

# Foundation FOCUS

FALL 2012



## HELP Staff Receive

# *Prestigious Award*

The direct-care team from the South Woodland Home was presented with the prestigious 2012 OPRA Outstanding Team Award!

OPRA is the Ohio Provider Resource Association, the statewide association for providers of services to individuals who have developmental disabilities. This Outstanding Team Award recognizes the wonderful care and compassionate services HELP Staff provided to Bill, a longtime HELP consumer and dear friend of many, who passed away this year after a brave fight with lung cancer. His final months were spent doing what he loved, surrounded by people he enjoyed and who cared about him. All thanks to the dedication and compassion of the South Woodland Team of Direct Support Professionals.

Bill lived in the South Woodland Home, a property owned by Northcoast Community Homes served by HELP where he lived with

*Continued on page 5*



*The HELP South Woodland Team receives the OPRA Outstanding Team Award from OPRA President Mark Davis and OPRA Director of Training Teri Derry, from left HELP Program Director Elaine Craig, Program Coordinator Cynthia Torian, Direct Care Staff Tia Powell and Daisy Lawrence*

## IN THIS ISSUE

- 2 EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT
- 3 HELP 2012 GOLF OUTING
- 3 HELP U SHRED CHALLENGE GRANT
- 4 ANNUAL MEETING
- 5 SUMMER PROGRAM
- 6 DONORS
- 7 HELP LEADERS INDUCTED INTO HALL OF FAME
- 8 SAVE THE DATES  
HELP CHRISTMAS PARTY  
HELP NIGHT AT THE RACES  
2013 GOLF OUTING

HELP Foundation empowers individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities through residential, day support, vocational, and summer education programs to choose services and opportunities as respected and valued members of the community.



# EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S *Report*



Daniel J. Rice  
*Executive Director*

Welcome to our Autumn issue of Foundation Focus, I'm very pleased to report that HELP is winding up a wonderful 2012 in a strong position to advance the goals of our newly created Strategic Plan 2017. This plan was created by a diverse group of HELP Trustees, friends, staff, community partners, experts in our field, and parents of our consumers. With this plan as a guide we will strengthen our core, continue to grow smart and sustainably, and work to provide the very best services to the people who choose us to assist them. If you're interested you can download the full plan from the publications section of our website, or simply contact us and we'll make sure you get a copy.

This past summer was the 40th Anniversary of the HELP Summer Program thanks to the ongoing support of the Cuyahoga County Board of Developmental Disabilities (CCBDD) and also the second year of our very successful partnership with the Cleveland Metropolitan School District (CMSD) who hosted our program in two of their beautiful schools. This was made possible by direct interest and involvement at all levels of CMSD from CEO Eric Gordon to the excellent custodial and facilities personnel at the schools. We were able to serve 325 students this year, including a pilot program to provide summer programming for students from the Positive Education Program (PEP) who face difficulty finding appropriate summertime programming. We are committed to this critical program and are going to build on these partnerships to adapt to the changing needs of the students and families in our community.

On May 31st we held our Annual Meeting, featuring CMSD's CEO Eric Gordon as our guest speaker, and at which we elected the new President for the HELP Board of Trustees. Michael Brink was unanimously elected to fill the position following Julie Ann Sweet Buntin's remarkable five years of dedicated leadership as President. Thank you Julie Ann for all that you have done, and continue to do, and especially for the precedent and example you've set during your time as President!

As summer faded we had a gorgeous day for the HELP Golf Outing where our players and sponsors helped us raise more than \$18,000 to support our mission! We're on for next year at the beautiful Elyria Country Club on August 26th!

While you're marking your calendar for the 2013 Golf Outing be sure to add our newest event: HELP Night at the Races, which will be on March 2nd, 2013 at the Crowne Plaza Suites in Independence. This casual and fun event will also be the culmination of our LeRoy Neiman Print raffle, your chance to win a gorgeous print by this American master! Information and ticket details are coming soon!

Finally, I would certainly be remiss if I didn't mention the famous HELP Christmas Party which is being held on Sunday December 9th! If you've never attended you're missing out on the best Holiday Party of the season!

Thank you again for the support and generosity you've given to the people that we are so privileged to serve!

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Daniel J. Rice".

Daniel J. Rice  
*Executive Director*

# HELP 2012 GOLF OUTING



We had another gorgeous day on Monday, September 10th for this year's Golf Outing! Thanks to the generosity of our sponsors and our players we were able to raise more than \$18,000 to support our mission!

Save the date for next year's outing as we head west to the lovely Elyria Country Club on August 26, 2013.

