From the Director’s Corner…

Developing our Leaders at DNOM

Two of our employees, Jovann Aziz and Miriam Green participated in a 24-hour, 3 month Emerging Leaders Program from September-December. The Emerging Leaders Program was offered by the Southeast Michigan Senior Regional Collaborative and hosted 19 employees from organizations in Wayne, Oakland and Macomb counties. Both Jovann and Miriam participated in activities that developed their leadership skills including: Leadership vs. Management, Situational Leadership, the DISC Model and Career Timeline. Jovann and Miriam both reported that it was a great experience and that they learned a lot about themselves and about becoming a leader.

The Southeast Michigan Senior Regional Collaborative also offered a leadership development program for Executive Directors/CEO’s called The Leadership Circle. I participated in this 15-hour, 6 month program with 6 of my peers who lead organizations in Wayne, Oakland and Macomb counties. The Leadership Circle activities included the Myers Briggs Type Indicator, a 360 degree feedback survey and setting professional growth goals. It was an invaluable experience and I learned how to be a better leader by challenging myself and my thoughts.

Follow Us!!!

DNOM is on Facebook and Linkedin. Following us will ensure you are kept abreast of all the happenings at DNOM.

We value your support,

Kellie Boyd
Assistive Technology for Daily Living

Have you ever had difficulty putting on your sock?

Have you ever had difficulty getting in and out of the car?

Well, if you can answer "Yes" to either of these questions then Assistive Technology (AT) is for you!!! An Assistive Technology device promotes greater independence by enabling people to perform everyday tasks that they were formerly unable to accomplish or had difficulty completing.

Jenell Williams our AT Specialist will personally come out to your home "FREE of Charge" to provide a one-on-one demonstration. AT items demonstrated include devices for bathing, cooking, dressing, grooming, and other daily activities.

To find out how you qualify or for more information in general, please contact Jenell at 248-359-8960 x6614 or at jwilliams@dnom.org.

Resource Advocacy

DNOM has been working with the Area Agency on Aging 1-B to provide Resource Advocacy services. Resource Advocacy allows us to work with other aging and disability collaboratives to support and enhance access to services. Our Resource Advocates seek out, identify, and assist older adults in need of community services to identify resources that meet their needs. Resource Advocacy utilizes person-centered techniques and can be done in person or via the telephone. Our Resource Advocates are Lauren Baker, Gillian Bentley and Miriam Green.

*DNOM’s Resource Advocacy program is funded in part by the Federal Older Americans Act and the Michigan Department of Health & Human Services through the Area Agency on Aging 1-B. DNOM complies with the terms and regulations of the Title V of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 as amended and Section 504 of the Social Rehabilitation Act of 1973 and is an equal opportunity program. Reasonable accommodation will be provided upon request.
Hello, everyone! My name is Stefanie McClellan and I am the Accessibility Specialist at Disability Network Oakland & Macomb. When our last newsletter was distributed at the end of November, I was brand new to DNOM and the grant for the "Access & Universal Design" pilot project had just been approved by the State of Michigan's Department of Licensing and Regulatory Affairs. As part of Governor Rick Snyder and Lieutenant Governor Brian Calley's initiative to make the State of Michigan the national leader in establishing pathways and eliminating obstacles for people with disabilities, the "Access & Universal Design" pilot project aims to break down barriers specifically in places of public accommodation.

In collaboration with two other Disability Network Michigan agencies, Disability Advocates of Kent County (DAKC) and Disability Network Southwest Michigan (DNSWM), DNOM is actively developing an assessment tool named the "Access Indicators and Standards (AIS) Rubric". Although the rubric is aligned with the 2012 ADA Standards of Accessibility, it is being designed to help businesses assess their level of accessibility for people with disabilities by going beyond the minimum ADA standards.

From the perspective of those of us developing the AIS Rubric, ADA compliance merely means meeting the minimum considerations of accessibility. However, in order for businesses to adequately serve all people with and even without disabilities, elements of Universal Design need to be included. When elements of Universal Design are included, a business becomes accessible for people with a variety of disabilities, for people who are aging, and even for people who use devices such as strollers and bicycles to navigate their communities. The ultimate vision of this pilot project is to help businesses in our community achieve optimal access for all, by developing new "best practices".

If you have any questions about accessibility or Universal Design in Macomb or Oakland County, please contact me at 586-268-4160 ext. 6630. I would be delighted to help eliminate physical, programmatic, and even experiential barriers at your place of business. In addition, if you as a business patron encounter any accessibility barriers at a place such as your local supermarket (or any other place of public accommodation), please call me and I will work with them to remedy the problem.

**Coming later this spring/early summer:**

**Complete Consultation and Plan Review**

Let me and my team review the accessibility of your new construction or renovation and provide you with comprehensive feedback along with suggestions for cost-effective, barrier-free solutions. This service will be provided at no cost to you and your design will be thoroughly reviewed for compliance with the following:

- The Michigan Construction Code, Barrier-Free Design Requirements
- The Americans with Disabilities Act and Accessibility Guidelines.
- Section 504 of The Rehabilitation Act

I am looking forward to partnering with you in making our community more accessible for everyone!
Disability Network Oakland & Macomb is excited and honored to announce that we have been selected to receive a grant from the Detroit Regional Community Action Committee (DRCAC) of Hitachi Automotive Systems America, Inc. The DRCAC distributes grant awards to organizations and programs that focus on community support services, education, health and human services, and youth development, along with the environment and the arts. The grant from Hitachi Automotive’s DRCAC will support DNOM’s new “Disability Awareness and Kids” presentations—a fun and interactive program aimed at 4th and 5th grade students. The goal of the program is to introduce disability awareness to kids through activities that encourage compassion and empathy that will carry forward into the teen years and adulthood. This will also encourage a more inclusive atmosphere in the classroom and on the playground.

