



# COMMUNITY NEWS



## WHAT'S NEW AROUND DSC ... 29th Annual Tree of Hope Campaign



The 29th Annual Tree of Hope Campaign concluded at the end of January. We are thrilled to share that we raised more than \$207,000! We are so grateful for the community's continued support of DSC and this campaign!

Throughout this Tree of Hope Campaign, we had the opportunity to share the Spokesfamily's story—a moving story of the services and supports DSC is providing to Amber Fitzgerald and her children, Caleb and Cali, helping them to learn, grow, and realize their full potential.

We would like to thank Amber, Caleb, and Cali for sharing their personal story and for their commitment to the campaign. And thank you to every donor whose gift provides hope for individuals supported by DSC and to the sponsors who make it possible for all donations from the Tree of Hope to go directly towards our programs and services, allowing DSC to continue providing supports for more than 1,200 children and adults with intellectual and/or developmental disabilities here in Champaign and Ford counties.

Thank you again, for helping us light the Tree of Hope and continue to fulfill our mission to support people in living a rich and meaningful life!



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# 2023 Tree of Hope Sponsors

## CORPORATE PARTNERS (\$3,500 & Up)

Carle Foundation  
Champaign Multimedia Group  
Christie Clinic Illinois Marathon  
Coldwell Banker Commercial Devonshire Realty/  
Allied Capital Title  
Flooring Surfaces, Inc.  
Illini Radio Group  
Midwest Tankermen, Inc.  
Serra Champaign  
Stevie Jay Broadcasting  
WCIA, News Channel 3

## LEVEL I (\$1,500-\$3,499)

Ameren Illinois  
Broeren Russo Builders, Inc.  
Champaign-Urbana Elks Lodge #2497  
Commerce Bancshares Foundation  
First State Bank  
Hendershot Chrysler Dodge Jeep Ram  
Midwest Engineering & Testing, Inc.  
Sam's Club  
Sullivan-Parkhill Automotive, Inc.

## LEVEL II (\$1,000-\$1,499)

American Dowell Sign Company  
Christie Foundation  
Comcast  
Down Syndrome Network  
Five Foot Productions  
Kingdom Lawn & Lighting

## LEVEL III (\$500-\$999)

ABC Heating & Air Conditioning  
Body N' Sole  
Busey Bank  
CMI  
Cozad Asset Management, Inc.  
Farm Credit Illinois  
First Federal Savings Bank

Greater Champaign County AMBUCS  
Health Alliance  
Kevin & Nancy Sullivan  
Midwest Construction Rentals, Inc.  
Premier Print Group  
Reynold's Towing Service  
TSM Ventures, Inc.

## LEVEL IV (\$250-\$499)

Advance Auto Parts  
Bank of Rantoul  
Calvin Jordan  
Champaign-Urbana Mass Transit District  
Hickory Point Bank & Trust  
Hudson Drug & Hallmark Shop  
Lynn Ryle  
Northwestern Mutual, The McClure Financial Group  
Peter B's Automotive  
Steve & Carol Kamradt  
USI Insurance Services



Because of these generous sponsors above, every dollar we raise during the Tree of Hope Campaign directly supports the programs and services we offer! Thank you for your commitment to our mission!

## New AEDs



The Christie Foundation has granted DSC three Automated External Defibrillators (AEDs). The AEDs replaced expiring units in three of our CILAs (Community Integrated Living Arrangements). Thank you, Christie Clinic for helping us to be prepared should a heart-related emergency occur.

## Tootsie Roll Drive Donation



The Knights of Columbus of Philo donated the proceeds from their fall Tootsie Roll Drive. The Tootsie Roll Drive stretches back decades and is about more than just candy — it is about helping those with intellectual disabilities. Thank you, Knights of Columbus, for your continued support!

## Transition Planning Event

**TRANSITION:  
Preparing for Life  
after Graduation**

Tuesday, March 28th  
5:30-8:30pm  
Champaign Public Library

**JOIN US!**  
A FREE event for students, parents, guardians, and teachers of students ages 14-22 with IEPs and 504 Plans

A light dinner provided FREE OF CHARGE!  
Enjoy a meal and critical information!

