

Supporting over
6,000 children,
adults and families
annually.



KDC

Winter 2015

connections

A Publication of Kennedy-Donovan Center

*“With this project,
we are continuing
to invest in the
individuals and families
whom we support,
and in the city
of New Bedford.”*

New Bedford Campus Groundbreaking

In our summer newsletter, we announced the expansion of our New Bedford South Campus at 385 County Street to include the following services: Foster Care and Family Stabilization, Healthy Families and Family Resource Services. This new campus will consolidate all of our programs and services onto one area at the gateway to downtown New Bedford. It will allow us to meet the growing and changing needs of our clients, and address the challenges of growth in current programs.

We were delighted by the community support at the groundbreaking ceremony held on October 7th. Those in attendance learned more about the expansion project from KDC board member and Chair of the capital campaign, Ted Carr. They also were able to tour the building prior to the start of renovations. Kevin Rodman Conare, KDC President & CEO, said, “With this project we are continuing to invest in the individuals and families whom we support, and in the city of New Bedford.” KDC was fortunate to have as guests, U.S. Representative William Keating, City Councilor President, Joe Lopes, as well as councilors Steve Martins, Kerry Winterson and Paul Schmid.

A goal of \$500,000 has been set for the expansion project, the Building a Brighter Future campaign. With the support of the KDC board, foundations, along with new and old friends, we have successfully raised \$270,000.

We have a strong and enthusiastic campaign committee, led by Ted Carr, dedicated to ensuring the needs of families will be met, not only today, but for the future. Campaign committee members are David Alves, New Bedford City Councilman; Kristin Carvalho, President of Milford National Bank and longtime resident of New Bedford; Dan Couet of Criterion Child Enrichment; Berta Freitas, alumni parent; Barry Levine, Barry’s Fine Wine & Spirits; Peter Nopper, Nopper Marine; Heidi Pereira, KDC’s community liaison in New Bedford, and KDC board members David Boucher, Kelly Courtney, Kelly DiPersio, Richard Harwood, Joseph Hulbig, and Anthony Karamas.

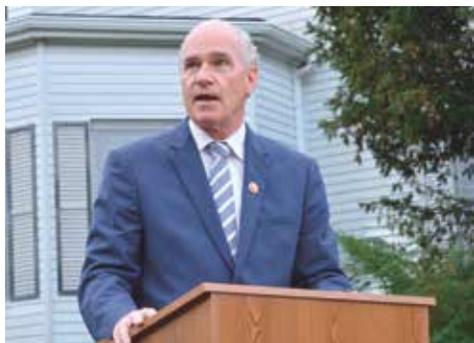
Over the next several months, we will continue to share the exciting stages of the campaign and construction project. If you would like to learn more, please call Ann Buono at 508-772-1215.

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

Kevin Rodman Conare, President/CEO
Ann Buono, Editor

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U.S. Representative, William Keating speaks to groundbreaking attendees.



Left to right: Steve Martins, Kerry Winterson, Joe Lopes, Rep. Keating, Peter Nopper, Jeff Gulko of Shaw’s Supermarkets, Kevin Rodman Conare and Ted Carr.

MARCH 25th

Board of Director's meeting, Foxboro office.

APRIL 3rd

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

APRIL 18th

Annual Spring Celebration, held at Lombardo's in Randolph. 6 p.m. Benefits Adult Support Services. For more information see the article on page 4, or call 508-772-1216.

MAY 27th

Board of Director's meeting, Foxboro office.

JUNE 22nd

12th Annual Swing Fore the Kids Golf Tournament at Indian Pond Country Club, Kingston. 12 p.m. Presenting sponsor, Top Tier Site Development. Proceeds benefit Plymouth Early Intervention. For more information, please call 508-747-2012.



Tower Foundation Grant to support Access Cape Cod

KDC is proud to announce the award of a three year, \$281,000 grant from the Peter and Elizabeth C. Tower Foundation. This grant will support Access Cape Cod, a new effort to improve community accessibility for individuals with developmental disabilities ages 26 and under on Cape Cod.

