



Disability Network Oakland & Macomb News and Events

FALL 2011

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*Your LINK to
community
resources!*

Welcome to Disability Network Oakland & Macomb!

From the Director's Corner...

DNOM has settled into our new Oakland County home!

The dust has settled and we are open for business. We will be hosting a small open house for our consumers and community partners. The open house will be on Monday October 17, 2011 from 9:30am-11:30am. Please feel free to stop by, see the office and speak with our staff.

Our Oakland County office address is:
23800 W. 10 Mile Road
Suite 105
Southfield, MI 48033

(The office is located on the west side of the building facing 10 Mile Road. Entrance is just west of the main building entrance.)

In honor of National Disability Employment Awareness month, DNOM will partner with the Oakland County Michigan Rehabilitation Services (MRS) offices, to host an event to promote and educate about the benefits of employing individuals who are working with local vocational rehabilitation programs. "Profit By Investing In Workers With Disabilities" will be held at the Oak Park MRS office on October 31, 2011 from 8:00-10:00am. Success stories will be shared from individuals who have worked gained employment through vocational rehabilitation programs.

Did you know that DNOM does a lot of work with students in local area high schools?



We provide independent living and vocational readiness services to students with disabilities in local Oakland county and Macomb county schools? We partner with MRS to facilitate these short and long-term classes. If you're interested in finding out more about our student transition services, please contact me at 248-359-8960.

DNOM is seeking board members. We are looking for individuals who can bring diversity to our board. If you have experience in education, social work, human resources, fundraising, marketing, or public relations, we are looking for you. The board meets on the first Friday each month from 12:00pm-2:00pm.

Enjoy your beautiful fall colors.

Kellie Boyd
Executive Director

Who's New at DNOM?



Carolyn Ford – Nursing Facility Outreach Specialist

Carolyn presents information to nursing facility residents, staff and the community about the Nursing Facility Transition program which enables those who are Medicaid eligible to move back into their homes or into alternative housing.

Carolyn joined DNOM in June 2011. Carolyn has spent the last twenty years of her life and career in the health field; the last six years she served as an administrator in a Senior Home maintaining successful housing and care for consumers. On the job training and mentoring from a very special individual along with her education from Cambridge Business School, Madonna, and Davenport University has given her the opportunity to resourcefully fulfill her passion of helping others.



Christina Carollo – Independent Living Specialist

Provides four core services to consumers to assist individuals with achieving their goals. Facilitates the Empowerment class in Macomb County Schools.

Christina joined DNOM in September 2011. Christina received a Bachelor's Degree in Psychology from Grand Valley State University and a Master of Arts Degree in Counseling from Oakland University. Christina has a passion for working with youth and has dedicated many years working with at-risk youth in the Grand Rapids and Macomb area. Christina has worked as a residential crisis counselor, as well as providing counseling services within the school setting for students and families.



Dolly Burkhalter – Veterans Computer Trainer

Provides computer training to veterans.

Dolly joined Disability Network Oakland & Macomb in October of 2011. She served in the United States Navy (Active Duty) from June of 2001 to November of 2009, receiving good conduct medals: the Humanitarian Service Medal (from a rescue mission in Hurricane Katrina), Letters of Commendation for excellent performance of her duties and a Sea Service Deployment Ribbon while deployed in Operation Iraqi Freedom and the Persian Gulf. She has vast computer experience, including website and database management. Dolly is currently in the United States Navy Reserve and is attending Wayne County Community College in the Field of Crime Scene Investigation, while working toward a degree in criminal justice. Dolly enjoys helping others achieve their goals through knowledge and self empowerment. She is motivated and eager to help anyone she can along the way.



NFT Wish List

The Nursing Facility Transition program works to help people in nursing facilities who have Medicaid, or are eligible for Medicaid, move back into the community. Often times, the participants have lost their housing along with many of their belongings. One of the benefits of the NFT program is that we help them to obtain some of the basic and common household items needed to start their new lives. The NFT program accepts donations of the items listed below (new or slightly used). Your donation is tax deductible because DNOM is a 501 (c)(3) charitable, tax exempt organization. To donate items, you can call DNOM or just stop by and let the receptionist know that you are donating to the NFT program.

