

Serving nearly  
6,000 children,  
adults and families  
annually.



# KDC

Winter 2014

# connections

A Publication of Kennedy-Donovan Center

## New Adult Education Classes Offered

Standing in a hallway at the Faith Community Church in Hopkinton, Maria Phillips, Individual Support Case Manager at KDC, looks in on her students and smiles with pride as they engage in various yoga poses. The class is part of an adult education series through KDC's Milford program as a way to cultivate an environment where students can socialize and learn new activities. Last year, the weekly cooking and crafts classes garnered so much interest that Maria was able to extend the program into the spring and try out a couple of new classes. This January, students were able to participate in yoga, February featured a series of craft-making classes that were somewhat focused on Valentine's Day,

March will have Zumba, which is a dance-infused aerobic exercise, and April will have cake decorating classes. While there will be no classes during the summer, Maria hopes they will start again with a new round of activities in the fall, and she has no shortage of potential ideas for future classes. Listing everything from pottery to horseback riding, she's clearly thrilled about all of the possible directions in which these classes could go. "I really want this to take off, and I would love for it to be its own entity," she said excitedly. Considering the amount of interest from students, it seems very likely that the adult education program will continue to grow.

*"I really want this  
to take off, and I  
would love for it to  
be its own entity."*

Individual Support Case Manager,  
Maria Phillips, speaking about  
the new adult education series.



From left: Giles R., Milford Case Manager Barbara Tumeinski, Mishka P., Rose Ann G., and Kate S. participate in a yoga class in January.

## events calendar

### MARCH 26th

Board of Directors' Meeting, 8:30 a.m.  
Foxboro.

### APRIL 12th

Milford Comedy Night at the Doubletree  
Hotel in Milford. 7 p.m. For more information  
and tickets, please call 508-473-5700.

### MAY 3rd

10th Annual Papa John Bike Run; Centro  
Luzo Club, New Bedford to benefit the New  
Bedford programs. For more information,  
please contact Lorri Borges at 508-982-1385.

### MAY 15th

Spring Celebration, 6 p.m. Four Points  
Sheraton, Norwood. For more information  
and tickets, please call 508-542-2542.

### MAY 15th

Board of Directors' meeting and elections.  
6 p.m. Four Points Sheraton, Norwood.

### JUNE 6th

CJ's Spring Swing Annual Golf Tournament  
at New England Country Club to benefit  
the Greater Attleboro Early Intervention  
Program. For more information, please  
contact Sandy Buckley at 508-399-7936.

### JUNE 23rd

11th Swing Fore the Kids Golf Tournament  
at Indian Pond Country Club, Plymouth  
to benefit Plymouth Early Intervention.  
12 p.m. For more information, please  
call 508-747-2012.

Please visit [kdc.org/events.htm](http://kdc.org/events.htm) for additional  
information on these and other upcoming  
events.

## Meeting A Community's Growing Needs— KDC Purchases New Property in New Bedford

KDC is proud to announce the acquisition of the former Ahavath Achim Jewish synagogue on County Street in New Bedford for the purpose of expanding our existing location in order to meet the needs of the community. This is our largest area of services, assisting over 1,500 individuals in the city and its surrounding communities, and it offers nearly every program KDC provides, including our School, Day Habilitation, Early Intervention, Healthy Families, Individual Support, Adult Family Care, Shared Living and Foster Care services. While we currently have two separate locations in New Bedford, our new property is directly across the street from the existing one on Hawthorn Street, which KDC purchased in 1991. It will provide greater convenience and access for our clients and their families.

The synagogue is very historically rich, just like the city of New Bedford. It was originally constructed in 1828 as the home of Cornelius Grinnell Jr., a Revolutionary privateer and ship captain. In 1890, it was sold and converted into the Ahavath Achim Synagogue, serving the community until 2011 where it has since remained vacant. The property will undergo construction to make optimal use of the space for KDC's needs, and is expected to be completed and operational in the spring of 2015. The new location will add 14,500 square feet to the existing 26,000 square foot property next door, allowing us to move from our second rented property in the city to a singular, more centralized location.

