

Today's Quote: *"The crowning fortune of a man is to be born to some pursuit which finds him employment and happiness, whether it be to make baskets, or broadswords, or canals, or statues, or songs."*

Ralph Waldo Emerson, 1803-1882, American Poet, Essayist

Digital Imaging - Employment Opportunities for Individuals with Developmental Disabilities

The New Jersey Council on Developmental Disabilities is sharing a link, from their sister agency Minnesota Governor's Council on Developmental Disabilities (GCDD), for a video entitled "The Changing Face of Technology: Document Imaging Meets the Challenge." A note from Minnesota's GCDD Executive Director Colleen Wieck, regarding the potential expansion of employment opportunities in the field of digital imaging, is below:



Dear Colleague,

As you may know, the recently-enacted American Recovery and Reinvestment Act places a national priority on utilizing digital imaging for efficient records management. Employment opportunities are expected nationwide, to meet the demand for digital document conversion.

This is significant, because experience has clearly demonstrated that people with disabilities are strong performers in the field of document imaging.

We invite you to view [http://www.mncdd.org/extra/imaging/changing_face.htm] The Changing Face of Technology at our web site. This 11-minute film provides numerous examples of how electronic records management is a sound business decision and people with disabilities are a tremendous match for this important work. Employers typically found in many communities are featured in the presentation, including a law firm, insurance company, building contractor, transport company, and data storage firm.

Would you help spread the word about this free online presentation? Please consider forwarding this announcement to employers, and including this information in an upcoming newsletter, blog, listserv, discussion board, email announcement or other publication.

Let us know by return email [<mailto:MinnesotaDDCouncil@msn.com>]
[MinnesotaDDCouncil@msn.com] to unsubscribe from future announcements.

Thanks again for all the work you do.

Sincerely,
Colleen Wieck
Executive Director
Minnesota Governor's Council on Developmental Disabilities



How many people have recently moved to the community from developmental centers?

July 2007 - June 2008 = 121
July 2008 - April 1, 2009 = 71

Fiscal Year 2010 Budget Hearings Schedule

The Department of Human Services is scheduled to appear before the:

- NJ Senate Budget and Appropriations Committee on Wednesday, April 15, 2009 at 10 AM
- NJ Assembly Budget Committee on Thursday, April 16, 2009 for full day

You can listen to the budget hearings by going to the NJ Legislature's website at:
<http://www.njleg.state.nj.us/Default.asp>.

Announcements



Navigating the New System: What Families need to know about Major Changes in the system that serves Individuals with Developmental Disabilities is a presentation, by the ARC of New Jersey and DDD, which will be offered in every county in the state throughout the year. The first workshop will be held:

When: Wednesday, April 15, 2009 7:00 PM – 9:00 PM

Where: The Arc of Union County: Family Center
1137 Globe Ave., Mountainside, New Jersey
RSVP by April 9th to 908-232-0199, Ext. 300

Note: Entrance to this presentation is located in the rear of building, through red doors under the blue awning.

** Respite/child care will be available. If you are requesting respite/child care, please also tell us the age of the child/adult who will be accompanying you. **

When: Wednesday, April 16, 2009 7:00 PM – 9:00 PM

Where: The Arc of Monmouth County
1158 Wayside Road, Tinton Falls, New Jersey
RSVP to 732-493-1919, Ext. 138

*Future event/dates will be shared through DDD Today, and also made available on the DDD and ARC of NJ websites.

Training Opportunities from The Boggs Center

Register now for the 8th Annual Self-Directed Supports Conference!

Saturday, April 25, 2009

"Together is better: Connecting to the People and Places in the Community for the Life You Want"

Conference is for participants in Self-Directed Supports in New Jersey, including Self-Determination, Real Life Choices, and Self-Directed Day. Others interested in self-directed supports and community connections are welcome to attend.

The highlights include a keynote presentation by Al Condeluci, Ph.D.; ten interactive workshops on community connections; and, "Bringing it Back Home" county networking at the end of the day.



The conference is **free of charge**, but space is limited, so register today! The registration deadline has been extended. Registrations will continue to be accepted as long as space is available. Go to the Boggs Center website to view conference registration brochure online: <http://rwjms2.umdj.edu/boggscenter/conferences/index.htm>. Registrations may be mailed to The Boggs Center or faxed to Beth Ong at 732-235-9330.

For individuals taking public transportation, The Boggs Center has arranged for the **Doubletree Hotel shuttle** between the New Brunswick train station and the Doubletree Hotel in Somerset, NJ. If you have any questions about the shuttle service, please contact **Wendy Kuziemski** at 732-235-9325.

Community Options, Inc.!

May 13 - 15, 2009

"Community Options, Inc. Annual iMatter Conference - Local Innovation taken to a National Level" is scheduled for **May 13 - 15, 2009**. This is the 20th Anniversary for Community Options, Inc. Please see the Conference website for more information: <http://www.imatteronline.org/20/index.html>.