

KAP Information:

The Kelly Autism Program

Clinical Education Complex
1906 College Heights Blvd. # 11098
Bowling Green, KY 42101-1098

Phone number: (270) 745-8903

Email: kellyautismprogram@wku.edu

Website: <http://www.wkucec.com>



Volume 2, Number 11, August 2006

CEC Dedication: August 25, 2006 @ 10am

**Solution for the Future Conference:
September 30, 2006 @ 8:00-5:00
Garrett Conference Center**

Conference Planned for Parents

Written by: Dr. Marty Boman

KAP, Merrill Lynch, BEST Center for Independent Living, and Caveland Educational Support Center are hosting a first annual conference titled "A Solution for the Future." This seminar is for parents and caregivers of transitioning students (ages 14 and up), and will feature Jackie Golden, advocate, consultant, and mother of a child with profound disabilities. Jackie will tell parents how she achieved personal and financial independence for Joshua.

Also, there will be a panel of experts in the field as well as organizations, which will support the parents in their role as an advocate for their daughter or son. The conference will be held 9/30/2006 from 8:00 to 5:00 at the Garrett Conference Center. There is no cost, and lunch will be provided. Please call Marilyn Mitchell for registration at 270-796-5992, LeAnn Marksberry at 270-745-3108 or Marty Boman at 270-745-8833.

Conference Recap

Written by: Krystal Martin

On June 15th and 16th four KAP staff had the opportunity to attend the Kentucky Autism Training Center 2006 Institute at the Galt House in Louisville. The sessions were incredible. The staff attended sessions about special interest areas, hygiene, and dating. We hope to bring this newfound knowledge back and put it to use. Additionally, the staff presented at both the Expo on Thursday evening which showcased all services available in the region, and in a session on Friday in which we told everyone about the Kelly Autism Program and our services. Dr. Kersting also presented at the Megaconference in Tennessee the following day. We are working hard to get our name out there as we become a quality, nationally recognized program.

Feature Student

Abrar Mohamed

As told to: Smit Chauhan



Our Student of the month for August is Abrar Mohamed. Abrar attends Drakes Creek Middle School. He is currently enrolled in the 8th grade and is 14 years old. He has been an active participant of KAP for the past several years.

He likes to go on the internet, play train simulators and skateboard. He also likes field trips, socials at KAP and watching trains. He collects details about trains especially pictures and videos. In fact, his favorite pastime is watching train videos on the internet.

He wants to become a Norfolk Southern Train Engineer and work for Chestas System. He enjoys black olive pizzas from Pizza Hut and hamburgers from McDonalds. He likes to talk about his trip to India last year and his recent trip to Florida with his parents.

He is good at Mathematics and likes to work on math. He enjoyed participating at KAP this summer and especially at the Humane Society where he got to play with the cats. He enjoys playing with Taylor, who is his best friend at KAP. Abrar looks forward to participating in KAP during the fall semester.

Director's Desk

Written by: Dr. Marty Boman

Oh! What a summer it was for KAP! We grew from 13 to over 30 participants! This kept the staff busy trying to accommodate the various activities that were planned.

All participants 16 or older, who were at KAP on a regular schedule, had paying jobs. This was an exciting time for many of them as they received their first paychecks. Their skills grew tremendously as they learned about job responsibilities, working with others, and independence.

For the younger participants, everyone was out in the community volunteering their time where needed. They walked the pets, watered plants, sorted clothes, loaded trucks, and restocked shelves. This was a learning experience as they prepare for the future.

Another new adventure for many of the participants was group time, where they learned team skills. Every three-hour session began with “Group”, where the participants worked together on various social skills, such as problem solving, anger control, friendship skills, etc. The staff saw many improvements. Friday's schedule was for social time, where the group decided, planned, and carried out all of the responsibilities that were required in order to have a successful event. These activities highlighted everything that is outlined in the KAP mission statement.

The 7-11 year old group had six sessions, which culminated with the team project of a large dragon mural. We will be posting it on the walls at the CEC as soon as we move to our new location.

Finally, this note would not be complete without a huge “Thank you” to our great staff. Sarah and Krystal worked on the organizing, schedule and planning; Margie received a number of donations from the community and was a job coach; Janice supervised and led the “Group Operations” sessions; Smit helped with a number of medical issues; Rebecca worked on the LifeSkills Run; Amanda organized the newsletter; and Felicia, Lindsay, and Michael helped out whenever we needed them. These responsibilities were beyond their hours spent with the participants. Although you may not hear it enough, we appreciate everything that you do for KAP as you are the essential team members in making KAP successful.

Thank you! It's time to focus on the Fall session now!

