

Celebrating 30 Years of Service Excellence in the Community!



The Price
Center

Summer 2007

exchange

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

Steve Tyrell to Perform Again at The Price Center Grand Gala

In response to popular demand, The Price Center has been able to engage Steve Tyrell to perform for the second year in a row at The Price Center's Grand Gala Fundraiser. In the words of Mr. Daniel Frank, "we are presenting an encore performance by Steve Tyrell, the renowned producer and vocalist." Of late, Steve has produced albums by Rod Stewart and Diana Ross to name of few. He also has a new album coming out of Burt Bacharach tunes, which he will share with us on the night of October 27th. This will be an evening of evenings with a great performer.

On a personal note, when Steve Tyrell sings to us, he adds a personal touch to his notes; he has a family member who is developmentally disabled and he sings from his heart and for the mission. Please join Michelle Fineberg and Daniel Frank as The Price Center recognizes 30 years of service excellence in the community on October 27, 2007 at The Brookline Holiday Inn. The event begins at 6:15 and the show begins at 7:00 p.m. A gourmet buffet follows the show. Call 617-332-7477 for details. Sponsorships and tickets are available now for this wonderful event. Invitations with prices will go out at the end of August or beginning of September.

BARRY L. PRICE REHABILITATION CENTER, INC.

Please join Steve Tyrell
and the Price Center
as we celebrate our...

30th
ANNIVERSARY

Steve Tyrell

October 27, 2007 AT THE BROOKLINE HOLIDAY INN

ASCENT Program Receives State License

The Price Center's ASCENT program, our after school program for high school students, has recently completed the licensing process with the Massachusetts Department of Early Education and Care. The EEC, in its capacity as a licensing agency, licenses all child-care programs in Massachusetts, enforcing strong standards for the health, safety and education of all children in child care. This license will allow us to enroll 14 and 15 year old students this fall

in addition to serving students who are ages 16 to 21.

Another new development in the ASCENT program is the implementation of a life skills model as part of the curriculum. Through recreational activities, a main focus is to help participants acquire functional skills in Literacy, Money Management / Budgeting, Time Management, Personal Care and Hygiene Awareness, Meal Planning, Shopping and

Cooking, Understanding and Practicing Social Standards, Health Safety and Fitness, Community Safety, and Mobility and Travel Training.

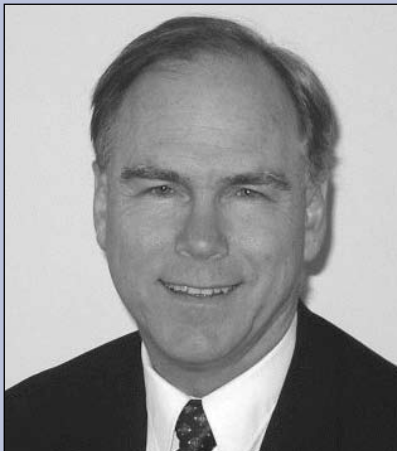
The program will reopen the first week of September. The program is open school days from 2:30 pm to 5:30 pm with Newton High Schools providing transportation to the program. We are still accepting applications for the upcoming school year.

Night with The Red Sox

The 2nd Annual Night with The Red Sox at Fenway Park was held on Friday, June 29, 2007. More than 200 people attended the event. They enjoyed dinner at the Players' Club, raffles, a wonderful silent auction, and visits from special guests such as Dr. Charles Steinberg, Vice President of the Red Sox, and Joe Castiglione, announcer for the Red Sox. An exciting win followed over the Texas Rangers.



Manny Ramirez slides into 3rd base during the Red Sox win over the Texas Rangers



The past few months have been eventful for The Price Center. The biggest news is that The Price Center has been awarded a three year certification from the Committee on Accreditation of Rehabilitation Facilities (CARF). The survey team was very positive about the quality of The Price Center's programs. It also gave commendations for the Strategic Plan that The Price Center has developed and for the quality of its Development and Fundraising Department.

