

Celebrating 30 Years of Service Excellence in the Community!



Winter/Spring 2007

exchange

A newsletter for the friends of and for those supported by The Price Center

Residential Renovations at their Best!



1751 Washington Street New Kitchen

The residence at 1751 Washington Street provides a warm comfortable home to four men who have significant physical challenges. The original house was a spacious ranch that was constructed in the early 1950's. Working with a local architect, The Price Center was able to hire Construction By Design to implement the architect's concepts to open the floor plan to allow for easier movement through the house and increase its open accessibility.

The front entrance of the house was renovated to allow for wheelchair access. The emergency exit was also ramped to allow wheelchairs emergency exit access. All of the exterior renovations were wonderfully designed with keeping the house as residential looking as possible.

The interior design focused on allowing maximum accessibility while still having a warm feeling of a family's home. The floor plan was opened to allow

the individuals the ability to move around easily and provide for greater communication and supervision by the staff. The kitchen was completely remodeled and updated with all brand new appliances. Both bathrooms were nicely remodeled.

The front bath allowed for the installation of a wheelchair accessible shower and sink. The main bathroom tub was replaced with a raised platform Jacuzzi type tub. This tub has a door that allows for transfers from a wheelchair straight across to the tub floor. All of the interior renovations were designed to take the old white dull walled environment and create a warm welcoming home for the men.

Humanity House in Brookline, MA recent renovations were designed by a local architect and completed by BayPoint Builders, to First Floor and Third Floor Bathrooms were renovated utilizing Community Development Block Grant funding from the kind Township of Brookline. The existing bathrooms needed to be totally gutted, then reframed. The old bathrooms had received heavy use over the years. The first floor bath room and hall way were converted to a bathroom that is wheelchair

... Continued on pg. 5

A Look Back

By John Brown

Back in the mid 70's it became apparent to a number of families that when their developmentally disabled children would have no where to go once they reached the age of 22. The one program that was available in our area was no longer accepting folks into their program. Thus was the genesis of the Barry L. Price Center. A group of parents began meeting in private homes and we had a few meetings in the old Peabody School which was located off Dedham Street in the Oak Hill section of Newton.

The incorporating officers of the agency were: John Ponzi, President, John G. Brown, Treasurer, Catherine R. Camerato, Clerk, John L. Disabato, Vice President

When we finally got all of our approvals to open the center from the Department of Mental Retardation we hired our first executive director, Phil McCauley and I remember he and I going to Sears Roebuck in Cambridge to buy the furniture etc that we would need to start the agency. We had to spend the money first and then be reimbursed by the State. I

... Continued on pg. 4

Save the date for upcoming Price Center events

Monday, May 21, 2007

Golf fundraiser at Woodland Country Club

June 29, 2007, 7:05 p.m.

Boston Red Sox Event at Fenway Park, Welcoming Remarks by Dr. Steinburg and More

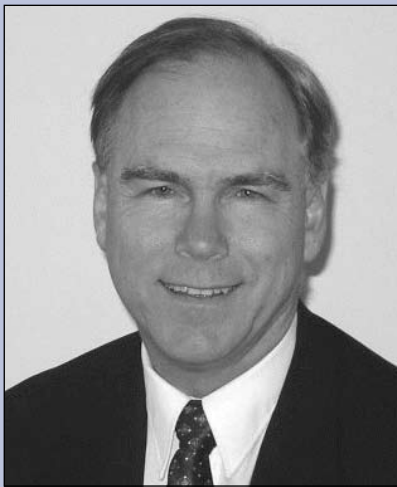
October 28, 2007

Grand Gala Fundraiser at the Brookline Holiday Inn

For more information:

www.barrypricecenter.org

617-332-7477



Letter From the President

This year marks the thirtieth anniversary of The Price Center. Originally, the organization was called the Norumbega Center. In 1983, the name was changed to The Barry Price Center in honor of Barry Price, a friend of some of the founding families. During the first ten years, The Price Center solely provided vocational services. In 1987, it started the day habilitation program in Dedham. Ten years later it merged with Humanity House and started residential services. In the past ten years, we have started

multiple new programs including four in residential, another in day habilitation, and new after school and family supports areas. The agency has adapted and found ways to fill the needs of the local community. The anniversary will officially be celebrated at our Gala Fundraiser on October 28th. We hope as many people as possible who have been involved with The Price Center over the years will attend. Please join us!

Additional upcoming events during our thirtieth year are The Price Center's first annual golf tournament on May 21 at Woodland Country Club and our second Red Sox outing on June 29. The Red Sox will play the Texas Rangers and dinner will be served at Fenway Park.