Mayor Jon Mitchell has been a great advocate for affecting positive change to the downtown New Bedford area, and the city played a central role in supporting and assisting KDC with the acquisition of the property, which is listed on the city's historic record. About 96% of the individuals and families served at this location are considered middle to low income, which is a factor KDC has taken into consideration with the new location's proximity to the current building and the ease of access from bus routes and public transit.

A long time in the works, the acquisition enables KDC to be able to accommodate the needs of the New Bedford campus, which serves almost a third of our 6,000 clients. The location holds a place of great importance in our organization as well as to the growing New Bedford community.



Above: The main house of the new property on County Street. Below: Architectural rendering of KDC's new program center.



Many of KDC's programs now have Facebook pages. Connecting with us is a great way to stay current with what's happening at your favorite program and to interact with staff and others.

You can also find us on Twitter, Pinterest and LinkedIn.

[Facebook.com/KennedyDonovanCenter](https://www.facebook.com/KennedyDonovanCenter)

## Generous Grants Awarded to KDC

In the past six months, KDC has received a number of generous grants to support and enhance our programs and services. Relationships with community foundations and businesses allow us to continue to offer the highest quality of services and provide solutions to otherwise unmet needs.

Middlesex Savings Bank Charitable Foundation awarded KDC a \$3,000 grant to support the development and implementation of a Nutrition Project at our Milford based After Club program. This project provides nutrition education, meal planning activities and hands on meal preparation for high school-aged program participants. This program was further supported by the John A. Scileppi Foundation whose \$2,200 grant enabled the project to produce a picture-based cookbook for participants to keep for continued use at home.

Our Cape Cod programs received several grants over the past six months. The Edward and Elza Kelley Foundation awarded \$2,376 for transportation for individuals with developmental disabilities to participate in social and recreational events. The Palmer and Jane D. Davenport Foundation also granted

KDC \$5,000 for the purchase of Automatic External Defibrulators (AEDs) for our Cape Cod group homes.

KDC was awarded a \$10,000 grant by The Peter and Elizabeth C. Tower Foundation to conduct a comprehensive needs assessment of the social and recreational needs facing Cape Cod residents with developmental disabilities who are age 26 and under. This project will provide KDC with a better understanding of the unique needs and challenges facing these individuals and allow a successful response of appropriate services.

Finally, for KDC's Cape programs, an iPad was donated by Autism Speaks which will be used as a learning tool in one of our Cape Cod group homes.

KDC's Attleboro-based Healthy Families program was the recipient of a \$2,200 grant from the Edwin S. Soforenko Foundation. This award will purchase safety equipment for program participant's children, including safety gates, appliance tethers and play yards.

### Open House at Newly Renovated New Bedford Home for Transitioning Foster Care Participants



With our banking partner on this project, seated from left representing Kennedy-Donovan Center, Shaun Albuquerque, Program Supervisor; Kevin Rodman Conare, President and CEO; and Melissa Zeitz, Program Director. Standing from left are Bristol County Savings Bank representatives Michele Roberts, Executive Vice President and Community Relations Officer, Pete Selley, Senior Vice President and Commercial Loan Officer; Pat Murray, President and CEO; Len Sullivan, First Executive Vice President and Senior Loan Officer; and Paul Camille, Vice President and Loan Officer.



### MISSION

Kennedy-Donovan Center supports people with developmental delays, disabilities or family challenges to pursue their personal potential and success in the community. We provide a wide range of effective supports to individuals and families through prevention, advocacy and intervention services that are person-centered, innovative, and compassionate.

## Holiday Donor List

We are grateful to the many businesses and individuals who donated gifts of time, talent, and treasure this past holiday season. Your generosity made the holidays a little nicer and brighter for the hundreds of families and individuals we support who were in need this year.

Aeropostale, Dartmouth Mall

The Bateman Family

Barry's Wine and Spirits

Bishop Feehan High School

BJ's, Hyannis

Charlton Memorial Hospital

Christian Fellowship Center

Courtyard Marriott Hyannis

Dorel Juvenile Group

John and Audrey Friedman

Bill and Ellen Goodchild and family

Anonymous KDC New Bedford EI family

Parents and staff at KDC South Central

Kids Do Count 5K Trail Run participants

Market Basket, Bourne

Project Linus

Sacred Heart School Elementary Parent Association

Shaw's & Star Market, Harwich, Hyannis at Route 132 and West Main St.