**CHAMPAIGN COUNTY  
TRANSITION PLANNING COMMITTEE**



As a member of the Transition Planning Committee for Champaign County, DSC is excited to be part of this event - ***Transition: Preparing for Life after Graduation.***

DSC's Intake Specialist, Lori Wachtel will sit on the panel and will be present to meet you and answer your questions. Visit our website at [www.dsc-illinois.org](http://www.dsc-illinois.org) for more information.

Please help us spread the word, and we hope to see you there!

## Donate your Walgreens Cash Rewards to DSC!

**Help communities *you* care about by donating your Walgreens Cash rewards.**



*myWalgreens*

We're participating in the myWalgreens donation program! You can donate your myWalgreens cash rewards to DSC thru May 31, 2023.

To learn more about the myWalgreens program visit [walgreens.com/mywalgreens](http://walgreens.com/mywalgreens).

## Volunteer with DSC!



Volunteer with DSC and see the runners off at the start line of the 5K on Friday, April 28th or the 10K and ½ Marathon on Saturday, April 29th. Free t-shirt and swag bag included! Contact Development Coordinator, Jacqueline Gardiner at [jgardiner@dsc-illinois.org](mailto:jgardiner@dsc-illinois.org) if you are interested.

## Save the Date!



The Eastern Illinois Parrot Head Club is hosting Back to the Prairibean again this year to benefit DSC! The event will take place on Tuesday, August 1st from 5 to 8PM at Riggs Brewery. Join us for music from The Boat Drunks, food, beverages, raffles, and lots of fun!



Make plans today to attend the 10th Annual C-U Oktoberfest on September 30th from 3-10PM! Live music, festive beer from local brewers, German-inspired food from local food trucks, and a kid zone! You will not want to miss this fun community event!



Thank you to the following businesses that completed LEAP training over the past few months. We are grateful for your commitment to employ all people!

- Alexander's Prime Time Seasonings
- At Ease Home Inspections, LLC
- Broeren Russo Builders Inc.
- Country Financial – Kolby Jackson
- Don Moyer Boys & Girls Club
- Express Employment Professionals - Champaign
- First State Bank of Forrest – Mahomet Branch
- Jackson Quality Construction, Inc.
- Mary Kay – Connie Burch, Sr. Sales Director
- Prairie Massage – Mahomet
- SpotOn
- State Farm Agent – Darwyn Boston
- The Lisa Rector Team: Keller Williams Realty
- The Main Scoop – Mahomet
- United Prairie
- Urbana Acupuncture
- Yellow & Company

### Join the New Directory!

The LEAP program has launched the Champaign County Directory of Disability-Inclusive Employers, a public means of identifying inclusive employers, as well as a way for independent jobseekers to find them. This benefits organizations working with DSC and Community Choices, and also the jobseekers. We are inviting all employers in the county to register for the directory. Add your company's name to the directory and demonstrate your ongoing commitment to continuous improvement, learning, and growth in hiring qualified people with disabilities. Contact Maggie Baker at [mbrown@dsc-illinois.org](mailto:mbrown@dsc-illinois.org) for more information.

## Bequests

To those friends who wish to help assure the longevity of DSC by mentioning DSC in your will, the following statement may be shared with your advisor to designate a legacy bequest for the children and adults at DSC, Champaign, IL, an Illinois not-for-profit corporation:

"I give, devise, and bequeath to the DSC Foundation (37-1023944) of Champaign, IL, a charitable not-for-profit foundation, the sum of \_\_\_\_\_ dollars (\$\_\_\_\_) or \_\_\_\_\_ percent (\_\_\_\_%) of my estate to be used to carryout out its mission."

To view or download a copy of DSC's Planned Giving Opportunities Brochures, scan this QR Code:



Contact your tax professional for more specific tax information. If you would like more information from DSC, please contact Jodie Harmon, Director of Development & Communications at [jharmon@dsc-illinois.org](mailto:jharmon@dsc-illinois.org) or 217-398-7110.



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**Mission:** DSC supports people in living a rich and meaningful life.

**Vision:** Striving to assure that every person lives a full life in the community.