

DDS the Independent Star

transforming lives through greater independence

Meet Dillan



Dillan, who is now 15, attended DDS at 10 months of age. At that time, all children received early intervention services at the DDS center. I remember taking Dillan to DDS where he would meet with other children who were also there to receive therapy. Born with general developmental delays, it was necessary for Dillan to receive speech, physical and occupational therapies. Speech therapy was probably the most helpful to Dillan since he was not able to talk and the few words he could say were only partial words. Through speech therapy he learned sign language and that was a very big help to him and to me. He stopped receiving services from DDS when he was three years old.

A few years ago, Dillan once again became active with DDS by attending the Summer Stars Day Camp, which he really enjoyed. He has come to look forward to the day camp each summer and participates for several weeks during the summer months. As DDS expanded its recreational programs, Dillan became active in the Boy Scout Troop #404 that is chartered by DDS, and participates in the autistic social group ACES, soccer and bowling when they are offered. Before Dillan was involved in recreational programs he was uncertain how to interact with his peers. Although he wanted to be around other kids, he didn't talk or play with them. Now, he can go up to his peers and talk to them. He especially looks forward to going to ACES.

Melissa Brandt,
Dillan's mother

2011

Summer Stars Day Camp

Schedule Inside!!

Or visit our web site:

www.ddslebanon.org

ALLEY LEARNING CENTER Preschool

Now Enrolling for Summer & Fall

*We believe that a star is born everyday
and that every star should shine as bright as it can.
We're here to help children get a head start in school and in life.*

The preschool features an integrated classroom where children of all abilities learn together. DDS invites all children age 3-5 to enroll:

- highly qualified teaching staff
- high staff to child ratio
- modern facility & playground
- affordable / \$10 per session

****Register now and we will waive registration fee****

Call Laura at 274-3493

DDS EMPOWERMENT AUCTION

APRIL 9

LEBANON VALLEY EXPO CENTER & FAIRGROUNDS

**Doors Open at 8am for
Registration & Preview**



View Auction Lots at: www.ddslebanon.org

Auction Services Donated by

Auctioneer - Dave Ebersole #AU000246L

DDS is a not-for profit charitable organization. It's mission is to empower children with developmental delays and persons with disabilities to lead more productive, satisfying and/or independent lives.

Since 1961, DDS has provided training, educational and therapeutic services to hundreds of persons with disabilities living in Lebanon County. DDS remains committed to helping individuals achieve greater independence for a happier healthier life.

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DDS Programs

- Physical, Speech, Occupational & Developmental Therapies
- Community Based Early Intervention (children birth - 3)
- Alley Learning Center Preschool (children 3-5)
- Community Based Job-Coaching (adults)
- The Elks Home Service Nurse (children and adults)
- Accessible Communities Today (adults and caregivers)
 - Brave Art Studio (adults)
- Summer Stars Day Camp (school age children)
- Special Needs Scout Troop (boys 11 years and older)
- Special Needs Cub Scout Pack (boys in grades 1-5)
- Recreational Programs



DDS Launches 50-4-50 Campaign

DDS is celebrating 50 years of service! Thousands of individuals and families have been greatly impacted by DDS programs and services. We couldn't have made it without the faithful and generous support of the Lebanon community; thank you for the privilege to serve this unique population in Lebanon County.

Through the 50-4-50 Campaign we're hoping to raise \$50,000. We kicked-off the campaign in February with the help of *The Lebanon Daily News*. To date we have raised \$4,583. These funds will enable us to continue our mission to serve this unique population in Lebanon County by providing education and training services.

Mission of Hope

"Children afflicted with cerebral palsy don't ask for charity, they ask for opportunity."

The year 1961 was a year of transformation and it began with the inauguration of John F. Kennedy. The Kennedy Administration gave hope to those living in third world countries by establishing the Peace Corps: to African-Americans he gave hope through the civil rights movement: and, through the ideals of equality, we began to see people for who they are regardless of religion, ethnicity or ability.

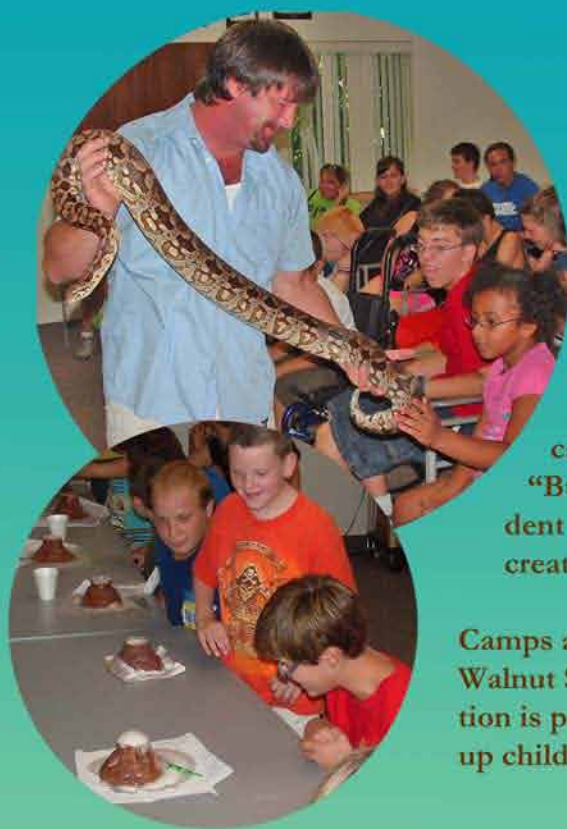
Developmental & Disability Services of Lebanon Valley, (then known as United Cerebral Palsy of Lebanon County) realized that people with special needs had great potential to contribute to their communities if given the proper training and education. Past Board President, John Loehr said in May 1968, "Children afflicted with cerebral palsy don't ask for charity, they ask for opportunity." Helping individuals achieve their maximum potential remains the core of DDS's mission to this day.