Participants Receive Paychecks

Written by: Sarah McMaine and Krystal Martin

For the first time all of our participants who are 16 years of age or older were placed in a paid job position for the summer. We had students working at Greenview Hospital, Hillview Heights Church, Camp Happy Days, Hughes and Coleman Law Firm, and Rivendell. Students gained valuable job skills, work experience and last but not least their first paycheck.

So I guess the real question is, “How will you spend your first paycheck?”

“...*buy a cell phone*” -Jennifer Jones

“...*buy movies at Wal-mart*” -David Essler

“...*buy unlimited cell phone minutes*” – Clay Hall

“...*save it*” –Joseph Thompson



(above) David Essler and Michael Davis show off David's paycheck.

(below) Joseph Thompson holds his paycheck proudly.



Kelly Autism Program "THANK YOUS"

Harley Poker Run Contribution

Written by: Krystal Martin

On Tuesday, July 18, 2006, Janice, Krystal, and Dr. Boman were invited to the monthly Cave Country Harley Owners' Group (HOG) Meeting at Split Tree Barbeque. After eating dinner and visiting with the HOG members, the meeting closed with the presentation of a check for \$1000 to the Kelly Autism Program. This money was raised at the Harley Davidson Poker Run which was held on June 10. After the meeting, many members expressed interest in working more with KAP in the future. We really appreciate the generous contribution from the Cave Country HOG Chapter.



Janice Smith, Dr. Boman, Don Wallace (HOG member), and Krystal Martin with the contribution check for \$1000 at the HOG monthly meeting.

Summer Donations

Written by: Dr. Marty Boman

Over \$1660.00 was donated for the Summer Program. KAP would like to say "Thank You" to a number of businesses that supported us by contributing to our socials and other activities. Please support them with your business.

- Houchens—Water \$65.00
- Domino's—Pizzas \$120.00
- Home Towne Suites—2 families \$1157.00
- Suitable for Framing—Mat Board \$50.00
- B & J Gallery—Mat Board \$50.00
- Jimmy John's—Sandwiches \$78.00
- Print Media—Brochures \$80.00
- Bar-B-Que Inn—Meat and buns \$30.00
- Living Hope Vacation Bible School—Flowers
- Deanna Graves—Scrubs \$20.00

Life Skills Sunset Run

Written by: Amanda Jochim

On behalf of the Kelly Autism Program, a heart-felt thank you goes out to all of those involved in the planning of the Life Skills Sunset Run. This event would not have happened without the help of Brad Schneider, Alice Simpson and many other staff at Life Skills. The proceeds from the run will be used to assist the participants in their activities within the community, at job sites and recreational events.

The evening was definitely a fun time for all. The planning was great with the refreshments, entertainment, door prizes, awards, and the race itself. Thank you also, to all of the sponsors and volunteers who so generously gave their time to this event. The KAP staff and several participants had a great evening of fellowship and fun.

Again, thank you to Life Skills for all of the support they have given KAP. We enjoy working with them and are grateful for everything they do for us.



KAP staff pre-race, by the end not everyone was this energetic and smily.

Sarah McMaine and Collin Tomes stretching before Collin participated in the 2 mile walk and Sarah in the 5 K run.



Cancellations: If participants are unable to attend their scheduled session, please call the KAP office as soon as possible so staff can be notified.

Very Special Arts

Written by: Sarah McMaine

This summer several of our students participated in the Very Special Arts program. KAP was fortunate enough to have two separate art camps led by Mrs. Delaire Rowe. During these camps the students were able to draw and paint with various media. They were also able to create stain glass windows and sculptures.

Staff and parents experienced quite a few surprises through the art camp. After Collin's VSA experience he now spends some of his free time drawing, which is something he has never done before. This was Nicolas and Lucas Littrell's first experience with VSA and Nicolas thoroughly enjoyed painting. The biggest surprise came from Aaron Thomas. The staff had no idea how talented he was in art. Despite his visual limitations he created some of the best art that the staff has ever seen.

All VSA participants had a great experience and are looking forward to the side by side program that will be held this fall.

Group Operations

Written by: Dr. Marty Boman

This summer KAP ran a pilot program of three participants for the 7-11 age group. They met six times, and learned many skills. On their final meeting, they discussed what they learned from this experience. Their answers included: working together, taking turns, solving problems, helping each other, sharing with their new friends.

They concluded the sessions by working together to produce a mighty dragon. Watch for him as the fire-spitting creature will be on the walls of the KAP area soon!

Scholarships and Charitable Giving

As always, we ask that everyone remember KAP and the benefits that are being brought to the community. KAP has an endowment fund or consider us in estate planning and other forms of giving. KAP can also grow through your effort of time, talent, and treasure.



Felicia Walker-Wells and Dalton Cheek work together during a VSA camp.



Group Operation members work on a painting of a fire breathing dragon.

The Kelly Autism Program

Clinical Education Complex

1906 College Heights Blvd. # 11098

Bowling Green, KY 42101-1098



