



GETTING CONNECTED

During these difficult economic times many families are faced with higher costs for utilities, lack of adequate income to meet basic needs, the inability to get in and out of their homes due to the weather conditions, and more. This time of year becomes particularly challenging for persons with disabilities and their families.

All through the year UCP/Detroit offers assistance to individuals with disabilities and their families to identify and create systems of support that will result in a better quality of life. One way we accomplish this is through our Person-Centered Advocacy program, by utilizing the experience and expertise of our Navigators.

Navigators link individuals to those resources that will enable them to meet their immediate needs, provide ongoing support, get them involved in their communities, problem solve when necessary, and provide the know-how for individuals to be able to advocate for themselves. We meet with individuals to discuss needs, develop personal action plans by using the Person-Centered Planning concept, and follow-up with our Consumers to ensure the effectiveness of our services.

UCP/Detroit is also working on developing trainings that will provide a base of knowledge for individuals as we work with them to navigate their communities and create circles of support. We believe that anything is possible and, with the right connections, life truly can be a 'life without limits'.

For more information, please contact our office or visit our website.

HOLD THE DATE

THE MICHIGAN DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES COUNCIL

REGIONAL PUBLIC FORUMS

For people with developmental disabilities and their families.

People with other disabilities and grassroots advocates are also welcome to attend.

FLINT	SOUTHFIELD	PLAINWELL
Mass Transit (MTA) Office February 24, 2009 1 - 5 PM	Michigan First Credit Union March 19, 2009 9:30 AM - 2 PM	Comfort Inn April 28, 2009 9:30 AM - 2 PM
MIDLAND	GAYLORD	MARQUETTE
Holiday Inn May 5, 2009 9:30 AM - 2 PM	Treetops Resort May 20, 2009 10:30 AM - 3 PM	Marquette Commons June 11, 2009 12:30 - 4:30 PM

WHY YOU SHOULD COME:

The Michigan DD Council is gathering information for the next 5-year state plan. This is your chance to say what is important to you. What problems do you want the Council to work on?

Advance registration is required

For more information, go to <http://www.copower.org/ohreg/index.php>
Or contact Glenn Ashley 1.800.828.2714 or Ashley@ucpmichigan.org or Carolyn Lejuste 1.800.760.4600 ext. 321 or clejuste@prosynergy.org

Organized by: United Cerebral Palsy of Michigan & Michigan Disability Rights Coalition

UCP

DETROIT

PROVIDES

Holiday Baskets to 12 Metro Detroit Families

Through the generous donations of the following companies and individuals UCP/ Detroit assisted 12 families during the holiday season.

JP's Hand Car Wash & Detailing Center

Doner

JVS

Patricia E. Kefalas Dudek & Associates

Mary Ann Greenawalt, UCP Board Member

Universal Credit Services

Latoya Jones, UCP/Detroit

Ronnie K. Sims, Fleming Elementary

Mr. & Mrs. Millard Coleman

LEARN ABOUT

ABA THERAPY

(Applied Behavioral Analysis)

MARCH 11 | 7 PM
AT UCP DETROIT

The workshop will be presented by psychologist, Alicia Kendall from Futures Health Core. Alicia has a Bachelor of Science and Master of Arts Degree in Applied Behavioral Analysis from Western Michigan University; and is a Board Certified Behavior Analyst (BCBA). Alicia brings a well researched and experienced history in ABA therapy to Futures Health Core.

For more information or to register contact UCP/Detroit at 248.557.5070.

Visit www.futureshealth.com for information about Futures Health.

UNITED CEREBRAL PALSY OF METROPOLITAN DETROIT

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Life without Limits for People with Disabilities

UCP IN THE COMMUNITY



2009 UCP DAY

Bears to Support QuickRamps for Kids®

United Cerebral Palsy of Metropolitan Detroit will host their

18th Annual UCP Day June 18-26, 2009.