DNOM staff members Michele Guyor-Borthwick and Mark Bashaw will conduct the presentations, and the program will kick-off in the 2015-16 school year. For additional information or to schedule a presentation, please contact Michele at 248-359-8960 ext. 6622.
Disability Network Oakland & Macomb is happy to celebrate the Superhero in all of us by being a part of The Super Run on May 2nd on Wayne State University's campus! This is a family-friendly, super hero themed event with a 1K walk (free!) and a 5K race ($35 in advance). As a partner organization DNOM will be there providing information about our services and raising money to support many of our programs that support people with disabilities. Be a part of the fun on May 2 - join our team, or support our team members with a donation!

To register, donate, or join the DNOM Daredevils team go to: http://thesuperrun.com/locations/detroit-mi-2015/

- Click "register now" to participate in either the 1K fun walk (free) or 5K ($35 in advance). Are you registering for the race and want to join our team? In honor of the superhero theme, we are the DNOM DareDevils! On the main Detroit event page click "fundraising login". You can find the team in the larger list on the LEFT portion of the fundraising page.

- Want to support one of the team members, or the team, with a donation? On the team page, simply click "donate" (in blue) next to the participants name, or to support the team, click on the large yellow "Donate now" buttons on the page.

- You can also donate directly to DNOM. On the main Detroit event page click on the "fundraising login" button and you will be taken to the fundraising page, where you can make a straight donation by clicking on our link in the list on the right side of the page (we are listed as Oakland & Macomb Center for Independent Living)

  If you have questions or would like more information, contact Michele at DNOM - 248-359-8960 ext. 6622.
Please join us for:

A Day at the DIA
(The Detroit Institute of Arts)

DNOM, in partnership with the Area Agency on Aging 1-B, and the Michigan Fitness Foundation, is sponsoring a trip to the DIA.

Tuesday, May 26, 2015

- Bus will depart from the Oakland County DNOM office in Southfield at 10:00am and return at 3:00pm.
- Complimentary admission to the DIA
- Lunch will be provided

We would also like to get your views on transportation in the region, and will be asking the following questions:

- Where do you need to go?
- How do you get where you need to go?
- Why can't you easily get where you need to go?

Registration is limited; please contact Debra Price-Ryan, Program Coordinator, AAA1B at 248-262-9203 to reserve your spot.

myride2 provides access to transportation options via a toll-free, multilingual phone line (855) 698-4332 or website (www.myride2.com). Mobility Specialists help to determine the best transportation option for the caller, or individuals can search for providers or request a ride on the web site. The service is available for Oakland, Macomb, and Western Wayne counties. The service is free; however, there are costs for the transportation itself.
Are you interested in providing leadership in your community?

Are you a compassionate person who cares about the lives of people with disabilities? Do you have one free afternoon a month to participate in a board meeting? Do you have experience in fundraising, human resources and human services, or educating youth & adults? If this sounds like you, then join the Disability Network Oakland & Macomb Board of Trustees!

Our Board of Trustees meet once a month to discuss issues and make integral decisions that benefit people with disabilities in Oakland and Macomb County. If you are interested in joining this group of individuals, please contact us at 586-268-4160 or e-mail info@dnom.org.

Other News:

Our office has up-to date information on the Michigan Assistive Technology Loan Fund. The AT Loan Fund helps people with disabilities and their family members get the equipment they need to be more independent and productive. If you would like more information about the AT Loan Fund or how to begin the process, contact Carolyn Ford at 586-268-4160 ext. 6605.

DNOM has a loan closet! If you (or someone you know) need assistive equipment (crutches, walkers, seat cushions, etc.) contact our office to arrange a loan.
Your Link to Community Resources!

Contact Us:

Macomb County Office
16645 15 Mile Road
Clinton Township, MI 48035
Phone: 586-268-4160
Fax: 586-285-9942
Toll Free: 800-284-2457
Website: www.dnom.org

Oakland County Office
23800 W. 10 Mile Road, Suite 105
Southfield, MI 48033
Phone: 248-359-8960
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Disability Network Oakland & Macomb Staff:

Executive Director
Kellie Boyd
Director of Operations
Kelly Winn
Quality Assurance Manager
Carolyn Ford
Nursing Facility Transition Outreach Specialist-Macomb
Jovann Aziz
Public Policy Specialist
Lauren Baker
Veterans Computer Trainer
Joe Barczyk
Community Resource Specialist
Mark Bashaw
Independent Living Specialist
Gillian Bentley
Nursing Facility Transition Coordinator
Catherine Donovan
Nursing Facility Transition Outreach Specialist-Oakland
Brooke Dudek
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Miriam Green
Development Coordinator
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Receptionist
Phyllis Reynolds
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Rozeta Rox
Veterans Services Computer Training Supervisor
Gina Schafer
Independent Living Specialist
Deanna Tartaglia
Veterans Services Coordinator Project Home
Barbara Thompson
Independent Living Specialist
Sian Washington
Independent Living Specialist
Jenell Williams

Our Mission:
DNOM is committed to supporting personal choice and independence for persons with disabilities.