

CSS Express

A Newsletter of Community Support Services, Inc.

Volume I, No 1 Fall, 2001

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Children at Risk of Losing Services

Families were notified in July that the support services they currently receive from Community Partnership would end June 30, 2002. Children enrolled in this program have needs which require intensive supervision, instruction and behavior management. Without support services, these children are at risk of placement in an out of state facility or a program at a higher level than "group home."

CSS currently provides after school support services, Saturday recreational services, in home support, behavior management, holiday recreational services, summer camp and alternative living residential services. The Return Diversion Program, which provides the funding for services for these children, has been highly successful in Montgomery County in enabling children with severe developmental disabilities to live safely in their homes and community.

Family members and advocates have been working diligently to publicize this issue and preserve this state funded program. Lyda Astrove, Marianne Blotzer, Joan Karasik and Liz Roth have all contributed thought, time and expertise on an ongoing basis to this issue. Debbie Vanbrunt and Ellen Weintraub, with many other parents of children in the program, have spent hours meeting with officials, writing letters and making phone calls.

The County Council and Mr. Duncan have been attentive to this issue and supportive of the efforts being made to solve the problem. Senator Van Hollen, Senator Shriver, Senator Ida Rubin, Delegate Nancy Kopp, Delegate Henry Heller, Delegate Billings and Delegate Hurson have all heard from families and advocates and have taken steps to help solve the problem. Letters, phone calls, E mail and meetings initiated by family members and advocates have been very effective.

Families were informed October 25th that it was never the intention of the Office of Children Youth and

SERVICES AT RISK, Cont'd pg. 3, Col. 2

CSS Honored with MACS Award

Community Support Services, Inc. was awarded the 2001 Innovation award. The award was presented to Susan Ingram and Tammie Snyder at the Maryland Association of Community Services (MACS) annual conference on September 10, 2001.

Susan Harrison, Assistant Director of the Developmental Disabilities Administration, nominated CSS for the award. Ms. Harrison visited the CSS After School Program, Welbeck and Thomas Farm last spring. She was impressed by the high level of skill demonstrated by the staff, the active participation of the individuals supported by the staff and the warm and friendly atmosphere of the homes.

MACS recognized CSS for the innovation of establishing the Residential Instructional Associate position which combines case management responsibilities with direct support duties. The increased knowledge, training and professionalism of staff working in the CSS Residential program has benefited each individual served. The award is displayed in the lobby of the CSS office.



Susan Ingram and Tammie Snyder accept MACS Award

Staff Anniversaries

We would like to honor staff members who have recently celebrated anniversaries with CSS. It is the caring and commitment of our staff that allow us to provide quality services to the people we support.

September

Kris Gorman	7 years	FT
E.J. Jackson	4 years	FT
Ophia Lardner	4 years	PT/FT
Abera Berile	4 years	PT/FT
Maria Cole	3 years	PT
Berenith Llantín	3 years	PT
Kwame Amoo	2 years	PT
Roxanne Desir	2 years	FT
Edem Dogboe	2 years	FT
Alicia Glassman	1 year	FT
Jennifer Franke	1 year	PT
Dray Roland	1 year	PT
Argelia Bobadillia	1 year	PT
Jemima Darbouze	1 year	PT

October

Susanne Wilfred	6 years	FT
Hannah Snorton	5 years	PT
Everett Brown	4 years	PT
Sarah Sweeney	3 years	PT
Rhonda Woods	2 years	FT
Corey Young	1 year	PT
Birdelyn Weems	1 year	FT
Ndehfru Martin	1 year	FT
Stephen Kiah	1 year	FT
Abdul Koroma	1 year	PT
Othniel St-Ulme	1 year	PT
Nora Jones	1 year	SUB
Jennifer Pongonis	1 year	PT

November

Jennifer Wilkinson	7 years	PT
Stacey Gibson	5 years	FT
Andrew Berewa	4 years	FT
Kara Burton	3 years	FT
Jim Richards	3 years	FT
Miyan Warrick	2 years	FT
Shelly Drummond	2 years	PT
Annette Boyd	1 year	SUB
John Abudu	1 year	FT

FT = Full Time
PT = Part Time
SUB = Substitute

Spotlight on Supported Employment

Mitch Lassen and Tim Kane are working as silverware rollers at the Carrabas Restaurant in Germantown. This is a very popular and busy restaurant, especially on the weekends when the guys work. Each Friday, Satur-



Tim Kane is proud of his job at Carrabas

day, and Sunday evening, Mitch and Tim roll about 300-400 sets of silverware into napkins.

