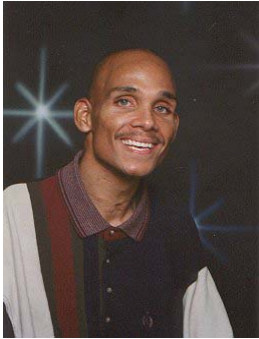


Human Service Cooperative Community NEWS LETTER April 2007

Spotlight

A LEADER AMONG US



David Carey, a leading disability advocate in Phoenix, Arizona is helping others with disabilities realize their greatest potential. As chair to the Inspire, HSC board David looks forward to furthering opportunities to self-determination and self-direction. “The co-op offers a unique opportunity for people with disabilities to truly direct their disability services. Inspire and similar HSC co-ops provide a platform for networking and community integration opening doors to social and career growth, stated David.” One of David’s goals is for Inspire is to contract for durable medical equipment, improving access to this valuable and life changing resource.

David Carey also works as an advocacy specialist with Arizona Bridge to Independent Living (ABIL), David assists and educates individuals as they work their way through the system in an effort to achieve and maintain independence. David can often be found at the Arizona State Legislature where he testifies and meets with legislatures to discuss issues that affect the quality of life for people with disabilities. David Carey’s leadership extends further into the community as he works as coordinator to the Youth Action Council of Arizona, and is a member on the board for The Center for Habilitation, and member of the steering committee to the Southwest Institute.

For more information about David Carey and his community outreach efforts please visit his website at: www.onesplitsecond.com

A FAMILY’S HERO



Andy, the youngest of three siblings was diagnosed with Autism. Born into a family with devoted parents and three siblings the family bonded together to ensure Andy had the best quality of services and care possible. They delved into masses of research and began advocating for Andy and Autism.

Today, Andy is a member owner of GALA, HSC. “GALA, HSC has given us the opportunity for Andy to receive personalized Habilitation services that truly meet his needs. Since being with GALA, HSC Andy has received the highest quality of services and the benefits are showing in many ways including his advancement in school work,” stated Aura Rubin, Andy’s mother and member representative.

Andy’s family looks forward to the day when he is ready to take on a bigger role in the co-op and begin advocating for himself. Arielle, Andy’s 15 year old sister says that he is her hero. “Andy is one of the happiest people I have ever known, and he always brings out the best in others,” says Arielle. His strength, perseverance and life are an inspiration. As the family grew together in support of Andy it was soon realized, that with all their efforts to provide him with the best, it has been and continues to be Andy who provides the family with richness of life.

Federated HSC® Updates

JOHN BRITTON JOINS THE BOARD!

John Britton is the newest member of the Federated HSC Board. He was born in Lincoln, Illinois and currently lives in Arizona. He is a member of Inspire, HSC and one of the first folks to use services through Inspire. He is experienced in board leadership and has served on two other boards, People First of Phoenix, treasurer and Marc Center in Bloomington, Illinois.

John is an adventurer and is known for his sky diving escapades in 1997. "My motto, is to never give up!" He also says, "What I do best is help people." John is a strong self advocate and speaks out in a positive way for change to happen.

Thank you John for joining us and guiding us forward!

NATIONAL PURCHASING PLAN

After several months of planning and preparation the Federated HSC is excited to introduce its National Purchasing Plan to co-op members and affiliates. Through the **Power of Many** participating vendors are able to provide best prices and offer rebates for patronage. A percentage of your patronage is gifted to the Human Service Cooperative initiative in support of self-determination and self-direction. Participating vendors currently include Office Max and US Bank. Here are some examples of the savings:

Office Max

Sample pricing:

8 1/2 x 11 multipurpose copy paper, 92 bright white

National Purchasing price: \$25.90

Regular price \$29.99

Select manila file folders 1/3 cut

National purchasing price: \$2.89

Regular price \$5.99

US Bank example benefits

Budget based spending controls and monitoring

Comprehensive reporting tools

Financial systems integration

Annual rebates based on spending

To join in the savings and for more information call us 602-404-7334!

