



KDC *connections*

New Project to Renovate Greater Attleboro Programs Center

Need for Community Support Announced

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New Annual Report

We are excited to announce that we are producing our first stand-alone annual report in over five years. You'll be able to view the Annual Report by March 14th on our website: kdc.org/about.htm.

KDC will begin the modernization and renovation of its Greater Attleboro Programs Center which consists of Early Intervention, KDC Therapies and Healthy Families programs. The revamped space will provide family friendly spaces with large indoor and outdoor play areas adapted to children's needs. We are looking to the community to help support this major project and hope to raise \$225,000 for the renovations. The remaining funds come from the tax-exempt bond financing received last year from MassDevelopment.

Kevin Rodman Conare, President and CEO, stated, "After servicing the greater Attleboro region for over 30 years, we are pleased to be expanding our services in the area and making this a regional training center."

Donations will be used to construct new therapy rooms, a parent group room, a

regional conference center, renovate the child group room and play spaces, streamline program offices and purchase assessment tools and treatment equipment. Naming opportunities will be available to our most generous donors. If you would like to join us in this endeavor, please contact Ann Buono at 508-772-1215 or at abuono@kdc.org. We anticipate construction to begin in April and be completed in early fall.



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Loyalty Donors Club

We would like to pay tribute to our Loyalty Donors. These supporters have made a donation every year for six years or more. We are honored by their commitment to KDC and their vision of continued services for some of our communities' most vulnerable people.

Alexander and Patricia Altschuller
Automatic Data Processing, Inc.
Honey Dew, Dick Bowen
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Irwin Yanowitz and Ellen Role

New "Lunch Bunch" Feeding Therapy

Provides Feeding Therapy in a Social Setting

A new feeding/sensory motor group has formed at the Greater Attleboro Early Intervention program at the 25 Forest Street Center in Attleboro. The group is called the "Lunch Bunch" and it provides a social mealtime experience for children ages fifteen months to three years who have been identified with feeding issues. These children include those with G-tube, Failure to Thrive, oral defensiveness or picky eaters.

Children are encouraged to explore foods and textures with their hands, practice oral motor exercises such as blowing bubbles or whistles, and learn age appropriate self-feeding skills using utensils and open cups. The group also provides an opportunity for parents to share ideas, suggestions and support each other. Parents are provided with weekly ideas of foods to try at home and foods to bring to the following session.

The feeding group is open to the community and any family living in the Greater Attleboro service area (Attleboro, Foxboro, North Attleborough, Mansfield, and Norton) is invited to join this wonderful social experience.

The group is lead by Jeannie Wright and Edith A. Benisty. Jeannie is CEIS certified, and a physical therapist formerly on feeding teams in hospitals and public schools. She has 23 years of feeding therapy experience.

Edith is an occupational therapist with thirteen years of feeding therapy experience, has attended multiple feeding/oral motor workshops and is also CEIS certified. To sign up, you can contact Edith A. Benisty at Kennedy-Donovan Center Early Intervention at 508-226-6035 ext. 107. The next session begins on Monday, February 28th from 11:00 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.



Generous Grants to Kennedy-Donovan Center

Benefit KDC Therapies and Families with Autism Support Network

Bailey's Team (baileysteam.org) gave a grant of \$3,000 to Kennedy-Donovan Center's new Autism program called Families with Autism Support Network (FASN). FASN, provided from our New Bedford Early Intervention program, works with families of children with Autism and includes parent support groups, resource and referral information, sibling groups, and direct services to the child with Autism. A recent grant from The Patrick Carney Foundation of \$2,500 is also in support of FASN and will be used toward another six-week session of programming.

Kennedy-Donovan Center received a \$6,000 grant from the Bristol County Charitable Foundation for KDC Therapies. From our Attleboro facility, this program provides necessary and timely services to

children from 2-14 years of age who have speech/language delays or difficulties, sensory issues, autism, or feeding difficulties.



Pat Cochrane, Deb Kirby and Paul Camille of Bristol County Savings Bank, Attleboro Branch, visit the Greater Attleboro Early Intervention program's playgroup.

calendar

MARCH-JUNE EVENTS

March 14th

Dinner at the Publick House, Sturbridge to benefit Kennedy-Donovan Center's Southbridge Early Intervention program. Visit kdc.org for more information.