This is a tough job because the guys are standing for the three hours while they work. As the silverware comes out from the dishwasher, Tim separates the forks, spoons and knives, and places them in a bin. Mitch then rolls the silverware in a napkin and places them in a stack.

When the job first started, Mitch had no experience rolling silverware. Now, just a few weeks later he has it down to a science.

Both Mitch and Tim like their new jobs and enjoy the tasks that they do. They have gotten used to working in the evenings.

The staff at Carrabas have been very friendly and helpful. We look forward to working at Carrabas for as long as the job "keeps on rolling!"

Staff Spotlight on Ahmed Sesay

Ahmed Sesay is newly employed with CSS as an Employment Instructional Associate. He works with an individual (James) who entered our vocational program on October 15.

Ahmed is from Sierra Leone, and has been in the United States on and off since 1972. He became a US citizen in 1981. He is married and has a 9 year old daughter named Juliette. Additionally, he has three children in Africa, Mildred, Miranda, and Sheik.

Prior to coming to the United States, Ahmed went to college in Sierra Leone where he received a degree in Education. He taught high school History and English to 9th and 10th graders and was an assistant coach in boy's soccer.

When Ahmed came to the United States, he studied psychology at Lehman College in New York. Unfortunately, his father became very ill and Ahmed needed to return home to help take care of him and his family.

When his father passed on, Ahmed took over managing the family's business. Eight years later, he was back in the United States. In his spare time, Ahmed likes to do video pro-

duction for weddings and other events.

He became interested in working with people with disabilities through an interest of his wife's and has been working in the field for the past 4 years.

Ahmed states that he gets the most satisfaction out of assisting individuals with community involvement and helping them integrate into their home communities. We welcome Ahmed to CSS!

The Birth of the CSS Express

Individuals supported by CSS and CSS staff voted to name the new quarterly newsletter the "CSS Express." The name was nominated by Rob Hoyt and Chris Moran. The newsletter will publish items of interest to our friends and families.

Anyone who has an idea for an item they would like to see or would like to submit an article for inclusion in the next newsletter should contact Katy Engels at ext. 322.

If you know someone who would like to receive the newsletter, please call Rhonda Woods at ext. 204, and she will put their name on the mailing list.

We Wish to Thank our Many Contributors

Building Fund Donations:

Ali Karimi & Masoumeh Nahid
Randy & Carol Gallun
George & Susan Hartung Jr.
Gary & Linda Bosco
Molly Diamond
Andrew & Ellen Bryant
Betty Ricketson
Christian & John Van Brabant
Linda Long
Edgar & Nancy Corr
Calvin Linthicum
Luca & Josephine Racanelli
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James & Joan Kane
Brenda Hoyt
Susan Ingram
Betty Ricketson
Karen Dysart
Amita Sarin

In Kind Donations:

Mark Leemon-Legal Services
The Stull Family

Thank you, thank you, thank you!

*We sincerely regret any
omissions or errors.*

*A contribution to CSS is a wonderful
way to remember someone special.*

SERVICES AT RISK, cont'd from pg. 1, col. 2

Families to "terminate" services. Bonnie Kirkland, Secretary of OCYF, stated that children were "being returned to their lead agencies." If the lead agency is unable to provide the services, OCYF will use "interim funds" to fill "the gaps." The types of gaps which will be filled is not specified.

The policy of returning children to their lead agencies after two years of participation in the return/diversion program, does not appear at this time to be a viable solution. The lead agencies are not able to fund community based wrap around services.

When the lead agencies, MSDE and DHR, were solely responsible for these children in the early 1990's, the children were placed in out of state or other more restrictive settings which were on these agencies lists of approved programs. The whole reason services began to be funded by OCYF was to allow more flexible funding and more community based and individualized services to be developed.

MSDE and DHR do not appear to be prepared to or interested in funding the same type of services in the community that have been so beneficial for these children.

Children in need of the services funded by the Return Diversion Program have not been referred to the program or accepted by Community Partnership for over a year. The eligibility criteria was changed last summer and has resulted in a virtual halt in children being able to access the program.

A family with a child disabled by autism with severe aggressive or self injurious behavior has no recourse to access in home supports or other community based services at this time.

Letters expressing concern at this change in the state policy are encouraged and should be addressed to Governor Parris Glendening at the State House, Annapolis, MD 21401. Or e-mailed to governor@gov.state.md.us.