Letter From the President

Programmatically, we have been successful in starting a new shared living program in South Newton, and for the second year we are operating a summer vocational program for high school students. The employment program has made several new vocational placements in the community, and the Day Habilitation programs have received favorable results from recent Medicaid audits.

In the area of fundraising, on May 21st we held our first Annual Golf Tournament at Woodland Country Club, and more recently on June 29th we had our Red Sox Night at Fenway Park. Both events were very successful. We are starting to prepare for our 30th anniversary celebration at our annual gala event featuring Steve Tyrell at the Brookline Holiday Inn on October 27th.

One of the most consuming activities has been looking for new space for our expanding programs. The Board's Space Committee has been very active in looking at prospective properties for lease or purchase. Currently, there are no new results to communicate, but we hope that our hard work will be rewarded over time. The high cost of real estate is making the search difficult.

At the completion of another fiscal year, I am happy to report that The Price Center has had a successful year fiscally, programmatically, and in terms of achieving our strategic goals. Thank you all for your help during this time.

The Price Center Receives Three Year CARF Certification

The Price Center was recently awarded a three year certification from the Committee on Accreditation of Rehabilitation Facilities (CARF). CARF is a national organization dedicated to improving the quality of services to people with disabilities. The Price Center is required to be certified by CARF in order to operate our Medicaid Day Habilitation Programs, but we also have our Employment and

Residential programs surveyed as an additional way of measuring the quality of these programs. The survey team was very positive about the quality of The Price Center programs. There were no recommendations made regarding the programs. The final report commended The Price Center for its Strategic Plan and for the quality of its Development and Fundraising Department. The

report stated that “The Price Center demonstrates a commitment to quality services and to the CARF standards. There is evidence of a good understanding of the standards as well as a commitment to applying the standards to services provided.” Congratulations need to be extended to the staff of The Price Center who applied these standards on a daily basis ensuring a successful survey.

First Annual Golf Tournament a Great Success

Stanley Cup Champion Ken Hodge joined 120 other golfers at the Price Center’s 1st Annual Golf Tournament at the picturesque Woodland Country Club on Monday, May 21, 2007. The ideal weather helped shape the day into the perfect outing. After the tournament, golfers enjoyed a buffet dinner followed by raffle drawings, live and silent auctions, and awards. Congratulations go out to all those involved.



Clockwise from left: Ken Hodge, Former Boston Bruin; Richard Iannella; Jerry Feldman; and Jerry Fineberg.

Watch ‘Priceless Supports,’ a monthly program showcasing The Price Center and the surrounding community to discuss important topics, events and services

The show airs every Wednesday at 7:00 p.m. on NewTV.
See your local cable listing for other air times during the week.

A Month to Celebrate Anniversaries!

On June 12th, Rebecca Devlin celebrated her 1st anniversary as RN for The Price Center's Intensive Day Habilitation Program in Dedham. Rebecca is seen here with her good friend Brett. Brett lives with a wonderfully supportive family in Walpole. Prior to coming to The Price Center, Rebecca was a private duty nurse for Brett. The Program Director, John Giusti, recalls calling Deborah Bernabei to check one of Rebecca's references. About a week later, Deborah was calling John to see if there was a vacancy for Brett in Dedham's

day hab program. He had just turned 22 on June 6, which made him eligible for the program. On June 26th, Brett Bernabei celebrated his first year anniversary as a member of The Price Center's family. Rebecca was instrumental in Brett's acceptance to the program and for a smooth transition because of her familiarity with his medical needs. Happy anniversary Rebecca and Brett!



Brett Bernabei and Rebecca Devlin

Special Recognition

Daniel Frank is celebrating his birthday. In honor of this occasion, he is asking that people donate to The Price Center. A special thank you to Patricia Hall & Donald Boyko, Neil & Naomi Frank, Richard Hassey, Max Share, Howard & Patricia King, Lawrence & Teresa Needle, Mark Ricupero and Dr. Samuel and Reeve Frank for their donations.