*Thanks*  
to our Golf Outing Sponsors!

**DINNER SPONSOR**



**LUNCH SPONSOR**

Blakeslee Equipment Co.

**CART SPONSOR**

Steve Myers

**REFRESHMENT CART SPONSORS**

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The Fedeli Group

**DRIVING RANGE SPONSORS**

Key Bank

PolyOne

**BALL SPONSOR**

Lubrizol

**KEG SPONSOR**

Design Surfaces

# HELP U SHRED CHALLENGE GRANT

**DOUBLE YOUR DONATION AND SUPPORT HELP U SHRED!**

HELP is so pleased to have been offered a challenge grant by our outgoing Board of Trustees President Julie Ann Sweet Buntin and her husband John Buntin! They will match donations totalling \$10,000 through the end of the year to support the HELP Adult Day Support & Vocational Program!

To double your donation go to our website or simply write "Challenge Grant" in the memo line of your check made out to HELP Foundation.



*Doubling your donation will help us shred more!*



HELP U Shred offers document destruction services at rates that are hard to beat along with the knowledge you're providing valuable workplace experience for our consumers!

For a quote or more information contact Rohn Hess at 216-372-9117 or [rhess@helpfoundationinc.org](mailto:rhess@helpfoundationinc.org)



# ANNUAL MEETING

The HELP 2012 Annual Meeting was held Thursday, May 31st with our very special guest speaker Mr. Eric Gordon, CEO of the Cleveland Metropolitan School District. Mr. Gordon and his dedicated staff were instrumental in the success of this year's Summer Program by opening two elementary schools to host our six-week program. Mr. Gordon discussed the many challenges facing CMSD and plans for sustainably working towards solutions and improving outcomes for all of Cleveland's children.

This was also the final Annual Meeting for our outgoing Board President Julie Ann Sweet Buntin whose leadership and vision have been instrumental in HELP's success during her time as President. Julie Ann will be followed in this position by Michael Brink who has served on the Board of Trustees since 2004 with positions as Secretary and Vice President. Thank you Julie Ann!



*Annual Meeting Guest Speaker CMSD CEO Eric Gordon with HELP Executive Director Dan Rice.*

## 2012 ANNUAL MEETING AWARD WINNERS

### CONSUMER ACHIEVEMENT AWARD

Jackie B.  
Justin S.  
Tom K.  
Charlene T.

### EMPLOYEE OF THE YEAR

Benita Wilson – Winner  
Candice Manzo – Special Recognition  
Deborah Smith – Special Recognition  
Carol Williams – Special Recognition

### RALPH FRIED DEDICATION TO CHILDREN

Anthony Lemut, CCBDD Transportation

### ROBERT HERMAN LEADERSHIP

Marty Castelletti, City of Euclid

### SIDNEY SIMON DEDICATION

Elaine Craig

## CONSUMER ACHIEVEMENT AWARD WINNERS



*Jackie B.*



*Justin S.*



*Tom K.*



*Charlene T.*



## HELP Staff Receive Prestigious Award *continued from page 1*

roommates and dear friends Ozzy, Tommy, and Patrick. As Bill's illness and treatment progressed he grew weaker and had fewer good days where he displayed his wide grin and zest for life. As it became increasingly obvious that Bill's illness would end his life, the HELP staff at South Woodland coordinated with Hospice of the Western Reserve, kept Bill's weight up by preparing meals they knew he liked, and his spirits high by making every day "Make a Wish Day" for him. The efforts of the South Woodland Team meant that Bill spent his days pursuing the activities he loved most. As his friends would note at his wake "Wild Bill" loved nothing more than "Fast cars, motorcycles, and women!" While not able to provide the third item on his list, South Woodland staff made sure that Bill had as many model car kits as he wanted, and that he spent his final birthday dinner at the Liberty Harley Davidson restaurant which was followed by a cadre of Harley riders coming to the house so Bill could enjoy their bikes. Bill's last weeks were made as comfortable, and peaceful as

possible through the outstanding care he received from the entire South Woodland staff:

Director Elaine Craig, Supervisor Lamont Fields, and the dedicated and compassionate Direct Support Professionals: Tia Powell, Terrence Dorsette, Cynthia Torian, Daisy Lawrence, Ed Gilliard, Pat Gilliard, Anjanese Mitchell, Jerome Tate

Tia Powell took Bill's end-of-life care as her personal mission, even stopping by on her days off to say hello and see how he was. And Bill became quite fond of "T" (as he called her) calling out to her when he was feeling poorly, wanting her with him at his final moments, and ultimately, passing away in her arms when his end came. Tia and the entire South Woodland team made Bill's final months as comfortable and full of love as they could ensuring that this man who had so many friends, and was warmly loved by so many, passed from his life in the way we all would hope to.

