



brevard achievement center

Star Bulletin

1845 Cogswell Street • Rockledge, FL 32955 • 321 632-8610 • fax 321 631-8207
www.bacbrevard.com

Fall / Winter 2009

Board of Directors

Officers:

Michael Miller *Chair*
D.Travis Proctor *Vice Chair*
Diane Payne *Secretary*
Judy Marorani *Treasurer*
Robert Sands *Past Chair*

Directors:

Robert T. Anderson
Joseph Astramskas
Linda Cobb
John H. Nostrand
Janice Oberwetter
Amar Patel
Anne Pieprzny
Stanley Starr
Ralph W. Swanson, Ph.D.
Rose Thron
Blaise Trettis
Mary Jane Watson

President:

Dayle Olson

An Evening of

Coffee & Chocolate

Over the past four years the Brevard Achievement Center (BAC) has watched its main fundraiser, Coffee & Chocolate, gain in popularity. Hosting its 5th annual event, BAC anticipates over 550 coffee and chocolate lovers to fill the Space Coast Convention Center at the Holiday Inn Express - Cocoa, Florida on...

Saturday, February 27th

7:00 pm to 10:00 pm

Tickets are \$30.00 per person

Featured are local businesses that generously provide samples of chocolates, coffees and desserts. Proceeds will benefit programs and services to help people with disabilities in Brevard County. Proceeds will also support VSA Arts of Florida-Brevard. For more information please contact Robert Gramolini at (321) 632-8610 ext. 228.

**Tickets for the event can be purchased
by calling BAC at (321) 632-8610
or online at:
www.bacbrevard.com**



BAC Announces the RESPECT 2009 Employee's of the Year Award

Chad M.

Chad M.'s continued dedication to his job and his ability to grow has afforded him the opportunity to become more independent. Chad has developed his work skills to match and surpass consumers who have been at BAC over the past two years. Chad's positive attitude has set an example for all those that come in contact with him.

Frank W.

Frank W.'s dependability, flexibility and motivation to perform any task while maintaining a great attitude, he has garnered the respect and confidence from his peers and supervisors. Frank continually fosters an attitude to improve his accuracy, expediency and dependability along with offering his assistance to others around him.



*Pictured left Chad M.
Pictured right Frank W.*

RESPECT works with non-profit organizations around the State of Florida whom employ persons with disabilities in the production of products and services.

Success Story

Glenda Broderick, BAC School Services Coordinator, has been working with the City of Palm Bay - Fleet Division providing middle school students enrolled in the World of Work (WOW) Program, with tours of the facility over the past three years.

BAC approached the Fleet Division and requested that they consider forming a partnership with BAC to provide a summer internship through the High School High Tech Program. The City of Palm Bay's Fleet Division was more than happy to provide six students, three of which interned in the Sign

Shop and three in the Fleet with this wonderful opportunity. The students observed the city employees repairing mechanical parts, maintaining all the city vehicles to include fire trucks and police vehicles as well as assisting with making city street signs.

This began BAC's new Extended Job Shadow Program. Two students worked at the site for two weeks for eight hours a day. The students benefited by being taught how to change oil and perform light mechanical work. They gained real-life work experience with the assistance of the city employees. Upon the student's successful completion of the program, BAC presented each city employee

with a certificate of appreciation for all the hard work and dedication they provided the students. Jesse A., one of the students enrolled in the program, is now employed at Malabar Automotive, incorporating the skills he learned while enrolled with the program. Patrick P., another program participant is now working part-time at Winn Dixie and has gained the confidence he needs to be successful through the BAC program.

BAC thanks the City of Palm Bay Fleet Division and looks forward to continuing to partner with the city to improve the lives of individuals with disabilities in Brevard County.

**BREVARD ACHIEVEMENT CENTER
2009-2010 UNITED WAY CAMPAIGN**

This year's United Way campaign was a tremendous success due to the over whelming support of the Brevard Achievement Center's (BAC) staff.

This year's United Way campaign mission was, "I more donor, I more dollar = I more life changed." A new BAC record was set with 124 contributors donating \$9,392.48 to this year's campaign.

BAC received \$129,250 last year from the United Way to help support center activities such as programs within the Employment Services Department and the Adult Day Training Program. Way to go BAC! Thank you to all that contributed to the United Way Campaign and a special thank you to the United Way for there continued support of BAC programs.