St. Francis of Assisi Church and Parishioners

St. John Newman Church Youth Group

Stop and Shop, South Yarmouth at Long Pond Rd., Hyannis, Sandwich

Toys for Tots, Cape & Islands Branch, Mary Ellen Harrington

Women's League of New Bedford, Judith Belli

## Barriers to Social Recreational Opportunities—KDC to Conduct Community Needs Assessment

Socialization can have a lasting impact on individuals with disabilities that includes improved behavior, health and wellbeing. However, research has shown that individuals with disabilities do not socialize as frequently as their community peers without disabilities. Nowhere is this more evident than on Cape Cod where geography becomes an additional barrier. As a provider of community-based disability services for children, adults and families, we need to understand why.

With support from The Peter and Elizabeth C. Tower Foundation, KDC is conducting a comprehensive community needs assessment regarding the barriers to social and

recreational activities on Cape Cod. Individuals with developmental disabilities under age 26, along with their families and caregivers have been invited to participate in this community assessment.

Information obtained through both mail-in surveys and community listening sessions will help us to better understand the existing barriers. KDC will use these results, expected in April, to develop services, programs and supports to more adequately overcome the challenges facing these families. We plan to update our readers on the results along with our plans to address this important issue.

## Annual Jennifer Freitas Dinner 2013

Over the past five years, the Jennifer Lee Freitas Memorial Dinner has been an outstanding success for KDC, and the celebration this year was no different. Jennifer, a student at the New Bedford School, passed away in 1991, and her parents Berta and Luis, graciously decided to honor her memory by hosting an annual dinner to benefit the school. The Portuguese-style dinner was held at the New Bedford Sports Club on September 28, 2013. The event raised over \$13,000, bringing the total amount raised since it began to an astounding \$50,000.



Berta Freitas with daughters Allison (left) and Kaitlyn (right), and granddaughter McKenzie.

## Save the Date!



**Thursday, May 15th at 6 p.m.**

Four Points by Sheraton  
Norwood, Massachusetts

## Annual Spring Celebration

Dinner, dancing, fund-a-need and presentation by a notable speaker and child advocate.

*Celebrating foster care*

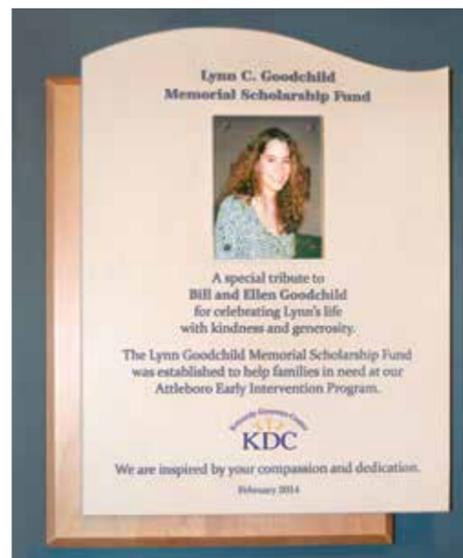
## A New Thank You to Old Friends

For thirty years, Bill and Ellen Goodchild and their friends have been an integral part of KDC's Attleboro Early Intervention program. We were honored to dedicate the child group room and a plaque in memory of their daughter Lynn.

The Goodchilds were first introduced to KDC by a friend who had a positive personal experience with one of our programs. While searching for the best organization to support as part of the annual holiday gift donation at their church, St. Mark's in Attleboro, they learned of KDC. Ellen, Bill, Lynn, and Ellen's friends Karen Warchol and

Audrey Friedman gathered every year to help collect gifts and donations for KDC.