Aberra Hailemariam will be missed

CSS Loses a Friend

Aberra Hailemariam, Finance Director of CSS, died October 31, 2001, after a difficult battle with cancer. Aberra will be remembered by all of us for his easy and pleasant manner, and his dedication to family, community and work.

Before beginning his position with CSS, a little over a year ago, Aberra had been employed as a teacher of deaf children, a minister and an accountant. He received a degree in accounting from the University of Maryland and worked in other nonprofit organizations for nine years. Aberra's experiences in many aspects of life, gave him a unique perspective and maturity.

Aberra was 46 years old and is survived by his wife and four children. He will be missed by all of us.

CSS Express

CSS Express is published quarterly by Community Support Services, Inc., a 501(c)(3) nonprofit charitable organization. Donations are tax deductible. Community Support Services is registered with the Office of the Maryland Secretary of State. The CSS United Way Campaign member number is 8394.

Funding for CSS programs is provided by the Developmental Disabilities Administration of the Maryland State Department of Health and Mental Hygiene and Montgomery County. Individuals served pay fees for assistance provided on the basis of their income. Additional financial Support is sought from local governments, federal programs, private funding sources, donations and contributions.

We welcome your interest, time and financial support. Please call or write us for more information.

CSS Express is edited by Katy Engels. The next due date for submission of CSS Express materials will be December 30, 2001.

On the Home Front

Arrowhead / Bazzelton

It is always good to get a new addition to the family. **David Ganoë** recently moved to Arrowhead from Dalton and he fits right in.

David has a job as a cart attendant at Walmart. **Kerry Mehailescu** started a new job at Performance Bicycle Shop in June.

Derric Diggs still works at two jobs. One at Houston's Restaurant five mornings a week and the other at the Layhill Center Nursing Home two afternoons a week. At the nursing home Derric works in the kitchen and at Houston's he sets up the tables, along with **Shan Mandisodza**.

Michael Bosco enjoys his job at Fresh Fields grocery store. Michael, Derric, and Shan are all veteran workers who we are very proud to say, have been in their positions for seven years! Way to go guys!!



Michael Bosco at Fresh Fields

Centerway

Jamie Zargham moved to Centerway from Fountain Hill in the Spring. He and his roommate **Damon Boggs** have adjusted very well to their new living situation.

The fellows participate in a dance class together every Wednesday and a music group called the Notables every Thursday. Jamie also attends a fitness class on Mondays, which is perfect for such a sports lover.

Churchill Ridge

Sup Hu is proud to be a first time uncle. Now he is even more excited about going home every other weekend to visit with his new niece.

Sup enjoys spending time with his roommate **Greg Sullivan**, doing such activities as bowling, movies and hiking at the park.

Greg loves to go on long drives with Sup and their staff. He really loves cars, he likes riding in them, sitting in them and collecting toy cars. He also likes car pictures and magazines.

Crystal Rock

Julie Ricketson recently traveled to Georgia with her father and brother to attend her cousin's wedding. She had a wonderful time.

Shannon Dooley is having fun with her new vocational team, Daniel and Brian of Normandie, and has become more involved in the art class she attends every Wednesday.

Both ladies have fun decorating the house for Halloween and are looking forward to the upcoming holiday season.

Dalton

There were some changes at Dalton when David moved to Arrowhead. Although **Matija Rinn** misses his old roommate, he is enjoying the new bigger bedroom he moved over into.

His new roommate **Jonathan Chaustit** loves the challenge of the long jump pit at the Germantown Recreation Center.

Jonathan entered the CSS program October 1st and is still adjusting to the new environment. He moved from the Linwood School in Ellicott City, Maryland.

Fountain Hill

Life is good at Fountain Hill. **Dave Sarin** and **Antwan Lumpkin** are getting crafty. They are working on arts and crafts projects.

The projects help improve fine motor skills and are also fun. They are looking forward to exhibiting handy work before Christmas.

Lakeview

Anna Moy is feeling the benefits of the Relaxation class she is taking every Friday morning.

Her favorite hobby is painting and she is hoping to take some art classes at Montgomery College. She plans to paint ornaments to brighten up the holidays.

Lowfield

Rob Hoyt and **Tim Kane** are having a great time exploring the local Parks. They have climbed Sugar Loaf Mountain, hiked at Black Hills, paddled boats at Seneca Creek and rode bikes at Little Bennett.