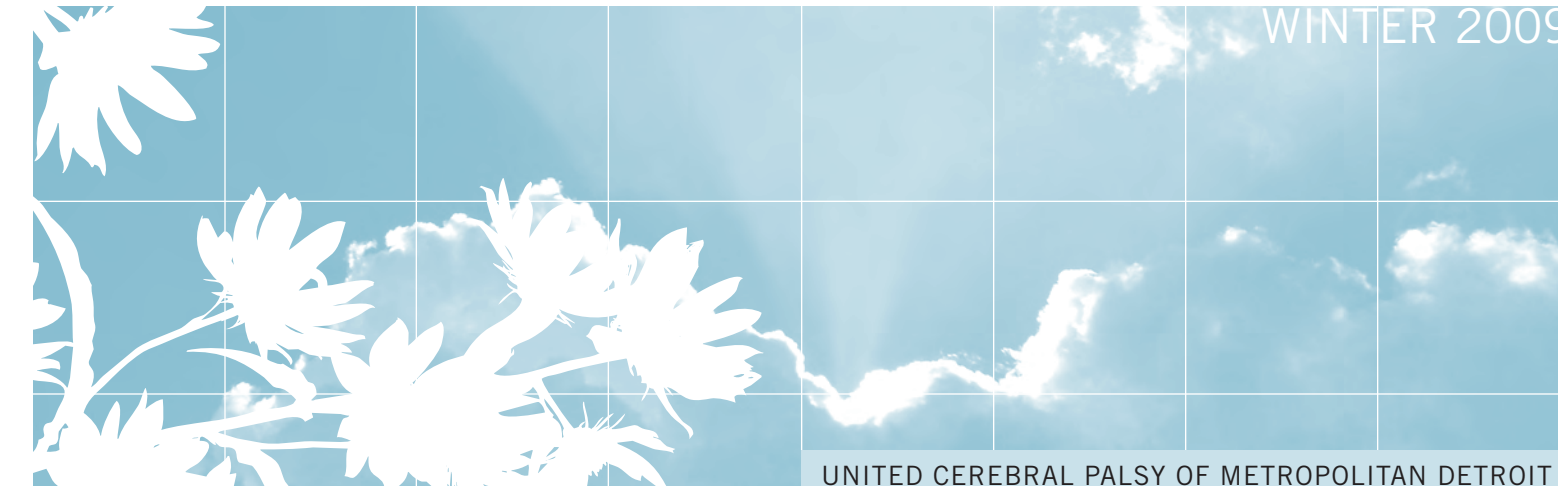
For more information on how your company can participate, please contact Chaka Harris at 248.557.5070 or Leslynn Angel at langel@ucpdetroit.org



QUICKRAMPS FOR KIDS®

Apply now! If a child in your family needs assistance purchasing a portable wheelchair ramp, please call 248.557.5070 and ask for Pat Dwelle.

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WINTER 2009

UNITED CEREBRAL PALSY OF METROPOLITAN DETROIT

LIFE WITHOUT LIMITS

Life without Limits for People with Disabilities

9th ANNUAL UNITED CEREBRAL PALSY HOCKEY FUNDRAISER

SATURDAY, MARCH 28, 2009

UCP PUCKSTERS
VS
DETROIT RED WING ALUMNI

Hazel Park Ice Arena
1555 E. Woodward Heights, Hazel Park, MI
Doors Open at 3:30 p.m.

Tickets start at \$10 per person and can be purchased at the door for game only.

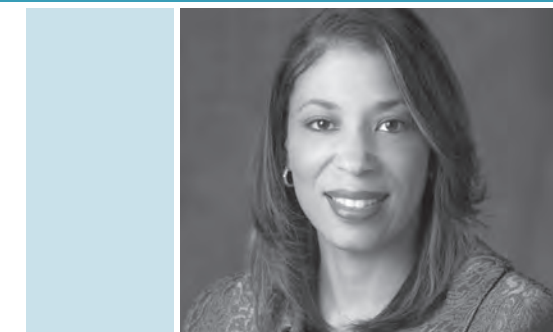
Advance purchase appreciated for Pizza Party and Afterglow.

