

Navigating Your Child's Future



Deaf Initiatives implemented the first in a series of workshops designed to ensure that parents of children with a hearing loss receive support and resources to maximize results and outcomes for their children. Held February 16th, this one day workshop attracted over 90 parents and guardians of children with a hearing



loss, ages birth to eighth grade throughout the state of Ohio. The theme of this workshop was "Navigation Skills... Potholes, Detours and Curves." What matters is how do you get "around and beyond" the potholes, detours and curves to get to your destination, which is the healthy development of parents and their deaf or hard

Navigating Your Child's Future Participants of hearing child. The presenter, Darlene Zangara of the Ohio Resource Center on Deafness, offered participants an increased sense of confidence, encouragement and hope. An interactive panel of "seasoned travelers" offered participants an insightful perspective from parents of adult deaf or hard of hearing children and deaf individuals themselves. The workshop was held from 9:00am - 4:00 pm at the Columbus Marriott Northwest. Due to the overwhelming success of this first workshop, a second will be offered on Saturday, November 9, 2002. Future workshop topics will include Parents' and Children's Rights, Assistive Technology, Literacy, Communication, Accessing Resources and Family Dynamics. If you would like more information or know of a family who could benefit from this opportunity, please contact Deaf Initiatives at (614) 238-3323 V/TTY.



D.E.A.F. Awards winner 2000

making A difference with Your future

Deaf Initiatives will host the third biennial transition workshop on September 20 - 22, 2002. Making a Difference with Your Future is a workshop for students who are deaf or hard of hearing entering the 9th, 10th or 11th grade and their parents/guardian. The weekend workshop is designed to offer a creative, fun and productive environment for students and parents who want to plan for the future. Transition from school to work or post secondary education will be addressed at the workshop, helping parents and students identify the best path to success. The workshop topics and highlights will include self awareness activities, career awareness, a career fair and the transition process, among others. Deaf Initiatives has once again joined forces with the Ohio Rehabilitation Services Commission and the Ohio Department of Education, along with over 25 non-profit agencies and individuals who work with this population. Families are encouraged to contact Deaf Initiatives to register no later than July 1, 2002.



The workshop brings people from all over Ohio!

Open House

Join us on Wednesday, May 15 for an exciting event! Stop by our office from 4:00 - 7:00 pm for light refreshments, a tour of our facility and to learn more about Deaf Initiatives. Contact Julia Thompson at (614) 238-3323 V/TTY for more information.

Strengthening the potential of youth who are deaf or hard of hearing

To order a Keepsake Theme Quilt, contact Deaf Initiatives today!

Keepsake Theme Quilts

"How can one improve upon perfection?", a customer recently commented after receiving a Keepsake Theme Quilt as a Christmas gift. Another wrote, "Every t-shirt in this quilt has a story. What you did in bringing all these t-shirts together is exquisite. I love it, thank you!" Deaf Initiatives saw a record breaking year in 2001. More than 110 quilts were made and 25% of those were winter holiday orders! The start of 2002 has shown quilt sales more than triple the sales from this time last year. In 2001, Deaf Initiatives had the pleasure of making quilts for people from all over the country, including a call from Alaska! Deaf Initiatives continues to work with the community by helping local schools and organizations raise funds with a raffle quilt. This is a unique way for an organization to continue their own efforts, while also contributing to our mission to support youth who are deaf or hard of hearing. **All of the proceeds from the quilt sales are used to support the**



"My son loved his quilt!"



Deaf Initiatives Staff

various projects that Deaf Initiatives offers throughout the year. A repeat customer recently wrote, "The coach was thrilled and speechless, it was a very special ending for a tremendous tennis season and an emotional evening. Thank you for helping to make this event so memorable!" For more information about a Keepsake Theme Quilt, visit our website at www.t-shirtquilts.com.

Employee Spotlight

Teresa Caldwell is our production assistant. She joined our workroom in September 2001. Teresa works to piece and arrange the quilts before they are sewn. Teresa is a busy mother of two active daughters, ages 10 and 11. During her free time, Teresa enjoys sewing and reading and is also very involved with her children's after school activities, including band, soccer, basketball and softball.

Board Member Spotlight

Bill Klenk joined the Deaf Initiatives Board of Directors in February 2001. Bill is a Trust Officer with Firststar Bank and is also a Board member for the Columbus Speech and Hearing Center. Bill and his wife Jane are actively involved parents of their two children, Jacob and Molly. During his free time, Bill enjoys golfing, traveling with the family, and gardening.