We are looking for:

- Dishes, cups, silverware
- Pots and pans
- Kitchen items (can openers, dish trays, hot pads, measuring cups and spoons)
- Small kitchen appliances (coffee pots, microwaves, toasters)
- Linens (any sheets or blankets must be NEW and in packaging)
- Small furniture (end tables, lamps, coffee tables, night stands, etc)
- Bathroom items (toilet paper, shampoo, soap, toothpaste, shower curtains)
- Medical equipment (shower benches, raised toilet seats, etc...must be CLEANED)
- Cleaning supplies (brooms, mops, cleaning products, laundry detergent, etc)
- Non-perishable food items (boxed or canned food)
- Home telephones
- Garbage bags and food storage bags
- Bed frames (metal, not headboards/footboards)
- Batteries (AA, AAA)
- Vacuums
- Light bulbs
- Clocks (digital or analog)
- First Aid kits

*Items can be dropped off at Disability Network at either the Macomb or Oakland locations.

THANK YOU
Respect ABILITY Law Center
You Made a Difference for Families
Right here at DNOM!



On Thursday, August 18, 2011, Attorney Calvin Luker from "Respect ABILITY Law Center" presented on "IDEA and IEP's Versus Section 504 and Accommodation Plans". Beginning with an historic overview of precedent setting court cases, the difference between the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act, he explained how these two acts created systemic change in Public Education system for students with disabilities. Topics included Least Restrictive Environment, Supplementary Aids and services, IEP's, 504 plan components and Transition. It was an educational and interesting Third Thursday for parents of students with Disabilities. And as always, the primary focus was on the rights of student and parent participation in the education process.

Respect ABILITY Law Center
248 544 7223

www.respectabilitylawcenter.com



Are you interested in providing leadership in your community?

Are you a compassionate person who cares about the lives of people with disabilities? Do you have one free afternoon a month to participate in a board meeting? Do you have experience in fundraising, human resources and services, or educating youth & adults? If this sounds like you, then join the Disability Network Oakland & Macomb Board of Trustees!

Our Board of Trustees meet once a month to discuss issues and make integral decisions that benefit people with disabilities in Oakland and Macomb County. If you are interested in joining this group of individuals, please contact us at 586-268-4160 or e-mail info@dnom.org.

Keynote Speaker!



Kari Sederburg

Director, Office of Services to the Aging
Michigan Department of Community Health

Find out the direction that the State of Michigan is moving and the impact it will have on senior services

For more speakers and session topics, visit www.ClickOnAging.com

LOCATION

Schoolcraft College
VisTaTech Center
18600 Haggerty Road
Livonia, MI 48152

Seating Is Limited!
Online Registration Is Now Open

Aging Services: Changing the Mindset

a can't-miss conference for those in the field of senior care

Tuesday, November 1, 2011

a full-day conference that will inspire you to change your mindset to meet the needs of the individuals we serve and offer nontraditional support to strengthen services

\$45 per participant/\$15 per student

CEs AVAILABLE ♦ EXHIBITOR OPPORTUNITIES NETWORKING AND MORE...



This Is Going to Be BIG! Tell Everyone You Know!



Share it on LinkedIn, too!

<http://events.linkedin.com/Aging-Services-Changing-Mindset/pub/782290>

QUESTIONS

semisrc@gmail.com



INFO/REGISTRATION

www.ClickOnAging.com
check for conference updates

scan with your smart phone



Southeast Michigan Senior Regional Collaborative

a consortium of 25+ local nonprofits serving Southeast Michigan seniors



For more information contact:

Miriam Green

mgreen@dnom.org

Macomb Office

Phone: (586) 268-4160, Ext 6620

16645 15 Mile Road

Clinton Township, MI 48035

Oakland Office

(248) 359-8960, Ext 6620

23800 W. 10 Mile Road, Ste 105

Southfield, MI 48033

Medicare Part B and Part D beneficiaries:

Are you in need of extra help in covering your prescription costs? Are you in need of help paying for your Part B premium?

If you meet certain income and assets limits, you may qualify for Medicare Extra Help/Low-Income and/or Medicare Savings Program. Medicare Extra Help/Low-Income helps pay or reduces the co-pay for your prescription drugs (\$2.50 generic/\$6.30 brand-name), any deductible, and prescription drug coverage. Medicare Savings Program is through the Department of Human Services. The Medicare Savings Program would pay your Part B premium.

There is no charge to apply for these services.

