

Summer 2008

Life Enrichment Options

A quality life for individuals with developmental disabilities

Note From the New LEO Board President, Mary Cline-Stively

Inside this issue:

LEO has been busy	2
Web sites	2
Respite providers	2
Ways to help LEO	2
LEO board of directors	2
LEO donors	3
LEO mission and values	3
DSHS warns of possible scam	3
Upcoming events	4

I am extremely honored to be the newest president of the LEO board. I have HUGE shoes to fill as my predecessors have been outstanding leaders for the LEO organization. I would like to thank Larry Kimble for his service as president for the past two years. During his tenure LEO was able to open the Ann Dennis house, expand the board and strengthen our community partnerships. Prior to Larry, Rose Finnegan served as the president for 16 years and is really responsible for making LEO all that it is today. Both Rose and Larry continue to serve on the board and are very helpful as I make this new transition.

In 2008 our big success thus far is our new website. I am very proud of the work the website committee has done. This is a major accomplishment that has been in the works for years! A big thank you to Dave Uvelli, who volunteered his web development expertise. Thanks also to Jiff Searing, Angela Dews, Dennis Wadja, and Rose Finnegan for finally making this a reality! Be sure to check it out at www.leoorganization.org.

We are also proud to announce the redesign of our brochures with more current information and pictures!

The board has been working hard to define our strategic goals for the coming few years:

Goal 1: Program Goals:

1. Develop at least two other housing opportunities in Issaquah/Sammamish/Snoqualmie Valley in three years.
2. Build a network of supports to include people with meaningful engagement in the community, including employment.

Goal 2: Finance Goals:

Create and implement a sustainable funding plan that incorporates: Earned, Contributed and Granted Income.

Goal 3: Infrastructure Goals:

Broaden (bring more people in) and deepen (define how each person on board could add more strategic value) the leadership (including board, staff, and volunteers, committees) to achieve the program goal.

As we work toward these goals, we are looking for new, efficient and “smart” ways of doing our business. We are hoping to incorporate “task forces” which are short-term, focused work groups, as one method for doing this work. We are always looking for a helping hand, so if you have any interest in the above areas, please feel free to contact me so we can talk more about how you can become part of LEO.

Mary Cline-Stively
mclinstively@comcast.net

Useful Web Sites

Summer Camp Directory:
The Washington summer camps and programs for children with special needs is updated for 2008. Download it here: www.cshcn.org/resources/campcalendar.cfm?intro=yes

Arc of King County:
Arcofkingcounty.org

Developmental Disabilities Division, King County:
www.kingcounty.gov/dd/

Fundraising search engine for LEO:
www.goodsearch.com

King County Parks:
www.kingcountygov/parks

Inclusion of these web sites here does not imply endorsement by LEO.

LEO Board of Directors

Mary Cline-Stively,
President
Dennis Wajda, Vice
President
Natalie Brodeur, Secretary
Becky Kitz, Treasurer
Ann Dennis
Angela Dews
Mike Ernst
Rose Finnegan
Susan Halperin
Larry Kimble
Cathy Lamb
Jiff Searing
Renee Thornton
Nancy Whitaker

LEO Organization Has Been Busy!



Shown from left to right: Kim Ewing from Sherm's Barbeque; Debbie Hassler from ATWORK, representing Fred Meyer; and Richard Shreder, Administrator from Providence Marianwood accept LEO Employer of the Year awards.

June 17—This is the seventh year that the LEO organization has awarded Employers of the Year. Each year we ask people to nominate those employers in Issaquah who go the extra mile in hiring people with disabilities. These employers show a willingness to modify hiring procedures, are flexible with job descriptions, allow employment specialists on site for job coaching, provide a network of support for the individual, as well as initiating the recruitment of individuals who have disabilities. We have three size categories—small, medium, and large employers. This year we have a company in each category who hired a person with disabilities and has met the criteria. They are: Sherm's BBQ Bistro for the small business, Providence Marionwood for the medium-sized business, and Fred Meyer for the large business. We also appreciate the commitment from our other nominees who are employing people with disabilities: PetSmart, PCC Natural Markets, and Larkspur Landing.

