

New York State Association of Day Service Providers
2009 Mary Frawley Grant Winners

This Grant was established by the Association in memory of a Board member, Mary Frawley, who was a Director of Saratoga Arc and a long time member of the Association.

As always it was a difficult task for the committee who was made up of Nancy Richter - Association Secretary, Michael Kaplan – NYC Regional Director, Patti Corbi- Bi-Laws and Nominations, Jean Petela- Southeast Regional Director, and Jen Cole-Central East Regional Director. We received a great response with many varied and creative ideas. This year we approved and awarded the most awards since we began this grant in 1995, for a total of 9 winners. They are;

Developmental Disabilities Institute- \$600.00- Long Island Region

Money was awarded for the “Woodworking Class”. This group uses hand held and electrical tools to build birdhouses, flower beds and frames for the agency art gallery. Consumers are taught how to safely use this equipment, follow directions and participate as a group. Participants of all abilities have benefitted from this group such as the older participants who have built things when younger and share memories of working with their father as well as those who enjoy the sensory input from the vibrations and smells. This agency will be assisting in making frames for another grant applicant for their art displays as well.

YAI NIPD- \$400.00- NYC Region

This program will be making “Busy Bags” for school classes ranging in grades K-5. The consumers contact the teachers and school administrators to find out the needs of the class, and then they shop for the necessary materials, construct the bags and items and distribute the bags to the school. Examples of items that go into the bags are book marks, rulers, bead magnets and activity books. The children then learn that people with disabilities can be productive and helpful.

Westchester ARC- \$500.00- South East Region

The United Spirit League of Westchester are competitive groups from seven agencies who compete at seasonal games such as basketball, checkers, Wii competition, indoor soccer , spelling and a two organized competitions throughout the year. The grant money will be used to purchase necessary equipment to continue these competitions.

The Arc Otsego Oneonta \$500.00- Central West

This grant titled Flowers for a Smile is an expanded use of a current flower garden. Grant monies will be used to purchase tools, soil and seeds. Flowers grown from this garden will be picked and handed out to nearby community programs such as nursing homes, hospital patients, counseling centers and people who live alone in the community. These agencies will be asked for suggested recipients and the consumers will also listen to the news to identify people who need a smile. They will then be given as a surprise act of kindness. The consumers will make gift cards to attach and surprise the recipient.

Saratoga Bridges- \$1000.00- Central East

The Creative Endeavors Art Center has several art classes and displays. A grant is given to the Hand-Made papermaking & Painting Classes for needed materials and supplies for this class. The class is offered to community in addition to consumers and is inclusionary. The items are then sold in the community gift shop to help sustain this program.

Ability Beyond Disability- \$1000.00 – Southeast

This project titled Ability Beyond Disability Speaks to the Community will receive money to support an educational program regarding Traumatic Brain Injury and injuries that can be prevented. This educational program will be provided by persons who have a head injury who will go to the community schools and speak about their injury and the need to take precautions and to think about their actions. They will discuss helmet laws, drinking and driving, reckless driving and substance abuse. The grant monies will be used to develop and print educational materials as hand-outs at their presentations.

The Center for Developmental Disabilities- \$500.00 – Long Island

This grant will fund the continuation of a recently developed scrapbooking class to purchase a die cut machine and supplies to support the grant titled Enhancing Communication skills and community Integration through Scrapbooking. These scrapbooks, which the consumers make, are used by the Speech Pathologist to enhance conversational speech on topics that the consumer is interested in. These books also assist as a natural means to increase social interactions, sharing and helping one another in the Day Treatment program.

Arc of Schuyler- \$250.00- West

You've Got Mail is a program whereby consumers purchase greeting card supplies, make the cards then deliver them to the local long term care center. In coordination with the long term care facility recreation coordinator, consumers identify special events and birthdays of these residents, then wear their logo T-shirt as part of the delivery team, and deliver the card personally to the resident. This grant assisted with the purchase of these supplies.

Nassau AHRC - \$1000.00 – Long Island

The Growing Greens for those with Little Means project will be using the grant money to purchase tools, supplies and seeds to grow fresh vegetables for those in the community who are homebound seniors, food pantries and soup kitchens. This program anticipates supplying fresh vegetables. Community integration will occur through delivery of these items, as well as follow-up phone calls to find out what needed items each person has from week to week.

All of these projects will be presented at the Annual Symposium in Saratoga November 4, 5, 6th of 2009. The presentations will show other agencies how to reproduce these projects within their agency for their consumers. These projects show creativity and empower consumers to become more independent and utilize the community resources.

Every year the Association sends out requests for Grant applications in February, to be awarded at the June Statewide meeting. Winners are obligated to present their project at the Symposium, and submit two progress reports throughout the year to the Board outlining how the money was spent and how successful the project was.

Copies of all the applications and winning awards are kept on file and available in the Video Library for other agencies to review and replicate for their program. Feel free to borrow these books for ideas for your agency.

Start those creative juices for next year awards!!

Submitted by,

Lynn M. Goodwin
Staff Recognition