

OPEN DOORS

Summer 2018

GALLAGHER SERVICES
CATHOLIC CHARITIES IN ACTION

Through the power of human relationship & pursuit of excellence, we open doors to a fuller life for people with intellectual disabilities.

Bertina Plays Bocce at Special Olympics – Wins Gold

Bertina Williamson, who is 82 years young, lives in Arnold, Maryland, in a home supported by Gallagher Services. She was recognized as the oldest athlete to compete in the 2018 Special Olympics of Maryland at Towson University. Her enthusiasm and skill won her a gold medal for bocce. Joining Bertina were housemates Mary Clooney, Anna

'Ria' Marinucci and Ellen Boyle, as well as, Veronica Riggs, who lives in Glen Burnie and is also supported by Gallagher Services.

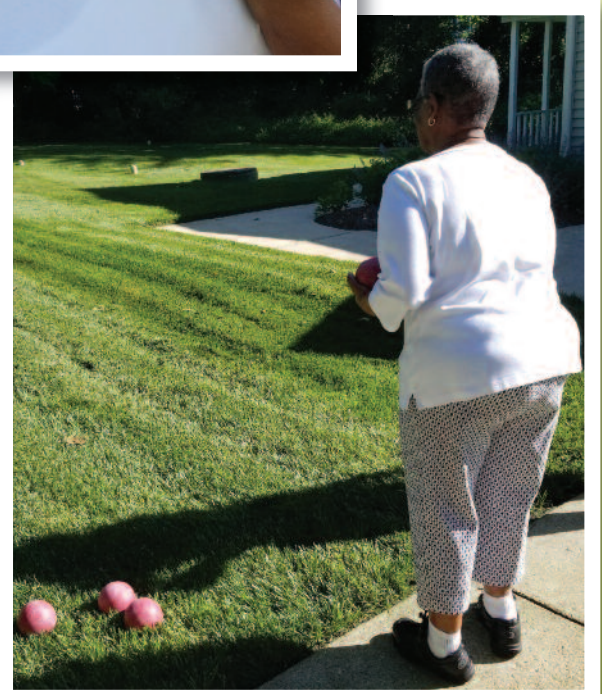
"It is remarkable to have Bertina playing bocce at 82 years of age. Not many people begin to compete in their 80s," said Kira Northrop, with Special Olympics Maryland during an interview on WBAL TV.

Since 1990, Bertina has played competitive bocce – her favorite sport. She also bowls, golfs, and plays basketball and hockey. She practices once a week for two hours.

Marge Elliott, site manager for a Gallagher home in Arnold, said Bertina has always been active and loves life. "Bertina has earned bragging rights for winning a gold medal and being the oldest athlete to compete."



(L-r) Marge Elliott, who has worked with Bertina Williamson (c) for the past 14 years, along with Tanya Ritter (r), program director.



Steps to Empowerment

Self-advocacy is one of the most important ways that people with intellectual disabilities can have a voice. It is the primary focus of Gallagher Services.

Recently, Diane and James, two people supported by Gallagher Services, have taken steps toward empowerment through their participation in a two-day class called Project STIR.

STIR stands for Steps Toward Independence and Responsibility. The program was run by the People on the Go, Maryland. STIR helps people learn to communicate effectively, solve problems, understand rights and responsibilities, get involved in a community, and work effectively in advocacy groups.

“I really liked the training,” said James, “specifically the chapter on communication, because I like to talk to people and hope that Gallagher will allow me to help set up and provide the training to other people who are interested and want to help.”

Diane and James have added Michael to their team as another leader, and have already started discussing how to move forward. Once they have a solid group of committed members, they will concentrate on understanding and teaching their basic rights. Their mission is to be instrumental in helping grow the training so others can learn how to advocate for themselves.

Gallagher is so excited to have this dedicated group of people supporting and driving its transformation efforts. Thank you to



James during a short break.

Program Supervisor Angela Bubczyk and parent/advocate Judy Volkman for supporting this effort.

You can learn more about the Project STIR training at www.self-advocate.org.