March 18th

ADDP Annual Expo and Conference, at the DCU Center, Worcester.

March 30th

Board of Director's meeting, Foxboro, MA

April 9th

Annual Comedy Night fundraiser at Lafayette House in Foxboro to benefit the Milford office programs through the Rodman Ride for Kids. For more information call 508-473-5700.

May 12th

24th annual Founder's Charity Auction, held at Lakeview Pavilion, Foxboro. For more information call 508-543-2542, ext. 112.

May 25th

Board of Director's meeting, Foxboro, MA

June 6th

8th annual "Swing Fore the Kids" golf tournament, Indian Pond Country Club, Kingston. 1:30pm start. Benefits the Greater Plymouth Early Intervention program through the Rodman Ride for Kids. For information call 508-747-2012.

Our Mission

We support individuals and families with disabilities and similar needs to reach their maximum potential and quality of life through advocacy and individualized services.

KDC Introduces Car Donation Program

In Partnership with Volunteers of America

Are you tired of looking at that old clunker in the garage? Have you had enough of throwing money away on maintenance and repair bills? Are you in the new car market and not interested in the hassle of selling or trading your current vehicle? Do you want to contribute to a worthy cause and get a tax deduction as well?

Donate Your Vehicle to Kennedy-Donovan Center! By donating your vehicle: you may receive greater value for the vehicle as a charitable contribution on your itemized tax return; you will avoid the hassles, cost and time demands of selling your vehicle; and you will make a valuable contribution to help people living with daily challenges in your community.

There are three ways to donate your vehicle:

- Call Kennedy-Donovan Center at 508-543-2542 and we'll forward your information to Volunteers of America.
- Call Volunteers of America directly at 800-407-2600. Simply indicate that you are calling to make a Charity Connection™ donation to benefit Kennedy-Donovan Center and a customer service representative will guide you through the simple donation process.
- Complete our online vehicle donation form at: www.carshelpingpeople.org/kennedydonovancenter.

Please call or visit us online today. It's simple, and if you itemize, it's 100% tax deductible!



Please Join Us for Our Premier Fundraiser

KDC's 24th Annual Founder's Gala and Charity

Auction will be held on Thursday, May 12,

at Lake View Pavilion in Foxboro.

The evening will begin at 6:00 with hors d'oeuvres, carving stations, a silent auction and raffles. This year's Founder's Award will be presented to one of KDC's current clients, Joseph Paquette, and the Community Award will go to Bristol County Savings Bank and Charitable Foundation. Tickets for the event remain at \$100 per person. For more information on the event, please visit kdc.org.



Representatives from Dorel Juvenile Group and Foxboro Rotary Club at last year's event.



THANK
YOU!



A very special thank you to everyone who participated in the 2010 Rodman Ride for Kids. To the riders, event participants, volunteers and donors – your support made for a very successful event. Together we reached our goal and raised \$154, 286 with our 10% bonus! Rodman Ride for Kids supporters along with what your dollars provided will appear in our next issue of KDC Connections. Your support makes a difference!

A D V O C A C Y C O R N E R

The following is an excerpt of a letter from Dr. Arthur and Mrs. Dawn Newman to Governor Patrick and the Department of Public Health on January 18, 2011 in response to concerns around possible cuts in Early Intervention services. For additional information on budget advocacy visit www.maeic.net/Advocacy.html.

My daughter Grace was born in August, 2006 with two holes in her heart, the highest white cell count ever seen in a newborn at Jordan Hospital and Myeloproliferative Leukemia. These conditions are all common in children with Down Syndrome. This was just the start; Grace was only given a 40% chance of living. After undergoing chemotherapy at seven days old and heart surgery at six months, along with a number of other issues – today Grace is just fabulous. She is in remission!

She's talking, walking, running, playing, counting, knows her letters, counts to ten and has achieved many other accomplishments. We got home from Tufts in early November, 2006. We immediately met with Kennedy-Donovan Center's Early Intervention program. From that time until Grace was three she received services. I don't know what I would have done without Denise, our therapist, and the EI program. I know that Grace has had such tremendous success because of all the help we received. Their knowledge, training and assistance are what enabled my husband and me to help Grace grow and learn.

