INSTITUTE PRESENTS - SELF-DIRECTED SURVEY

Learn how supports and services will be determined for your son/daughter's future once their school entitlement ends at age 21.

The Advocates for Alternatives and New Jersey Developmental Planning Institute will be conducting a survey for individuals eligible for Division of Developmental Disabilities (DDD) services. They will be holding a forum on Thursday June 9, 2011 from 6:00 pm to 8:30 pm at the Morris County Library - Whippany Branch, 30 East Hanover Ave., Whippany, NJ, to clarify the Developmental Disabilities Resource Tool (DDRT). The DDRT is a phone survey used by the New Jersey Division of Developmental Disabilities (DDD) to determine an individual's level of need to provide supports after graduation.

The forum is most appropriate for families who have young adults (14 years of age or older) currently in transition planning from school to adult-life and professionals working with these families.

The forum is an opportunity to better understand the Self-Direction option of DDD Day Services.

Examples will be given of individuals and families who are currently self-directing their supports and services. A review of the DDRT will be presented to better prepare participants for the phone survey.

DAWN - Wish List

DAWNcil relies on the generous donations of our supporters. All donations are tax deductible and very appreciated. We are in need of donations of items and volunteers.

Items

- Microwave
- Small Refrigerator
- Board Room table and chairs
- Board Games
- Video Games for Wii
- Gift cards for Wal-Mart, Target, Best Buy, Costco, etc.

Volunteers

- Website design
- Next Chapter Book Club Facilitator for Warren County
- Aktion Club Advisor for Warren and Sussex Counties
- Franki's Fund activity volunteers

WEB SITES, ETC.

- <http://www.nod.org> – National Association on Disabilities (NOD).
- <http://www.disabilityresources.org> – Disability Resources on the Net.
- <http://www.firstcall.org> – First Call for Help
- <http://www.irs.gov> – Internal Revenue Service.
- <http://voa.org> - Volunteers of America

CHRISTIE BUDGET TO CUT \$ 540M FROM MEDICAID FUNDS, TRANSFER PARTICIPANTS INTO MANAGED CARE

Calling Medicaid Spending “out of control”, Governor Chris Christie on Tuesday February 22, 2011 proposed cutting \$540 million from the massive health insurance program for the poor.

New Jersey expects to spend about \$4.4 billion in state and federal funds on Medicaid during the fiscal year that ends June 30, 2011 to cover about \$ 1.3 million of the state's poorest residents. The program is \$1.3 billion in the red.

Medicaid is a government program that provides free medical assistance for qualified beneficiaries. New Jersey's Managed Medicaid Program requires most Medicaid – eligible people with disabilities to receive their health care from managed care organizations.

Managed care is a comprehensive approach to providing and paying for high-quality health care services – from routine to emergency - within a coordinated system in a cost - effective manner. The health plans that provide the benefits package for the Medicaid Managed Care System in New Jersey are called Health Maintenance Organizations (HMOs).

People with disabilities found eligible for the program **must** select for their health care with one of the five HMOs that have contracted with the State of New Jersey to provide Medicaid Managed Care services. If they don't, they will eventually be assigned to one of the HMOs.

For more information on the Managed Care Program call:

- New Jersey Department of Human Services 1-800-356-1561
- Morris County Department of Human Services (973) 326-7878
- Sussex County Division of Human Services (973) 579-0559
- Warren County Division of Human Services (908) 475-6080

COUNTIES TO HOLD TRANSPORTATION HEARINGS

The Morris, Sussex and Warren County Departments of Human Services will be holding their hearings on transportation. The purpose of these meetings is for people with disabilities to discuss the proposed revised fare structure and demand response transportation. Dates for meetings are scheduled as follows:

Morris County – Hearings will be held during the month of June, 2011 at the County Human Services Building, 340 West Hanover Ave., Morris Township, NJ. For more information call Ms. Hope Hezel, Director of the Morris Area Para-Transit System (M.A.P.S.) at (973) 829 – 8105. or via e-mail at hhezel@co.morris.nj.us.

