

CONNECTIONS

October is National Disability Awareness Month



"Return on investment means hiring the right talent," said Kathy Martinez, Assistant Secretary of Labor for Disability Employment Policy.

The U.S. Department of Labor's Office of Disability Employment Policy announced the official theme for October's National Disability Employment Awareness Month: "Profit by Investing in Workers with Disabilities."

The theme honors the contributions of workers with disabilities and serves to inform the public that they represent a highly skilled talent pool that can help employers compete in today's global economy.

"Workers with disabilities represent all skill sets and are ready to get the job done."

This year's theme focuses on improving employment opportunities that lead to good jobs and a secure economic future for people with disabilities and the nation as a whole.

In 1988, Congress enacted a law declaring October "National Disability Employment Awareness Month." The

Employer Recognition Breakfast

**6490 Landover Road Suite A1
Landover, MD
Friday, October 7, 2011
7:30 am - 9:30 am
RSVP by September 30, 2011
to 301-583-0358**

recognition for the month enhances public awareness of those with disabilities and encourages their full integration into the workforce.

"Maryland Community Connection's participants are looking for employers to give them an opportunity to be productive employees and become taxpayers," said André Burno Coates, MCC Executive Director.

"Individuals are proud to be contributing members of their households and communities."

Maryland Community Connection will kick-off National Disability Awareness Month by honoring employers that have hired people with disabilities at our Annual Employer Breakfast on Friday, October 7, 2011.

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ODEP Poster for 2011 National Disability Employment Awareness Month

MCC Recognizes National Direct Support Professionals Week

The U.S. Departments of Health and Human Services and Labor are proud that the United States Senate has bestowed the recognition of honoring direct support professionals for the tremendous impact they make every day in communities across the country. Maryland Community Connection will celebrate National Direct Support Professional Recognition Week September 11-17, 2011.

MCC direct care staff assists individuals with a broad range of employment, personal assistance including preparation of meals, helping with medications, bathing, dressing, mobility; and getting to planned activities, on a daily basis.

Their service and dedication is exemplary and their role in enhancing the lives of individuals with disabilities of all ages is vital. MCC is

grateful that our direct support professionals are always there on the front lines when we need them.

Without the services and supports provided by these professionals, it would be far more difficult to realize the important contributions made by people with disabilities in society today. The often unheralded efforts of direct support professionals make it possible for millions of Americans with disabilities to lead meaningful lives as valued members of their communities and connected to their families.

Maryland Community Connection recognized our Direct Support Professionals with random drawings for one staff everyday during September 11-17, 2011 for a gift cards, restaurants, coffee shops and much more. Tuesday, September 12, 2011 MCC Senior Staff hosted lunch



Marilyn Padmore and Terrance Padmore pictured with MCC Community Specialist Demetrius Pitt was recently honored at the MACS Direct Support Conference for his outstanding work.

for our Direct Support Professionals 11:00am – 1:00pm and Friday, September 16, 2011 2:00-4:00pm Make your Own Sundae. Maryland Community Connection would like to commend all our Direct Support Professionals' for their work and the difference they make each and every day.

TD Bank-Maryland Community Connection Affinity Program

Do you have an individual or business account at TD Bank?

If you do, please tell TD Bank you want to join MCC Affinity Program. Raising funds for MCC does not get any easier than this!

By joining the Affinity Program, MCC will receive an annual contribution from TD Bank simply because you bank there!

Joining TD Bank's Affinity Program for MCC is easy!

1. Call or stop into any TD Bank of office (toll-free customer service number: 888-751-9000)
2. Tell a bank representative that

you want to join the Affinity Program for MCC.

3. Give them your name and account numbers *

If you do not currently bank at TD Bank - Any bank associate can help you open an account and join the Affinity Program. Any TD Bank customer can join the Affinity Program benefitting MCC, so ask your friends, relatives, and business partners with TD Bank accounts to call 888-751-9000 and join too.



An easy way to raise money for MCC at no cost to you!

There is absolutely no cost to you.
* TD Bank will keep all of your information strictly confidential.

