



www.pslstrive.org

STRIVE Newsletter

VOLUME 10 ISSUE 12

DECEMBER 2010

Mission Statement

To assist tweens, teens and young adults with intellectual and emotional disabilities in utilizing resources within their community so they can participate as viable members of the community.



Happy Holidays from your friends at STRIVE!

Thanks to our Supporters for Making 2010 a Great Year

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2010 was a great year for STRIVE- and we couldn't have done it without our many supporters and friends. STRIVE is fortunate to have donors, volunteers, and friends who provide a framework of success for the program!

Some 2010 highlights include: Being named the WCSH-6 Who Care Agency of Distinction, creating our new Tweens and Next STEP programs, and having staff and volunteers recognized for MACSP (Maine Association of Community Service Provider Awards), and completing the STRIVE U Capital Campaign. We have created many community partnerships, placed students in successful job placements, and expanded many of our programs. We have also worked very hard to keep our existing programs fresh and beneficial to all.

We would like to thank the volunteer leadership involved with our programs, including the PSL Services Board of Directors, and the STRIVE and STRIVE U Steering Committees, and the many subcommittees of these groups- including; Dance Marathon Committee, Auction Committee, Capital Campaign Committee, Admissions Committee, PR Committee, Development Committee, Advocacy Committee, and more. These volunteers play a very important role in our programs.

PSL Board of Directors

Jason Briggs, President
Glenn Johnson
Stephanie Fairchild
Tom McKeon
Kathy Son
Joe Smith
Chris Martin

STRIVE Steering Committee

Chris Cameron
Linda Lamberson
Bob MacMath
Rebecca Russell
Jean Roberts
Debbie Corbeau
Charlie Mercer
Aric Walton
Megan Sanders

STRIVE U Steering Committee

David Thompson
Paula Thompson
Chadd Taplin
Kay Rand
Stacy Stewart
Rachel Williams-Clifford
Jim Clifford
Lynn Spadinger

Thanks again for your continued support of STRIVE! It truly makes a difference in people's lives!


STRIVE NEWS

3 Points for STRIVE

Become a part of STRIVE's partnership with the Maine Red Claws! Cut out the pledge card and send it into STRIVE. You can pledge a one-time donation or an amount per 3-pointer made during the season!

We're also pleased to welcome Anthem on as associate sponsor and News 8 as a media partner. They'll join Hammond Lumber Company who returns as a title sponsor.

Don't forget to **Join STRIVE on Thursday night, January 6, 2011 for "STRIVE Night" with the Maine Red Claws!** Tickets are available for just \$7 each \$2 from every ticket sold will benefit STRIVE. For more info or to purchase tickets- please e-mail info@pslstrive.org



3 POINTS FOR STRIVE

135 3 Pointers were made in the 2009-10 Season

Serving Tweens, Teens & Young Adults with Developmental Disabilities

CHECK ONE: Company Challenge Individual Gift Employer Matching Gift

I/we pledge \$_____ per 3 pointer made by a Red Claws player during the 2010-2011 season. I/we understand I/we will be billed following the season- after the total 3 pointers has been calculated.

I/we would prefer to make a contribution in the amount of \$_____.

Check enclosed

Please send me an invoice May 1 following the 2010-11 Maine Red Claws season.

Contributor's name or company contact: _____


Donating Company (if applicable): _____


Contributor's mailing address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

Please Make Checks Payable to: STRIVE
28 Foden Road, South Portland, ME 04106
www.pslstrive.org
207.774.6278





STRIVE's 11th Anniversary

11th Anniversary Party at STRIVE— December 3rd!

This is for all current 15-24 year olds **as well as any aged out members!**

Please join us as we celebrated being another year older!

Join us from 6-9pm at the STRIVE Center.

We look forward to celebrating and reconnecting with you!

Prizes, Pizza, Dancing and More!

Questions call STRIVE at 207-774-6278



STRIVE U News

There's still plenty of time to apply to STRIVE U!

Applications for the Class of 2013 are available.

All completed paperwork must be returned to the Admissions Office by **5:00pm February 1, 2011.**

Contact Erin Berg to receive an application.



Need more information about STRIVE U before you apply? Come visit our campus. You can easily schedule a tour by calling or emailing Erin Berg, 774-6278 or eberg@pslservices.org

STRIVE Legacy Program

Introducing the STRIVE Legacy Program Leave A Gift. Leave A Legacy.

STRIVE would like to introduce it's newest venture in fundraising as well as sustainability. What better way to give to STRIVE than to plan ahead and incorporate STRIVE into your planned giving. We understand that times are economically difficult for many people these days. That is why STRIVE has started a "Legacy Program" and would be happy to discuss how to write in our organization into your planned giving account.

For more information on STRIVE's Legacy Program please contact Peter Brown at (207) 774-6278 or pbrown@pslservices.org



STRIVE NEWS

STRIVE U Works: Unum

Featured Employer:



Unum is a market leader in disability, group life, long term care and voluntary benefits. Their products and services meet the needs of a diverse workforce that includes four generations, growing ethnic diversity and changing family dynamics. Through a family of businesses built over 160 years, Unum helps employers and their employees plan for the road ahead.

Kerri Seidell has been working at Unum since September 2010. Her supervisor, Susan Austin, said, "Kerri is willing to do whatever we ask her to do and she's been a tremendous help with organizing our department. She assisted with a community program we run in conjunction with our IT department and her work will help in our Chattanooga, TN and Worcester, MA offices as well as in Portland."

