



Developmental Disabilities Resources, Inc.
Providing Options for Persons with Disabilities

Spotlight On Success

Kai's Kookies and More Bakery

DDR recently had the pleasure and honor of visiting and ordering some delicious, wonderful desserts from Kai's Kookies & More. The newly opened bakery's decoration and inspiration of everything they do is based on Kai, one of the individuals DDR serves. In fact, you can usually find Kai at the bakery meeting and greeting the customers. Kai's Kookies & More offers a wide variety of tasty desserts and coffees that are out of this world. The bakery is always offering specials and has cookie lollipops for small children. Most importantly, however, Kai's Kookies & More donates a portion of their profits to a non-profit organization once a month. To try the must-taste desserts please drop by their store at 3905 South Blvd., Charlotte, NC 28209 or visit them on the web at www.kaiskookies.com.



Presenting the Beloved New Edition

DDR has a new edition! To better provide our wonderful care providers and affiliates with a quiet, pleasant space for trainings or meetings, DDR has added "The Campbell Room". Named after the late James Campbell, one of DDR's beloved original owners, The Campbell Room is a separate building located right next to DDR's main office and provides everything needed for a professional environment.

Stop! Raffle Time!

In order to learn more about the community, individuals who attend Connect, DDR's Day Support Program, often explore programs and activities around the Charlotte area. Many of the activities they attend are free. However there



are times where the individuals choose an activity that costs money. The group brainstormed and came up with the idea of a raffle to help raise money for the activities. These activities are in addition to our routine scheduled community outings. Everyone is excited to participate in the vote for what is next on the busy schedule!

Taking It to The Community

DDR, Inc. has always sought to improve the lives of the individuals we serve. However, the bigger part of that challenge is to increase community awareness, education, and involvement. DDR recently had the opportunity to provide an interactive presentation booth at a Wells Fargo diversity training event. The booth provided the attendants first hand experiences of people with disabilities along with education on programs, realms of disabilities, and involvement. The booth was very successful and DDR has been asked to return to Wells Fargo! In addition, DDR, Inc. will also be doing our yearly presentation at Lake Norman Charter School and is currently collaborating with the Charlotte YMCAs to reach even further into the community.



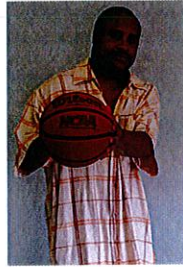
Diving In

Please join DDR in congratulating Dakota in achieving his scuba diving certification. This certification does not come easy and requires hours of class and dive time. Obtaining this certification provided him the awesome opportunity to go to the Florida Keys to dive. Congratulations!



“The Tallest Man in The World”

DDR, Inc. is very proud of the accomplishments of Steven who’s lifelong dream as always been to play sports. The following passages are taken from “Support Brokerage Employee Newsletter” distributed by The Arc and written by Kim Michel, a QP and Support Broker for the Arc.



“This year, Steven shared with his support team a strong desire to make this dream a reality. Steven and I explored possible ways to obtain funding for the equipment he would need to play wheelchair basketball competitively—a dream he has had since he was a youngster growing up in New York.”

“Steven, with the support of his entire team, including staff from DDRI and Goodwill Industries, spent time talking about what it means to have meaningful friendships, a safe and nurturing place to live, to make and have his own money, to participate in activities he loves, as well as to have the opportunities to make choices that are his own”

“Steven’s support team worked together in collaboration to educate and inform Steven about what it is like to embrace his right’s, to make decisions and most of all to stand tall and believe in himself.”

“Steven’s hard work and perseverance paid off when he was awarded a full grant from The Challenged Athlete’s Foundation to receive full funding to purchase the wheelchair he needed to participate in wheelchair basketball.”

Upcoming Events

- ⇒ It’s that time again! Time for DDR, Inc.’s annual Fall Festival. Mark your calendars; the event is on Friday, October 14th, 2011 at Reedy Creek Park. The food, fun, and all around wonderful time starts at 3:00 pm and ends 6:00 pm. Be prepared to play games, listen to music, eat hearty, and enjoy the company of others. Flyers are available in the office and by email upon request. See you there!
- ⇒ DDR, Inc. is sponsoring several different type of teleconferences under the title “Widening the Circle: Supporting People with Disabilities in Healthy Relationships”. These teleconferences are developed and presented by Human Services Research Institute’s North Carolina Relationships Initiative. The teleconference takes place in DDR, Inc.’s “The Campbell Room” and everyone is invited. Please visit www.ddrinc.org for specific dates and times.