TD Bank will make an annual contribution to MCC if 50 accounts are linked to the MCC Affinity Program. Joining the program does NOT alter the terms or condition of your TD Bank accounts, and none of your funds or personal information will be given to MCC.

It just takes a few moments to join. Why not call and do it today?

Wal-Mart Awards MCC Grant for Hunger Outreach

On Friday, August 26, 2011, Maryland Community Connection was awarded a Local Community/Hunger Outreach Grant from the Wal-Mart Foundation. Kimblyn Snyder was presented the grant at the grand re-opening of the Landover Hills Wal-Mart by Store Manager, Leroy Commander.

Wal-Mart has committed \$2 billion cash and product to support



hunger relief efforts in the U.S. through 2015. Because hunger relief is a large part of the Foundation's giving, Wal-Mart tries to fund programs that incorporate hunger relief into our main focus areas— Education, Health & Wellness, Sustainability and Workforce Development/ Economic Opportunity.

MCC is excited to continue our efforts to support individuals with developmental disabilities in the community with the support of Wal-Mart.



Kimblyn Snyder, MCC Deputy Director pictured with Leroy Commander, Wal-Mart Store Manager at the Landover Hills re-opening.

2011 Transitional Youth Spotlight

Transitioning Youth Life & Employability Skills Training Program



A partnership between The Training Source, Inc., Ardmore Enterprises, Maryland Community Connection, Maryland Division of Rehabilitation Services, Maryland Department of Health & Mental Hygiene / SMRO, New Horizons Supported Services, Inc., Prince George's County Public Schools, Resource Connections of Prince George's County, The Arc of Prince George's County, and UCP on the Potomac.

A Bright Idea for a Better Future!

fully move from a school-supported environment to independent employment with the attitudes, habits, and behaviors needed to work and grow on the job along with individuals who don't have disabilities.

The Transitional Youth Life and Employability Skills Training Program is an 8 week Summer Program designed to help TY students success-

fully move from a school-supported environment to independent employment with the attitudes, habits, and behaviors needed to work and grow on the job along with individuals who don't have disabilities. The program has many goals, ranging from the participants developing the soft skills needed for individual and workplace success to the participants increasing their job seeking skills with the outcome of becoming employed and earning living wages.



2011 Transitional Youth participants Heather Wicks (left) and Michael Minor (right) pictured with Shawnice Williams (center), Manager of Consumer Services for Maryland Community Connection.

Maryland Community Connection would like to highlight **Heather Wicks, Michael Minor, and Felicia O'Neal** for successfully completing the program.

The graduation ceremony took place on August 25th, 2011 at UCP on the Potomac and all received certificates for their completion of the program. MCC would like to congratulate the individuals and wish them the best as they make their transition!

Connect with MCC!

Be sure to "Like" us on Facebook and follow us on Twitter at @MDComConnection to receive weekly updates of photographs, upcoming events, community activities, and resources.

Thanks to social media, MCC now has a way to make sure that supporters and families are aware of activities, resources and important announcements for your loved ones! Of course you can always visit us at www.marylandcommunityconnection.org.



MCC Attends DDA Provider Meeting

On September 14, 2011, several providers gathered for the Provider Meeting led by **Janice Stallworth, Acting Regional Officer** held at Bowie Library. Among attendees was the new **DDA Director, Frank Kirkland**.

Mr. Kirkland discussed several hot-topic items during the meeting such as employment among the developmentally disabled community, providing friendly service, and the DDA waitlist.

Mr. Kirkland touched on plans and initiatives to "double employment" for individuals with developmental disabilities as many are out of work and find it difficult to obtain and maintain jobs.

Mr. Kirkland weighed in on the much needed return of providing "friendly customer and quality service" when working in the community. Also mentioned was the plan to develop next steps in the waitlist initiative, Mr. Kirkland told the audience of providers that in 6 months, DDA would have a new look.

Ms. Stallworth then provided information and statistics* on services provided by agencies in Maryland for Calvert, Charles, St. Mary's, Montgomery, and Prince George's Counties.

