

Northwest Center promotes the **growth, development and independence** of people with disabilities through programs of **education, rehabilitation and work opportunity.**



Membership Event: Trust Accounts and Finance

In our recent membership survey, we asked you to tell us which topics related to disability are most important to you and now the results are in! Our first information session is on

Tuesday, June 10th and will address the basics of financial planning for people with disabilities. We will have experts available from various financial institutions present information and answer your questions. To RSVP, call 206-378-6389 or visit our website at <http://www.nwcenter.org>.



Remembering Bill Ellison

America lost a gentle dreamer this Memorial weekend. After living a very full life, prospering in many ways, Bill Ellison left

an uncommon legacy. He was a philanthropist, generous with his money and his smile. But more lasting and significant was his success at developing his vision: to aid social service agencies by giving them a way to support and sustain their causes.

He was the founder of Thrift Village, Inc., which became SAVERS, Inc., eventually an international chain of thrift stores. In a uniquely unselfish business model, Bill Ellison contracted with non-profit organizations to provide his stores, known as Value Village in the Northwest, with a steady stream of good reusable, re-sellable clothing and household goods.

Bill Ellison's legacy is defined today by relationships with over 120 non-profit organizations supplying more than 200 stores. The vision continues to help children and adults with disabilities, those who are blind or vision-impaired, children who need mentors, people with diabetes, victims of cancer, abandoned children, and many more, too numerous to count. His dream is still being fulfilled.

Excerpt from a tribute written by Jean Kantu which can be read in its entirety on our website.

You can access all of the information found in this newsletter or donate online at our website: www.nwcenter.org

Our Wheels Won't Go 'Round...



'til you help us get our bus! Our Child Development Program needs a 20-passenger wheel-chair accessible bus so all our kids

can experience all the education Seattle has to offer...the zoo, the aquarium, museums, parks, and summer swimming lessons. We can't do it right now - but with your help we will make it! We're getting closer to our goal, but we need to raise an additional \$15,000 so please donate today!





An Interview with a Children’s Development Center Parent and Northwest Center employee, Debra Tan!

Debra Tan is a Northwest Center employee of 5 years and works with clients in CSE. She is also a mom to Rizal who attends the Children’s Development Center that serves children with and without developmental disabilities from 6 weeks to 12 years of age in our inclusive program.

How long as Rizal been attending the CDP? Since she was 3 months old.

How old is she now? She is two and a half.

Have you noticed if she has developed any relationships with any of the kids with disabilities? Yes. She has. One in particular. A girl who visits in a wheelchair. She has become very close to her. When ever she sees her, she runs off to hug her. I have seen them reading stories together in the room.

Does she talk about her? Not by name but I know that she is really attached to her. And there are other kids in the class that have disabilities but they don’t really share who has disabilities and who doesn’t.

What is your favorite thing about having Rizal at the CDP? The teachers. The teachers are fantastic. She’s graduated through three different classrooms.

They seem very well equipped for little kids. They are real age specific with toys and equipment like the bathroom facilities. At Riz’s level they have lesson plans so she is getting an education as well. They send home monthly letters with lunch menus and lesson plans --what they will be discussing that month as well as “My Day” sheets which report what Rizal did through the day. I also have other friends who have kids in daycare and when they saw the “My Day” sheets they wished they had something like that – she was impressed with how much information they gave you about what your child did through the day.

Also they have yearly parent teacher conferences where they go over a milestone checklist with you. So if you did have a kid with disabilities they do a really good job at monitoring their day to day activities.

Would you recommend the CDP? Yes. Definitely, I have recommended it to friends.



Just Say Oui... to French Wines and Northwest Center

Join us at our first ever wine tasting! Northwest Center has partnered with Jack Cellars to introduce you to a variety of French wines while learning about our important mission. Bring a friend, grab a drink and spend a few minutes getting to know how we help adults and children with disabilities. The tasting will be held on Tuesday, June 17th from 6:00 p.m. – 7:30 p.m. To RSVP, call 206-378-6389 or visit our website.



9th Annual Golden Hearts Luncheon

The Golden Hearts Luncheon highlights the accomplishments of children and adults with disabilities and recognizes our partners in the community who help make these accomplishments possible. : The luncheon will be held on Thursday, September 25th at Bell Harbor along the Seattle waterfront. For more information or to RSVP call 206-378-6389 or visit our website.

To attend either of these events or get more information, call us at 206-378-6379.



NORTHWEST CENTER

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