The Price Center would like to recognize those who have made contributions in the name of others:

- Lucille Boynton – to honor her son Matt
- Rita & Peter Capodilupo – in memory of Rita's parents Theresa and Angelo DiBenedetto
- Mary Gallagher – in memory of her husband Charles Gallagher
- Miriam Hammerman – to honor her son Mark
- Dr. Williams Holmes – to honor his daughter Mary
- Lowell & Joanne Jaeger – to honor Charles J. Gallagher
- Barbara Kirchheimer – to honor Mary Flynn
- Charlotte Shaughnessy – to honor her brother Greg
- Brenik Inc. – to honor Nicholas Brett Bernabei

A special thanks to the companies who donated software to help upgrade our systems

Financial Software from Intuit.....	\$2,400
Antivirus Software from Symantec.....	\$5,615
Hardware from Cisco Systems	\$4,726
Microsoft Office Upgrade & Vista.....	\$14,100
Total FY2007	\$26,841

Residential Services Keeps Busy Throughout Summer

The last few months have been very busy for everyone in Residential Services with fun events like carnivals, outdoor concerts, art festivals, The Dragon Boat Festival, Strawberry Festival, The Spring Accessible Recreation Fair, museum tours, boat rides, and Red Sox games. Many of our individuals attended and/or participated in the Special Olympics in June. Those in attendance had a great time. Six individuals from Residential Services participated in a number of events and brought home six medals and four ribbons.

Every other Wednesday evening, individuals from both the Wiltshire Road and 1765 Washington Street locations go to 1751 Washington Street to participate in music night. The houses have been spending a lot more time together, which is great!

Fourth of July and Memorial Day cookouts at 1751 Washington Street were a success. Individuals from all the houses were invited. Warm weather, sunny skies and good food made both days fun for all. We are looking forward to our first annual residential cookout on August 26th.

The house managers are also very busy planning for vacations in the New Hampshire White Mountains and on Cape Cod.

1765 Washington Street recently welcomed a new housemate

named Erik to their home. The guys have been very helpful and friendly, making his arrival enjoyable. They have made Erik feel right at home by including him in all of their daily routines and trying to make him feel as comfortable as possible.

Humanity House will soon say goodbye to Liz Penn and Jeff Borth. Liz has been with the agency for over three years and is leaving The Price Center to attend graduate school. Jeff has been with us for over a year.

Good luck to both of them.

In late January we opened a Shared Living program in Newton. A live-in staff provides around the clock care to an individual who lives in the home purchased by his family. This type of home allows for individualized home care and maximizes personal independence and abilities, while providing opportunities for recreational activities, community integration and transportation to all appointments.

2007 Summer Vocational Assessment and Training Program

The 2007 Summer Vocational Assessment and Training Program is in full swing beginning July 16 through August 24, 2007. This is the second year of our partnership between The Price Center and the Massachusetts Rehabilitation Commission. The program has enrolled 11 participants who have varied interests and abilities. The program involves helping people to explore the type of work they want to do and practice different skills related to specific themes. The themes are office work, services: skilled and professional, recycling/cleaning, retail, hospitality, and miscellaneous work.

Each person will receive a comprehensive vocational assessment and recommendation for further training and job development.



*Meredith Williamson and
Achai Abiem*

Job Seekers

Paula is a young independent woman looking to increase her work day. Paula had been working at the Ipswich Ale House, a restaurant within the Newton Holiday Inn, as a busser of tables. With the unfortunate closure of that facility, she, along with five other workers from The Price Center, lost her job. Although Paula has now found employment for several hours a week at the Brookline Holiday Inn, she would like to work even more. Currently Paula volunteers three days a week at the Newton Wellesley Hospital doing work for the mail room such as delivering mail throughout the hospital. She loves being busy and is always happy to do her work. Paula has experience in dining room work, cleaning, mailings, and light office duties. She would like to establish a full work week that matches her full lifestyle. Paula needs your help to get her out into the workforce where she would become a vital member of any team.