Early Intervention is so important to children who have delays at birth. No matter the reason for the delays, this program helps



kids to catch up. It gives them and their families what they need to be successful in preschool and beyond. Cutting any funding that would help these kids and their families will have devastating consequences for them. These kids will not be prepared for the future. It will cause undue stress for the child, their family and for their future teachers.

Planning for the future is the responsibility of our government. We know that starting out strong will lead to a better future and starting out behind will cause difficulty and additional problems. I ask that you reconsider and continue to fund Early Intervention for the future of all kids who start out behind their peers. With your help and ours, they too can reach for their dreams.

Each issue, Advocacy Corner focuses on legislative issues related to the disabilities field.

New Volunteer Council Established

Kennedy-Donovan Center has established a new volunteer Development Council. This twenty-two member Council will act as ambassadors for KDC, identify and introduce new friends to KDC, and attend meetings with potential donors when appropriate. The Council will meet three to four times a year. We are very excited at the level of commitment and the enthusiasm of the new Council. Current members of the Council are:

Elizabeth "Biz" Allen, *Alumni Parent*

Jill Bopf, *Kennedy-Donovan Center*

David Boucher, *Longfellow Financial*

Ann Buono, *Kennedy-Donovan Center*

Ted Carr, *Mass. Office of Int'l Trade & Investment*

Carolyn Chaplin, *Rodman Ford, Board member*

Debbie Felix, *TJX Companies, Board member*

Robbi Grogan, *Former Board Member*

Rich Harwood, *Centinel Financial Group*

Kelly DiPersio-Hegg, *Alumni Parent & Board Member*

Maureen Dugan-Wilcox, *Attleboro YMCA*

Matt Kaplan, *Solex Payroll System*

Anthony Karamas, *Fidelity Investments*

Peter Keenan, *Peter Keenan Law Offices, Board Member*

Sarah Ordway, *Alumni Parent*

Maria Pais, *Kennedy-Donovan Center*

Bob Poirier, *Board Member*

Bobbie Rodman, *Barrows Insurance, Board Member*

Kevin Rodman Conare, *Kennedy-Donovan Center*

Scott Scales, *Milford National Bank & Trust*

Paula Vercollone, *Alumni Parent*

Liz Wiza, *Alumni Parent*

Spring Cleaning: Review Your Estate Plan to Ensure it Still Meets Your Needs

It is always a good idea to review your estate plan regularly, and what better time than the spring! Regular review ensures that it reflects any changes you and your family may have recently experienced. Use this checklist to determine if you are prepared for anything unexpected that could affect the management or distribution of your assets after you are gone.

- Review your will, check for any changes that may need to be made because of a change in your life or changes in tax laws.
- Be sure that the executor you've named is still the appropriate person you want to manage your estate, minimize taxes, and distribute the designated portions of your estate to your beneficiaries.
- Update your designated beneficiaries to be sure you haven't named someone who is deceased or who no longer should be included.
- If you have designated a guardian for someone under your care, review your choice and if necessary, make changes.
- If you haven't already done so, include a health care power of attorney in your estate for when you are unable to make decisions for yourself.



- Be sure your current plan reflects your current assets as well as your wishes for distribution.
- Consider adding your favorite charitable organizations to your estate plan as a means of minimizing taxes and leaving a legacy in support of your personal values. Including Kennedy-Donovan Center is one way of assuring continued services on behalf of individuals with delays and disabilities and their families.
- Be sure to contact an attorney or financial planning professional when creating or updating your estate plan.

The KDC 2010–2011 Annual Fund Drive

Kennedy-Donovan Center depends on your generosity and support to continue the vision of our founder, Luella Hennessey Donovan. The Annual Fund is the foundation that supports the growth of KDC programs and services. These gifts truly make a difference in the lives of the children, families and adults we serve every year. Over the holiday season, we reached out to you and asked for your support in helping us realize a goal for the Annual Fund of \$45,000. Thank you to all who made a gift, we have raised \$36,000 to date.

