



SNSC

Special Needs Support Center

*Quarterly Newsletter
Summer 2011*

*We help families of children with special needs meet their unique challenges
Carrying on the Legacy - Now and into the Future*

Our Programs

ARCH
Educational advocacy
Parent to parent connections
Educational series and workshops
Nathan Hall Library
Happenings – Social and recreational opportunities for teens and young adults
Connections – Big Sibs
Sibshop
Respite Child Care
Kids on the Block
Puppet troupe
STAR 
Supporting adolescents with chronic physical health conditions
ASPIRE Playgroup

Our Money comes from

People like you!
Annual Giving Campaign
Other private and community foundations

PATHWAYS
of the River Valley



Upper Valley United Way
Government Grants

Our thanks to you all.

President's Corner

By Ann Bracken

Executive Director's Corner

By Philip Eller

The second quarter of 2011/last quarter of our fiscal year has been quite full of our many rewarding programs. Full details of numbers, etc. will be documented in our FY'11 Annual Report, due out in August. But here are some of the highlights in the last three months for SNSC.

A reception for our Annual Giving Campaign's Leadership Circle (see elsewhere in this newsletter for full details) was held on May 5. The SNSC Annual Meeting was held in June. The ART LAB finished a successful year with 44 participants overall. This summer, Dartmouth Medical School Schweitzer fellow, Kevin MacNerney will run a 5-week long, two sessions a week of ART LAB.

The third/last of the year Education Class was held with 14 students looking at America by studying "Our National Parks." The ASPIRE weekly playgroup for young kids on the autism spectrum completed its spring run. Plans were made for a 6-week session in July and August, as well as an additional and special 6-week group in the fall for kids 8-10 years old higher on the autism spectrum.

In April, Happenings had a bowling event as well as its annual daughter-mother/caregiver luncheon, always a much appreciated event in which Pam did most of the meal preparation and the ladies were entertained by Rick Davis, our popular DJ. Happenings had its annual spring semi-formal in May (always a great favorite) and in June had 85 people attend a picnic hosted by SNSC. Many thanks to Samantha Pause and the Mascoma Savings Bank for the last minute use of their great BBQ grill.

Sibshop had a small but enthusiastic family event in June. Kirsten was extremely busy this quarter with all the NH legislative activities, implementation efforts

The SNSC Team Board of Directors

Ann Bracken,
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Miriam Osofsky, **Vice-Pres.**

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**Webmaster
NH/VT Computer**

Murray Ngoima
Sylvia Dow
ART LAB Facilitators

Did you read about us?

SNSC was featured in the summer edition of Image magazine with a very well written and informative article that featured pictures taken by our own Jamie Fairstone, a professional photographer. Check us out on page 107 of the magazine.

for the autism insurance law, securing funding for the rest of this fiscal year as well as working with the NH IOD on a 3-year federal grant that will, if approved, fund much of Kirsten's ongoing state wide autism activities. The Enhanced Family Support program continued to work with families of children with autism and planning to work with a new BC/BA after Mia Coffing leaves with her family in July to Colorado. A busy year for the KOB puppets ended with our annual appreciation luncheon at Simon Pearce Restaurant. P2PNH had its usual active presence at the NH Family Support Conference in May at the Mt. Washington Hotel.

STAR had a great annual retreat at Hulbert Outdoor Center in May with the teens and mentors - and Leah - participating in the high ropes course and other group building activities (check out the STAR website for lots of pictures). Also in May, STAR held its annual graduation event at the Upper

Valley Event Center and recognized Thom Mellert, a long time STAR participant upon his graduation from Hanover High School.

Educational Advocacy, staffed by Pam, volunteer Bob Scobie, and Philip finished another very busy school year with about 140 school visits and many, many parent contacts.

In April and May, SNSC sponsored four educational workshops for parents and professionals: Cindy Dale presented on the teaching of executive functions and self-regulation skills to children with these deficits; Charlene Mayo of the NH Parent Information Center led two workshops - one on Extended School Year services and one on 504 Plan/IEP comparisons; and Dr. Ray Chin, local autism expert talked to 47 people about the "Theory of Mind" concept, essential to understanding autism.

Pam was quite busy with the Respite Child Care Program and the Connections program. Financial planning regarding end of the year finances and preparation of the FY'12 budget kept me also quite busy this last quarter, as did the completion of several grant applications.

Summer will be a time for completing annual reports and preparation for next year's activities, and - maybe - some days of vacation for staff.

STAR Changes

After three years as Coordinator of the inclusion of STAR under the SNSC

umbrella, Leah Abrahamsen is leaving this position, to go to almost full time to the "other job" she has held the last two years - that as social worker at Newton School in South Strafford. We will really miss Leah's cheerful presence and hard work at SNSC. She has maintained the quality of the STAR program here at SNSC and worked hard to address the challenges of this transition, including that of recruiting new teens for the program without a direct connection to clinics at DHMC, our main referral source.

We are very pleased to announce the hiring of _____ as the new STAR Coordinator.

With the employment of _____, who will work part time, we will also be increasing by three hours a week, the work of Jamie Fairstone to work directly in detailed administrative support activities for the STAR program. This will free up the new Coordinator to focus on the many management activities of STAR.