Sussex County – Hearings will be held on May 25, 2011 at 3:00 P.M. at the County Administrative Center, One Spring Street, Newton, NJ. Interested individuals can submit oral or written evidence and recommendations on or before May 25, 2011 to the County of Sussex, Transportation Public Hearing, Administrative Center, One Spring Street, Newton, NJ 07860. Transportation to the hearing is available by calling Sussex County Skylands Rides no later than May 20, 2011.

Warren County – Hearings will be scheduled during the month of June 2011 at the Warren County Administrative Building, 165 County Route 519 South, Belvidere, N.J. For more information please call Ms. JanMarie McDyer, Transportation Coordinator at (908) 475 – 6080. You may also contact Ms. McDyer by e-mail at jmcdyer@co.warren.nj.us.

Consumers of DAWNcil are encouraged to attend their local county meeting and let their voice be heard.

UPCOMING DAWN RECREATION EVENTS

An annual recreation registration fee of \$50.00 is due prior to attending your first event. If you have not already paid this fee, please do so. Thank you!

Any request for an accommodation must be made at least two weeks prior to a scheduled event. Without proper notification the accommodation may not be possible. There is limited transportation available. Young adult events are consumers 16 – 30 years of age.

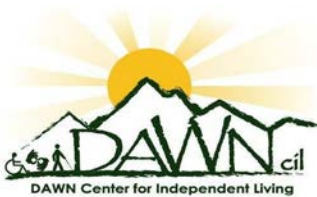
If you have any questions call Marc Moldé (973) 625-1940 ext. 211 or Jason Alvarado at ext. 226.

GENERAL MEMBERSHIP EVENTS

Date	Time	Event	Place	Cost
May 21	1 - 4 pm	“Curtains”	Paper Mill Playhouse, Millburn	\$35.00
June 11	12 - 4 pm	Annual Summer Picnic	Hedden Park, Dover	\$20.00 dues paid \$30.00 non - dues
July 14	7 - 10 pm	Movies	AMC Loews Cinema, East Hanover	\$15.00
August 12	7 - 10 pm	Bowling Fundraiser	Rockaway Lanes, Rt. 46, Rockaway	\$20.00
September 17	12:30 - 2 pm	Lunch Out	Applebees, Route 46 Rockaway	Cost of Meal
December 10	12 - 4 pm	Holiday Gala	<i>The Skylands</i> , Randolph	\$30.00 dues paid \$40.00 non-dues

YOUNG ADULT EVENTS

Date	Time	Event	Location	Cost
May 21	1 - 4pm	“Curtains”	Paper Mill Playhouse	\$25.00
June 11	12 - 4 pm	Annual Summer Picnic	Hedden Park, Dover	\$20.00 dues paid \$30.00 non - dues
August 12	7 - 10 pm	Bowling Fundraiser	Rockaway Lanes, Route 46, Rockaway	\$20.00
October 14	7 - 10 pm	Halloween Dance	Christ Episcopal Church, Budd Lake	\$15.00
December 10	12 - 4 pm	Holiday Gala	<i>The Skylands</i> , Randolph	\$30.00 dues paid \$40.00 non - dues



Phone: 973-625-1940
 Fax: 973-625-1942
 TTY: 973-625-1932
 Email: info@dawncil.org

We are on the web!
www.dawncil.org
Follow us on
Twitter@DAWNcil

DAWN MISSION STATEMENT

DAWN Center for Independent Living empowers people with disabilities to strive for equality and to take control of their own lives by:

- Providing the tools that encourage independence and self -advocacy.
- Promoting public awareness of the needs, desires and rights of individuals living with disabilities.
- Offering community activities that create new experiences and opportunities.
- Creating informed communities that advance the Independent Living Philosophy.

DAWN PROVIDES THE FOLLOWING SERVICES:

- | | |
|--|-------------------|
| - Information and Referral | - Advocacy |
| - Living Well with a Disability | - Peer Support |
| - Next Chapter Book Club | - Recreation |
| - Aktion Club (Morris County only) | - SAIL |
| - Nursing Facility Transition | - Care Management |
| - Independent Living Skills Training | |
| - School to Adult Life (<i>STEP-UP</i> Program) | |