For more information on participating as a player, event tickets or sponsorship opportunities, please call

248.557.5070

www.skatewithoutlimits.org

SAVE THE DATE



Leslynn R. Angel
PRESIDENT & CEO

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

Continuing our Legacy

As we face economic uncertainty here in Michigan and across the Nation, it's difficult to look beyond today, but as a community we must unite in our cause. At United Cerebral Palsy of Metro Detroit we are faced with doing more with less but our commitment to promoting "life without limits" for people with all disabilities continues to be our focus.

Equal opportunity and justice continue to be huge barriers to full community access for people with disabilities and that must change. Public policies that impact health care, employment, education and housing continue to be at risk. -

As we approach our 60th anniversary we recognize the need to continue the legacy of our founders now more than ever.

CUSTOMIZED EMPLOYMENT SERVICES

by Paul T. Landry, Director of Employment Programs

Over the past decade UCP/Detroit has been a leader in providing customized employment technical support to area agencies. Our experience also includes involvement with multiple demonstration projects. UCP/Detroit is now doing more than providing technical support we are providing customized employment services.

WHERE WE HAVE BEEN...

- 1992 Choice Access Project**
- 1996 Rehabilitation Renaissance Project**
- 1998 One Stop to Success Project**
- 2000 Benefit Planning Assistance and Outreach (BPA&O) Project**
- 2001 Personal Empowerment to Access Choice in Employment (PEACE) Project**
- 2002 Customized Employment Project**
- 2006 Work Incentive Planning and Assistance (WIPA) Project**
- 2008 Employment Network**

WHERE WE ARE GOING...

UCP/Detroit's objective is to provide customized employment services to the individuals with the most significant barriers to employment. UCP/Detroit believes that direct individualized service will lead to longer and stable employment for the individual.

OUR SERVICES

PERSON CENTERED PLANNING

A Person Center Plan provides direction in two ways: (1) identifies the foundations of supports that the customer has, (2) maps out what really "fits" into the customer's life for now and what steps need to be taken in order to overcome the barriers that the customer may be facing to be able to work towards his or her goals.

PERSONAL PROFILE & PROFILE MEETING

Identifies the individual's abilities through an extensive process of getting to know his or her conditions, preferences and contributions for employment. This will also translate into a profile meeting to develop a targeted list of employers to develop employment opportunities for the customer.

JOB DEVELOPMENT

Job development involves utilizing the Vocational Profile/Profile Meeting to identify individualized ways to represent and negotiate a job. This includes face to face meetings, job restructuring, and using a portfolio to assist in carving out a job for the customer.

JOB SITE ANALYSIS

As designing a job is important, so is how the job is broken down to ensure that the customer can succeed. The Job Analysis will identify the customer's specific tasks, episodic routines, job related routines and important cultural aspects of the customer's position.

COUNSELING/MENTORING

The purpose of counseling/mentoring is to assist individuals with disabilities on paths of self-discovery as they identify specific goals and explore ways to achieve their specific employment goal.

UCP/Detroit looks forward to working with Michigan Department of Labor and Economic Growth/Rehabilitation Services and Michigan Commission for the Blind.



3rd ANNUAL LIFE WITHOUT LIMITS THROUGH ASSISTIVE TECHNOLOGY CONFERENCE

On October 29, 2008 UCP/Detroit hosted the 3rd Annual Assistive Technology Conference. The conference was a huge success with over 160 participants in attendance.

The day began with a vendor expo, followed by a keynote presentation by Dr. John Eulenberg and James Renuk titled "Engaging Life with Assistive Technology". This dynamic duo recounted a decades-long partnership in developing and using assistive technology. They demonstrated novel approaches to finding access to technology for communication and control for persons with limited motor and sensory abilities.