THE HSC EDUCATIONAL FOUNDATION

The HSC Educational Foundation was recently awarded two year grant funding from St. Luke's Health Initiative. St. Luke's Health Initiative seeks to be a catalyst for community health. It is their mission to improve the health of people and their communities in Arizona, with an emphasis on people in need and building the capacity of communities to help themselves. This is central to the principles and practices of Human Service Cooperatives. St. Luke's grant funding will partially fund the project manager position and support goals including enhancing outreach and education, formation of a fourth Arizona based HSC co-op, and enhance member development programs for existing co-ops.

To further our capacity to grow, strengthen Human Service Cooperatives, and sustain the Federated HSC the Foundation is pursuing additional funding and grant opportunities. If you have any information or ideas on possible grant opportunities please share them with us. Call us at 602-404-7334 or email info@federatedhsc.coop

HSC Growth and Progress

Arizona

HSCONA, HSC

HSCONA is in the process of obtaining office space and hiring administrative help. They are considering expanding to nearby rural communities and continue to grow. Operations are growing and financials are in the black.

Contact:

Justin Harris, Program Manager
928-814-2809

justinharris@tch-az.org

Inspire, HSC

Inspire, HSC has officially opened its doors! Welcoming all people with disabilities, Inspire is specializing in supports for adults with disabilities and their family members.

To assist them in running a smooth operation, they contracted with GALA, HSC for back office support. "Working with GALA, HSC is a great opportunity for us. They have been in operation for one year and are doing very well. We look forward to learning from them," stated David Carey, Inspire board chair.

Contact:

Ginger Barnhart

inspire@federatedhsc.coop

GALA, HSC

After a successful first year of operations, GALA, HSC is spreading its wings. To better serve their growing membership GALA, HSC welcomes two new senior staff members.

Sara Wilson has been an integral part of the Federated HSC team for three years. As part of an "executive share" arrangement, Sara will spend time working for GALA, HSC as operations manager while continuing part time with the Federated HSC. Sara's experience and commitment to the HSC movement gives GALA, HSC a tremendous asset for growth and development. In turn, Sara looks forward to gaining hands-on experience in HSC co-op operations which will prove valuable in her continued efforts to develop and support HSC co-ops.

Kimberly Crook, mother of a young boy with autism has been active in the autism community for several years. Passionate about children with autism and family support, Kimberly comes to GALA, HSC to help develop Member Relations and Family Event Planning. Kimberly will also provide in-home program support and training.

GALA, HSC has also formed a partnership with Inspire, HSC. GALA, HSC will be providing administrative and program support to facilitate operations as Inspire, HSC gets their program up and running. "We're very excited to be in a position to help," says Aaron Blocher-Rubin, executive director of GALA, HSC. "This is a great opportunity for us to help another co-op and further the HSC movement. Others were kind enough to help us in our early stages, and we are ready and willing to do the same for Inspire now."

To accommodate the growing office and administration, GALA, HSC moved Monday April 2nd, 2007 into a new office located at 405 W. Southern Ave. Suite 6 Tempe, AZ 85282.

Contact:

Aaron Blocher-Rubin; Executive Director
480-820-2924 / aaron@azgala.org

HSC Growth and Progress Cont.

Michigan

The Federated HSC has been working with four groups in Michigan to develop self-directed human services delivery systems. Specifically these groups are focusing on supports to the mental health community. In Jackson, BRINCS has a full board of directors. With strong leadership they are enhancing their community outreach efforts and building their membership base. On April 13th they will be hosting a bowl-a-thon fundraiser followed by a golf-a-thon on May 12th and 13th.

In Kalamazoo, the Recovery Institute of Southwest Michigan and the Southwest Michigan Human Service Co-op have teamed up to provide a self-directed service system that meets the mental health needs in their community. Pending completion of their incorporation process they plan to start small and expand available programs as they go along. Recently they received funding and are now looking into securing office space.

In Oakland, Peer Choices hired an executive director who is providing administrative and leadership support as they progress in the organization's development. Currently they are working on their strategic plan and look forward to providing a self-directed alternative to mental health services.

Tennessee

Freedom Co-op continues to persist as they have faced delays due to funding support.

California

Two groups in the bay area have embraced the HSC co-op concept as a self-directed alternative that will help them meet their needs and interests. With strong local support, they are progressing through the early stages of formation.

A Quote to Remember

“Managers are people who do things right, while leaders are people who do the right thing.”

Warren Bennis, Ph.D.

Contact Information

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