Transitional Youth

181 serviced
from July 1, 2011– Sept.1, 2011

Alcohol Tax

11 served before July 1, 2011
24 served after July 1, 2011
2 currently in Respite

Waiting List

Calvert County—3
Charles County—0
Prince George's County—6
Montgomery County—13
St. Mary's County—6

CSLA Audit

55 in office for review

RFSCs

Approximately 176 received July 1, 2011—Aug. 31, 2011: 67 in July; 109 in August—A decision has been made for 30 and have since been mailed out. A plan will be put in place that improves communication in between the time an RFSC has been submitted to receiving a letter of intent (LOI).

Ms. Stallworth also informed the audience on Individual Plan (IP) issues for waivers, stressing the importance of IPs to be submitted within compliance or be subject to a remedial period to address a plan on how to account for IPs that were late or missed. IP meetings held within compliance can ensure a successful review from Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS).



Frank Kirkland with Andre Coates

The meeting closed with the announcement of upcoming trainings, followed by a meet and greet with Mr. Kirkland. Mr. Kirkland who began his DDA post on August 1, 2011 will direct DDA with the goal to collaborate with all stakeholders throughout Maryland to ensure that people with developmental disabilities receive quality services to meet their needs. Ms. Andre Coates also had the opportunity to meet the new Director of DDA, Frank Kirkland on August 9, 2011.

*The information and stats reported at this meeting may have changed.



MCC 10th Year Anniversary Celebration Draws Near

The big day is very near! Maryland Community Connection is proud to announce that we will have our 10th Anniversary Celebration and Silent Auction on Monday, November 14, 2011 at Martin's Crosswinds from 6:00 to 9:00 PM! The tickets are \$50.00. This celebration represents 10 years of achievement and service distribution in the Human Services Non-Profit Sector. We would be more than thrilled if you participated in our event in any way possible.

The theme for our celebration this year is TOGETHER...We are the Community! This theme symbolizes the relationships, opportunities, progress, connections, and changes that Maryland Community Connection and its participants have made throughout the past 10 years.

Together, we take on a variety of different roles in the community and together, we reach the tops of mountains that we never thought we could climb!

We have already acquired several donations for our Silent Auction and we would like to highlight the following organizations and individuals: **Southwest Airlines, Fitness for Health, Fitness 4 Less, Cakes Plus, The Training Source, Inc., Starvin' Artist Graphic Design, Richard J. Princinsky & Associates, Inc., Taylor's Antiques, Dennis Enterprises-Home and Office**



that was easy.sm

Corporate Sponsor

Improvements, JetBlue Airlines, Gaylord National Resort & Convention Center, TD Bank, Giant Food, Yobics, Inc., Voice of Hope Counseling & Consultation.

The following individuals and organizations have purchased Program Book Advertisements: **Taylor's Antiques, Dennis Enterprises-Home and Office Improvements, Candid Home Health Care Services, and Yardee Dental.**

The following individuals and organizations will be listed as "Friends of Maryland Community Connection" in the event Program: **Yardee Dental, and Candid Home Health Care Services.**

We have also received sponsor donations from the following individuals and organizations: **Agape Health Consulting & Management Group, Inc.,**

Dennis Enterprises-Home and Office Improvements, and Staples.

MCC is so grateful for the sponsorships that we have already acquired. The opportunity to

make a donation to our Silent Auction or donate to the anniversary celebration is still open. You also have the opportunity to purchase tickets on-line for our event at \$50.00 each.

Please visit our website at www.MarylandCommunityConnection.org and go to the 10th Anniversary Section where you can download the donation forms! While on our website, you can purchase tickets, program book advertisements, become a Corporate Sponsor. We appreciate everyone's participation in making Maryland Community Connection's 10th Anniversary Celebration a success!



10th Anniversary Silent Auction Sneak Peak!

Are you unable to attend MCC's 10th Anniversary Celebration or are able to attend and would like to bid on the Silent Auction items before you arrive? You are in luck!