We continue to strive to meet our goal. If you too would like to be a part of this special group of Annual Fund donors, there is still time to send in your tax-deductible donation today or make an online donation by visiting kdc.org. Every dollar makes a difference.

YES, I WANT TO SUPPORT THE WORK OF KENNEDY-DONOVAN CENTER TODAY!

I wish to make a difference in the life of people with developmental disabilities with a gift of:

\$250 \$200 \$100 \$50 \$25 other \$ _____

I'd like my gift to be anonymous My company will match my gift. Matching form is enclosed.

This gift is: in memory of _____ in honor of _____

Name _____

Street _____ City/Town _____ State _____ Zip _____

Method of payment Check enclosed MasterCard Visa

Cardholder _____ Credit Card Number _____ Expiration Date _____

Please detach and mail form to: Kennedy-Donovan Center, One Commercial Street, Foxboro, MA 02035. You can also donate online at kdc.org. Thank You!

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Our Programs in Brief

INTENSIVE FOSTER CARE finds children homes with families who have been trained to address their specific needs.

EARLY INTERVENTION serves children, birth to 36 months, at home who have or are at risk of development delays.

EARLY INTERVENTION PARTNERSHIP serves pregnant women whose children are at risk of poor health outcomes and delays.

HEALTHY FAMILIES serves first-time parents age 21 or younger, until the child's third birthday.

CHAPTER 766 SCHOOL serves students 3 to 22 years of age with multiple disabilities.

FAMILY SUPPORT AND RESPITE SERVICES supports individuals living with their families in receiving tailored services.

TRANSITIONAL JOB SUPPORT assists adults in finding and maintaining meaningful paid employment.

INDIVIDUAL SUPPORT serves adults living on their own in the community by providing drop-in support for daily life management.

SHARED LIVING finds adults homes with families who have been trained to address their specific needs.

ADULT FAMILY CARE finds adults with medical needs homes with families who have been trained to address their specific needs.

SUPPORTED LIVING provides direct ongoing services and supports to adults with disabilities living independently in their own homes.

SUPERVISED LIVING provides 24/7 support to adults living in groups of two to four in neighborhood homes.

DAY HABILITATION provides high needs adults a comprehensive managed program of services in a supportive and caring environment.



Our Vision

Kennedy-Donovan Center is committed to the full continuum of care for individuals and families of all ages with developmental disabilities and similar needs in our region. We strive to provide this either by offering services directly or by collaborating closely with community partners. Our growth will target programs that:

- Fill service gaps in the continuum of care for our clients
- Are needed in our current service area or adjacent regions
- Build on our current expertise
- Respond to a need for innovative and flexible programming
- Focus on individualized one-on-one services.

KDC Connections is published by Kennedy-Donovan Center for the agency's volunteers, families, supporters and those whom we work to provide services and supports of the highest quality.

Administrative Offices

One Commercial Street

Foxboro, Massachusetts 02035

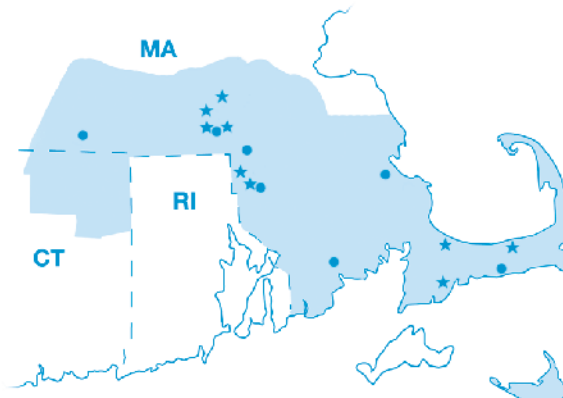
508-543-2542

www.kdc.org

Kevin Rodman Conare, President/CEO

Ann Buono, Editor

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● KDC Office Locations
Attleboro, Foxboro, Kingston/Plymouth, Milford, New Bedford, South Yarmouth and Southbridge.

★ Adult Community Residences
Attleboro, Dennisport, Framingham, Hopkinton, Mashpee, Milford, North Attleboro and Sandwich.