

KAP Information:

The Kelly Autism Program

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CEC Building Dedication and Chamber of Commerce Breakfast



WKU president Dr. Gary Ransdell and Philip Proctor pose for a picture after the Chamber of Commerce breakfast, where both were featured speak-



Mr. Leo Govani, director of the Center for Special Needs Trust Administration, stands in front of the recently dedicated Clinical Education Complex building. Mr. Govani recently contributed \$500,000 over 5 years and matched a \$250,000 endowment by John and Linda Kelly.



Don Vitale, Suzanne Vitale, and Philip Proctor add the center piece of the CEC logo.



Students from Philip Proctor's school came to remember this special occasion with their friend. Broadway the clown came to entertain the children.

Director's Desk

Written by: Dr. Marty Boman

August 24th and 25th were days that will be remembered forever at KAP. First, Suzanne Vitale hosted an evening at her home which spotlighted Mr. Leo Govoni from the Center for Special Needs Trust Administration. Many community and university members were present for this occasion. A generous commitment of \$500,000 over ten years was made to complete the necessary space in the Clinical Education Complex to house the Kelly Autism Program. Mr. Govoni also agreed to match a \$250,000 donation made by Linda and John Kelly, which provided a total impact of \$500,000 for the KAP endowment and will be a permanent source of funding for the program! Words cannot express the gratitude from all the parents, participants, staff, and boards as we have reached our capacity at Jones Jagers. The following day was the dedication of the CEC with the five directors adding their pieces of the puzzle, followed by Philip Proctor and Don Vitale adding the final touch placing the person connecting the five programs. President Ransdell and Provost Burch spoke about the community and university collaboration. Thank you to everyone involved with the dedication particularly Leo Govoni, Suzanne Vitale, Linda and John Kelly, and Mary Lloyd Moore.

On another note, this has been a busy fall semester as the number of participants is growing in every program. Due to these increases KAP is currently housed at three different sites: Jones Jagers, CEC, and the Student Success Center in DUC. We truly will appreciate the completed KAP space at the CEC so that we can all be together! The floor plans have been finalized and the bids are being collected. Soon we will be hearing the noise from the contractors. This truly is an exciting time at KAP!

Post Secondary

Written by: Krystal Martin

The postsecondary students have been a busy group of people lately. They have a lot of great things going on. The students are going to begin meeting for a family-style dinner once a month with the family of one of the local students. Hopefully, this will help them to feel more at home. Additionally, the students are getting involved on campus and in the community. Twice a month, the students volunteer at the Humane Society. On the opposite two weeks, they go to the Preston Center for recreational activities. The students have also become involved in various campus activities and organizations. The students are being successful, while having a good time and living the college experience! Krystal Martin, a senior in the Exceptional Education department, and Sarah McMaine, a graduate assistant, are coordinating this group.

Program Updates

Elementary School

Written by: Amber Gross and Frank Kersting

The Kelly Autism Program has a new program in the Clinical Education Complex, CEC. The elementary program has a home, two rooms in the CEC!! The elementary program represents KAP's recognition of the need to provide a 'service continuum' for families and children diagnosed within the Autism Spectrum. Currently, there are eight families participating in the program, with students ranging from the second grade to the fifth grade. The program offers an after school program from 3:00-5:00. When a student arrives, a snack is offered and gladly taken. Then there is a brief period to assist with homework. Finally, the group activities begin, which range from game playing to arts. The students really enjoy the opportunity to relax and share time with other students. Mrs. Gross, a school psychology graduate assistant, has primary responsibility for the groups. Groups meet Monday through Thursday.