KDC's Cape Cod staff currently operates the Family Support Center serving all individuals with developmental disabilities living on Cape Cod. We support approximately 250 families each year and many are very isolated due to the nature of their child's disability. "Access Cape Cod provides us an opportunity to have long lasting impact on the lives of individuals living with disabilities", said Kevin Rodman Conare, President and CEO. "The Tower Foundation

has made it possible for KDC to take the vision of community participation and make it a reality for families on Cape Cod".

Access Cape Cod will run this year through December 2017 and include region-wide social events, family support groups, and organization of community accessibility improvement efforts. "Uniting families and businesses in an effort to improve accessibility on the Cape is a unique and exciting opportunity," explained Dan Sprout, Cape Cod Program Director.

The \$281,000 grant is the largest in KDC's history since its initial startup grant, and will greatly expand the volume of services we provide on Cape Cod. For more information, email KDCInfo@kdc.org

Additional Grants to Support Programing and Capital Needs

KDC has been the beneficiary of many generous foundation grants in the past six months. Many of our programs depend on grant funding to help support their need for supplies, program growth, or specialized programming.

Our Foster Care program has received a \$5,000 grant from the TD Charitable Foundation to provide a year long Financial Literacy Course for our transitional programs during 2015. Weekly sessions will address financial topics such as credit, employment, taxes and banking, and help prepare young adults for independence as they transition out of foster care.

Our Cape Cod Family Support Center was recently awarded \$5,000 from the Palmer and Jane Davenport Foundation and an additional \$1,500 from the Joan Bentinck-Smith Charitable Foundation. These grants will provide fifteen families with a 12-month scholarship for SafetyNet by LoJack. This is the first grant of its kind for KDC and will provide potentially life saving services to children at risk of wandering.

Our South Central Early Intervention Program was awarded two grants to create a Sensory Therapy Room at our Southbridge Programs Center. The Edwin S. Soforenko Foundation provided a \$2,200 grant, and the Southbridge Savings Bank awarded a \$1,500 grant in support of this project, which is currently underway.

KDC's Building a Brighter Future campaign has been the recipient of three recent grants. The Milford National Savings Bank Foundation has provided a \$3,000 grant in support of this effort, the Massachusetts Bankers Association provided \$2,500, and the Community Foundation of Southeast Massachusetts has awarded a \$50,000 three-year grant to fund this important capital project.



Literacy Month Celebration

The Greater Attleboro Early Intervention program celebrated Literacy Month in November with a week of activities. One activity included inviting community leaders to be guest readers during the children's playgroups. Children and their families truly enjoyed the enthusiasm of the story tellers. Special guest readers included Congressman



Congressman Joseph Kennedy

Joseph Kennedy, Attleboro Mayor Kevin Dumas, State Representative Paul Heroux, Attleboro City Council and KDC alumni parent, Heather Porreca, and Attleboro Superintendent, Ken Sheehan, along with others. Sincere thanks to all for taking time out of their busy schedules to light up the faces of children in the playgroups.



Attleboro Mayor Kevin Dumas

KDC Announces New Vice President of Children and Family Programs

KDC is excited to announce the new Vice President of Children and Family Programs, Aubrey Macfarlane. She holds a Licensed Master Social Worker (LMSW) degree.

Aubrey comes to KDC with 18 years of experience in health and human services, leading a diverse range of programs at multiple sites. She had previously worked at The May Institute for over four years. Her expertise in programs, ranging from early childhood and developmental delays to adult disabilities, behavioral health, and foster care will have a positive impact on KDC and the families we support.



Support KDC When You Shop Online

AmazonSmile is a simple and automatic way to support your favorite charitable organization at no additional cost to you. When you use smile.amazon.com, you'll get the same low prices, selection and convenience, but Amazon.com donates a portion of the purchase price to the organization of your choice. Make KDC your charity of choice at smile.amazon.com.



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.

Barry's Wine and Spirits
 Big Bunny Market
 Bishop Feehan High School
 Lisa Carvalho and Friends
 Dedham Medical Group
 John and Audrey Friedman
 The Giving Tree
 Bill and Ellen Goodchild and Family
 KIDS Do Count 5K Participants
 Kindred Transitional Care and Rehabilitation, Forestview
 Plymouth Rehabilitation and Health Care Center
 Sacred Heart School Elementary Parent Association
 St. Francis of Assisi Church and Parishioners
 St. John Newman Church Youth Group
 Toys for Tots, Cape and Islands branch, Mary Ellen Harrington
 Karen Warchol and Family
 Women's League of New Bedford, Judith Belli

We apologize if we inadvertently omitted, or incorrectly listed your organization or name. Please call 508-772-1216 with any questions or concerns.

