Woodfords' World

The Newsletter of Woodfords Family Services Vol 21. Issue 1 Spring 2020

Save the Dates for Woodfords' 2020 Signature Events!

Superhero 5k

Saturday, June 6th, 2020

Registration opens at 9:00am, race begins at 10:00am

Pineland Farms, New Gloucester, Maine

Get your capes and masks ready for our Superhero 5k! Join us as we celebrate the incredible champions in our community as they run and raise funds for the children and adults with special needs and super abilities in our programs! Relocated last year to the beautiful Pineland Farms campus, this course is sure to show your super strength!

To register and/or create a fundraising page today visit: runsignup.com/Race/ME/NewGloucester/WoodfordsSuperhero5K

Family Fun Day

Saturday, July 25th, 2020

Gates open at 9:00am

Maine Wildlife Park, Gray, Maine

Individuals, families, employees and friends, mark your calendars for Family Fun Day 2020! Join us as we take over the Maine Wildlife Park again this year for a day of community celebration. Admission is free for all and lunch is provided.

FMI or to RSVP check out our website in June!

Annual Auction Gala

Saturday, September 26th, 2020

6:00pm – 10:00pm

Sheraton Sable Oaks, South Portland, Maine

Come take a journey with us as we celebrate the successes of the individuals with special needs in our community at our annual Auction Gala. With more than 200 silent and live auction items, you will be sure to find something you like while supporting an agency you love!

FMI or to purchase tickets check out our website in July!

Awards, Grants, Of Note

- The **Marcia Brady Tucker Foundation** awarded the Expeditions Community Support Program $19,500 toward its purchase of a new 12-passenger van.
- The **Boas Family Fund** awarded the Residential and Shared Living program $6,000 toward its healthy living pilot program.
- The **Maine Community Foundation's Edward H. Davies Benevolent Fund** awarded the Westbrook Preschool $5,000 to support the Early Childhood Training and Professional Development Series.
- The **United Way of York County** awarded the EnRICHment Summer and After-School Program $4,250 to support its efforts to meet the needs of more families in York County.
- The **Wing-Benjamin Trust Fund** awarded the Waterville Preschool $3,750 to support the Early Childhood Training and Professional Development Series.
- The **Margaret E. Burnham Charitable Trust** awarded the Pineland Preschool $1,500 to support the purchase of additional equipment for its new outdoor gross and fine motor play space.
- Welcome to the newest members of our Board of Trustees, **Mark S. Foster**, Money Manager, People's United Bank, and **Brem Stoner**, Assistant Principal, Wentworth School in Scarborough.
- **Amy Crawford**, Adult Case Manager, was selected as a presenter at the **Maine Down Syndrome Network's annual conference**, where she spoke about our Sibshops: Sibling Support Program.
- **Marks Eves**, Executive Director, joined the Board of Directors of the **Maine Association for Community Service Providers** and was appointed as a Southern Maine representative of the **MaineCare Advisory Committee**.
- **Gretchen Jefferson**, Senior Behavior Analyst and Head of Behavioral Consultation, was selected as a presenter at this year's **Southern Maine Autism Conference** for two sessions titled "The Other Side of the Spoon" and "Time for School! Assessing and Managing School Non-Attendance."

Wildcats Bring Home The Gold at Special Olympics

A big congratulations to the Expeditions Community Support Program's soccer team, the Woodfords Wildcats, who received the gold medal for their performance in the Special Olympics for the third year in a row!

Donor Spotlight: The Pajama Program

Our very generous friends at the Pajama Program have done it again, helping us provide good nights to encourage good days for the children in our programs! With their support, we have been able to distribute more than 600 pairs of pajamas this year to children in our community. For many of our families, bedtime can be a real challenge, and there is nothing like a new pair of fuzzy PJs to make bedtime more fun!

RICH Moments

Named after Woodfords' founder Alan Rich, Rich Moments celebrate the dedication of our staff to the agency's mission, and the successes, big and small, of the individuals with whom we work.

Meet Brandon: An Employee Growing His Career at Woodfords

Brandon started at Woodfords in 2014 shortly after graduating from the University of Maine, Farmington with a Bachelor's Degree in Psychology. He began his career as an Ed. Tech III in the Early Childhood Services program where he was eventually promoted to Lead Teacher. In his off hours, Brandon worked as a BHP in the Rehabilitative and Community Support (RCS) Program, before being promoted to Field Supervisor and then Program Coordinator. Recently, Brandon began his new role in the agency's Human Resources Department as the Human Resources Specialist. In each of his roles, Brandon has embodied the agency's mission and vision and has strived to make a difference in the lives of our consumers and families. Brandon is thoughtful, compassionate, and dedicated to the work of the agency. His unique journey is a prime example of the many ways passionate professionals can grow in their careers here at Woodfords. Keep up the great work Brandon!

"The best part about working for Woodfords is the impact you can make on the families and consumers we serve. Every person within this agency plays a key role in helping a family and consumer in need. To anyone who is interested in working at Woodfords, I would tell them that you won't find a more passionate group of leaders and support staff anywhere else."

– Brandon Doughty

May is National Foster Care Month!

Each May, we celebrate National Foster Care Month. Thank you to all the caring adults and families who have positively impacted the lives of the children and teens in foster care in Maine, including the Therapeutic Foster Parents, Case Managers, Foster Family Support Workers, local advocates, policymakers, child welfare professionals, and other members of our community who support the children and youth in Maine's foster care system.

FMI about Woodfords' Therapeutic Foster Care Program, contact Rachel Newcomb, Recruitment & Licensing Coordinator at 207-878-9663 or rnewcomb@woodfords.org

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Let's Party Like It's 1920! Woodfords Night 2020

More than 300 employees and guests gathered to celebrate the New Year and each other at Woodfords Night 2020, enjoying a night of glitz, glam, and good times! Congratulations to our 2019 Director's Award recipients: **Megan Aldrich**, Early Childhood Services, Pineland Preschool; **Jen Alward**, Therapeutic Foster Care & Adoption Services; **Lauren Archambault**, Support Services, Development; **Sara Ham**, Rehabilitative & Community Support, Central Maine; **Alice Ntiranyibagira**, Residential Services; **Bobbie Regan**, Early Childhood Services, Westbrook Preschool; **Jenna Rodrigues**, Rehabilitative & Community Support, Southern Maine; **Sam Sobel**, Early Childhood Services, Waterville Preschool; **Jessica Tolman-Payne**, Behavioral Health Homes. Additionally, Michele Gasco, President of the Board of Trustees, chose the following President's Award recipients from a pool of 72 distinguished nominees: Support Services Recipient: **Heather Marsters**, Training and Resource Center; Direct Services Recipient: **Sonya Dulac**, Rehabilitative & Community Support, Central Maine; Supervisory Services Recipient: **Casey Cribby**, Residential Services. Congratulations to all of our award recipients and nominees.

Thank You 2020 Corporate Sponsors

We appreciate your continued support of Woodfords events throughout the year!

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FMI about sponsorship opportunities, contact Cathy McGuckin, Development Manager, at 207-878-9663, x 4109, or cmcguckin@woodfords.org.

Our Mission

Woodfords Family Services is committed to the support and inclusion of people with special needs and their families in Maine communities.

Woodfords Family Services is accredited by the Council on Accreditation (COA), whose program of quality improvement is designed to identify providers that have met high performance standards and have made a commitment to their stakeholders to deliver the very best quality services.

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