Middle School and High School

Written by: Amanda Jochim

The middle school and high school programs are back in full swing. We have more students attending KAP after school than ever seen before. The number of students is continually increasing as we see new students frequently. After school in Jones Jagers room 112, you are sure to find a room full of busy participants. Staff is there helping students with their homework, teaching social skills, and making friends. Soon the participants will be doing different science experiments throughout the week. KAP is gladly welcoming transition students in the pre-block cohort of the exceptional education program daily. These students are studying to be teachers and are getting their class hours by working at KAP. Along with the after school activities, we have had many social gatherings. Most recently, we went to St. Vincent De Paul to be of service to their staff. We also hosted a middle school boy's night, in which eight boys were in attendance. They hung out, played video games, and ate pizza. The high school girls also came together. We painted nails, styled hair, and put on make-up. Throughout October, the socials will be continuing. Please stay tuned to your e-mail, mail, and the KAP office for all updates. We are also going to be joined with the Very Special Arts program again. The participants are looking forward to showing their artwork again. Amanda Jochim, a senior in the Exceptional Education department, is currently coordinating the middle and high school after school programs and socials.

Featured Students

Will Sutkowski



Favorite Foods: Pizza, ice cream & candy

Favorite T.V. Show: Reading Rainbow

Favorite Drink: Chocolate Milk

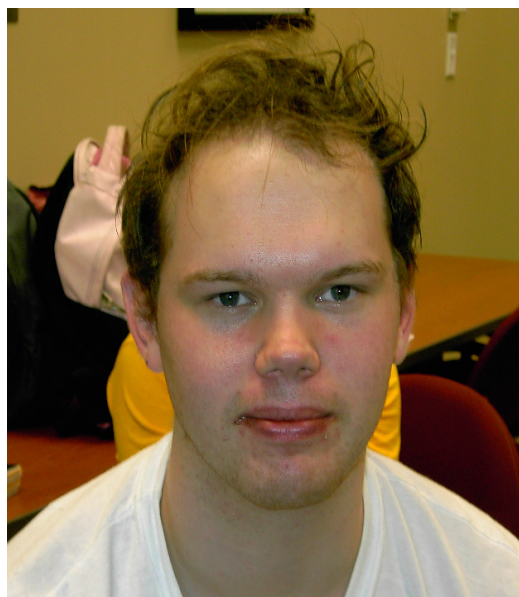
Favorite Movie: Disney's Cars

Favorite Game: Chess

Likes: Bugs, cars, drawing cars, making drawing books, watching movies, & playing games

Amber Gross, elementary coordinator, said about Will, "He is an excellent group member! He is a great listener who interacts with his friends from KAP well!"

Brian Applehaus



The feature student for the post-secondary is Brian Applehaus. Brian is a freshman at Western and attends classes at the community college. His favorite classes are Biology and Biology Lab. Brian is very excited about his new adventure at Western. He states that his favorite part of college is the freedom and dorm life. Brian is very social and always has the guys over to play X-box. The only thing that Brian does not enjoy about Western is the noise from the trains that run by his dorm.

Brian is a very conscientious student that attends all of the study tables. He is always willing to work and most times is the last student to leave. He enjoys learning and has

Upcoming Events:

Oct. 14 10am-11:30am with lunch following--St. Vincent De Paul
-We will help the staff with different things around the store

Oct. 20/21 6pm-9am High School girls sleep over
-We will supply dinner and breakfast. It will be a night full of girly things.

Oct. 21 10am-12pm Middle School Boys
-We will go to Lost River Cave on the boat tour and explore around the cave.

Oct. 26 6pm-7:30pm Dinner and Conversation
-Parents will come together to discuss while the students have fun.

Oct. 27 6pm-8pm High School Boys
-We will go to Southern Lanes to bowl, play pool, and have dinner.

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

New Staff at KAP



Avish Nagpal, 27, is a medical graduate from India currently pursuing a Master's Degree in Public Health (Education) from Western Kentucky University. Apart from his involvement with the Kelly Autism Project, he also works as an intern in Patient Centered Services at TJ Samson Community Hospital, Glasgow, KY. He is a big soccer enthusiast and likes to travel whenever and wherever he can.

Dinesh Sharma is a medical graduate from India, currently pursuing Masters in Public health. This is his third semester at Western Kentucky University. He is hoping to join a medical residency program next year in the United States. His long term career goal is to pursue clinical work along with the research in neuroscience.



Amber Gross is a psychology graduate student currently pursuing a Master's Degree in School Psychology. Amber Gross, a newlywed, is currently overseeing the elementary program.

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.

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