Michael is a capable young man interested in independent community employment. He is a tenacious worker and would be an asset to any employer who needs attention to detail. Michaels has experience in machine work done for The Price Center as well as off-site. His current employment interests include clerical work, the travel industry, interior design,

and computers. Although his experience in these areas is limited he is eager to learn new tasks and does so with ease.

Michael holds himself to the highest of standards, presenting his work only when he knows it

Employment Services Finds Work for Local Young Adults

Recently Employment Services has begun new ventures. Job seekers found employment at PETCO. One is working to clean and organize products throughout the store. She was recently approved for The Ride, the T's Paratransit program, and is completely independent with her new part-time job. Our newest PETCO employee is responsible for stocking the shelves with dog and cat food. He travels to and from work independently. We have greatly enjoyed building our relationship with PETCO.



Individuals from Employment Services hard at work at The Price Center

In June we welcomed a new Job Coach, Christine Cosgrove. Christine worked with Employment Services in the past and since her return she has had a positive impact on the individuals. Job seekers worked with Christine in an open forum where employment members discuss their work experiences, talk about good work habits, and offer new ideas to each other.

Recently, we completed another vocational assessment through the Massachusetts Rehabilitation Commission. The assessment focused on a young man that is transitioning out of school and getting ready to join the workforce.

On July 16th we began our second Summer Vocational Assessment Program. We had more than twice the number of participants than last year's program. Twelve students will have the chance to participate in this exciting program. The purpose of these vocational assessments is to get to know each individual and learn their vocational aspirations. Along with the individuals joining us for the Vocational Assessment Program we have three new individuals joining Employment Services. It is exciting to be able to help more individuals find employment in the community.

Please Welcome Our New Employees!

The Price Center hired the following people over the past few months. If you see them around, take a moment to stop by and welcome them to our family!

1751 Washington Street, Newton:

Ana Colon, Case Manager
 Matthew Evans, Lead Case Manager
 Vanessa Dominquez, Program Manager
 Cynthia Kindell, Case Manager/Awake Overnight
 John Kiyingi, Awake Overnight
 Kenneth Muiruri, Case Manager

After School/Summer Program:

Achai Abiem, Group Leader
 Jacqueline Chozick, Program Manager

Administrative Offices, Newton:

Christine Cosgrove, Job Coach/Case Manager
 Lindsey Doolittle, Marketing Coordinator

Dedham Intensive Day Habilitation Program:

Catalina Cardona, Case Manager
 Ivory Hester, Case Manager
 Debi Masciarelli, LPN
 Katia Taylor, Case Manager

Humanity House, Brookline:

Cara Gorham, Case Manager
 Naomi Williams, Case Manager

Wiltshire Road, Newton:

Nakanwagi Suzan Yiga, Awake Overnight

The Development Department would like to welcome Lindsey R. Doolittle to The Price Center as the new marketing Coordinator. Lindsey comes to the Price Center from Utica College of Syracuse University, NY and brings educational background in communication and event planning skills. Please welcome Ms. Doolittle to her new position at The Price Center.

***Congratulations to Kerri Mclellan
 for being named July's
 PETCO employee of the month!***

From Hair to Here

After 31 years in the hair-dressing business, Millie Chodrick was ready for a change in her professional life.



Millie Chodrick

That's when she discovered The Price Center.

"I was getting burned out," said Millie, who recalls the long hours on her feet in her previous job. "My husband, Jake, worked on the vans. He needed a monitor to help and it was my day off. I said I'd do it."

The one-day job turned into six weeks and Millie was hooked. "I loved it! I just loved the guys!"

Millie decided to make a permanent career change. She met the individuals in Newton's Day Habilitation area and was offered a full-time position.

Eleven years later, Millie continues to support the individuals in Day Hab. She's also a mentor, training new employees who join the program.

Not long after joining The Price Center, a co-worker suggested Millie would be a successful human rights officer. Millie was doubtful. "I was petrified!" she said. The idea of advocating for the individuals grew on her and she accepted the responsibility. As of August 1, 2007, Millie handed her title as human rights officer over to Hilary Hughes after more than 10 years of service in that role.

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Justin Sallaway
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