



COMMUNITY NEWS



WHAT'S NEW AROUND DSC . . .

Danielle's Message



DSC is now in its 51st year of providing services to children, their families, and adults with intellectual and developmental disabilities. We continue to make a significant impact in the lives of those we serve and in our community. We are grateful to live in such a supportive community to be able to do the work we do.

None of this would be possible without the extraordinary work and dedication of our Direct Support Professionals (DSPs). We look forward to recognizing, honoring, and celebrating our DSPs during the month of September. We will celebrate Direct Support Professionals Recognition Week (September 10-16, 2023) with agencies nationwide. We invite you to join us by showing gratitude to a special DSP in your life, as well.

Speaking of celebrating, I invite you to join us on September 30th from 3:00 – 10:00 p.m. for the 10th Annual C-U Oktoberfest. We are excited to host this event again. I hope to see you there!

Thank you,

Danielle Matthews, CEO

10th Annual C-U Oktoberfest



It's the 10th year of C-U Oktoberfest! Join us on September 30th in downtown Champaign from 3:00 to 10:00 p.m. in the parking lot at the corner of Neil and Washington. C-U Oktoberfest is a fall celebration of music, beer, and food. And don't miss out on the \$5,000 cash raffle this year! There will be live music from Die Musikmeisters and The Polkaholics playing festive polkas, waltzes, and traditional German music. Beer from your favorite local brewers—Blind Pig, Riggs, and Triptych—along with an assortment of authentic German beers. German-style food from some of C-U's most sought-after food trucks, Smith Burger and Watson's Shack & Rail. And new this year, Ice Daddy's will be bringing the sweet treats—shaved ice and ice cream—for all to enjoy! Bring the kids early for fun in the Kid Zone from 3:00 to 6:00 p.m.

Raffle tickets, general admission tickets, food and beverage tickets, and merchandise can be pre-ordered online! Visit www.cuoktoberfest.org for more information. Proceeds from C-U Oktoberfest benefit DSC! Prost!



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DSC Joins National Alliance for Direct Support Professionals



DSC recently became a member of the National Alliance for Direct Support Professionals (NADSP), thanks to funding from the Champaign County Developmental Disabilities Board through a Workforce Retention Grant. We chose to join this strong alliance, because everything we do each day, regardless of one's role at DSC, revolves around the people receiving services from us, directly and indirectly. As a member of NADSP, we're also

showing a commitment to those who make a world of difference in people's lives. This means that DSPs will have exclusive access to resources, educational webinars, discounts, and more, to help support them in their important work.

The vision of NADSP is a world with a highly qualified and professional direct support workforce that partners with, supports, and empowers people with disabilities to lead a life of their choosing. NADSP works to elevate the status of direct support professionals by improving practice standards, promoting system reform, and advancing their knowledge, skills and values, through certification, credentialing, training, professional development, and accreditation services.

NADSP shares nine tenets, which guide all Direct Support Professionals (DSPs):

- (1) PERSON-CENTERED SUPPORTS - *As a DSP, my first allegiance is to the person I support; all other activities and functions I perform flow from this allegiance.*
- (2) PROMOTING PHYSICAL AND EMOTIONAL WELL-BEING - *As a DSP, I will commit to promote the emotional, physical, and personal well-being of the people I support. I will encourage growth and recognize the autonomy of those receiving support while being attentive and energetic in reducing the risk of harm.*
- (3) INTEGRITY AND RESPONSIBILITY - *As a DSP, I will support the mission and vitality of my profession to assist people in leading self-directed lives, and to foster a spirit of partnership with the people I support, other professionals, and the community.*
- (4) CONFIDENTIALITY - *As a DSP, I will safeguard and respect the confidentiality and privacy of the people I support.*
- (5) JUSTICE, FAIRNESS, and EQUITY - *As a DSP, I will affirm the human rights, as well as the civil rights and responsibilities of the people I support. I will promote and practice justice, fairness, and equity for the people I support and the community as a whole.*
- (6) RESPECT - *As a DSP, I will respect the human dignity and uniqueness of the people I support. I will recognize each person who I support as valuable and promote their value to our communities.*
- (7) RELATIONSHIPS - *As a DSP, I will assist the people I support to develop and maintain relationships.*
- (8) SELF-DETERMINATION - *As a DSP, I will assist the people I support to direct the course of their own lives.*
- (9) ADVOCACY - *As a DSP, I will advocate for the people I support for justice, inclusion, and full community participation.*

Continuous learning and knowledge building are added benefits to being a member of NADSP. Through NADSP's E-Badge Academy, DSPs and Frontline Supervisors (FLSs) can earn national certification through stackable electronic badges. These badges demonstrate the knowledge, skills, and values that these professionals utilize every day, recognizing the professional development that might otherwise go unacknowledged.