Take advantage of the opportunity to pre-register for the 10th Anniversary Silent Auction by filling out the Pre-Registration Form that can be found at www.marylandcommunityconnection.org in the 10th Anniversary Section of the website.

Email the completed form to info@marylandcommunityconnection.org. It's that simple! Don't miss your chance to take home many different items, such as various antique selections, various airline tickets, hotel stays, and more!

How You Can Help:

It's not too late to help make the 10th Anniversary Celebration and Silent Auction a success, MCC needs the following:

- Volunteer Entertainment
- Live Band & Vocalist
- Adult volunteers to work the event
- Corporate Sponsorship Purchase advertisements in the event program book

Donate new or antique items for the Silent Auction Sponsor an individual with a disability by purchasing:

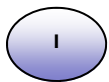
- A ticket to the event
- Attire for the event



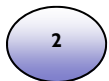
Taylor's Antiques



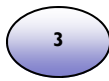
If you are interested or know someone who is, contact Shawnice Williams at 301-583-0358!



Choose Maryland Community Connection as your charity.



Shop Online
Choose from more than 500 great stores.



GoodSearch Donates!
Up to 30% of your purchase will go to Maryland Community Connection! It's that easy!

Car Donation

MCC's Vehicle Donation program offers a free and quick way for donating your used



car in all 50 states. If you would like to donate your vehicle to MCC please call us at 301-583-0358 or visit MCC's website at www.marylandcommunityconnection.org.

Donate your vehicle to Maryland Community Connection



Great Times at Family, Fun, & Fitness Day!

Over one hundred individuals with developmental disabilities and their family members attended Family Fun and Fitness Day on September 17, 2011. For the fifth consecutive year, this event was geared toward fun, fitness, and building a healthy community for all.

Highlights included line dancing, a fitness session, healthy food choices, and a lively kickball game. The kickball game was extremely competitive and the line dancing will definitely be included in the video footage from Prince George's Community College documenting the day!

We want to acknowledge the following sponsors and vendors: **Giant, TD Bank, Six Flags America, Bowie Baysox, DJ Solo, Robert & Peggy Taylor, Yobics, and Candid Home Health Care** who provided a great opportunity for individuals with developmental disabilities to try out a range of fun, health, and fitness activities. Thank you again to our sponsors and everyone who helped make Family Fun and Fitness Day a huge success!



Food and Toy Drive 2011

Maryland Community Connection needs everyone to support our Food Basket and Toy Drive. MCC will be issuing needy families with individuals with disabilities food baskets during the Thanksgiving and Christmas holidays and new toys for the Christmas holiday for the 8th consecutive year.

Maryland Community Connection encourages our readers that are more fortunate than others to give from their heart. It is not uncommon to see individuals with disabilities living below the poverty level. We believe it is the responsibility of the fortunate to help those in need whenever possible.

Maryland Community Connection will kick off the Holiday Season with our Food Basket and Toy Drive where our supporters and readers can drop off non-perishable food items, new toys, gloves, hats, books, and donations at our Administrative Offices at 6490 Landover Road, Suite A-4, Landover, Maryland on **Wednesday, November 16, 2011 and Wednesday, December 21, 2011 from 9:00 a.m.—4:00 p.m. on both days.**



Inspiring Others Awarded Business of the Year

It is with great pleasure we announce that **Donald Gallimore, owner of *Inspiring Others***, won the **Maryland Works Business Owner of the Year Award!**

Donald manages to work his full-time job at the Prince George's County Animal Shelter and run his own motivational speaking business. *Inspiring Others* was created to share the story of persevering beyond limitations. Donald's diligence and dedication continues to pay off through the success of his business. Keep up the great work Donald!



Donald Gallimore (left) with Andre Coates (far right), Catherine Raggio-Secretary of Disabilities (center) & Jade Gingerich-Director of Employment Policy (right)

2011 Emmanuel Brinklow Unsung Community Service Award!!

On July 16, 2011 André Burno Coates, Executive Director was presented and accepted the 2011 Emmanuel Brinklow Unsung Community Service Award from Anthony Medley and Darnell Thomas.