## SUMMER PROGRAM

The 40th year of our HELP Summer Program concluded on August 10th having provided 325 children with a six-week summer school style program of enrichment and education. Thanks in large part to our continued partnership and collaboration with the Cuyahoga County Board of Developmental Disabilities whose support is vital to our success. This was also the second year that we were fortunate to host our program at two Cleveland Metropolitan School District elementary schools. Thanks to the Cleveland Cavaliers, the Mott Youth Fund, and BJ's Wholesale Club for their support of this year's program! And especially to our eager and dedicated staff who play the critical role in making each day a valuable and beneficial experience for our students.



*The Cleveland Cavaliers' mascots Moondog and The Cavalier joined our annual student/faculty basketball game!*



*Cleveland Teacher's Union President David Quolke toured our east side location at the Miles Park Elementary.*

# *Donations* MARCH 1 – SEPTEMBER 30, 2012

## Gifts

Abraham Realty Inc.  
 Mr. Joseph N. Abraham, Jr.  
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 BPI Information Systems  
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 Chiropractic Center of Northfield  
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 Mr. & Mrs. Walter I. Zborowsky

## Grants

Cavaliers Youth Fund of the  
 Cleveland Foundation – Summer  
 Program  
 KeyBank Foundation – Adult Day  
 Support & Vocational Training  
 Program  
 United Way of Greater Cleveland –  
 Summer Program

## In-Kind Gifts

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 Ms. Linda Thomas  
 Ms. Mary Weiskittel  
 Ms. Gloria Wragg  
 Ms. Karen Zemanek  
 Ms. Nina Zwolinski

*We apologize for any omission or error, please contact Darlene Willis with corrections a 216-432-4810.*

# HELP LEADERS INDUCTED INTO HALL OF FAME

At the recent CCBDD 45th Anniversary Luncheon and Hall of Fame Induction HELP was honored to have Executive Director Emeritus Walter Zborowsky and HELP Co-Founder Joanne McDonnell included in the inaugural class of inductees. Walter served as HELP's Executive Director for 35 years and worked closely with Joanne and the other founding Trustees to establish HELP as a leading provider of services to people who have developmental disabilities while also advocating fiercely for the rights and respect of the people we serve. While Joanne passed some years ago she was represented by her children and the legacy of her life's work.



*Walter Zborowsky, Executive Director Emeritus (center), is inducted into the CCBDD Hall of Fame.*



*Joanne McDonnell's son John (far right) and daughter Peggy McGuire receive their mother's induction award.*

## LEROY NEIMAN ART PRINT RAFFLE!

Mike and Nicki Cancelliere have donated two beautiful LeRoy Neiman prints to support HELP's mission through a raffle.

The winning ticket will be drawn at the exciting **HELP Night at the Races** event on March 2nd, 2013, you need not be present to win.

See these gorgeous, signed, gallery framed prints and purchase tickets at [www.helpfoundationinc.org](http://www.helpfoundationinc.org)



*Six Chimneys staff set up tables and chairs for a Power Outage Party in the lobby!*



*Six Chimneys Program Director Julie Pachta's unbeatable smile was nearly enough to light up the entire building!*

## HELP RESIDENTS & STAFF WEATHER SANDY!

Superstorm Sandy knocked out power to much of Cuyahoga County and HELP was no exception. Six Chimneys Apartments was operating on generator powered heat and emergency lights for four days as our Facilities crews worked with the utility companies to restore service. At the same time the HELP Administrative Offices down the street from Six Chimneys were without power for a full week. As always the amazing HELP staff stepped up and made sure all the Six Chimneys residents were reassured and well cared for during this time, doing everything they could to make it a fun and exciting event rather than an ordeal! We are so grateful to our staff at all levels for stepping up and making things work during this challenge, and to our amazing residents for their resiliency and spirit throughout!



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# SAVE THE DATES

## HELP *Christmas Party*

**Sunday, December 9, 2012**  
 4:00 – 9:00pm

Double Tree Cleveland  
 1111 Lakeside, Cleveland OH 44114

For registration information contact: Christine Benedict 216.432.4810 x302

## HELP *Night at the Races*

**March 2nd, 2013**

Crowne Plaza Hotel

5300 Rockside Road • Independence, Ohio

*Join us for this new and exciting event!*

## 2013 GOLF OUTING

**August 26, 2013**

Elyria Country Club