

OSCIL'S

Signs of Independence

Ocean State Center for Independent Living (OSCIL)

Winter 2017

OSCIL News

- OSCIL's 29th Annual Meeting will take place on Thursday, April 27th from 11 am to 1:30 pm at our Pawtucket office at 175 Main Street. Check out our website at www.oscil.org and our Facebook page for updates.
- On February 5th OSCIL staff member, Heather Schey, will embark on the journey of a lifetime. Heather will be traveling to New York to meet her new "pup". This is no ordinary "pup". Heather will be introduced to her new Guide Dog, provided to her by *Guiding Eyes for the Blind*. No doubt this is an exciting time for her, and we at OSCIL want to wish her all the best on what will truly be an amazing partnership.
- OSCIL also extends a warm welcome to Tracy Martone who will be coordinating our new partnership with the YMCA.
- We say farewell to Gloria Stuart, Assistive Technology Coordinator, and wish her all the best in her new venture. You rock Gloria!!
- Be sure to check out our brand new website at www.oscil.org. It is updated regularly with information about our programs, services and events.

OSCIL-YMCA Connection

OSCIL is teaming up with the YMCA in a brand new partnership which will provide opportunity for persons having significant disability to address independent living goals related to health and wellness, increasing recreational experiences, socialization and peer support.

If you are interested in learning more about his exciting NEW program, contact Tracy Martone at OSCIL at 738-1013 ext 33 or by email to tracy.martone@oscil.org.

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 Leslie Tracy: IL Coordinator
 Cheryl Walason: IL Coordinator/Transition

Scholarship for RI Residents with Disabilities

*The Catherine T. Murray Memorial
Scholarship* for RI Residents with
disabilities is now accepting applications
for 2017. For more information and to
download an application, visit our
website at www.oscil.org.

The deadline to apply is March 25, 2017.

Sign Up For OSCIL Email List

OSCIL has an email list to keep our
consumers, friends and the community
informed of upcoming news and events.

If you would like to be included on this
list, please visit our website at
www.oscil.org and click on the "*Email
Sign-up*" link and enter your name and
email address and click "Subscribe".

OSCIL on Facebook

Did you know that OSCIL has a Facebook
page? If you are on Facebook, you can
find our page by searching for "OSCIL" in
the Facebook search bar. Please "like" our
page and share with anyone you feel may
be interested our services.

Mention of any product, service, or
event in this newsletter does not
constitute any endorsement or
recommendation by OSCIL.

ATEL Now Provides Wireless Devices

ATEL, the Adaptive Telephone Equipment Program for the State of Rhode Island, now provides wireless devices to qualified individuals. Those who qualify must have a diagnosis of being Deaf, hard of hearing, having a speech disability or have neuromuscular damage or disease that hinders them from using a standard telephone. Other qualifications also apply. Consumers may choose from an iPad, iPhone or Jitterbug.

For more information, you may attend a monthly demonstration on the 2nd Wednesday of each month at 6:00 pm at TechAccess, 100 Jefferson Blvd, Warwick, visit www.atel.ri.gov or call 462-7857.

The ATEL Program Advisory Committee is looking for new members for 2017. They are looking for four consumers (hard of hearing or deaf community, the speech disabled community or the neuromuscular disabled community) and one member of the general public.

Since 1984, ATEL has provided a variety of adaptive telephones and related equipment to its consumers. In addition to this equipment, ATEL also provides demonstrations and trainings, public information, awareness and referral to ATAP (Assistive Technology Access Partnership) partners and key RI organizations.

The advisory committee meets four times a year for approximately 2 hours. If you are interested, you may submit a letter of intent to Denise Corson at ATEL, 40 Fountain St, Providence, RI 02903 or call 462-7857 for further information.

Get Connected With RI Relay

Rhode Island Relay is a free, 24 hour service for the Deaf, hard of hearing, Deaf-blind, or speech disabled to call anyone using relay services. Dial 711 to be connected with a relay operator. This service may be used for voice to TTY, speech-to-speech, hearing carry-over, voice carry-over and CapTel service. They also provide Relay Conference Captioning for Face-to Face meetings or classrooms and Teleconference calls and TeleBraille for the deafblind user. For more information go to www.rhodeislandrelay.com

LUNCH & LEARN WORKSHOPS

FEBRUARY

Warwick Office

Wednesday February 22 12-2 pm

Self Advocacy

Members of the Rhode Island Organizing Project (RIOP) will conduct a workshop on how to be an effective organizer and leader. Topics will include how to present your story to public officials and how to organize your peers around common concerns.

Pawtucket Office

Thursday February 23rd 12-2 pm

Communication Options for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing

Margie Molloy, IL Coordinator/Deaf Services explains how to obtain and set up a video phone in your home. She will also provide information on how to secure interpreter services.

Also, Chris McKenna from RIPTA will discuss the new App and telephone system for Paratransit (Ride) bus services. *Bring your questions!*

MARCH

Warwick Office

Wednesday, March 29 12-2 pm

SSA Disability Work Incentives Workshop

(This is topic is also being covered at our April 20th Workshop in Pawtucket—see next page)

Do you receive SSI or SSDI and would like to work but are concerned about how working will effect your benefits? If you receive SSI and could earn more than \$30,000 a year and keep your Medicaid would you consider working? If you receive SSDI would you work if you knew you could receive your SSDI check while working for at least a year? Jeanne Fay, Certified Work Incentives Counselor will answer your questions. Bring your award letter if possible.