Everyone from Maryland Community Connection was proud to have been acknowledged for the hard work that staff have provided to people with developmental disabilities in the community.

Maryland Community Connection is grateful to have such a leader in the community who has made it her mission to ensure that individuals with developmental disabilities have the same goals as everyone else and to help them achieve their life's goals. MCC and André Coates continue to be leaders in community based services for individuals with developmental disabilities.

New Jobsites

Maryland Community Connection would like to congratulate the following individuals on obtaining employment at **Andrews Air Force Base and Marshalls Department Store:**

EvaMarie Anthony
Clifford Hall
Crystella Hernandez
Crystal Mercado
Brittany Ingram
Damien Harris-Reed
Antonio Washington
Heather Wicks

This is a great accomplishment for these individuals to achieve employment with the current state of the economy.



Maryland Community Connection would like to thank **Andrews Air Force Base and Marshalls** for giving the disabled community the opportunity to prosper and flourish through these trying times.

“Helping individuals with developmental disabilities achieve their goals”

MCC Introduces New LISS Team!

Dear MCC Participants and Families,

Maryland Community Connection has a new LISS team. My name is Brittany Murdaugh, and it gives me great pleasure to introduce myself as the new Director of Community Services and Angie Freeman as the LISS Administrative Assistant. As a native of Maryland and someone who has greatly benefited from the experiences here at Maryland Community Connection, I am looking forward to the challenges this new role will offer.

During my time here at MCC, I have been fortunate enough to assist in the administration of the LISS Program. In addition, I have assisted with MCC's Chuck E. Cheese Resource Fundraising Event and had a blast meeting many wonderful children, it was also very rewarding to inform parents about resources that they could tap into within their community.

Administering the LISS program is my most important task. The benefits that LISS can offer an individual with a developmental disability can be essential to their ability to access an important support or service. While maintaining a simplistic approach, LISS can provide up to \$3000 per fiscal year to help fund a therapeutic service or a summer camp, as well as services and supports that range from child care to eviction assistance. LISS Information Sessions are held annually in each southern Maryland County to keep parents up to date on the program while providing them with necessary resources that can be used in combination to the LISS program.

It can be very expensive to raise an individual that has a disability so I encourage you to don't waste time on submitting an application, as funding is limited and based on first come first serve. I look forward to shaking the hands of each and every one of you, as I know many of you will be attending either an information session or a community event. I am a firm believer of getting the word out, so please stay in contact with Maryland Community

Connection. Whether it's reading our quarterly newsletter, tracking us on the web, or reaching out through telephone, our success is dependent on building lasting relationships!

Sincerely,

Brittany Murdaugh

Director of Community Services



Requirements for LISS submission

- A. Original signed "Developmental Disabilities Administration Low Intensity Support Services (LISS) Request Form"
- B. Copy of individual's Social Security card.
- C. Proof of MD residency. You may use a bill that has your Maryland address or a Maryland identification card.
- D. Proof of developmental disability. IEP, IP, Psychological evaluation. Eligibility letter cannot be used.
- E. Information of the service/support requested for future services. Funds are paid directly to the vendor so you must submit something from the vendor that states the service, cost and vendors information.

Low Intensity Support Services Aims to Raise Awareness

Maryland Community Connection recently hosted Intensity Support Services Information (LISS) Sessions in the communities of Prince George's and Montgomery County.

LISS information Sessions are critical in raising awareness in the community and MCC's goal is to ensure that all families are aware of the state funded program, as it has helped many individuals with Developmental Disabilities throughout the state of Maryland since beginning in 2009.

"Individuals with developmental disabilities who are eligible, have an opportunity to access up to \$3,000 per year to aid them in receiving supports in the community. "

Individuals with developmental disabilities who are eligible for LISS have the opportunity to access up to \$3,000 per year to aid them in receiving various supports in the community. With this

funding, many individuals are able to maintain a sense of independence in their community and everyday life.

