



## SOUTHWEST COMMUNITY SERVICES, INC. HIGHLIGHTS & ACCOMPLISHMENTS JULY 1, 2006 – JUNE 30, 2007

- Bogard Services – all Bogard members who resided at Oak Forest Hospital were moved to area nursing homes. SCS staff was part of the team involved in the selection and best individual choice of residences for these members. We continue to provide services for the members at various nursing homes in the community.
- Community Enterprises psychosocial program expanded it's service delivery to include evening and Saturday activities. Activities were based on consumer input. Some of the activities have included small group outings such as: dining at local ethnic restaurants; attending a movie; bowling; shopping at area thrift stores, bookstores, grocery stores and malls.
- Consumers from CE attended the NAMI (National Alliance for the Mentally Ill) South Suburban chapter's annual evening holiday party in December. 15 persons participated in the pizza party and grab bag which NAMI sponsored for their members and 4 other community agencies. The consumers enjoyed the evening of dining, socializing and musical entertainment.
- The CE psychosocial program also began a new service delivery system through a treatment track system focusing on a person's strengths and abilities. Each consumer is working on specific goals with a therapist, case manager and vocational specialist. Goals are centered on recovery and community integration.
- The Community Employment Services Division received a 8% increase in the fee for service contract generated from the Illinois Department of Rehabilitation Services. This is the first hourly service increase in over 5 years for this department. The increase was solely based on the excellent services generated by the CES division.
- The Community Employment Services specialized in job placements for the hard of hearing population. The referral base was expanded to the south side of Chicago and Kankakee/Joliet area. Successful job placements this fiscal year have been at area department stores including Kohl's, Target, Home Depot and the Fleet and Farm Store in the Kankakee area.
- CES also sponsored the annual agency AVON fundraiser through the Retail Training Program. The staff coordinator and consumers enrolled in the training program spent two months receiving and sending orders; fulfilling, sorting and completing orders and delivery of products.
- The Developmental Training II program received a consumer empowerment grant from Illinois Voices. The Illinois Voices grant provides training and materials for consumer advocacy and empowerment. Participants and staff from SCS, along with three other agencies, attended an all day seminar and luncheon at Prairie State College in Chicago Heights for orientation. In addition, throughout the year, different groups and activities were based on the materials received from Illinois Voices.
- Community Integration remains a priority for service delivery at the SCS/DT II Program. Each consumer selects 4 different community activities as part of their service plan for their individual goals. Group outings have included: the local farmer's markets, the Chicago Bears Training Camp; the Joliet Jackhammers Baseball game, bowling and miniature golf, Navy Pier, library trips, local movie theatres, shopping and dining.
- The 5<sup>th</sup> annual Family Holiday Dinner and Gift Bazaar was a huge success at SCS this year. Families and consumers enjoyed a "pot-luck" dinner, desserts and entertainment and dancing with a semi-professional square dance company. The Gift Bazaar included donations from staff and family members as well as handcrafted items that the consumers made themselves. Proceeds benefit consumer parties and activities.

- All programs began working with community volunteer services. Individuals interested in volunteering in the local community were provided transportation and accompanied by staff during their initial orientation and then became independent volunteers. The community has welcomed our SCS, CE and CES consumers with open arms. Volunteer sites include: The Sensible Shoppe Together We Cope resale shop in Tinley Park; PAWS Animal Shelter in Tinley Park and St. James Hospital in Chicago Heights.
- The Phoenix Center in the Summer of 2006 expanded the Intensive (Suit) Therapy Program adding two new trained therapists in physical and occupational therapy to reach a greater number of children and adults with neurological disorders.
- The Phoenix Center continues to provide community programming through Early Intervention, the Toddler Enrichment Program, and therapeutic services through Blue Cap School in Blue Island, District 201u in Crete-Monee, and District 152 in Harvey.
- The Phoenix Center continues to expand its service availability by remaining or becoming preferred providers for Blue Cross Blue Shield, the Department of Specialized Care for Children (DSCC), and Medicaid, while continuing to accept out-of-network programs, as well, for therapeutic services, including the Intensive (Suit) Therapy Program, as well as, physical, occupational, massage, and speech therapy.
- The Phoenix Center expanded its service delivery to include tutoring services available for one-on-one tutoring with a highly trained special education and resource teacher.

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