A One-Of-A-Kind Graduation Day

There's nothing quite as special as graduation day, and for two supported individuals at Gallagher Services, that day was even more impressive.

In mid-January, Shawn Haynie and Rudolph “Rudy” Boston graduated from the Food Service Vocational Program, a first-of-its-kind initiative launched in March 2017 to train participants to work in a kitchen.

In conjunction with Culinary Services Group, the program means Shawn and Rudy can get jobs in the community.

The program is divided into three phases. Phase I is an intensive safety instruction course. Shawn and Rudy had class five days per week, one hour each day. They learned about safety in its many forms, including fire safety, moving and lifting, preventing foodborne illness, food

allergens, and minimal internal cooking temperatures. They also learned how to use a fire extinguisher, check food temperatures for safety, and prevent contamination.

Phase II is a skills application in the Gallagher Community Center kitchen. Shawn and Rudy checked the food temperature for safety in every served lunch. In time, they learned to write these temperatures in a complex graph form. They even plated many of those lunches.

Kitchen work wasn't new to Shawn and Rudy. They had both worked in the Gallagher kitchen for many years, but this program helped them learn to prepare food. The final phase of the program: interning at the CSG kitchen.



Shawn and Rudy graduated amid great celebration, receiving certificates from Chief Operating Officer John Ramey and Director of Marketing Jessica Dicken.

What Do You Want To Do With Your Life?

At Gallagher Services we are committed to helping all people begin to answer that question and define their “Vision” and “PATH” to achieving it.

The pilot project kicked off in January at the Gribbin Center in Perry Hall with Gallagher’s first 10 participants from the Center. The initiative was funded by a grant through Maryland Works and the DD Council of Maryland. Gallagher Services engaged Marian Frattarola-Saulino, a nationally recognized expert in community-based supports to lead and facilitate the program and training of the Gallagher staff.

Person-centered thinking is a core component of Gallagher Services’ transformation for the future. Services offered only in buildings on campus will essentially go away, and the role of direct support professionals will evolve from doing for the person to being connectors to the community, i.e. searching out competitive employment and meaningful community involvement.

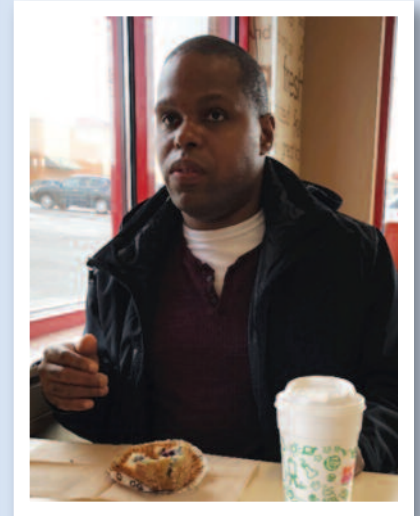


Doug

Marian helped Doug’s team, which included his Coordinator of Community Services, mother, residential support team, and day program team to identify what is important to and for Doug.

It started with a blank slate. As Doug and his team came up with thoughts about what is important to and for Doug, images were drawn on the PATH to reflect what is Positive, Possible and Practical. While Doug communicates in non-traditional ways, he was able to very clearly let his team know what was important to him.

Angelo is one of the 10 people in this pilot project. He prefers his routine and has not ventured out of the program in years. Angelo chose to go to Dunkin’ Donuts and for a walk at a local park with his support staff. Angelo came back and thanked the Manager. This does not seem like a lot, but to Angelo it was quite meaningful.



