



TURNING POINTE

AUTISM FOUNDATION



Turning Point Autism Foundation

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WINTER 2010

Phasing The Recreation Center

By Kevin Gallaher

As plans to develop our site continue, opportunities continue to present themselves. Shortly after we received our zoning approval from the Naperville City Council, Western DuPage Special Recreation Association (“WDSRA”) asked us to expand our recreation facility. Our Board soon decided that this would be a great opportunity and that WDSRA would be a fantastic partner for our project. We plan to expand our swimming pool to accommodate a 25 meter pool. Because of the need for such a

facility, our rec center will now allow programming for disabled individuals beyond the autism spectrum. We have spoken with other area organizations. Needless to say they are excited about the possibility of having a first class facility here in Naperville. Our Board is thrilled that this opportunity allows us to serve an even greater share of the community. WDSRA is excited to have the ability to expand its programming here in Naperville. Based on their recent survey data, WDSRA users identified a special

needs rec center in Naperville as one of their primary goals. The people at WDSRA, especially Jane Hodgkinson, have embraced this concept and we look forward to partnering with them. Because of the work involved in reworking the rec center, our Board has decided to construct the school as Phase I. The rec center will then be developed as Phase II once we have ironed out all of the details. Many thanks to WDSRA for providing us this opportunity!

Executive Board of Directors

- Randy Wolf
- Kim Wolf
- Kevin Gallaher
- Russ Paluch
- Mark Spangler
- Mark Kirstein

Project Partners

- Nyberg & Cassioppi, LLC
- System 27 Corporation
- Donors By Design
- Development Group
- Newman Architecture
- Hitchcock Design
- V3 Companies
- Dynovox
- Easter Seals

Fundraising Update

By Randy Wolf

Goodbye 2009 and hello 2010! This has been one challenging year to say the least. In our current economic climate it has been a difficult year to raise capital. In saying that we have made some major strides. Canadian National railroad made its largest single contribution ever of \$2 million to Turning Pointe. Canadian National has the naming rights to the school. We would like to thank Hunter Harrison, former CEO, for his hard work and devotion to our cause. We wish the best in his retirement. The Naccarato family made a very generous donation of \$250,000, our second largest, and have the naming rights to the speech therapy room. Thank you, Todd and Clay! Dan and Penny Wolf continue in their giving ways, which has totaled over \$150,000 over the past 2 years. The Dan Wolf Automotive group did their annual campaign in April for Autism awareness month. \$50 was donated for every vehicle sold in

April. This along with employee contributions totaled over \$40,000 this past year. Finally, on the giving front Bob and Jan VanIten generously donated \$25,000!



Our fundraising partner, Donor by Design, has started our grant writing process. We have identified several local foundations that focus on helping children with disabilities and schools. We received a grant from the city of Naperville for \$15,000 and recently it was recommended that we receive \$15,000 in 2010 as well. Thank you Mayor Pradel and the city council—you’re AWESOME! Mr. Ed Donnelly, CEO of Dynovox, has been working closely with us to introduce new communicative technology into our school. His company has partnered with Turning Pointe to pilot state of the art communication equipment for our students.

On the horizon we have an awesome fundraiser to get rid of those winter blues. How does a beach and a margarita in Naperville in February sound? Well it’s happening! The 3rd annual Naperpalooza presents Naperitaville sponsored by our friends at the Sunrise Rotary. Mark your calendars for Saturday, Feb 20th and get out the SPF 30. For more information visit our website at:

www.turningpointeautismfoundation.org
Also, mark your calendar for Monday, August 30th as we are having our annual golf outing at Edgewood Valley Country Club. Last year we raised over \$30,000 with our raffle to Pebble Beach for the “Lexus Champions for Charity” event. Stay tuned for more to come. Finally, I would like to thank everybody for your continued support and dedication to our cause. I will leave you with one of my favorite quotes by Winston Churchill, “Never, never, never give up!”