Another new development is the start of our Business Advisory Committee to help us place individuals in community jobs. The committee had its first meet-

ing on January 30 and plans to meet quarterly. Members include representatives from Coca-Cola, Starbucks, Newton Magazine, the Newton Tab, Uno Chicago Bar and Grill Restaurant and Verizon. We hope the committee will be able to help Erin Connelly, our job developer, place individuals in community jobs.

I also want to mention the recent formation by the Board of Directors of a Space Committee. The committee is helping The Price Center evaluate facility needs and locate potential sites for programming. It is important that The Price Center be thinking about what it will take to meet the long term needs of the community. We want to be ready for our next thirty years of service.

Thank you for the help you have given us in accomplishing our mission.

Weather Frightful; Awards Party Delightful!

In spite of the chilly weather, The Price Center staff and family members enjoyed a warm celebration at their annual holiday dinner and awards ceremony on December 8, 2006 at the Newton Holiday Inn. Approximately 60 people nibbled from the buffet, entered the raffle and danced to holiday music thanks to Paul Roberts, our WNTN Radio disc jockey for the evening. "The night was a wonderful opportunity for all of us to eat fabulous food, dance and enjoy the company of our friends at The Price Center," says Johanna Jennings, Administrative Assistant.

BARRY L. PRICE ANNUAL EMPLOYEE AWARDS

Every year the employees of The Price Center submit nominations of their peers for the employee awards. This year we received more nominations than any other year that I have been at the center. There were many qualified employees and it was very hard to decide who was the most deserving. When the process was finished the following individuals were selected.

Achievement Award - For an outstanding contribution to individual(s) supported by the Price Center

Liz Penn- Liz came to The Price Center in January 2004 as a case manager at Humanity House. In August of that year she was promoted to Lead Case Manager. In January 2005, Liz was promoted to Assistant Residential Director of Humanity House. Her creativeness and ability to communicate has led the way for major improvements for the program. During the last Survey and Certification process with the Department of Mental Retardation, Humanity House under Liz's leadership was recognized for their ongoing community integration and perfect records.

This past summer Liz took the lead role to have everyone enjoy their vacation together away from the house. They all went to a cottage in New Hampshire for a week. Together with the guys from 1765, they spent a week vacationing in the mountains. Everyone enjoyed themselves. Liz's dedication permeates the program. The individuals are continuously the focus of everything that happens at Humanity House. They always appreciate her and want to be with her. She exemplifies the word dedication.

Service Award - For a significant contribution to a program, the Price Center, or the field of mental retardation.

Karen Manning- Over the past year Karen Manning has worked developing the ASCENT Program.

... Continued on pg. 5



Lisa Majewski, Vice Chair, Karen Manning, Director of Ascent Program and Justin Sallaway, President of Price Center



Lorraine Kohr, President's Award



Lisa Majewski, Liz Penn, Assistant Director Humanity House and Justin Sallaway, President of Price Center

A Look Back

continued from pg. 1

believe Jerry Fineberg up fronted the money so that we could get started until such time as we were reimbursed by the State.

I think we spent all of the funds in that one trip to Sears. Our original location was just down the street from the current headquarters of the Price Center. We were in a number of temporary locations between the two Border St. locations. Among them, Newton Country Day school on Centre St in Newton, and the old West Newton Library.

We began with five “clients” an archaic expression today, but that’s what our folks were called in the early days, and some people still do. It’s interesting that “political correctness” has changed the expressions and words that we use to describe people and processes. I remember Carol Beard making sure that we used “developmentally disabled” when we were referring to our children, she was, and is a pioneer in many many ways.

We all remember the countless, garage sales, and other fund raisers that had has working like crazy to collect a small amount of money. The expression, “you got to spend money to make money”, was being constantly delivered to us by Jerry Fineberg and finally we listened and the result was our annual winter fundraiser. Anyone who has attended one of them knows what a great evening it is. And

the best part is that it nets us more funds than what our total budget was in the early years. Jerry and Dan Frank are to be commended for their commitment and devotion to the Price Center.

In 1983 we were approached about having a fund raiser in connection with changing our name from Norumbega Center Inc. to the Barry L. Price Rehabilitation Center and somewhat explicit in the request was that there would be a continuation of the support from those folks interested in helping The Barry L. Price Center and who were also friends of Barry L. Price.

No comments on the Price Center would be complete without noting the leadership of Paul Gendron who served as Executive Director and then President for over 15 years. Paul took a very unsteady ship and righted it. We grew in many ways under his leadership. He is the consummate, human

service provider with a business mind. Two traits that are not usually found in one person.

And now we have Justin Sallaway commanding the ship. He has quickly put his stamp on the Center and we have grown even further under his stewardship. I expect many great things will continue to happen with Justin at the helm for a very long time.

Having served on the board for some 25 years and serving as President for 4 terms I have a deep affection for the Center and the wonderful work it does. Even though not as involved, I still say, “we” with reference to the Price Center, it has been such a part of my life for so many years.