“Steven was invited to join the Charlotte Rolling Bobcat’s Wheelchair Basketball team.”

“Steven’s perspective on how good his life could be did not stop there. Steven surrounded himself with people who are positive, supportive and kind-hearted. Steven became a believer, not only in others, but most importantly in himself. Steven is working part-time at a job he loves. Steven lives in a home where he is valued, and respected. Steven makes choices. Steven makes and spends his own money. Steven has filled his life with natural friendships and meaningful relationships. Steven is confident. Steven is strong. Steven is optimistic. Steven is excited and alive.”

??Who’s Who at DDR, Inc.??

Please join DDR in welcoming the newest members of the DDR family. Destiny Pistone, MSW works at DDR as one of our Qualified Professionals. If you get a chance, stop by to meet her. We are excited to add her clinical expertise.



Congratulations to Rosanny Crumpton, Dewayne Ansley on their recent promotions. Rosy and Dewayne have accepted positions as Program Directors. Traci Butler, MSW has accepted the newly created position title Director of Clinical Oversight. Congratulations!





Upcoming Changes

- ⇒ DDR has representation on the PBH Stakeholders group (Families, Providers and PBH Staff) which has been a part of the implementation of the NC Innovations waiver. This group is now working on Community Capacity developing action plans for helping people become more involved in his or her community. Mike Mayer is our facilitator. Eventually there will be real-life action involved and actually measured. There is currently a document titled “North Star” that has been developed and outlines what everyone (disabilities or not) want in their lives. It is from these points that the action plan will be based. This is an ongoing process and DDR, Inc. welcomes ideas the bring to the group.
- ⇒ DDR, Inc. is proud to announce the beginning of the Personal Outcome Measure interviews. This process is based on our accrediting body, the Council on Quality and Leadership’s (CQL) Personal Outcomes Measures (POM) which focuses on the choices people have in their lives. It is a powerful tool for evaluating personal quality of life and the degree to which DDR, Inc. will assist with the individualized support.
- ⇒ **The State is implementing many changes to the CAP-MR/DD Waiver November 1, 2011.** There are many changes in the waiver that will affect our families and care providers. Please keep in mind that these changes are being modified and revised by the State as comments and questions are reviewed and considered. If you would like more information about these changes, go to : <http://www.ncdhhs.gov/mmdsas/index.htm>. You can also visit our website at www.ddrinc.org. DDR’s staff is attending special training sessions on this information and will update you as soon as possible with important information about the 11/1/2011 waiver changes.



Resources

- ⇒ Arc of Mecklenburg—(<http://arcmeck.org/>)
- ⇒ Arc of Mecklenburg’s School 2Life Resources — The Arc of Mecklenburg County unveils their newest resource guide for students with developmental disabilities and their families to make sure they are able to access information as it relates to the transition from school to life. (<http://www.school2life.org/arcmecknc/>)
- ⇒ Beyond the Bell — This is a new program that the Mecklenburg Park and Recreation Therapeutic Recreation Division is offering this fall for teens with disabilities ages 13-21. It will be led by 2 full-time Recreation Therapists and includes: swimming, playing games, and learning new skills. For more information please contact: Megan Hotze at megan.hotze@mecklenburgcountync.gov.
- ⇒ PBH Local Community Resource Guide — (http://www.pbhsolutions.org/ConsumerFamily/docs/new_resource_guide7-31-2011.pdf).
- ⇒ The Self-Advocates of Mecklenburg — Advocacy & Support Group for Individuals with disabilities. This group meets the 4th Monday of every month at St. Gabriel Catholic Church from 5:45 pm until 7:30 pm. (<http://www.saomc.org/>).

Special Notes



- ⇒ DDR, Inc. will be closed on Friday, October 14th, 2011 beginning at 11:00 am for our annual Fall Festival.
- ⇒ To help protect your privacy, DDR, Inc. will be implementing changes to security procedures to keep all information confidential.
- ⇒ The DDR, Inc. annual overall satisfaction survey results show: People served, families, and / or guardians are 95% satisfied with the services at DDR, while Direct Care Service Providers are 97% satisfied.
- ⇒ If you would like to know more about upcoming events, upcoming changes, and additional articles, please email Tina Tadic at (tinatadic@ddrinc.org) to join our email distribution list.