The guys also like to go to "Rock-n-Bowl" on a Saturday night. This is where you bowl with the lights out and the music thumping. They catch this event at the Bethesda Naval Bowling Center.

Marston

Andy Bozarth was very happy to see the new shoes and clothes his sister sent him.

Joe Gray is enjoying one of his best periods. He is being very cooperative and is enjoying all the activities he is involved in.

The guys both work hard to get the Gazette Newspapers out every week.

Middlebrook

Ben Krause has been keeping himself busy this fall doing a lot of yard work. He recently got hired for a job at Target. He is looking forward to the new challenges ahead.

Richard Linthicum loves animals and is a volunteer at the Montgomery County Humane Society. He loves to walk and pet the dogs. As always, Richard looks forward to visits with his grandmother.



Antwan Lumpkin has a smile to share.

Normandie

Daniel Graham, Brian Hustvedt and **James Burke** are loving the billiards class they are taking Wednesday evenings.

They enjoy a boys night out and the opportunity to improve their skills at the pool table.

Patton Ridge

Jason Healy was thrilled that he was able to attend the most exciting Redskins game of the season. Go Skins!!

Joey Cilman is enrolled in a new pottery class where he enjoys getting his hands dirty and molding the clay.

Both of the guys are working with the Gazette Newspapers, but are looking for more work opportunities.

Quail Valley

George Kenton has been developing his vocational skills by shredding paper at the CSS office. He is doing so well that although he started shredding for only 10 minutes at a time, he is now up to 25 minutes.

Chris Turner moved into Quail Valley earlier this year. He and George are getting to know one another and are getting along.

Ridgecrest

Mitch Lassen has a brand new job rolling silverware at Carrabas Restaurant. During the week he works on his rolling technique to prepare for the weekend job.

Larry Bloemker continues to be a computer "techie." He loves playing games and tooling around on the computer at his house.

Sandpiper

Simon Diamond and **John Simkins** manage to keep busy. They work in the dining room at the Shady Grove Nursing Home on Tuesdays and Thursdays. They refill the CSS soda machine on Mondays and collect the recycling from the office complex on Fridays.

To have some fun during their busy week, the guys enjoy the dance class they attend.

Sandy Lake

There is lots of fun around the house of **Fred Cho** and **Chuck Fitzgerald**. The guys love playing the card game UNO.

Chuck also likes to put together puzzles and Fred likes to look at phone books. Fred is making the most of his artistic talent in art therapy each week.

Both fellows look forward to visits with their families. Chuck enjoys attending church and then going out to lunch.

Thomas Farm

Thea Lane's parents just moved into a new home. Although it takes some getting used to, Thea likes her new bedroom at the new house.

Thea and **Nancy Arnoux** just celebrated their two year anniversary working at Pizza Hut in Germantown. Way to go ladies!

Treyford

Latria Swedenberg's mother got married in September. Latria was so excited to be in the wedding.

Latria and **Lisa Leeney** have been watching what they eat and focusing on healthy food. The results are noticable, and they both look and feel great!

Kurt Beyer is enjoying his time at Treyford on the weekends. He and his staff went to a Fall Festival and were filmed by the Rockville City TV. Now they are celebrities!



Iris Carroll works hard rolling the Gazettes

Waters Landing

Iris Carroll and **Jeanette Wedge** have been dieting and leading a healthier lifestyle. Together they have lost a total of 74 pounds. They are working on eating slower and taking the time to enjoy what they are eating.

Iris received a letter from her job at the Gazette Newspapers congratulating her on a job well done.

Welbeck

Kevin Ho is now taking Tai Ji on Monday nights and swimming lessons on Thursdays. Kevin loves swimming, and is so enthusiastic in Tai Ji you would think it was Tai Kwando instead of a method of relaxation.

Jeffrey Gallun recently went with his family to visit his sister at George Mason University where she is a freshman. He is extremely proud of her and enjoyed the trip tremendously.

Day Employment Support

Andrew Roth and **Truong Tong** are taking a desk top publishing class at Montgomery College.

Truong along with **Laura Schramm** are working at Plan 3 in Rockville. They are doing such a good job, CSS received a letter praising their work.

Keep your eyes open for **Goli Karimi** working at Target in Rio when you are doing your holiday shopping this year.

And remember to say "Hi" to **Jamie Griffin** when you stop for lunch at the Corner Bakery, also in Rio.

Michelle Wilhelm continues to "clean up" at her dish washing job at the Kindercare Day Care Center in Germantown.