DSC is proud to be a member of the National Alliance of Direct Support Professionals, and we look forward to utilizing our membership to continue to give the best support to our employees and those receiving services from us.

Please visit www.nadsp.org if you would like to learn more.

Fall Mums for a Good Cause



\$12
each

Aug 18 - Sept 9
PICKUP ON
September 16 | 9am - 1pm
At Country Arbors Nursery



Beautify your home or business this fall with gorgeous, colorful mums from Country Arbors! And support DSC at the same time!

Order at countryarbors.com/events/dsc-fall23 and a portion of each mum sold will benefit DSC!!

A Successful Back to the Prairibbean!



An extra special thank you to the Eastern Illinois Parrot Head Club (EIPHC) for hosting Back to the Prairibbean in early August! Everyone certainly enjoyed "partying with a purpose!" The fantastic weather was made even better with The Boat Drunks serenading the crowd. And the raffle baskets were a huge hit! THANK YOU, EIPHC, the wonderful sponsors, raffle basket donors, and of course, everyone who came out and partied with a purpose!

Thank You Volunteers!



We are extra grateful for First Mid Bank & Trust for volunteering earlier this summer sprucing up the area around our main building on Bradley Avenue. They completed some much needed yardwork and landscaping. Thank you!

Thank You, Christie Clinic Illinois Race Weekend!



DSC CEO, Danielle Matthews and Vice President of Development and Communications, Jodie Harmon joined many wonderful organizations in late July to celebrate the success of the 2023 Christie Clinic Illinois Race Weekend and

the many volunteers and runners who make it all possible. We love our partnership and involvement in this dynamic community event! DSC is very grateful for the generous donation of \$3,500 and thrilled the full marathon will be back next year. Thank you, Christie Clinic Illinois Race Weekend for your commitment to our mission!

CDS Computer Lab Funded



With generous donations from Comcast and Orange Krush Foundation, we have purchased new computers and accessories for our Community Day Services computer lab. We are grateful for their continued support! Stay tuned for photos of the updated computer lab in our next issue.

DisABILITY Resource Expo



DSC is happy to once again be a part of the DisABILITY Resource Expo, coming up on Saturday, October 28th. The mission of the expo is to provide full access to information and resources from a wide variety of agencies and organizations and to promote a better quality of life for people with

disabilities in Champaign County and East Central Illinois. We hope to see you there!

Mid-Year Appeal



In July, we kicked off our Mid-Year Appeal Campaign, featuring Chuck, who has been a part of the DSC family for over 30 years. We shared his story of personal growth, accomplishments, independence—and retirement—with support from DSC. A special thank you to everyone that supported the Mid-Year Appeal.

We appreciate your commitment to our mission!

DSC Fall Clean Up Days

Grab your friends, family, co-workers, or service group and join us for DSC Fall Clean-Up Days. Small groups are needed to take care of yard maintenance around DSC locations. Available dates are Friday, October 13, 12:30-3:30pm and Saturday, October 28th, 9am-12pm. If you are interested or would like more information, please contact Jacqueline Gardiner at jgardiner@dsc-illinois.org or 217-356-9176.

LEAP Continues to Grow!



Thanks to area employers, we have now reached more than 165 businesses over the last six years. We appreciate your support as you've led the way in creating more inclusive business practices throughout Champaign County.

- ET's Downtown Rantoul
- Habitat for Humanity of Champaign County
- Lincoln's Challenge Academy
- Prairie Massage
- Rantoul Chamber of Commerce
- Rick's Tractor Services, Inc. (Ogden)
- Sam's Club
- Urbana Park District – Anita Purves Nature Center
- Urbana Park District – Aquatics
- Village of Rantoul
- Villas of Holly Brook (Rantoul)

Is your company in our Champaign County Directory of Disability-Inclusive Employers, a public means of identifying inclusive employers? This directory will benefit job candidates working with DSC and Community Choices, as well as independent 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 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 carry 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, Vice President of Development & Communications at 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.