Denine (Dee) Pfaltz is just one of hundreds of Lebanon County children who graduated from the developmental classroom. Dee enrolled in 1973 at age three and continued to receive special instruction and therapy until she was able to attend school at age eight. Dee's mother, Shirley, said she is glad Dee was born when she was (1970), because she was given a lot more opportunities.

By helping Dee achieve important developmental milestones, at age 40, Dee enjoys a vibrant life as an active member of her church, avid horseback rider, volunteer and participant in the Brave Art Studio, a group that meets regularly at the DDS-Alley Learning Center to do collaborative art. Visit our web site to learn more, www.ddslebanon.org.



Summer Stars Day Camp



For several years, DDS has offered a summer day camp program for school age children. The purpose of the camp is to help children of all abilities explore new talents while developing and recreational skills in a fun non-threatening environment. The camp is designed for school age children of all abilities with a direct focus on serving children and youth with special needs. To accommodate these needs, DDS contracts a nurse to assist campers as needed and provides special transportation for campers to go along on day trips. In addition, DDS uses a "Buddy" system in which campers partner with a high school student or adult volunteer. Buddies engage campers in activities and create an inclusive environment for campers.

Camps are held at the DDS-Alley Learning Center, located at 1126 Walnut St., Lebanon, PA 17042 from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. While transportation is provided for day trips, parents are expected to drop off and pick-up children at the DDS-Alley Learning Center.

2011 Day Camp Schedule

June 20-23: Camp Mack

Ages - School Age / Cost: \$125

Campers will go to camp Mack each day enjoy archery, hiking, swimming and boating, outdoor crafts and games.

June 27-July 1: Critters & Creatures Theme Camp

Ages - School Age / Cost: \$125

Campers will participate in activities that include animal visits, demonstrations, underwater excursion presentation. Includes a swimming trip and trip to Patches Creamery.

July 5-8: Story Book Adventures Mini Camp

Ages 4-8 / Cost: \$50

This mini camp will run from 9 a.m. to 12 noon. Each day will feature a different author: Eric Carl, Dr. Seuss, Mother Goose and the Brothers Grimm. Activities, games and crafts will relate to the day's author.

Aug. 8-12: Far East Journey Theme Camp

Ages - School Age / Cost: \$125

Campers will explore a variety of cooking and craft activities, that relate to the orient. The week includes karate demonstration, multi player video Game Truck and swimming trip.

Buddies Wanted



DDS is looking for volunteer Buddies to ensure that children enrolled in the DDS-Summer Stars Day camp have a positive camp experience. Buddies assist children in camp activities and serve as escorts for day trips. We prefer Buddies to be at least 16 years of age and willing to participate in an orientation program. Volunteer schedules are flexible, Buddies may sign-up for specific days to assist with the camp, or for one week at a time. This is a great assignment for youth and mission groups, high school graduation projects or students who would like to complete community service hours. Call DDS to receive your application packet, or visit our web site at www.ddslebanon.org and navigate to the Summer Stars Day Camp Page.



Developmental & Disability Services of Lebanon Valley
 1126 Walnut St., Lebanon, PA 17042
 717-274-3493 www.ddslebanon.org

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The *Independent Star* is a seasonal publication. To have your name added or removed from the mailing list, call 274-3493. Please address comments to the Editor, Jessica A. Penchard.

Return Service Requested

DDS is proud to be a member of*



United Way
of Lebanon County



**Ensure that DDS services will be available for future generations,
remember the DDS Foundation, Inc. in your will!**

DDS Empowerment Auction



**Show Your Support for DDS
and local businesses
by attending our annual
benefit auction on April 9th.**

THANK YOU

DAVE EBERSOLE

Volunteer - Auctioneer # AU-000246L

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**THANK YOU LEBANON COUNTY BUSINESSES
CHURCHES, ORGANIZATIONS, DDS FAMILIES
AND INDIVIDUALS FOR YOUR KIND DONATIONS
IN SUPPORT OF OUR ANNUAL AUCTION!!**

TO VIEW DONATED AUCTION ITEMS VISIT

www.ddslebanon.org