Please call Miriam to schedule an appointment to apply for the Medicare Extra Help or the for the Medicare Savings Program

<http://www.medicare.gov/navigation/medicare-basics/medical-and-drug-costs.aspx#LowIncomeSubsidy>

Thursday Information Nights at DNOM

2011—2012

- ◆ **October 20, 2011, 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.** Working & Receiving Disability Benefits presented by Paul Landry, Director of Employment Programs at United Cerebral Palsy of Metropolitan Detroit. Mr. Landry will talk about how working can affect your benefits when you are receiving Social Security Disability Insurance (SSDI) or Supplemental Security Income (SSI) as well as other benefits that a you may receive such as Medicaid, Medicare, Food Assistance, HUD Housing etc.
- ◆ **December 15, 2011, 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.** “Health Care for the Disabled” presented by Dan Pfaff, Family Independence Manager at the Warren DHS office. Dan will provide an overview and tips on how best to access Medicaid and Other Health Care Programs available at the Department of Human Services for the disabled, the elderly, families and low income persons. He will also provide an overview of other free health care and prescription services available in Macomb County. A question and answer session will follow the presentation.
- ◆ **February 16, 2012, 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.** “Housing Options” presented by Jennifer Williams. Jennifer will present on the various housing programs Community Housing Network has to offer focusing on the HPRP and LAP programs along with the resources available to the community through CHN. She will also provide an overview on the various types of Section 8 housing and will allow plenty of time for questions and answers.
- ◆ **April 19, 2012, 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.** “Alternatives to Guardianship” presented by Lisa Lepine JD, Associate Director of ARC Services of Macomb Inc. This presentation will focus on alternatives to guardianship and guardianship as provided by the Michigan Mental Health Code for individuals with developmental disabilities. Brief attention will focus on individuals who may otherwise be addressed through the Estates and Protected Individuals Code (EPIC). Much attention will be paid to the ideas of circles of support and alternatives to guardianship
- ◆ **June 21, 2012, 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.** “Your Link to Community Resources” presented by DNOM staff. Do you want to learn about more about Oakland & Macomb’s best kept secret? This presentation will provide information about the services provided at Disability Network Oakland & Macomb.

Please RSVP to Disability Network Oakland & Macomb at 586-268-4160 or info@dnom.org to make sure there is a seat reserved for you! If you need special accommodations, please contact us at least 10 days before the event.

Check our website @ www.dnom.org for future updates & events.

Sixth Annual Community Spirit Award Ceremony & Fundraiser

On August 11, 2011, Disability Network Oakland Macomb held the Sixth Annual Community Spirit Award Ceremony. The fundraiser was held at the Vintage House in Fraser and over 200 attendees enjoyed a night of laughter, auctions, fine dining, and music. The event included a Chinese raffle, a 50/50 raffle, an IMAGINE Art Silent Auction, and Live Auction, and two comedians: Keith Lenart and Gary Thison.

During the award ceremony, Fraser's Two Men & a Truck was honored for their dedication and commitment to the disability community. They are always willing to make arrangements to be available when we need them regardless of what is scheduled. They have rear-

ranged moving schedules to be able to accommodate us. From the movers to the office staff, all are extremely helpful and polite and willing to make it work for us. Fraser's Two Men and A Truck are truly "Movers Who Care."

Disability Network Oakland & Macomb's staff and board would like to thank all of those who helped make the night such a success. Without the attendees, auction donors, advertisements, and all of the other contributors, the night would not have been possible.

We look forward to our seventh annual fundraiser next year and hope that it can be as exciting and rewarding as this one!



We would like to thank the following businesses for sponsoring our Sixth Annual Community Spirit Award Fundraiser:

Levine Benjamin
Holsbeke Mullan Investments LLC
Presbyterian Villages of Michigan

DNOM Community Needs Assessment

DNOM asked their staff, board trustees, community agencies, consumers, and their families to complete the Community Needs Assessment. The assessment, completed in March and April 2011, was lengthy; however we were able to compile a synopsis of the findings.

Three (3) major issues currently affecting the quality of life of residents in your county?

1. Employment
2. Housing
3. Transportation

Three (3) major strengths for residents in your county?

1. Community agencies (resources/services available through agencies)
2. Education system
3. Public services (police, fire, accessibility, shopping, recreation, etc.)