June 29—A great big thank you to the Downtown Issaquah Association and the Mountains to Sound Greenway for designating LEO as a recipient of donations from the big car show on June 29. Under the direction of Joe

Need Help Finding a Respite Provider?

Many families report having a hard time finding someone to provide respite services. In addition to your DDD Case Resource Manager, the Home Care Referral Registry can help with the search. The Registry is a statewide database of In-Home Providers that's available for anyone receiving Medicaid-funded services. Based on your specific needs and preferences, The Home Care Referral Registry can create a list of pre-screened, pre-qualified individual providers available to work in your part of the state. To access the Registry, complete an application request, or speak to Registry staff, call 1-800-970-5456 to be connected to the nearest office.

For more information on Informing Families/Building trust, visit: www.informingfamilies.org and listen to the new podcasts at: www.olympiainsider.org

& Michelle Folkner, the Sunset Highway Cruisers, Legends, and NWClassic Chevy Car Clubs registered about 700 cars for this event. Stop by the XXX Rootbeer and check out the new poster explaining the connection between LEO, the XXX and the Car Clubs. And a special thank you to Jose Encisco!

July 11—Thank you to Chris Weber for her efforts in LEO being a part of the ArtWalk on Front St. The train depot was the perfect place to display the original artwork that was then selected to be on our note cards. Note cards were also sold, and our mission was explained to many more community members. Come visit us at future Art Walks!

July 26—Come visit us at Pickering Barn for a gigantic book sale; great bargains 9am to 2pm. To donate books, DVDs or CDs to the sale, arrange with Rose Finnegan, 425.392.5682, for pick-up or drop-off of your donation no later than Thursday, July 24th.



Ways to Help LEO

Donate by saving Front St. Market receipts. Turn them in to any LEO board member. Write us in for United Way or the State Combined Fund Drives. Give a memorial. Use the Good Search web site. Buy note cards with artwork by our own young artists for sale—call 425-392-5682. Of course checks & matching gifts are always greatly appreciated.

LEO 2008 Donors

In Memory of Don Kimble: Altrusa International of Lake Washington East
 Angela & Neal Dews Paul B. Anderson
 Mike Ernst Mr. & Mrs. Robert Anderson
 Rose Finnegan Gary Bissonette
 Becky Kitz Natalie Brodeur
 Cathy Lamb Nancy Cedar
 Aletha & John Taylor Citigroup Foundation
 Renee Thornton Matching Gifts
 Dennis Wajda City of Issaquah
 Fiat Enthusiasts Northwest, Dan Rian

In Memory of J. Craig Lang: Susan Halperin
 Mr. & Mrs. Bill Buxton Issaquah Women’s Foundation
 Mr. & Mrs. Roger Christensen Sylvia Lang
 Frank Cushman Barbara Lock
 Mrs. Miller (Virginia) Griffiths Mrs. Mickey McErleane
 John Koenes Mr. & Mrs. Joe McNabb
 Mr. & Mrs. John Kunau Mopars Unlimited Seattle Chapter
 Louise Maison Mustangs Northwest
 Mr. & Mrs. Clyde Moslander Sarah G. Peterson
 Mr. & Mrs. Dean Rayworth Pat Rowen
 Mr. & Mrs. Don Sangster Richard Russell
 Mr. & Mrs. Bob Shelley Mr. & Mrs. Jerome Searing
 Linda Taylor Robert Southern
 Phyllis Taylor Mr. & Mrs. Paul Summers
 LEO Board of Directors Whitaker Foundation

In-Kind Donations
 Nate Bean, Integrity Auto
 Nancy Cedar
 Cheryl Matheny
 Linda Matsumoto
 Terri Sharkey
 Ray Weber
 XXX Rootbeer
 Dave Uvelli
 Joe & Michelle Folkner
 Sunset Highway Cruisers

If we have inadvertently omitted your name from our donor list, please forgive us! Contact LEO so that we can rectify the mistake.