Annual Spring Celebration: Celebrating the Journey

New and exciting changes are on hand for our Annual Spring Celebration to be held on Saturday, April 18th at the newly renovated Lombardo's in Randolph. We are pleased to announce Webster Bank as the event sponsor for the second year. Their commitment to giving back to the community and Kennedy-Donovan Center is remarkable.

The program focus for this year's event will be KDC's many Adult Support Services including Transitional Job Support, Day Habilitation, Individual Support, Family Support Center, Self-Advocacy Groups, and Adult Education Classes.

Our theme, Celebrating the Journey, is fitting for this year's event. At the event, you will hear of the inspirational journeys of many of our clients. One in particular is that



Justin greeting diners at Red Robin in Foxboro.

of our guest speaker, Justin O'Connell. Justin is a young man who participates in our Transitional Job Support program and is employed at Red Robin in Foxboro. In 2006, Justin underwent extensive surgery to correct a curvature of his spine due to scoliosis. During his recovery, everyday was a fight to walk, but he was determined to overcome his physical challenges. With hard work, his walking got stronger and soon he decided to try running. After completing a few road races, Justin set his sights on the Boston Marathon! Today, Justin is a three-time marathoner, successfully running the 2013 and 2014 Boston Marathon, and most recently the New York City Marathon in November.

Justin's energy, optimism, and dedication to helping others positively impacts everyone he meets. His incredible outlook on life has led to radio appearances and interviews with USA Today, New England Cable News, and Fox Philadelphia. He now dedicates each race to another person who is facing a hardship. Justin says "I run for those who cannot."

Cocktail hour will feature artwork and designs from several of the individuals we support. Artwork on display will also be part of a silent auction and available for purchase. These inspirational artists will be in attendance and readily available to meet.

The evening will also include dinner, dancing, an auction, as well as a fund-a-need presentation. Watch for your invitation in the coming weeks. For more information or to become a sponsor, please call 508-772-1216.

Open House for New ABI Home a Success

On Thursday, December 18th, the residents of Quaker Meeting House Road in East Sandwich welcomed the community into their new home. This newest KDC service supports people living with an acquired brain injury (ABI) in a residential setting. Four men have moved into the home from various other nursing care facilities.

Open House attendees included State Representative Randy Hunt, a neighbor, who was excited to hear that these individuals were moving nearby. Other attendees included KDC staff members, representatives from the Department of Developmental Services, and neighboring families.

KDC was able to fulfill this particular need in the community by working with its funding partner and building upon past program development experience. We look forward to opening additional residential homes for people with a brain injury.



New resident, Richard with his son, Mark.

New Bedford Whaling Museum Showcases KDC Special Education School Artwork

KDC's Special Education School in New Bedford created a colorful piece of art which is currently on display at the New Bedford Whaling Museum.

The project was part of the students' weekly Sensory Group. Using voice-output communication aides (VOCA's), students greeted one another and asked to be included in the project. The artwork was used as a part of the curriculum and learning, as well as to improve student socialization skills.

The hands-on multi-media ocean scene features a humpback whale, colored textures, and photographs of the work in process. The project took three months to complete.

In November, students and staff toured the Whaling Museum and proudly unveiled their artwork. Students were not only excited to present their artwork, but enjoyed the social outing to the museum as well.



Standing left to right are staff members Betty Ann, Connie, Sue, Lynn, and Heidi with Brian Witkowski, Education Program Manager at the New Bedford Whaling Museum. KDC student Kemal is in front.

BOARD

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Programs Overview

ADULT FAMILY CARE

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

SPECIAL EDUCATION 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 host 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.

Blackstone Valley Self-Advocacy Group

As an agency, one of the most powerful things we can do is provide a voice to people with disabilities or those who are vulnerable. Self-advocacy is the ability to speak-up for yourself and the things that are important to you, allowing for choice and self-expression. In the Milford region, one special group is helping many individuals with developmental disabilities use their voice effectively.