Pawtucket Office

Thursday March 30th 12-2 pm

How to Protect Yourself from Scams and Fraud

Jamie Kamborian from the Attorney General's office will review the latest frauds and scams. Topics such as telemarketing fraud, identity theft, bogus check schemes and charitable solicitations will be addressed. Learn how to prevent yourself from becoming a victim of by arming yourself with the best form of

LUNCH & LEARN WORKSHOPS

APRIL

Warwick Office

Wednesday, April 19 12-2 pm

*Adaptive Cycling Hands-On Clinic
with "Bike-On"*

**Presenter: Scott Pellett of Rhode Island's
own Bike-On.com**

Bike-On has been the worldwide industry leader in adaptive cycling and recreational mobility for nearly 20 years. Grown and matured over the internet, they have begun to demonstrate their products locally and are excited by the prospects of showing our Rhode Island friends a hands-on demonstration of hand cycles, recumbent trikes, tandem trikes and a selection of personal transporters. They have some "really cool stuff" to show you and will share some funding opportunities as well.

Pawtucket Office

Wednesday, April 20 12-2 pm

*SSA Disability Work
Incentives Workshop*

*(This topic is also being covered at our March 29th
Workshop in Warwick—see previous page).*

Do you receive SSI or SSDI and would like to work but are concerned about how working will effect your benefits? If you receive SSI and could earn more than \$30,000 a year and keep your Medicaid would you consider working? If you receive SSDI would you work if you knew you could receive your SSDI check while working for at least a year?

Tristan Pennell, Certified Work Incentives Counselor, will be here to answer your questions. Bring your award letter if possible.

As part of OSCIL's outreach and community education initiative, OSCIL offers these free "Lunch and Learn" workshops highlighting various solutions that can increase access in your home and community.

Locations:

**Warwick Office: 1944 Warwick Avenue
Pawtucket Office: 175 Main Street**

**Call 738-1013 for more information
and to register.**

Pizza will be served. Seating is limited.

Sign language Interpreters and Relay Conference Captioning are secured for all Workshops.

VSA Arts Rhode Island's Saturday Morning Art Classes

OSCIL's Anna Petra Liebenow took VSA art's RI's Saturday Morning Art Class and here's what she had to say, "I jumped at the chance to take the VSA arts class designed for adults with disabilities. After the first week of class I told people it was the best thing I had done in years. You get to learn about art in ways you would not learn on your own. The teachers present in a very informative way, with an open outlook and a lot of creativity that provides support to accomplish the project. I am thankful for getting to do this and am having so much fun".

6 week sessions, 10:30 am to 12:30 pm

- Session 2-Feb. 25 to April 1
- Session 3-April 29 to June 3

Sign Up Now!

Classes will take place at URI's Providence Campus, 80 Washington St, Providence.
Call for more information – VSA arts RI 725-0247,
Email: programs@vsartsri.org

InSight Mobility Program

InSight has recently added a certified orientation and mobility specialist to their program.

The addition of this staff member allows them to provide small group and individual instruction for people with vision loss.

The focus will be to teach people how to move from place to place more independently and with confidence. For more information visit their website at www.in-sight.org.

STOP MEDICARE FRAUD! SAVE MEDICARE DOLLARS!

Join the
Senior Medicare Patrol (SMP)
and assist
Medicare beneficiaries

It's as easy as 1-2-3.

- | | | |
|---------------------|------------------------------|------------------|
| 1. PROTECT | 2. DETECT | 3. REPORT |
| Medicare
Numbers | Check
Medicare
Notices | Concerns |

For more information, call the
RI Division of Elderly Affairs at
401-462-0194
401-462-0740 (TTY)



The production of this ad was supported by grant #90MP0208
from the Administration for Community Living,
U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (DHS).

Upcoming Community Events

Wheelchair Tennis Anyone?

Wheelchair tennis clinics are being held at Dartmouth Indoor Tennis. There is no cost for these clinics and all skill levels are welcome. Clinics are held on Friday nights.

- Time: 7:15-9:15 pm
- Dates: Feb 3 & 24, March 10 & 24, April 7 & 21, May 5 & 19.

Attend all or just one. Contact Thomas Dodd at 523-9864 for more information or to register. Rackets and sports chairs can be provided if needed.

WALK MS

Walk MS is thousands of people walking to raise money to create a world free of Multiple Sclerosis.

- Walk MS Providence 2017-April 19
- Walk MS Narragansett 2017-April 19
- Walk MS Bristol 2017-May 7

Your participation in this event will provide over 18,000 people and their families with assistance. Contact 1-800-344-4867 for questions or to sign up for a walk. Or visit www.msnewengland.org.

IMAGINE WALK & FAMILY FUN DAY FOR AUTISM

The Autism Project is hosting the Annual Imagine Walk and Family Fun Day for Autism on Sunday, April 30th at Goddard Memorial State Park from 9am to 1pm.

All proceeds raised helps parents and school districts participate in a training series to better the lives of children living with Autism. This two kilometer walk has many fun activities including face painting, reptiles, inflatables, and more.

Call The Autism Project for more information at 785-2666.



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Website: www.oscil.org

*Winter 2017
Newsletter*

Return Service Requested

RIPTA Bus Passes and Community Site Visits

Each week, RIPTA staff travel throughout the state providing photo I.D. bus passes to qualified individuals who are unable to get to the downtown office.

The Kennedy Plaza office is open Monday and Wednesday from 9am to 12 pm and from 1 pm to 4 pm. The office at RIPTA's headquarters is open at the same time on Tuesday and Thursday. The address is 705 Elmwood Ave. Providence. Both offices are closed on Friday's to allow staff to provide road trip services.

Go to www.ripta.com for RIPTA's road trip schedule, disability criteria for bus passes and all other RIPTA services.