My time spent with the Price Center was the most rewarding, fulfilling time I have spent in any capacity. It was truly a labor of love.

... Continued on pg. 5



25 Chestnut Street was an early home for The Price Center, now is the current location for the Newton Police Annex

A Look Back

continued from pg. 4

Mr. Brown, has been a very dedicated loyal leader with The Price Center over the past 30 years. His contributions, commitment to service excellence and energy has been unwavering, even today, John is an active participant serving on the Fundraising and Golf Committees. The Price Center is still very fortunate to have his leadership and involvement.

Renovations

continued from pg. 1

accessible shower and we were able to create a powder room off the main hall by the family room. This allowed for greater privacy for the individuals living on the first floor. Plus, this design allowed the individuals to gain an additional needed bathroom by the kitchen and dining area. The first floor renovations were designed to make the program more accessible and better able to serve the individuals as they are begin to age.

The third floor renovations involved changing the large bathroom which was originally designed with two stall toilets and a shower. The new design was to provide a more comfortable residential single bathroom facility. The bathrooms were to be colorful and functional. The shower was replaced with a more accessible unit that allowed the individuals much more space. The two stalls were removed and a single toilet was installed. The overall effect was to convert a poorly conditioned public bathroom to a warm private bath area for the individuals that live there.

Awards

continued from pg. 3

Her dedication and commitment to the start-up program was endless. Karen was detail oriented, organized and visionary. In addition, to the afternoon program was the development of the summer school program in August. Karen is positive, forward thinking and has worked many years serving individuals with developmental disabilities.

Karen has fulfilled many different roles over the years with The Price Center, from person centered planner to temporary employment supports director, and now the director of family support. Beyond having great expertise and understanding of the people in different programs, Karen has a strong commitment to the individuals she works with and an unfailing interest and relation to fellow Price Center employees. She has exceeding talent in developing new programs especially with helping to create the Wilshire Road Program and ASCENT Program.

Dedication Award - For devotion and loyalty through many years of service to the Price Center.

Felicia Nova- The dedication award goes to Felicia because of her steadfast commitment to the individuals at the Dedham Intensive Day Habilitation Program. Dedication is to commit oneself to a certain cause. Felicia has been employed by The Price Center since October 5, 1998. For over 8 years, this person has committed herself to improving the quality of life for individuals with severe to profound disabilities. Felicia readily accepts changes to her schedule to meet the needs of the individuals supported. In her many years of service with this program, not once has she entered the supervisor's office or the Program Director's office to complain.

President's Award - For overall contributions and genuine support to the Price Center

Lorraine Kohr- Although Lorraine has only worked at The Price Center for one year, she has already made an outstanding contribution. Not only has she been able to raise money and start contributions for the many needs of The Price Center, but she also has helped The Price Center in many other areas through her vast store of contacts. Finally her contribution to the Extreme Makeover Project was above and beyond what could normally be expected.

Over the past year Lorraine has demonstrated outstanding dedication loyalty and commitment to The Price Center and the individuals served. Most note worthy are the start up of the NewTV Program, Priceless Supports, the Red Sox event, Holiday staff gifts, the extreme makeover, the Senator Kennedy recognition event, and the media coverage The Price Center received over the past year. The relationships that have been developed by Lorraine will continue to strengthen and build on the success of The Price Center.

Employment Services

Profiles

Employment Services is excited to announce the newest feature of the Price Center newsletter: The Job Seeker Profile. Each edition will feature two job seekers who are looking for employment in the community. We hope once you read about their interests, skills and abilities, you'll help us make personal contact with a potential employer. Subsequent newsletters will include a profile (or two) featuring a successful placement. Please contact Erin Connolly, Job Developer, or Jennifer Pike, Employment Services Program Director, if you can help us match future employees with lucky managers!



Meet Paul

Paul is a friendly man who lives in the Watertown area. He has a fantastic attitude and hidden sense of humor. After ten years working as a dishwasher for a local restaurant, he recently decided to make a career change. Paul is fascinated with movies, particularly foreign and independent films. Ideally, his next job would tie into his interest in movies and film.

It is very important for Paul to work on his own, at his own pace. He would be interested in a light cleaning job in the film/theater/video business. He is interested in working four to five hours a day.



Meet Kerri

Kerri is an outgoing, caring worker with the desire and enthusiasm to work successfully in the community. Her work experience has been in cleaning and hotel laundry services. She also volunteers at a local hospital working on a team putting together hospital packets.

Kerri was employed as a laundry attendant at the Newton Holiday Inn until its recent closure. She is motivated to find a new job.