James Sweetney entered the CSS Adult program October 15 and is adjusting well. He is already working delivering flyers for Pizza Hut and the Gazettes. He has made tremendous progress keeping his hands to himself and now frequently wears a big smile on his face.

Community Instruction

John Racanelli and **Min Woo Nam**, each with his CSS one-on-one staff, enjoy playing basketball together in the gym at the Montrose Family Center. John and Min Woo attend Grafton School with support from CSS before, during and after school.

John and Min Woo work on the Gazettes and at the Best Kept Secrets store. They both enjoy swimming and hiking.

CSS Programs for Children

Summer Camp

The CSS Summer Camp served 45 children this summer and was a great success. Children participated in an active schedule of recreational activities including swimming, local parks, putt putt golf, bowling, trips to the zoo and museums, gymnastics, arcade games, sports and arts and crafts. Children received staff support on a ratio designed to meet their behavioral needs from trained staff with a lot of energy. The camp operated typically six hours per day in conjunction with the extended school year program schedule.

After School Program

The CSS After School Program is currently serving thirty children. Special education transportation had a rough time the first week, but the buses are arriving more regularly now. Children arrive between 2:15pm and 3:30pm, depending on their school hours. They have participated in a variety of community activities including gymnastics, swimming, art, sports, regional parks and playgrounds, cooking activities, bowling, apple picking, and more. Children are picked up by family members at 6:00pm.

In-Home Support

CSS continues to provide in-home supports to twelve children. Schedules for in-home supports are determined by the family and other team members. Children receive supports to develop independent living skills, community skills, communication skills and social skills. Funding is provided for these services by Community Partnership and the Developmental Disabilities Administration.

Winter Holiday Camp

The Winter Holiday Camp is planned for December 26, 27 and 28th. Children who wish to participate in the camp should register with Fasil Temesgen at extension 205. The camp will operate from 10:00am until 4:00pm, and will include a structured day of recreational activities. Indoor gym sports, swimming, arts and crafts, cookie baking, music, bowling and other activities of interest and fun are planned for the children. Staff trained to work with children with severely challenging behavior and other special needs will provide intensive supervision, instruction and behavior management.

Spotlight on Gymnastics

CSS partners with Marva Tots & Teens to provide instruction in gymnastics to 10 children each week. The children receive instruction from a gymnast at the Marva Teens gym on Randolph Road in Rockville. The CSS staff provide the individualized instruction, supervision and behavior management to enable the children to participate. The children jump on trampolines, swing on a rope into a pit of foam, climb through an obstacle course, practice drills on parallel bars and walk the balance beam.

Emily Hartung, Albert Hammond and Amani Shuttlesworth are all independent with basic jumping on the large trampoline. David Reeves does an excellent job on the obstacle course. Kurt Byers, Satish Prazad, Zack Silverman, Joshua Vanbrunt, Kasun Wickramaratha, and Andrew Gerrity all enjoy the foam pit and jump on the trampoline with assistance.

The children have all gained strength and endurance from a very rigorous workout each week. Marva Tots & Teens is a very busy place in the afternoon. All the children do well walking in and out of the building, changing their shoes and ignoring all the noise and commotion created by the other children.



Tony Laskawa and Fasil Temesgen

Progress on New Building

CSS has signed a contract to purchase a building on Comprint court in Gaithersburg, MD. The building will be renovated over the next year to include office space, a multi-purpose room, conference rooms, consultation rooms for psychology and psychiatry, classrooms, a resource library and a playground. The CSS office and the children's after school program will relocate to the new location sometime next Fall.

Administrative staff and the CSS Board of Directors have been busy identifying an architect, interviewing contractors, applying for grants and negotiating financing. Mark Leemon, attorney and friend, has given generously of his time to review the contract and help us with current lease issues. The environmental and feasibility study is completed. The architect, Steve Karr, has completed initial plans for the renovation. Our application to a state tax exempt bond program has been accepted and terms for a private placement with Potomac Valley Bank have been established.

Settlement on the building is scheduled for early December and construction is expected to begin immediately thereafter.

DDA Cost Containment Measures

The Developmental Disabilities Administration notified providers that funding cuts will occur this year.

The first round of cuts planned by DDA include an increase in cost of care contribution by individuals, delay in new placements off the waiting list, delay in the conversion to rates for supported employment and a reduction by 50% of funding for absences of more than 35 days per year for each client receiving residential services.