Angelo

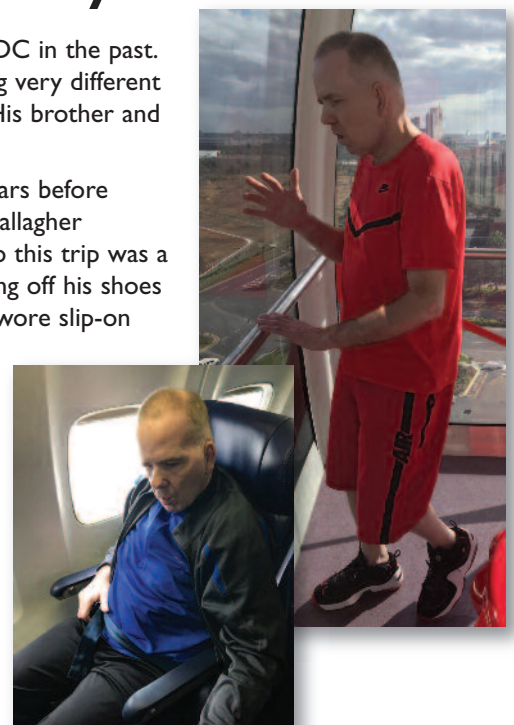
Sometimes, You Never Know Until You Try

Ricky Breitenbach has gone on local vacations to Ocean City and Washington, DC in the past. But this year, Ricky and Lesha Smith, his support staff decided to do something very different – fly to Orlando, Florida for four days. His brother and niece were thrilled with the idea.



Ricky lived at Rosewood for over 30 years before moving to his home in Pasadena with Gallagher Services in 2008. He had never flown, so this trip was a leap of faith. Ricky was not used to taking off his shoes and coat while out of the house, so he wore slip-on Vans and a sweat suit to make it easier during the security check. While flying, Ricky enjoyed looking out the window, watching the clouds go by.

During his vacation, Ricky visited Universal Studios, dined out, and soaked up some sun by the pool. The experience was a success, and Ricky hopes to travel to Colorado to visit relatives for his next vacation.



Always Learning

We all know how important it is to continue growing and learning. It's just as important for the Gallagher staff as it is for the people they support.

That's why four members of our leadership team attended a week-long, intensive leadership development program sponsored by the Developmental Disabilities Administration and the National Leadership Consortium on Developmental Disabilities at the University of Delaware.

The program, offered through the Maryland Leadership Institute, provided opportunities to learn from each other and leading experts in the field on how to embrace the shift to individualized, responsive supports for people with disabilities.



(l-r) Patricia Sastoque, Deputy Director of Programs for DDA, with Katie Kemp, Kathy Clemente, Tanya Ritter and Brian Trees

Golfing for the Good of Gallagher Services

Golfers gathered at the Hunt Valley Golf Club in May for the 29th Annual Gallagher Services Golf Tournament in support of Gallagher's programs for adults with intellectual disabilities. The tournament was started in 1989 by Mose Trotta and Ray Bevans, parents of Gallagher individuals. The annual event has grown significantly and is

now accompanied by the Mose Trotta Award, which is presented to a stand-out volunteer.

This year's recipient was Alicia Stanley, former staff member of Catholic Charities and now a volunteer. "Alicia consistently demonstrates excellence in fostering the values of commitment and support for people with intellectual disabilities," said Kathy Clemente, program administrator of Gallagher Services. "She led the volunteer golf planning committee for several years and has been instrumental in the continued success of this tournament." Congratulations Alicia!



Alicia Stanley, recipient of the Mose Trotta Award.



Ty Biggs of Gallagher Services with Catholic Charities Staff, including Ashley Rasmussen (l) and Molly Daeschner (r).



Catholic Charities staff, including Kevin Creamer, Mary Gunning, Jon Hackbarth and Dr. Rob Canosa



Dick Lombardo (far-r), former CEO of Harkins Builders, with tournament participants.



(above) Brad Cook (r), chair of the Gallagher Golf Tournament and Senior Project Manager of Harkins Builders, with fellow golfer.

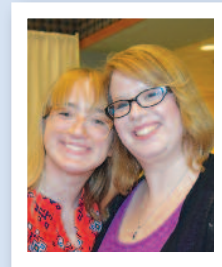
Cherished Volunteer, Anne Lindsey Otenasek, Remembered with the 28th Annual Scholarship Awards

Two staff members and two special friend volunteers from Gallagher Services each received scholarships in recognition of their outstanding work and service.