The financial assistance offers families the ability to access supports and services that were once thought of as unattainable. From vital assistance, such as maintaining housing through the help of eviction assistance to therapeutic summer camps that offer a safe environment with like individuals, LISS is able to assist in many different facets. It's also important to look at LISS as not just a grant program as it also serves as a resource connecting individuals to other vital resources in the community.

The Department of Community Services is there to help navigate individuals through what can seem like a vague process in accessing resources that may not be well publicized.

The LISS department hosts a total of five LISS Information sessions to educate parents and developmentally disabled individuals on the application

process and the specifics of the program.

816 Individuals Served in FY 11

Top Five LISS Requests

1. Summer Programs & Camp
2. Housing-related— Eviction Assistance and Utility Disconnection
3. Therapeutic
4. Medical
5. Adaptive Equipment

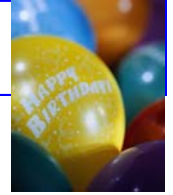
We will also have information on vendors that cater to the needs of developmentally disabled individuals. Everyone in the LISS Department is looking forward to engaging with the public, so please bring your questions and an appetite because delicious refreshments will be provided. We look forward to meeting you.

The LISS department welcomes all individuals who are interested in learning more information about program and how they can apply.

(301) 583-8880


liss@marylandcommunityconnection.org

Happy Birthday!



<u>September</u> Isaiah Johnson September 2	Mayra Rodriguez September 21	Marcus Enoch November 26	John Nealy December 14
Christopher Kunkle September 8	<u>October</u> Andre' Burno Coates October 6	Veronica Moore November 27	Sarah Whitley December 16
Brandon Perry September 12	Emmanuel Haynesworth October 7	<u>December</u> Derek Gross December 2	David Anyoaha Brittany Ingram-Ray December 20
Kevin Brown September 14	Thomas Kennedy II Shawauna Mason October 27	Shaun Savoy December 11	Roger Cobble December 22
Zainab Fagge September 18	<u>November</u> Matthew Barton Jillian Townes November 4	Robyn Floyd December 12	Andy Ishmell Don Wilson December 28
Antonio Holloway September 20	Angela Graham November 14	Henry Likambi December 13	Chantell Queen December 31
Barbara Hartnett			

Change for CHANGE




Tired of all that loose change in your purse or pocket? Under the couch? Gather it up and donate it to a worthy cause! With your support, Maryland Community Connection can continue improving the quality of our programs and services, for individuals with disabilities, and provide increased access and opportunities for individuals with developmental disabilities.

Donating is SIMPLE! Visit the T.D. Bank located on 8211 Annapolis Rd, New Carrollton, MD 20785. No need to wrap your change since T.D. Bank has a change counting machine in the lobby. Place your coins in the change machine and obtain a print out of the amount. Take the receipt to any teller and provide them the amount you would like to donate to MCC. Feel free to donate as many times as you want! Thank you, for being an agent of CHANGE!

Ice Cream In December!

Who say's you have to wait until the summer to enjoy ice cream?




Join MCC on Thursday, December 8, 2011 at Cold Stone Creamery in Blvd at the Cap Center from 6:00 pm—8:00 pm for an ice cream social fundraiser!

All guests purchasing treats that night and saying they are with our organization counts toward MCC getting a percentage of sales for the night.

Cold Stone Creamery smooth and creamy ice cream is handcrafted daily and then customized by combining a variety of mix-ins on a frozen granite stone.

Of course, MCC staff will pitch in behind the counter, mixing ice cream and serving up some delicious treats!



Emergency Preparedness: Do You Have A Plan?

In recent weeks, Maryland residents and business have had to face natural disasters that left them asking themselves, "Do we have a handle on emergency preparedness?" Emergency preparedness should be on everyone's radar, not just for those residing in California or Tornado Alley. Today emergency preparedness must account for man-made and natural disasters, all of which can strike at any moment. Having a plan in place shows that your family is prepared in cases of emergencies and knowing what to do can make all the difference when time is a factor.