Please rate the following issues in your county as a Major Issue, a Minor Issue, Not an Issue, or Don't Know/No Opinion. The top seven (7) issues were rated as a major issue:

1. Affordable housing

Major Issue	76.7%
Minor Issue	11.7%
Not an issue	5.8%
Don't know/No response	5.8%

[*DNOM continues to partner with and support the Macomb Homeless Coalition and Community Housing Network to locate affordable and accessible housing.](#)

2. Unemployment

Major Issue	84.5%
Minor Issue	8.7%
Not an issue	1.0%
Don't know/No response	5.8%

[*DNOM continues to work with Michigan Rehabilitation Services to reduce and eliminate barriers to employment for people with disabilities. DNOM works with Baker College to provide internships for college students.](#)

3. Availability of jobs that pay a living wage

Major Issue	86.4%
Minor Issue	7.8%
Not an issue	1.0%
Don't know/No response	4.9%

[*DNOM's Empowerment Trainings and Independent Living Skills Training provide vocational skills to assist people with disabilities in obtaining gainful employment.](#)

DNOM Community Needs Assessment Continued:

4. Job growth

Major Issue	75.7%
Minor Issue	12.6%
Not an issue	1.9%
Don't know/No response	9.7%

5. Adults without health insurance

Major Issue	81.6%
Minor Issue	6.8%
Not an issue	1.9%
Don't know/No response	9.7%

[*DNOM assists consumers with the application process for health care programs.](#)

6. Affordable health care

Major Issue	77.7%
Minor Issue	10.7%
Not an issue	4.9%
Don't know/No response	6.8%

[*DNOM has a Medicaid/Medicare Counselor. The counselor works to enroll eligible participants in the Medicare Extra Help Part D and Low Income Subsidy programs.](#)

7. Affordable dental care

Major Issue	74.8%
Minor Issue	13.6%
Not an issue	1.9%
Don't know/No response	9.8%

[*DNOM assists consumers with locating affordable dentists.](#)

We would like to thank all those who completed the survey. Participation in this survey helped to ensure the voice of those with and without disabilities were equally heard and reflected in programs, services and policies. The goal of this assessment was to understand the concerns of the disability community and why they exist as well as identify community concerns and assets through results that can be used for advocacy purposes. These results highlighted the impact that this and future reports will have on improving the quality of life for residents with disabilities.

Are YOU an Artist?

Disability Network Oakland & Macomb invites you to participate in our donated art program:



'IMAGINE'



Artwork of all mediums may be donated to DNOM to be displayed on the office walls. It is a great way for consumers of DNOM to give something back to the community, while also expressing themselves. We encourage you to use our walls to portray the truth about your life, your journey, your recovery, your success. Most of all though, we encourage you to express your ABILITY!

Contact Dorie Bawks at ext. 6603 for more information.

Other News:



Our office now has up-to date information on **Michigan Assistive Technology Loan Fund**. The AT Loan Fund helps people with disabilities and their family members get the equipment they need to be more independent and productive. If you would like more information about the AT Loan Fund or how to begin the process, contact Yolanda at 586-268-4160 ext. 6605.

DNOM has a loan closet! If you (or someone you know) need assistive equipment (crutches, walkers, seat cushions, etc.) contact our office to arrange a loan.



Your Link to Community Resources!

Contact Us:

Macomb County Office

16645 15 Mile Road
Clinton Township, MI 48035
Phone: 586-268-4160
Fax: 586-285-9942

Oakland County Office

23800 W. 10 Mile Road, Suite 105
Southfield, MI 48033
Phone: 248-359-8960
Fax: 248-359-8961

Toll Free: 800-284-2457
Website: www.dnom.org

If you would like further information on the services we provide or have any questions, please do not hesitate to call our office!

Disability Network Oakland & Macomb Staff:

Executive Director	Kellie Boyd
Director of Operations	Kelly McConnell
Veterans Service Manager	Mary Ann Hewitt
Veterans Service Specialist	Matthew Allen
Community Resource Specialist	Mark Bashaw
Information & Advocacy Specialist	Dorothea Bawks
Veterans Computer Trainer	Dolly Burkhalter
Independent Living Specialist	Michael Cadieux
Independent Living Specialist	Christina Carollo
Independent Living Specialist	Paula Florka
Nursing Facility Outreach Specialist	Carolyn Ford
Information & Assistance	Miriam Green
Independent Living Specialist	Sarah Kowal
Administrative Assistant	Roslyn Mace
Information & Advocacy Specialist	Kelley Miller
Nursing Facility Transition Coordinator	Stacey Molinaro
Independent Living Specialist	Terry Moskwa
Quality Assurance Manager	Yolanda Pinkston
Veterans Computer Training Supervisor	Gina Schafer
Receptionist	Katy Taylor
Independent Living Specialist	Barbara Thompson
Nursing Facility Outreach Specialist	Susan Varady
Independent Living Specialist	Jenell Williams

Our Mission:

We are committed to advancing personal choice, independence, and positive social change for persons with disabilities through advocacy, education, and outreach.