SNSC Annual Meeting

Our Board member, Loretta Leatherwood, hosted our annual meeting at the Courtyard Marriott that was attended by 25 board, families, and staff. A panel consisting of Sue Perry and Sylvia Dow, two original parents of UVSG/SNSC talked about what our organization has meant to their families.

Sylvia brought along three participants of SNSC programs to talk about these experiences and also about the Global Campuses program in which they are now participating (see article elsewhere in newsletter on Global Campuses).

Ashley Dow, Maranda Hutchins, and Carla Delucca were most articulate in their appreciation for all the SNSC programs that mean so much to them. Philip and Pam talked briefly about the programs of SNSC over the past year and Kirsten shared information

WEBSITE Update

A major update of the SNSC website is now in the works - being done at a reduced fee by Bill Pike of New London. Keep watch in late August for this long-awaited event.

from two informative wall charts detailing the state-wide work she has been involved in over the past year.

Two new members were elected to Board to replace (hardly possible really) Barbara Mellert and Pete Bleyler. Codie Rockwood who works for Hypertherm, is the mother of a son who participates in Happenings and other programs. Rita Murdoch works in finances at Dartmouth College and has a son who graduated from the STAR program several years ago. Welcome to you both!!

Barbara Mellert has been involved in STAR for many years and a member of the board for many of them and most recently served as a great secretary. We really will miss her clear and prompt minutes as well as her historical connections to several of the SNSC programs.

Pete Bleyler has been a Board member for 6 1/2 years, the president for four of them, as well as Chair of the AGC that has seen our annual individual donations rise from about \$12,000 just five years ago to almost \$60,000 this year. His leadership in the development of the board structure and organization of committee structure has laid the ground work for much of the recent SNSC growth and effectiveness as well as enhanced public awareness of SNSC.

Fortunately, Pete has agreed to continue as the Chair of the AGC and a member of the Development Committee. It is impossible to adequately express the importance and contributions of these two Board members, but THANK YOU Barbara and Pete!!

Leadership Circle of Givers

One of Pete Bleyler's innovative ideas this year to enhance the Annual Giving Campaign (AGC) was to recognize donors who 1) increased their prior giving by \$200, 2) were new donors who gave \$200 or more, or 3) donors who contributed \$1,000 or more to the AGC. This group was called the Leadership Circle - key contributors to SNSC.

This year the 41 (individuals or couples) members of the Leadership Circle gave a total of \$38,500 toward the almost \$60,000 raised, or 64 percent of the total AGC.

An appreciation reception on May 5 held at the AVA Gallery tagging on to the end of the weekly Thursday ART LAB session. While only attended by about 25 donors and Board members, it was a wonderful introduction to and celebration of the experience of ART LAB. Several ART LAB artists stayed around to show off their work, to talk about the experience, and then join in the fellowship of the event.

Thank you to all the members of the Leadership Circle who were most instrumental in far exceeding the AGC goal of 2010-11 of \$48,000 - by almost \$12,000.

Leadership Circle Members

<i>Jim/Brooke Adler</i>	<i>Wayne Griffin</i>	<i>Marilyn Paganucci</i>
<i>Pete/Ruth Bleyler</i>	<i>Michael Guay</i>	<i>Robin Cushman Phillips/Roger Phillips</i>
<i>Robert Boyes</i>	<i>Barbara Hall</i>	<i>Winn Piper</i>
<i>Ann Bracken</i>	<i>Dave Harris/Joanne Blais</i>	<i>Torunn Rhodes</i>
<i>Peter/Karen Brine</i>	<i>Charlotte Harris</i>	<i>Anne Segal</i>
<i>Steve/Lenore Brown</i>	<i>Jack Hoopes</i>	<i>Lori/Mike Shipulski</i>
<i>J.R. Callan</i>	<i>Dick/Ann Justice</i>	<i>Bill/Jane Stetson</i>
<i>Hans Copeland</i>	<i>Brian/Mary Kennedy</i>	<i>Bayne/Jean Stevenson</i>
<i>Dick/Barbara Couch</i>	<i>Jo-Anne Unruh/Ken Kramberg</i>	<i>Peter White</i>
<i>Father Soule/St. Denis Church</i>	<i>Loretta/David Leatherwood</i>	<i>Doug/Leslie Williamson</i>
<i>Mary Cunningam</i>	<i>John/Teresa Lyons</i>	<i>Susan Williamson</i>
<i>Tricia Lanter/Kirk Dufty</i>	<i>Charles Neurburg</i>	<i>Vince/Lucy Mennona</i>
<i>Peter/Elizabeth Garland</i>	<i>Chuck/Trix Officer</i>	<i>Two anonymous friends</i>



SNSC

Special Needs Support Center

12 Flynn Street
Lebanon, NH 03766

Main Office

www.snsc-uv.org
603-448-6311
phil@snsc-uv.org

Parent to Parent

www.p2pnh.org
800-698-5465
P2PNH@valley.net

Respite Child Care

603-448-1268
pam@snsc-uv.org

STAR

603-448-2688 (new #)
leah@snsc-uv.org

ARCH

603-443-0652
Kirsten.Murphy23@gmail.com

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**Special Needs Support Center
Calendar of Events**

*See our website Calendar page for up-to-date
information on events for Happenings, ART LAB,
ASPIRE, Sibshop, STAR*