Pictured above BAC clients enjoy the new Movement Room

The Brevard Achievement Center (BAC), is pleased to announce the implementation of the new Movement Room. The Movement Room has six new televisions to include six Wii Fit stations that allow clients to become more physically active. Over the next few weeks, staff is planning to work with clients on their balance and coordination by using the Wii Fit stations. The clients have expressed the fact that they enjoy the interactive bowling and are looking forward to the upcoming workout videos. Many clients have stated that already, they can see a difference in the way they feel physically.

Letter from the President

It has been another great year at BAC. The end of September marks the end of the BAC's fiscal year. Along with an end to the financial year, the agency also takes a close look at all programs and services. I am frequently asked questions regarding agency revenue and expenses. I hope the following gives you a clear snapshot of the past year.

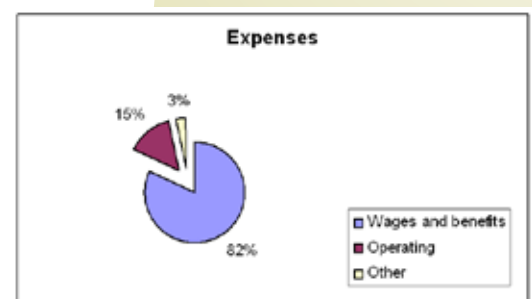
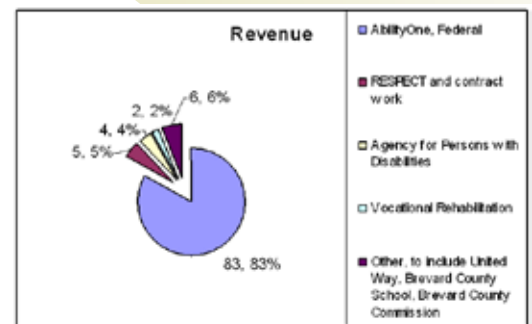
During fiscal year 2008 – 2009, BAC had an operating budget of just over \$24,000,000. The major sources of revenue and expense for the year were: (see graphs at right)

Also, during the past year the agency has provided services to more than 7,724 persons throughout Florida, in Georgia and on the island of Puerto Rico.

Persons receiving service through BAC continue to be very satisfied. An overall average of customer satisfaction shows a rating of 4.5 (on a scale of 1 – 5, with 5 being most satisfied).

We are off to a great start since our new year began on October 1. I look forward to another very successful year!

Dayle Olson, President/CEO



Extended Job Shadow Program

The New Extended Job Shadow Program for 11th and 12th grade ESE students will provide an opportunity for high school students to learn practical transferable skills in a working environment. Students must be at least 16 years of age to participate. Students will work side by side with employers to gain a broad view of the business and develop specific job-related knowledge.

The program takes place over the course of one semester for a period of four weeks. BAC will strive to meet the needs of local employers by providing training for potential employees to meet local labor market needs. Both the employer and the employee will receive support and follow-up by a BAC representative who will check in each week, or as needed to monitor progress.

The Extended Job Shadow Program provides hands on, real world experiences which will assist students in the exploration of career opportunities. The partnership with local businesses will provide the student the opportunity to try out a position to see if they might be interested in a career in that field. It will also give local employers the opportunity to see if the student is a good match for the job. The goal of this program is to provide a stepping stone to Job Placement.

Brevard Achievement Center would like to thank the following businesses for participating in the Extended Job Shadow Program: The Berri Patch Child Care Center, The City of Palm Bay, Sun Harbor Nursery and The Space Coast Early Intervention Center.

Giving Continues for VSA arts

Two local organizations recently supported BAC's arts program through VSA arts. The Gannett Foundation/Florida Today awarded the program a \$2,500 grant and the Knights of Columbus, Father Charles Spellman Council #6125 in Rockledge, gave \$2,000 using proceeds of their annual tootsie roll sales drive. Both groups have supported the annual VSA arts festival for children with disabilities in past years. The festival brings more than 1,000 children to Brevard Zoo for hands-on art making, exhibits, and performances. To contribute, contact Janice Kershaw at 752-2740 ext. 5208.

"Ocean Commotion" Festival Set Volunteers Sought

VSA arts is seeking artists and volunteers for the 22nd annual VSA arts festival, "Ocean Commotion", planned for April 14-16, 2010 at Brevard Zoo. More than 1,000 children with disabilities and their teachers are preparing for their art day by creating 2-d artwork, hosting artists in their classrooms and attending training. In addition, each class will be invited to submit a short story using digital media for a mini "Film Festival" to run during the larger event. For more information or to volunteer, contact Lori Emly at 632-8610 or e-mail lemly@bacbrevard.com



Michale Ziegler
and CJ Caplan

Supported living

The Brevard Achievement Center offers a Supported Living Program to adults who qualify and would like to live on their own. The Supported Living Program is an accredited program that focuses on providing support and training to enable individuals to live independently. The primary objective of the program is to provide enrolled individuals with the knowledge and ability to reach their highest potential and live independently within the community, while fostering an environment where the client is free to make their own choices. The Brevard Achievement Center employs three Supported Living Coaches that offer clients in the Program a cumulative total of over 33 years of experience and expertise.

