



BCDC Celebrates its 30th Anniversary

Dear Friends,

As you look over this newest issue of the *BCDC Beat*, you will see that we are just a few short weeks away from celebrating another major milestone in the history of this organization—our 30th anniversary. We have prepared a chronology of BCDC's significant events and developments—these highlights mirror or parallel those of many other organizations dedicated to serving persons with developmental disabilities. De-institutionalization has led to the creation of community rehabilitation programs, group homes, and supported employment and housing opportunities for people with disabilities in every county in North Carolina. Families and Professionals alike have struggled to create new ways to provide people with disabilities the supports they need to be more successful than we ever imagined. People with disabilities are achieving the same goals of home ownership and exciting careers that we enjoy, and are reminding us that *everyone* can and does dream big!

BCDC owes an awful lot to the entire Beaufort County community. When a non-profit organization does well, so do the people that non-profit serves! This community—through its citizens and business leaders—has supported our organization through its first 30 years. On the conservative side, I estimate that nearly one-third of the county's citizens have been touched or affected in some way by BCDC's programs and services. Over the years, we have served over 1500 persons directly. But when you serve a person with a disability, you are often supporting an entire family. We are proud to have been a part of all of these lives—but we could not have done it without the widespread support we have received from all of you.

As our thanks to you, we'd like to invite you to a community-wide 'Pig-pickin' and Anniversary Celebration'. This event will be held on Friday, May 7th, from 3:30 to 7:00 p.m. at our 5th Street location. We will have a very brief ceremony beginning at 5:15, and will serve a barbecue dinner from 5:30 to 6:30. If you are reading this newsletter, you are invited—we are able to send out such a broad invitation thanks to the generosity of a number of corporate sponsors and donors.

As you might expect, we—all of us here at BCDC—have buckled down and are working on the next 30 years of service delivery. We recently concluded an energizing full-staff advance (we don't retreat around here) and have rededicated ourselves to our mission, vision, and core values. In these rapidly changing times, we have no doubt there will be numerous opportunities to adapt and adjust our services to meet changing expectations. It sure gives us a lot of comfort to know that this community will be there for us—with steady support—just as you always have!

Chris

Chris Kiricoples


Executive Director, BCDC

MISSION:

TO EMPOWER CITIZENS
WITH DEVELOPMENTAL
CHALLENGES THROUGH
SERVICE ALTERNATIVES
WHICH PROMOTE:

SELF-ADVOCACY
SELF-RELIANCE
SELF-DIRECTION
SELF-SUFFICIENCY
SELF-ACTUALIZATION

Winter 2004



Self An individual's awareness of what constitutes his or her essential nature and distinguishes him or her from all others.

In honor of BCDC's 30th Anniversary, we share with you our proudest moments.....

- In 1958 the Association for Retarded Children (known as The ARC of Beaufort County) is organized.
- The Beaufort County Opportunity Class for school-aged children is launched and is operated from 1958 until September of 1964, when the public schools accepted responsibility for special-needs children.
- In 1972, Beaufort County Community College assists the ARC with a grant application to begin training programs for adults. The grant is successful, and in July of 1972 vocational training programs are begun.
- On May 20, 1974, the Beaufort County Developmental Center is incorporated as a 501(c) 3 non-profit organization. Tideland Mental Health Center welcomes us as a major service provider.
- In the early 1980's, BCDC, in cooperation with The ARC of Beaufort County and The ARC of NC/HDS, develops and opens two Group Homes for developmentally disabled adults and a 10-unit Supervised Apartment Living Program.
- In 1993, in cooperation with the Division of Vocational Rehabilitation Services, BCDC develops a Supported Employment Program and over the next 11 years helps over 190 people find jobs in the community.
- In 1995, BCDC begins to convert its Child Developmental Day programs to fully integrated child care services. Within 2 years, we achieve a 50/50 ratio of children with and without disabilities in each of our three classrooms. The children with disabilities immediately begin to develop new social interaction skills while the non-handicapped children learn tolerance and acceptance of others. Today, this program is a 5-star licensed child care facility, and is pending accreditation by the National Association of Education for Young Children.
- In October of 1999, BCDC celebrated 25 years of service to the citizens of Beaufort County, with services which include vocational training and supported employment, developmental day and inclusive child care, transportation, and 24-hour residential care group homes and supervised apartments.
- In July 2001, BCDC applies and is accepted by the University of Tennessee's Organizational Change Project. This project emphasizes and promotes full community inclusion of people with disabilities, and we immediately begin to re-configure our Adult Services programs to embrace these community inclusion practices, with input from consumers, families, and staff.
- In March 2003, all BCDC Adult Services Programs become nationally accredited by the Commission on Accreditation of Rehabilitation Facilities for 3 years- the maximum period available.
- In January of 2004, BCDC begins construction on a classroom addition project at the Child Development Center, after a successful \$260,000 capital campaign. The addition of two more classrooms will enable BCDC to serve more children, in an integrated and inclusive childcare environment, through expanded preschool and after school programs.
- ***BCDC prepares to celebrate its 30th anniversary celebration in May of 2004.***