September is national preparedness month and Maryland Community Connection has taken time to provide you with necessary steps that businesses and families should do in the event of a hurricane or earthquake. MCC as an agency has identified safety precautions to ensure a successful exit in the aftermath of a weather emergency. For more in-depth disaster preparedness relief, refer to FEMA's *Are You Ready? An In-depth Guide to Citizen Preparedness* and Ready.gov's *Be Informed Section* on preparation for natural disasters.

Six Ways to Plan Ahead for an Earthquake

1. Plan to Stay or Go

Depending on your circumstances and the nature of the emergency, the first important decision is whether you stay where you are or evacuate. You should understand and plan for both possibilities. Use common sense and available information, including what you are learning here, to determine if there is an immediate danger. In any emergency, local authorities may or may not immediately be able to provide information on what is happening and what you should do.

However, you should watch TV, listen to the radio or check the Internet often for information or official instruction as it becomes available.

2. Check for Hazards in the Office or Home

- Fasten shelves securely to walls
- Place large or heavy objects on lower shelves
- Store breakable items such as bottled foods, glass, and china in low, closed cabinets with latches
- Hang heavy items away from anywhere people sit
- Brace overhead light fixtures
- Repair defective electrical wiring and leaky gas connections. These are potential fire risks

3. Identify Safe Places Indoors and Outdoors

- Sturdy furniture such as a heavy desk
- Against an inside wall
- Away from glass
- In the open, away from buildings, trees, telephone and electrical lines, overpasses or elevated expressways

4. Educate Yourself, Family Members and Employees – Have disaster supplies on hand

- Contact your local emergency management office or American Red Cross chapter.
- Teach individuals when to call 911, police, or fire department and which radio station to tune to for emergency information.
- Teach individuals how and when to turn off gas, electricity, and water
- Have a flashlight and extra batteries, nonelectric can opener
- Portable battery-operated radio and extra batteries
- First Aid Kit and manual

5. Develop an Emergency Communication Plan

What to do During an Earthquake if Indoors

- Drop to the ground; take cover under a stable piece of furniture and hold on until shaking stops
- Stay away from glass, walls and anything that could fall
- Unless you are under a heavy light fixture stay in bed, if you are in bed when earthquake hits
- Stay inside until the shaking stops and it is safe to go outside
- Do not use elevators
- Be aware that electricity may go out or the sprinkler system or fire alarms may turn on may be damaged.
- If a power line falls on your car you stay inside until a trained person removes the wire.

6. Help Your Community Get Ready

- Publish a special section in your newsletter with emergency information on earthquakes. Localize the information by printing the phone numbers of local emergency services offices, the American Red Cross, and hospitals.
- Work with local emergency services and American Red Cross officials to prepare special reports for people with mobility impairments on what to do during an earthquake.
- Provide tips on conducting earthquake drills in the home.
- Interview representatives of the gas, electric, and water companies about shutting off utilities.

Emergency Preparedness Continued

What can MCC do to prepare itself and individuals in the wake of an earthquake?

- Publish a special section in our Monthly newsletters that brings awareness to Emergency Preparedness
- Set up an email alert or call in voice recording to communicate with employees in case of emergency
- Work with Local emergency services and American Red Cross officials to prepare special reports for people with mobility impairments on what to do during an earthquake.
- Ensure DDA has a plan on organizations plan of emergency preparedness.
- Ensure community specialist have personalized emergency preparedness plans and kits for participants receiving FISS
- Have staff take computer-based training program developed by FEMA’s Emergency Management Institute
- Research area for likelihood of flood damage; Also inquire about durability office building
- Ensure crisis management procedures are clearly defined and clear to all employees
- Keep up-to-date employee contact information
- Ensure Drills and exercises are implemented; include preparedness in training in new employee orientation programs

Hurricane Preparedness Prepare Family

- For a family, identify an out-of-town contact. It may be difficult due to conditions to get through to anyone across town. Be sure all

family members are knowledgeable of number. Program person’s name as ICE (In Case of Emergency) in cell phone. Make sure all family members know how to text when unable to make calls. Also subscribe to alert services. Many communities now have alert services that send instant texts or emails about bad weather conditions.