The staff members included Felix Kwakwa and James Holt. Felix is a residential counselor at the Gallagher group home in Sparks, and is studying Special Education at Towson University.

James Holt is a Gallagher Maintenance Specialist who mentors Chuck Jones as they care for the Timonium location. James will use the scholarship to conclude his studies at Anne Arundel Community College.

The Special Friend Volunteer honorees included Institute of Notre Dame high school senior Emma Page, who worked with Gallagher's older adults. Emma will attend George Washington University in the fall. The final honoree was Deleon Catholic High School (PA) senior Garrick Gottleib who will use his scholarship to attend American University. "I'm proud to say that I made friendships which will last a lifetime with the guys at the (Gallagher Services) home on Middletown Road," said Garrick.



Emma Page (l) with her inspiration, Aunt Joanna Leuschner, Gallagher's Coordinator of Spiritual Development. Ms. Leuschner

also received the scholarship when she served as a Special Friend Volunteer.



Fr. Ray Chase was acknowledged for his 40 years of service and support to Gallagher Services, the Special Friends Program and the Otenasek family.



Peggy Otenasek (in blue) with award recipients (l-r) Felix Kwakwa, Garrick Gottleib, Emma Page and James Holt.



Mrs. Peggy Otenasek (c) with her children Page (l), Frank (far l) and Rick (back row r), along with extended family members and Father Ray Chase of CC-MD.

Goucher Partnership

Students from Goucher College were able to connect their academic work with direct experiences in the community through a partnership with Gallagher Services this past semester.

For a Senior Seminar course in psychology, Brian Trees, Associate Administrator of Gallagher Services, partnered with Robert Freedland, PhD, a lecturer at Goucher College and a volunteer consultant at Gallagher Services, to work with students on developing better ways to engage individuals with intellectual disabilities in the community, create workforce development opportunities, redefine technology and develop a person-centered day that is meaningful.

Students presented their findings before representatives from the Baltimore County Commission on Disabilities, Gallagher administrators and parents of people who accept supports from Gallagher Services.



We're Kind of a Big Thing

In late April, when the spring sunshine and warm temperatures finally arrived, a small group of people from Gallagher Services and Goucher College went for a run—or a walk—as part of Reachout & Run 2018 5K supporting HopeWell Cancer Support.

The Goucher / Gallagher sported matching vests and pins, and named their team "We're Kind of a Big Deal."

And they were. One member placed in the 5K run while the rest walked either the 5K or the one-mile Fun Walk. It was a great day to help a good cause in the community!



Robert "Chuck" Jones finishes the 5K.

GALLAGHER SERVICES

CATHOLIC CHARITIES IN ACTION

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Inspired by the Gospel mandates to love, serve and teach, Catholic Charities provides care and services to improve the lives of Marylanders in need.

Legacy Gifts

Please consider including Catholic Charities in your will when you establish your legacy. If you're considering including a charitable bequest to Catholic Charities or Gallagher Services, please contact **John Kirby**, director of gift planning, at **667-600-2026**, or email him at **jkirby@cc-md.org**. You will be assisted with specific language to ensure that your gift (a general, specific, residual or contingent bequest) supports the program that matches your interest.

Wish List

iPads	Cookware sets	PC computer w/Microsoft Office
Tablets	Vacuum cleaners	Shrubs and flowers to landscape the homes
Art Supplies/Blank Canvases	Flashlights for emergencies	Hedge trimmers
Generators	Recreation equipment (basketballs, soccer balls, Frisbees, bean bags, etc.)	Tree trimmers
Heavy duty paper shredders	Puzzles with large pieces	Tools for home repairs
High efficiency front load washers and dryers	Office desks	Dry/wet shop vacs
Outdoor patio furniture	Office supplies	Adult bicycle helmets (new)
Bath towels (new)	Large flat screens for computers	
Blenders/food processors		
Crock Pots		

If you would like to donate an item or make a financial contribution, please contact **Joanna Leuschner** at **jleuschner@cc-md.org**.