If you would like to receive this newsletter electronically, please let us know by sending an email to dennisw@ihmail.com.

DSHS Warns Clients of Possible Scam Attempts Involving New Medicaid Identification Cards

OLYMPIA—The Department of Social and Health Services is warning clients and workers at its Community Service Offices around the state about an apparent scam attempt in Central Washington in which a phone caller tried to obtain a client's credit card information.

Doug Porter, assistant secretary of the Health and Recovery Services Administration, said a client in the Yakima area told DSHS workers she had gotten a telephone call from someone telling her that DSHS was issuing new plastic Medicaid identification cards. The caller told her she needed to give him her credit card information to cover “a small fee” clients were being assessed for the new cards.

“Our client speaks primarily Spanish and asked a friend who happened to be there to help translate the call,” Porter said. “Luckily, her friend was suspicious, and she advised our client not to provide the information. That was good, because Medicaid workers would never call clients like this and ask for money or credit card information,” Porter said.

Porter said the agency does plan to issue new plastic Medicaid identification cards to some 1 million medical assistance clients around the state late this year. The plastic cards, which can be swiped through a reader at the doctor’s office, will replace monthly paper coupons now mailed to clients. “But no fee is involved,” Porter said. “The new cards will be provided free. In fact, they will save DSHS money in the long run by dropping our current postage charges significantly.”

Porter said DSHS encourages anyone to promptly report any similar scam attempts or suspicious activity to police. He said they also should contact the Medicaid program.

- A fraud hotline is available toll-free at 1-800-562-6906
- Fraud investigators also can be contacted by e-mail at hottips@dshs.wa.gov.

LEO Mission and Core Values

LEO, a community-based nonprofit organization, advocates for and works to support individuals with developmental disabilities to achieve their life vision and goals through supportive housing, recreation, employment opportunities, and community education. Our core value statements are:

Community Centered: We are grounded in our community.

Integrity: We conduct ourselves honestly and ethically.

Passion: We are deeply committed to our purpose.

Respect: We value and honor all of our relationships.

Caring: We are particularly mindful of those with special needs.

Visionary: We lead with strategic thinking and innovative practices.

All of our fundraising is directed towards the purchase of land or homes, which will be used for licensed Adult Family Homes for adults with developmental disabilities. These homes are managed by a live-in care provider, also licensed by the State. Since this population has an extremely low income, to make these homes sustainable, they must be free of debt.

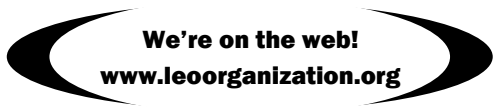
LEO fosters a community that fully engages people with developmental disabilities based on their individual choices in all areas of community life.



EDUCATION · EMPLOYMENT ·
HOUSING · RECREATION

LEO Life Enrichment Options
P.O. Box 117
Issaquah, WA
98027-0006

Phone: 425-392-5682
Web site: www.leoorganization.org



Upcoming Events

July 19th—the Issaquah Rotary Challenge Day Race, for riders with special needs, from 9am to 2pm.

July 26—Book sale at Pickering Barn, 9am-2pm. Proceeds benefit LEO. To donate books, DVDs or CDs to the sale, arrange with Rose Finnegan, 425.392.5682, for pick-up or drop-off of your donation no later than Thursday, July 24th.

August 16—the Sammamish Rotary Challenge Day Race from 9am-12noon. Riders need to pre-register by calling 425-392-5682, or email finneganleo@aol.com.

Special artist note cards are still available for sale. Contact any board member or call 425-392-5682.



Book Sale
June 26, 9am—2pm
Pickering Barn