After the tragedy of losing their daughter in the 9/11 terrorist attacks, Bill and Ellen decided that they would find a way to remember Lynn by helping others in need, just as she would have wanted. So began the Lynn Goodchild Memorial Fund, which has contributed over \$35,000 to the Attleboro program since 2002. In addition to the memorial fund, the Goodchilds have given their loving support to KDC through their efforts, which have helped countless families in the Attleboro area.



Left: The newly dedicated plaque in tribute to the Goodchild family. Above: Lynn's brother Neil, Ellen Goodchild, KDC's Monica Quinn and Bill Goodchild at the Attleboro Programs Center.



Last year, CJ's Spring Swing Annual Golf Tournament raised \$10,000 for the Attleboro Early Intervention Program. Left to right: Sherry Bonner, Scott Scales, Jeff Paras, and Monica Quinn. This year's event will be held at New England Country Club on June 6, 2014.

## BOARD

Stephen P. Sanford, Chair  
*IneoQuest Technologies*

Peter Keenan Jr., Vice Chair  
*Attorney at Law*

Ronald Carlstrom III, Clerk  
*BankRI*

Robert McGowan, Treasurer  
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Edwin "Ted" G. Carr  
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*President/CEO, KDC ex officio*

## Programs Overview

### ADULT FAMILY CARE

Finds adults with medical needs homes with families who have been trained to address their specific needs.

### CHAPTER 766 SCHOOL

Serves students 3 to 22 years of age with multiple disabilities.

### DAY HABILITATION

Provides high needs adults with a comprehensive program of services in a supportive and caring environment.

### EARLY INTERVENTION

Serves children, birth to 36 months, in the home, who have or are at risk of development delays.

### EARLY INTERVENTION PARTNERSHIP

Serves pregnant women whose children are at risk of poor health outcomes and delays.

### FAMILY SUPPORT & RESPITE SERVICES

Supports individuals living with their families in receiving tailored services.

### FOSTER CARE SERVICES

Works with families in crisis to prevent out-of-home placements; with children to place in qualified, caring homes; and with young adults transitioning to independence.

### HEALTHY FAMILIES

Serves first-time parents age 21 or under until the child's third birthday.

### INDIVIDUAL SUPPORT

Serves adults living on their own in the community by providing drop-in support for daily life management.

### SHARED LIVING

Finds adults homes with families who have been trained to address their specific needs.

### SUPPORTED LIVING

Provides direct on-going services and supports to adults with disabilities living independently in their own homes.

### SUPERVISED LIVING

Provides 24/7 support to adults living in groups of two to four in neighborhood homes.

### TRANSITIONAL JOB SUPPORT

Assists adults in finding and maintaining meaningful paid employment.

## Jarid DaCunha Dinner 2013

The Jarid DaCunha Memorial Dinner was a wonderful gathering of friends and family to celebrate his life through his family's commitment to the community of New Bedford and their support of KDC. Held at the Senhor Da Pedra Club on October 26, 2013, the event proved to be greatly beneficial to our New Bedford program, raising \$8,000 in its second year.

Anna and Victor DaCunha tragically lost their son in 2011 but have remarkably transformed their loss into something beautiful by helping KDC improve the lives of children and adults in their hometown. The DaCunhas chose to donate the proceeds of the dinner to KDC because of its outstanding reputation throughout Massachusetts, and

particularly in their hometown of New Bedford. KDC is immensely grateful for the compassion and generosity we've received from the DaCunhas.



Heidi Pereira, KDC New Bedford's Outreach Coordinator, with Anna DaCunha.

## Take Time to Review Your Estate Plan

It's a good idea to review your estate plan regularly, and what better time than Spring! Regular review ensures that it reflects any changes you and your family may have experienced recently. Use this checklist to determine if you are prepared for anything unexpected that could affect the management or distribution of your assets after you are gone. Be sure to contact an attorney or a financial planning professional when creating or updating your estate plan.