Kerri has expressed interest in working in an office and has experience shredding documents; collating small projects; and stuffing, stamping and labeling envelopes. In addition, she loves to make coffee! Kerri would like to work four to five hours daily with a weekday-only schedule so that she can maintain her busy weekend social life. She is very invested in the local

community and enjoys going to church services every weekend with her mother. Kerri needs a chance to prove how valuable she can be to an employer.

Employment Services Wish List

We are looking for employers who will:

- consider working with us set up work situations where we can evaluate job seekers performing a variety of tasks in real life jobs. These situational assessments benefit employers because work gets done for free. Assessments can be arranged to meet the needs and scheduling demands of the employer. We are looking for short term, long term and summer opportunities.
- provide tours and/or presentations to educate job seekers about various employment opportunities.
- provide supplies that can be used as training materials for individuals who are developing their job skills in preparation for future employment.

As always, we are looking for work that can be sub-contracted to us for completion on-site (or off-site in your location). This work can include jobs such as small assembly, mailing, stuffing envelopes, labeling and collating.

... Continued on pg. 7

Employment Services

continued from pg. 6

Vocational Assessment Program Started

Employment Services has provided seven vocational assessments with students from Newton North High School. Over the past year evaluations have taken place at The Price center and in the community at sub sites such as, the Dog Scoop, Newton Street Garage, RLM, Lasell College, Newton Career Center and Cabots Ice Cream, the Assessments also includes standards-sized testing and sub-contract work. At the conclusion of the evaluation, the student will have a written assessment that identifies vocational interests, strengths and aptitudes. Once again, The Price Center is partnering with the Newton Schools and MRC. Employment Services is looking to continue this collaboration and be in the position to offer vocational assessments as a resource to the greater community.

Planning for the good life

The Price Center offers Person Centered Planning, a service that helps individuals with developmental disabilities plan for the future. It is directed by the individual, family members and/or those who know the person best. The service distinguishes itself from other planning systems by creating a forum for listening, learning and acting on the essentials of daily life that are important to the person. During the process, we enlist support people to help create potential opportunities that are right for the individual. A plan evolves over time as the individual imagines how he or she might want to live in the future.

Anyone can benefit from Person Centered Planning. It is particularly helpful for people who are:

- ▶ Living with caregivers who may be unable to support them in the near future
- ▶ Discontented or mismatched in their current living situation
- ▶ Interested in exploring a different line of work or a career adjustment
- ▶ Experiencing a setback due to a major illness or injury
- ▶ Struggling to adjust to a major loss
- ▶ Seeking a balance between the life they want and a need for significant supervision and support
- ▶ Desiring more control over every day and key life decisions
- ▶ Moving from an institutional setting
- ▶ Living a great life but wish to enhance it

Fees for Person Centered Planning services may be paid in a variety of ways such as family support funding, local school system funding or private payment. To learn more about this service or arrange for a consultation, contact Karen Manning, Director of Family Support at 617.332.7477 extension 220.

Spring Appeal

As we spring forward this year, Development has many exciting activities planned. First and foremost is our Annual Spring Appeal, which will be kicking off this month. Our goal is to increase donations by 25% over last year. We hope that everyone can help contribute! Speaking of contributions, we wish to thank the following organizations for their outstanding support over the last several months.

Brookline Community Foundation
Benjamin Franklin Foundation
Cambridge Savings Bank Foundation
Blue Cross/Blue Shield of Massachusetts
Dedham Savings Bank

ING
George Washington Toma
O'Hara's Restaurant
Bob's Furniture

This is a great time of year for making a planned gift. Planned giving enables you to give gifts of assets while offering important tax savings at the same time. There are many types of plans such as: bequests, endowment gifts, deferred charitable gift, annuities, charitable gift of securities, life insurance, retirement plans, charitable remainder trusts and charitable lead trust. Please contact Lorraine Kohr, 617-332-7477 or lkohr@barrypricecenter.org to learn more about planned giving and saving on your taxes.

Barry L. Price
Rehabilitation Center
38 Border Street
West Newton, MA 02465
617-332-7477

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Mary Flynn
Chairperson

Justin Sallaway
President

Lorraine Kohr
Editor



**The Barry L. Price
Rehabilitation Center, Inc.**

Yes! I would like to help adults with developmental disabilities achieve their full potential. Enclosed is my check payable to **The Barry L. Price Rehabilitation Center,** in support of ongoing programs in 2007.

Name: _____

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City: _____

State, Zip code: _____

Telephone Number: _____

Email Address: _____

Please **print** your name as you would like it to appear in your name as you would like it to appear in

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| <input type="checkbox"/> \$500 <i>Benefactor</i> | <input type="checkbox"/> \$ ____ <i>Other</i> |
| <input type="checkbox"/> \$250 <i>Patron</i> | |

Visa/Mastercard, AMEX and Discover accepted

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