Individuals in the Program are able to select a Supported Living Coach with whom they work on achieving lifestyle goals such as implementing safety procedures and basic daily living skills. The Supported Living Coach can assist the client in the procurement of affordable, safe housing and with whom they would like to reside. Services provided are catered to each client's specific needs and goals, provided that the client is financially stable enough to maintain their living situation and have a desire to be independent.

Coaches also work with clients on financial matters, with particular emphasis on money management, budgeting and ensuring that all bills are paid on time. The Supported Living Program teaches meal planning, grocery shopping, household maintenance and personal hygiene. Healthcare and well being are areas that coaches also address. Each client is given the option of having their coach accompany them to medical appointments, not only for support, but to ensure that the client understands their medications and treatments.

Understanding their surroundings and being knowledgeable of their community and how to access assistance are other topics that are addressed by a Supported Living Coach. Although clients are taught self-reliance and instructed on how to handle situations on their own, the Supported Living Program offers 24/7 emergency support to all clients.

Tracy H. has been in the Supported Living Program since 1984 and enjoys living on her own. When asked what she likes most about being a part of the program, Tracy replied, "Freedom. I can make my own choices, eat when I want to, read my Bible when I want to and go where I want." Tracy enjoys the fact that she is in control of her life, making her own choices and does not have to be constantly monitored. Tracy is one of many success stories for the Brevard Achievement Center's Supported Living Program.

BAC "SOARS" with \$25,000 Art Grant

BAC's arts program received a boost when it was recently awarded a \$25,000 state grant, through the Culture Builds Florida grant program, to expand its adult arts program. The SOAR program (Studio Outreach and Artist Residency program) will bring in professional artists to work with the clients and allow BAC to open on the second Saturday of the month for special art workshops that are open to clients and the public.

Due to decreased funding, only one third of applicants were awarded the competitive grants. The program is sponsored by the State of Florida, Department of State, Division of Cultural Affairs, the Florida Council on Arts and Culture, and the National Endowment for the Arts. For information on upcoming Saturday workshops, contact Janice Kershaw, 752-2740 ext. 5208 or e-mail jkershaw@bacbrevard.com

Mission Statement

To assist individuals with disabilities achieve vocational and social independence.



SUPPORTING BUSINESS OF THE QUARTER AWARD

City of Palm Bay Fleet Division



Jennifer Secor, VP of Employment Services (pictured center), presents the Supporting Business of the Quarter Award to Mary Poalelungi of the City of Palm Bay Fleet Division. 2nd row: Glenda Broderick, Angel Rouge, Brian Jaquays, Jeff Fisher, Alan done, Ricky Hensley, and Larry Miller

Not pictured: Robert Mittasch and Glenn Daye



Brenda P. enjoys playing the Harp in the new BAC Music Room

The Brevard Achievement Center (BAC), is pleased to announce the implementation of the new Music Room which exposes clients to the benefit of music therapy. Clients have been enjoying

the Rainbow of Sound Harp Instructional DVD's which teach the art of playing the Harp. BAC would like to thank Jess Parrish Medical Foundation for donating \$1,200 towards the new program. BAC would also like to thank Board Member, Michael Miller of Miller Construction, for constructing the new area that includes a sound-proof room for clients to learn to play instruments that will provide them with an opportunity to further expand their horizons.



Dayle Olson, BAC President/CEO, presented Westly Hooks, Kennedy Space Center associate, with a 32" flat screen TV on August 31st. During the month of August BAC held its annual United Way Campaign. For staff and associates who contributed a minimum of \$1.00 or more per pay period were entered into a drawing that was held on August 26th. Westly was thrilled to learn he was the winner of the new TV. The Center raised more than \$9,200 in this years United Way drive.



Brevard Achievement Center

Please visit www.facebook.com to become a fan of the Brevard Achievement Center (BAC). The site will include all upcoming BAC events and happenings. Join today to show your support of the center's programs.



brevard achievement center

1845 Cogswell Street
Rockledge, FL 32955

321.632.8610
fax: 321.631.8207
www.bacbrevard.com

how achievement works!

PRSR STD
U.S. Postage
PAID
COCOA, FL
Permit No. 263