Meeting monthly, KDC's Blackstone Valley Self-Advocacy Group helps individuals develop their ability to express their needs.

Participants benefit from socialization, friendship, and emotional support as they improve their ability to make life decisions that are best for them. Through dialogue, guest speakers, and community resources, this group has changed and empowered many people with disabilities. New members are always welcome. You can learn more by hearing first-hand from participants in our new program testimonial at www.youtube.com/KennedyDonovanCenter.

Personal Best Karate: Helping Families in Need

For more than five years, Personal Best Karate Studio has donated Thanksgiving dinner to KDC's Attleboro/Taunton Healthy Families program. Families who are in need are provided with a large turkey and the fixings to celebrate the family holiday.

This past Thanksgiving, sixteen baskets of food were donated to ten families. Since 2010, they have provided Thanksgiving meals to nearly fifty families who otherwise would go without.

Many thanks go to Personal Best Karate Studio, Stacy Aron, who organizes this effort, and the many karate school students who donate money, food, time, and hard work to make up and deliver the baskets. There is a true act of selflessness and we are grateful for their ongoing support.



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)



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Benefits KDC's Greater Plymouth
Early Intervention Program
For more information: 508-747-2012



TTSO
TOP TIER SITE DEVELOPMENT

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

Rick Bornstein

David and Kim Boucher

Elaine E. Boucher

Elizabeth E. Boucher

Bowdoin Construction Company

James and Mona Bowles

Jay and Eileen Boylen

Bristol County Savings Charitable Foundation

Ann and Ray Buono

Claire and Anthony Catulo

CJ's Spring Swing, Sean and Sandra Buckley

Dan and Kathy Couet

Robert and Frances Couet

Stephen and Kathleen Couet

Robert J. D'Amelio

John and Joyce Dantona

Mark and Margaret Davis

Kelly DiPersio

Daniel and Cheryl Farley

Mrs. Frances Fern

Friends of St. Patrick, Walpole

Rose Gallagher

Toby Garten

Arno Gartzke

Joseph and Josephine Gomes

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Elizabeth O'Hare

Robert Panessiti

Robert and Carol Peecha

Normand and Lucille Pepin

Steven Perry and Charles Berthelette

Herbert and Caroline Reid

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Anita Robertson

Purna/Kevin Rodman Conare and

R.M. Stineman

Rodman Ride for Kids, Don Rodman

Madalena M. Rodrigues

Rotary Club of Foxboro

Scott and Lori Scales

Scituate Federal Savings

Sensata Technologies

Douglas and Eileen Slone

Arlene and Jeffrey Tannenbaum

Francis and Regina Tate

Ann Taylor

Technical Support International, Inc.

Telamon Insurance Network

Tichon Seafood Corporation

Michele and Glenn Tower

William and Linda Travers

United Benefit Services, Stephen Peck

Michael and Jane Vannata

Donna Wallace

Edward and Erin Walter

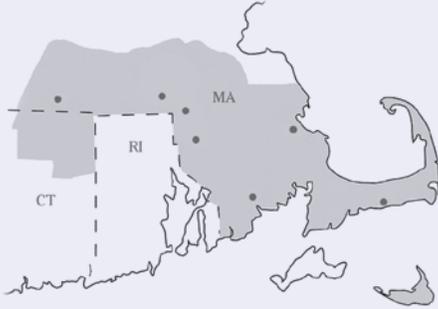
Julie White-Wronski

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



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

Holiday Appeal: An Inspiring Journey

Our 2014 Holiday Appeal featured the inspirational story of Justin, a participant in our Transitional Job Support program (read his story on page four). Many were obviously touched by his story as we have raised 75% of our goal. And, it's not too late to give—just fill out the form below to help make the difference for people like Justin.

Yes, I want to help people like Justin.

I wish to make a difference with a gift of:

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

I'd like my gift to be anonymous Company matching gift program; form enclosed.

This gift is: in memory of in honor of _____

Name _____

Street _____ City/Town _____

City/Town _____ State _____ Zip _____

Method of payment Check enclosed MasterCard Visa

Cardholder name _____

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.**

THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT!

Exciting Winter News

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