Wish List for CSS Homes and Children's Program

Household Items - New or in Good Condition

Glasses, Plates, Bowls, Silverware, Pots and Pans, Bakeware, Popcorn Poppers, Picture Frames, Towels and Wash Cloths, Sheet Sets, Blankets, etc.

Recreational Supplies - New or in Good Condition

Arts and Crafts Supplies, Basketballs, Soccer Balls, Board Games and Puzzles (complete with all pieces), Bicycles of all sizes, Tricycles, Roller Skates, Trampoline, a Pool Table, etc.

Music

Tapes or CDs of Children's Songs or Any Other Type of Music, Portable CD Players, Tape Players, Hand Held Instruments such as Bells, Tamborines, etc.

Tickets

Tickets to Holiday Shows, Local Plays, Concerts, Sporting Events, Movies, etc.

Vacation Spots

Vacation home for one week during the summer at a location no more than 4 hours drive from Rockville. Individuals in the CSS Residential Program have gone on a vacation every year. CSS usually rents homes which accommodate four to eight individuals and staff. CSS covers staff and food costs. Service Coordination is no longer able to help individuals who cannot afford a vacation.

If you have any of these or other items you would like to donate to CSS, please contact our office. A letter of receipt for your donation will be given upon request.

Thank you to everyone who has donated items in the past. These items really help to make our clients lives better.

Swimming for Young Adults

Community Support Services, Inc. has been awarded a small grant for an inclusive swimming program from Montgomery County Health and Human Services and the Council on Creative Solutions.

The grant will enable teens and young adults between the ages of 13 and 24 to participate in intensive swimming instruction in a community pool. A plan for each individual will then be developed which will continue the swimming program to include recreational swimming and classes offered to the community at large.

Individuals will be selected to participate in the program from the CSS after school program, the CSS residential program and the Kennedy Institute after school program.

The instructional component of the program will begin this January.

New Member of the United Way

CSS is now a member of the United Way. The United Way has over 1,400 members and has been helping our communities for more than 100 years.

The United Way website states that it's role is to equip members with the tools that they need to make a measurable impact in the communities they serve. The United Way invests in the programs and services that strengthen the ability of local United Ways to focus resources and provide solutions for the most important needs in communities. Now more than ever, people and organizations recognize United Way as the system to turn to in order to achieve their community building goals.

Please designate CSS in the United Way Campaign. Our member number is **8394** or you may write in our name and address.

On Sundays, We're Having a Ball....

It's turkey time, but not only on Thanksgiving Day. In May of this year, CSS formed a bowling league that bowls every Sunday at the Bethesda Naval Academy Bowling Center. Every time someone bowls a strike, a turkey flashes on the scoreboard.

The league consists of four three person teams. The Lightning Bolts are Richard Linthicum, David Ganoë and Rob Hoyt. The Tidal Waves are Ben Krause, Derric Diggs and Julie Ricketson. The Monsoons are Shannon Dooley, James Burke and Shan Mandisodza. The Tornados are Kerry Mehailescu, Brian Hustvedt and Michael Bosco.

These men and women mean business when it comes to their bowling game. The league plays by general league rules and has been a huge success. Staff and family members continuously cheer and provide positive feedback. All of the bowlers have expressed how much they enjoy playing in the league.



Richard Linthicum says, "Bowling is fun!"

Richard Linthicum, a member of the Lightning Bolts, was interviewed for this article and had many things to say. When asked what his favorite part of being in the bowling league was, he responded, "I like to roll the ball right down the center of the lane and get a strike."

Richard stated that he has "gotten better." This is evident when comparing his scores in the beginning of the summer league to his present scores. When Richard first began, he averaged in the low 120's. He now is bowling in the 130's, and recently bowled a 142!

Richard also noted that he likes his team members and that they have become good friends. He says that he likes his new bowling shoes, and he loves to get spares and "turkeys." The final comment Richard made was, "Bowling is fun."

Many thanks to David Brown, a BCC High School student and son of Susan Ingram, CSS Executive Director. David played an integral role in developing the league. He organized the teams, came up with the names, and drew up a flyer providing very detailed information for staff as to how the league would work. Additionally, David has joined us at the alley to provide encouragement and support.

This has been a truly rewarding and positive experience. At the end of the last session, every player received an award certificate for a certain category and walked away with a trophy. They were thrilled with the experience and ready to get back in action!

For more information about the CSS bowling league or if you would like to join in the fun, please contact Kris Gorman at ext. 213.

Community Support Services

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Rockville, MD 20850