Other presenters included Ira Soeal (Michigan Rehabilitation Services/Michigan State University), Cathy McAdam and Amy Maes (Superior Alliance for Independent Living). All provided a wealth of information.

Through the generous donations of our sponsors and contributors we were able to make this year's conference a free event and provide much needed assistive technology for the people we serve.

UCP STAFF SPOTLIGHT

CHANTEL C. HOLLOWWAY

Chantel C. Holloway has joined United Cerebral Palsy of Metropolitan Detroit as a Navigator. Prior to working for UCP/Detroit, Chantel worked for other non-profit organizations that assisted individuals with disabilities in an office administration, leadership and training role. Chantel possesses a Bachelors of Science degree in Human Services from University of Detroit Mercy.

Chantel enjoys spending time with her family ~~she participates~~ in various activities. Chantel has strong compassion to help individuals and their families overcome their barriers and to live a ~~normal~~ fulfilled life. Her mission is to continue utilizing her knowledge and resources helping people within the community.



Thank You to the Following Sponsors for Your Support

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OAKLAND COUNTY RICC

CONTRIBUTORS
ASSISTIVE TECHNOLOGY OF MICHIGAN
MICHIGAN DISABILITY RIGHTS COALITION
PATTI KEFALAS DUDEK

GENERAL INFORMATION REGARDING

SOCIAL SECURITY DISABILITY INSURANCE (SSDI) & SUPPLEMENTAL SECURITY INCOME (SSI) WHILE WORKING

The following general information is provided as a basic understanding of how the Social Security Administration determines beneficiary's payments while working and receiving Social Security Disability Insurance and Supplemental Security Income.

SOCIAL SECURITY DISABILITY INSURANCE

As SSDI beneficiaries, they are first entitled to a Trial Work Period (TWP) allowing the beneficiaries to test their ability for a nine-month period that does not have to be used consecutively. The nine-month TWP period threshold is \$700.00 for 2009. Whenever a beneficiary's earnings are more than \$700.00 in gross wages within a calendar month, Social Security Administration (SSA) will consider them to have used one month of the nine-month TWP.

At the conclusion of the TWP, there will be an Extended Period of Eligibility (EPE). During their EPE the beneficiaries will receive their SSDI payments only when their gross wages do not exceed the Substantial Gainful Activity Level (SGA) for 2009. The SGA amount is \$1,640.00 for individuals who are blind; for others the SGA amount is \$980.00 a month. The beneficiary will be able to request work incentives; however these expenses must be pre-approved by the Social Security Administration.

When beneficiaries first becomes eligible for SSDI, there is a 24 month waiting period before they can receive Medicare. Following the completion of their TWP, their Medicare coverage may be extended for up to 93 months (7 years and 9 months) as they continue to work.

SUPPLEMENTAL SECURITY INCOME

The Federal Payment Standard for 2009 for individuals is \$674.00 and for couples it is \$1,011.00. As a beneficiary's earned income increases, Social Security will adjust the SSI payment based on wages reported to Social Security Administration. The basic formula that Social Security uses to determine how much a beneficiary will receive monthly is determined by the total gross earned income that is reported by the beneficiary at the beginning of every month. The basic formula takes the gross wages minus \$85.00, then divides by 2 to determine how much will be deducted from the SSI check.

USING WORK INCENTIVES

Work incentives could be included to offset a beneficiary's earned wages.

MEDICAID COVERAGE

Medicaid Coverage - within the state of Michigan, SSI beneficiaries are automatically entitled to Medicaid on the date SSI of entitlement.

SOCIAL SECURITY ADMINISTRATION 2009 COST OF LIVING ALLOWANCES (COLA)

Supplemental Security Income (SSI)	
Individuals	\$ 674/month
Couples	\$ 1,011/month

Social Security Disability Insurance (SSDI)	
Trial work period -Threshold	\$ 700/month

Substantial Gainful Activity (SGA)	\$ 980/month
For Individuals who are Blind	\$ 1,640/month

Medicare Premiums	\$ 96/month
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