- Ensure your family is aware of weather conditions that are most likely to occur in you Area.
- Also be sure to inquire about

- Plan on what you will do if your office building is unavailable.
- Identify a person (s) who will put together a emergency plan
- Define crisis management procedures and individual responsibilities
- If you share a building with other business, coordinate with each other.
- Review plans annually to ensure all measures are up to date.
- Include emergency preparedness information in correspondences; i.e. newsletters or emails
- Provide all co-workers with wallet cards detailing instructions on how to get company information in an emergency situation.
- Ensure medical supplies and emergency supplies are on hand

Saffir-Simpson Hurricane Scale			
Category	Winds (MPH)	Damage	Storm Surge
1	74 - 95	Minimal: Damage to unanchored mobile homes, vegetation & signs. Coastal road flooding. Some shallow flooding of susceptible homes.	4 - 5 feet
2	96 - 110	Moderate: Significant damage to mobile homes & trees. Significant flooding of roads near the coast & bay.	6 - 8 feet
3	111 - 130	Extensive: Structural damage to small buildings. Large trees down. Mobile homes largely destroyed. Widespread flooding near the coast & bay.	9 - 12 feet
4	131 - 155	Extreme: Most trees blown down. Structural damage to many buildings. Roof failure on small structures. Flooding extends far inland. Major damage to structures near shore.	13 - 18 feet
5	More than 155	Catastrophic: All trees blown down. Some complete building failures. Widespread roof failures. Flood damage to lower floors less than 15 feet above sea level.	Greater than 18 feet

Chart 1. Saffir-Simpson Hurricane Scale

emergency plans at places where your family frequents, such as schools, daycare and or work. **Prepare Business.**

- Putting together a disaster plan is critical on the chances of survival of a business in a hurricane prone area.
- Know what weather conditions affect the area of your business
- Ensure continuity of operations through carefully assessing how your company functions, internally and externally. Single out procedures critical to survival of company. Establish procedures for succession of management.

Each County has a professional Emergency Management Agency. During an emergency, this agency will provide people up to the minute information about what is happening and how

you can keep your family safe.

Contact your local agency below:

Prince Georges 301-583-1899

Charles County 301-609-3402

Montgomery County 240-777-2300

Calvert 410-535-1623

Also visit the following sites on emergency preparedness and alerts, instructional videos, and disaster assistance:

<http://www.mema.state.md.us>

<http://www.ready.gov/america/about/instructional.html>

<http://www.capitalert.gov/>

<http://www.disasterassistance.gov/>



MARYLAND
COMMUNITY
CONNECTION

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Phone (301) 583-0358
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Web: www.marylandcommunityconnection.org

Maryland Community Connection

MISSION STATEMENT

The mission of Maryland Community Connection (MCC) is primarily to establish, operate, and maintain services in the community for individuals with developmental disabilities. Through trained, qualified, and fairly compensated staff, MCC services will assist each person to achieve a greater degree of social and economic independence and reduce the need for subsidized lifestyles. MCC policy requires that these services be provided to eligible Maryland participants without regard to race, color, creed, national origin, gender, or marital status. MCC is a non-profit 501(c)(3) organization in our 10th year of operation.

Important Dates

October 2011

- Oct 1 National Disability Awareness Month
- Oct 7 MCC Employer Recognition Breakfast
- Oct 10 MCC Closed for Columbus Day
- Oct 13 DDA Fall TY Fair
- Oct 17-19 MACS Conference



November 2011

- Nov 11 MCC Closed for Veterans Day
- Nov 14 MCC 10 Year Anniversary Celebration
- Nov 16 MCC Food and Toy Drive
- Nov 24 MCC Closed for Thanksgiving
- Nov 25 MCC Closed for Employee Appreciation Day



CFC #B1345
<http://givecfc.org>

December 2011

- Dec 8 Cold Stone Creamery Fundraiser
- Dec 21 MCC Food and Toy Drive
- Dec 26 MCC Closed for Christmas



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“Helping individuals with developmental disabilities achieve their goals”