- Review your will, check for any changes that may need to be made because of a change in your life or changes in tax laws.
- Be sure that the executor you've named is still the appropriate person you want to manage your estate, minimize taxes, and distribute the designated portions of your estate to your beneficiaries.
- Update your designated beneficiaries to be sure you haven't named someone who is deceased or who no longer should be included.
- If you designated a guardian for someone under your care, review your choice and if necessary, make changes.
- If you haven't already done so, include a healthcare Power of Attorney in your estate for when you are unable to make decisions for yourself.
- Be sure your current plan reflects your current assets and your wishes for distribution.
- Consider adding your favorite charitable organizations to your estate plan as a means of minimizing taxes and leaving a legacy in support of our shared values. Including Kennedy-Donovan Center is one way of assuring KDC's continued services on behalf of individuals with delays and disabilities and their families.



## Loyalty Donors Club

We would like to pay tribute to our Loyalty Donors. These supporters have made a donation for six consecutive years or more. We are honored by their commitment to KDC and their vision of continued services for some of our communities' most vulnerable people.

William and Meredith Adair  
 Advance Air and Heat  
 Thomas K. Bliss, Jr.  
 David and Kim Boucher  
 Elaine E. Boucher  
 Jay and Eileen Boylen  
 Bristol County Savings Charitable Foundation  
 Walter and Denise Brownell  
 Ann and Ray Buono  
 Mrs. Euridice Caldas  
 Edwin and Joan Carr  
 Claire and Anthony Catulo  
 Mike and Kim Chevalier  
 CJ's Spring Swing, the Buckley family  
 John and Jean Connors  
 Dan and Kathy Couet  
 Robert and Frances Couet  
 Stephen and Kathleen Couet  
 Robert J. D'Amelio  
 Mr. and Mrs. John S. Dantona  
 Mark and Margaret Davis  
 Kelly DiPersio  
 Daniel and Cheryl Farley  
 Mrs. Frances Fern  
 Friends of St. Patrick  
 Toby Garten  
 Mr. and Mrs. Arno Gartzke  
 David and Vanessa Garufi  
 Joseph and Josephine Gomes  
 William and Ellen Goodchild  
 Steve and Robbi Grogan  
 HarborOne Credit Union  
 Rabbi and Mrs. Barry Hartman  
 Rich and Diana Harwood  
 John Hyland  
 Thomas and Barbara Kelley  
 Knuckleheads Bar & Grille  
 John and Kathy Korona  
 Richard M. Lamar  
 Roger and Barbara Lamy  
 Alan D. Lee, DDS  
 Joan Long  
 Edward Majewski Plumbing and Heating  
 Mansfield Bank  
 Alfred and Florence D. McCassie

David and Joyce McDonnell  
 Joseph and Krissy McKenna  
 Viren and Amita Mehta  
 Sharon C. Mendonca  
 Daniel and Julia Moniz  
 Bob and Betty O'Hare  
 Robert Panessiti  
 Bob and Carol Peecha  
 Normand and Lucille Pepin  
 Steven Perry and Charles Berthelette  
 Maria Phillips  
 Herbert and Caroline Reid  
 Van and Roberta Ritter  
 Purna/Kevin Rodman Conare  
 and R.M. Stineman  
 Rodman Ford  
 Rodman Ride for Kids, Don Rodman  
 Rotary Club of Foxboro  
 Linda B. Safe  
 Steve and Jill Sanford  
 Bob and Kendra Sangster  
 Scott and Lori Scales  
 Scituate Federal Savings  
 Sensata Technologies  
 Douglas and Eileen Slone  
 Arlene and Jeff Tannenbaum  
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 Technical Support International, Inc.  
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 Tichon Seafood Corporation  
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 United Benefit Services, Stephen Peck  
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 Michael and Jane Vannata  
 Mr. and Mrs. George Vaughn  
 William and Phoebe Vernon  
 Edward and Erin Walter  
 Robin and Nick Weber  
 Julie White  
 Bill and Eleanor Woodson  
 Irwin Yanowitz and Ellen Role

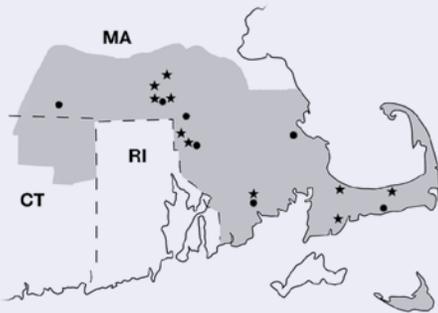


Kennedy-Donovan Center is committed to the full continuum of care for people with developmental delays, disabilities or family challenges in our region. We strive to provide this either by offering services directly to individuals of all ages and their families or by collaborating closely with community partners. Our growth will target programs that:

- Fill service gaps in the continuum of care for our clients
- Focus on individualized one-on-one services
- Are needed in our current service area or adjacent regions
- Build on our current expertise
- Respond to a need for innovative and flexible programming



## KDC Locations



### • KDC Office Locations

Attleboro, Foxboro, Kingston/Plymouth, Milford, New Bedford, South Yarmouth and Southbridge.

### ★ Adult Community Residences

Attleboro, Dennisport, Framingham, Hopkinton, Mashpee, Milford, North Attleboro, New Bedford and Sandwich.

*KDC Connections* is published by Kennedy-Donovan Center for the agency's volunteers, families, supporters and those whom we work to provide services and supports of the highest quality.

### Administrative Offices

One Commercial Street  
Foxboro, Massachusetts 02035  
508-543-2542  
www.kdc.org

Kevin Rodman Conare, President/CEO  
Ann Buono, Editor

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## Donor Spotlight: Club Madeirense

New Bedford is well known for its rich Portuguese heritage, and Club Madeirense has been a very important part of preserving that culture for many years. The club is the long time sponsor of the annual Feast of the Blessed Sacrament, which will be having its momentous centennial celebration this year from July 31st through August 3rd. In addition to organizing the largest Portuguese feast in the world, Club Madeirense is involved in charitable work in the community evident in its donations to KDC. Dan Couet, Vice President of Programs at KDC said,

"Club Madeirense has been very generous to the mission and to the work of [our] programs in New Bedford. Over the past several years, they provided space for agencies such as KDC to share information about their services at the feast and increase awareness of the supports provided to children, adults and families in the Greater New Bedford area." KDC looks forward to a continued friendship with Club Madeirense for the shared purpose of improving the lives of those in the community of New Bedford.

## Update on Our Holiday Appeal

Over the holiday season, we shared some thoughts on our Facebook page by a mother with a child receiving our services. Her gratitude and success with our programs inspired us and inspired many of you, who generously donated through the 2013 Holiday Appeal. Our goal was to raise \$50,000 to help meet the unfunded needs of those we support.

We are pleased to announce that we are only \$15,000 away from our goal and continue to receive gifts, so if you've forgotten to send in your donation, there's still time. Simply fill out the donation form below, and your tax-deductible donation will help us reach our goal. Here's how your dollars make the difference:

- \$25 will provide one week of healthy snacks for child playgroups in Early Intervention.
- \$50 will set up a new bedroom with bed linens for a teenager entering one of our Independent Living Foster Care homes.
- \$100 will enable five Day Hab participants to enjoy a day of recreation and fun while improving their social skills.
- \$150 will provide six weeks of adult education classes. For a couple of hours each week, adults participate in creating greeting cards, making jewelry, cooking, and much more.
- \$250 will purchase a Kettler tricycle for a child to explore their world. The design makes it safe to sit comfortably and ride with or without assistance.
- \$500 will purchase three Go-Talk portable lightweight devices for use by students at our School.

Yes, I want to help Kennedy-Donovan Center reach its goal. 

I wish to make a difference in the life of people with developmental disabilities or delays with a gift of:

\$250       \$200       \$100       \$50       \$25       other \$ \_\_\_\_\_

I'd like my gift to be anonymous       My company has a matching gift program; form is enclosed.

This gift is:  in memory of \_\_\_\_\_  in honor of \_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Street \_\_\_\_\_ City/Town \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Method of payment     Check enclosed     MasterCard     Visa

Cardholder \_\_\_\_\_ Credit Card Number \_\_\_\_\_ Expiration Date \_\_\_\_\_

Please detach form and mail to: Kennedy-Donovan Center, One Commercial Street, Foxboro, MA 02035.

You can also donate online at [kdc.org](http://kdc.org). Thank You!