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Development Team Update

This winter has been a busy time for the Design and Construction Team. With our anticipated partnership with Easter Seals and Western DuPage Special Recreation Association (WDSRA), we have developed and reviewed several options for the recreation center. The final plans have been agreed by our Board and our partners and will include a 25 meter pool, larger gymnasium, three additional classrooms, a fitness center and additional offices for the recreation program. The partnership with Easter Seals and WDSRA will allow Turning Pointe the opportunity to offer services to more than 2000 families in Naperville with Special Recreation needs. We are excited about this opportunity to make Turning Pointe available for more families and make a greater difference in our community. The changes to the recreation facility have increased its size by over double to 10,000 square feet. We have decided to phase the recreation facility about a year behind the school construction to give

us the opportunity to obtain the additional funding needed.

We are pleased to announce our selection of Leopardo Construction Company as our Construction Manager for the project. We obtained proposals from nine firms, all of whom put in a great deal of effort in analyzing and generating thorough proposals for our review. Leopardo has a depth of non-profit and school experience and we feel they will be a quality and engaged project partner with us.

The school design has been proceeding and currently the Schematic Design Drawings and have been completed and are at Leopardo for pricing. Their estimated value will be submitted to the Board for approval prior to proceeding with Design Development drawings. Our current schedule is to have the Construction Drawings complete by May 1, 2010, to allow building construction to commence by July 1, 2010.

Camp Access 2010

CAMP ACCESS is an intensive therapeutic day camp designed to support those individuals who have a diagnosis of ASD and are impacted in their ability to self regulate, communicate verbally and tend to need 1:1 support to complete directions, activities and remain focused.

CAMP ACCESS, uses trained staff to



organize and support the campers, we provide a highly structured program, use visual schedules, supports and multi access methods for communication. Some of our campers use augmentative devices but we also provide language boards, icons and point boards so our campers can fully communicate their needs and wants and thoughts.

We recognize that challenges related to communication and regulation can lead to behaviors. So we ensure that our campers

have behavior supports in place. Token economy plans, positive reinforcement and escalation interventions when it all gets too much!

CAMP ACCESS is unique, because it offers our campers a small camp environment (no more than ten campers) with a high staff to student ratio.

The campers have an individual visual schedule and a daily program that specifically meets their needs, for example, if a camper requires frequent sensory input then their schedule will reflect this need.

We work on skill mastery by defining each part of a routine, and defining what skills the student will need to master in order for them to access the whole routine, it could be dressing, toileting, making a snack, packing their backpack at the end of the day.

Each student has an individual behavior support plan; we ask that parents disclose all behaviors, frequent or less apparent so we can be fully aware of the supports we need to provide the student.

The students are supported by a variety of staff, a speech and language pathologist, a special education teacher, an Autism program support specialist and a recreation therapist and ABA therapist. We are all familiar and experienced in TEACCH supports, Social Stories, PECS, ABA, communi-

By Drew Glassford

TURNING POINTE
AUTISM FOUNDATION
ANNUAL GOLF OUTING
Monday, August 30, 2010

SAVE THE DATE
Monday
August 30th
2010
Visit www.turningpointeaf.org
For More Information & Sponsorship Opportunities

Sponsorship Opportunities Available!

For More Information Contact Donna (630) 904-2727 dmatthewson@turningpointeaf.org

Edgewood Valley Country Club
La Grange, IL 60525

All proceeds will benefit

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By Kim Wolf

cation through typing, Sensory Integration and positive behavior support plans.

The students are not only well supported but our main goal is to increase their independence skills, their ability to understand what triggers anxiety/ behavior and what strategies they can use to decrease the need for avoidance/ meltdown behaviors.

CAMP ACCESS provides those students who benefit from a high degree of adult/ environmental supports a positive and intensely therapeutic fun filled Camp.

Summer 2010 Camp Dates have not been determined yet, so please check the website from time to time.



Check it out...our Website has a new look!

www.turningpointeautismfoundation.org