Consumers Participate in Self-Advocacy Weekend



Consumers of BCDC headed to Winston Salem March 26-28 to participate in the 3rd Annual Self-Advocacy Retreat. The convention, held at the Adam's Mark Hotel, had consumers attending seminars during the day and dancing all night. A fashion show was held on Saturday afternoon and BCDC consumers "dressed to impress" and participated. Rumor has it next years retreat is already being planned.

Please join us for an afternoon of fun, food, and fellowship at
Beaufort County Developmental Center
on Friday, May 7th, 2004
3:30-7:00 pm
to celebrate our

30th Anniversary

Dinner will be a pig pickin' with all the trimmings
served from 5:30 to 6:30 pm

Bring the family for volleyball, putt putt, door prizes and more!

Complete with cotton candy and popcorn

BCDC Hero Sponsor: Wachovia

5:15pm Special Ceremony

If you are planning to attend, **you must RSVP** by April 30th to
Darlene at 252-946-0151 or cglover@bcdesolutions.org
In case of rain, event will be held at VOICE building next door

BCDC Says Goodbye to One of Its Own



Tony Gordon, a consumer of BCDC's, passed away on February 22, 2004. He was a resident of Group Home Two and worked at BCDC's VOICE center since coming to the organization in 1977. The Gordon Family requested that memorials be sent to BCDC and we would like to thank the individuals that made donations in Tony's memory. The ARC of Beaufort County, Willie Ray Buck, Mr. & Mrs. Dalton T Elks, Mr. & Mrs. Frank

Garrod, Chocowinity United Methodist Church, Employees at Washington Regional Office of Dept. of Environmental and Natural Resources, Mr. & Mrs. Tuell Waters, Inez Dudley, and Mr. & Mrs. Frank Mozingo.

*The ability to speak up for
yourself, or to speak up on
behalf of another.*

Advocacy

Kelly Crisp, Chairman
Sandra Buckman, Vice-Chairman
Paul Mattoon, Treasurer
Peggy Simpson, Secretary

Judy Meier Jennette
Catherine deVillier
Dalton Elks
Lisa Bunting

Fred Conner
Lynn Lewis
Sue LeMay, ex-officio

Chris Kiricoples,
Executive Director

BCDC, Inc.

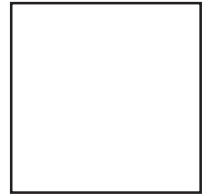
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WE BROKE GROUND!!!



On January 20, 2004, the CDC broke ground on the Classroom Expansion Project. It was a cold and windy day at the CDC, but supporters showed up to see Paul Mattoon, Past Chair of BCDC Board, Kelly Crisp, Chair of BCDC Board, and Elena Cameron, CDC Program Manager

break ground. Mosely Construction was awarded the contract which is expected to be done in time for a summer enrichment program. Although the money for the building has been raised, the CDC is still in need of classroom furnishings for the expansion. If you are interested in donating to the classroom furnishings project, please use the donation form enclosed in the newsletter.