During her first week of employment, Cary Olson-Cartwright, Director of Unum's Community Relations, called to tell me that she is delighted with Kerri. She added that Kerri takes initiative, is quick to learn and has been so helpful that she has reduced Cary's stress level! Kerri recently told me, "I really like my job, because I get to do a lot of different things. Each day is different, and I get new projects to work on. The people are really nice and are very good at training me to do my job." On November 10th, Kerri helped out at Unum's Veterans Appreciation Day event, a profoundly moving and dignified tribute to U.S. veterans and families of veterans working at Unum.



Kerri Seidell helping at Unum's Veterans Appreciation Day

Most Recent Placements:

Pine Tree Council Boy Scouts: Justin Rackliffe, an Eagle Scout and second-year student at STRIVE U started his job at the Boy Scouts in early September. His coworkers are delighted with Justin's attention to detail, reliability and positive attitude. His supervisor, Judy McKula said that Justin is a hard worker and is doing a great job.

Clark Insurance: Niels has been working at Clark Insurance since October. When Niels arrives at work, he immediately begins sorting mail for internal delivery to the many agents and employees at Clark. Peggy Tuttle, Niels' supervisor said that he is doing a fantastic job, is taking on new responsibilities and brightens everyone's day as he greets them by name while delivering mail.

Disability RMS: Tori Harriman was hired on the spot the day of her interview at Disability RMS. When asked about her first day, Tori responded, "It's awesome! I love my job." Tori works in the Imaging Services Department with Sachi Hunter and her team.

A special thank you to our 2010 STRIVE U Employment Partners!

AAA	Disability RMS	Market Decisions	Scouts	TD Bank
Amato's	Drummond Woodsum	MacDonald Page	Pizzeria UNO	TD Insurance
American Red Cross	Emery Waterhouse	MEMIC	Shaw's Mill/Creek	Unum
Anthem	Eric's Pizza Express	Mercy Hospital	South Portland Nursing	Verrill Dana
Anthony's Ital. Kitchen	Hannaford	Pierce Atwood	Home	Walmart/Falmouth
Clark Insurance	LL Bean	Pine Tree Council Boy	Stone Coast Fund Services	Whole Foods Market
Creative Office Pavilion	Mad Gabs			

Please contact MaryAnn Schwanda, Employment Coordinator to find out the many benefits of becoming a STRIVE U Employment Partner: mschwanda@pslservices.org or call 207-774-6278.

Next STEP New Semester Starting

Next STEP will be starting a new semester on **January 3, 2011** and enrollment is still open.

Two courses are being offered: Independent Living Skills, held Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays and Everyday Math, held Tuesdays and Thursdays.

Independent Living Skills give an individual the opportunity to be as self-sufficient as possible. Some of the skills that will be taught in this class are washing/drying clothes, ironing, cooking/cleaning, personal safety, kitchen safety, hygiene, health, transportation, and familiarity with community resources.

Everyday Math familiarizes students with math that individuals are confronted with outside of the classroom. Topics that will be covered are addition/subtraction, multiplication/division, money math, using a check book, rounding, tax, and gratuity.

Please visit www.pslstrive.org to obtain more information,, a fact sheet, and the application.

If you have any questions please contact, Meghan Sawicki Next STEP Program Coordinator at msawicki@pslservices.org or 207-774-6278 ext 211.

Volunteer News

Thank you STRIVE Supporters!

Thank you to everyone who donated to STRIVE in November!
We appreciate your generous support.

- | | |
|----------------------------|---------------------------|
| Kevin Foley | W Jane Sternberg |
| Lea Tunney | Norman & Marion Brown |
| Tom & Tina Bourdeaux | Don & Elaine Smalley |
| Gina Barnes | Lisa Cronin |
| Mr. & Mrs. George Hutchins | Peter & Karen Jannace |
| Gloria Lamiette | Bruce & Maureen Adams |
| Charlene McHale | Lisa Bowie |
| Stephen & Paula Kloth | Stone Coast Fund Services |
| Henrietta LaRou | Knowles |
| William Gourde | Tom & Tina Bourdeaux |
| Larry & Cynthia Vaughn | Lea Tunney |
| Ray & Ruth Hefflinger | Brian & Laura Stevens |
| Judy Armstrong | Cynthia & Lawrence Vaughn |

TWEEN Friday Afternoon Socials

Are you between the ages of 11 and 14?
Are you looking to make some new friends?!

Then join us every Friday afternoon from
3:30 to 5:30 at the STRIVE Center!

December's Calendar of Events:

December 3rd: *Dance Marathon Kickoff!*
Zumba Gold lesson

December 10th: *Holiday Gift-Making*

December 17th: *Snowball Dance*

December 24th: *STRIVE Closed*

December 31st: *STRIVE Closed*



Easy Ways to Help Support STRIVE!



Follow Us on Facebook
Daily Updates
STRIVE Pictures

To stay connected visit:
facebook.com/STRIVENation



Can Redemption Program
Get a Green Bag at STRIVE & drop off your cans at a Hannaford Grocery Store. The deposits will go to STRIVE! Every 5 cents counts!



There's no reason not to. You search... We give!

Change your Search Engine
Change your search Engine to GoodSearch and pick STRIVE as your charity!

For each search you do, 1¢ is donated to STRIVE!



Buy Books!
Are you interested in specific genres of books?!

Support BookWorks by ordering a Book Bag Grab Bag of your favorite variety. \$10

STRIVE WISH LIST

- General Office Supplies
- Frozen Pizzas
- xBox 360 and/or Wii video games
- Paper Cutter
- Sports Equipment
- Storage Shed
- Craft Supplies
- Volunteers to work shifts at Bookworks!

BookWorks! Open Shifts

BookWorks! is run completely through the help of volunteers! We're always looking for eager volunteers to help run the used bookstore. Come once, or come weekly!

Shifts Available:

Mondays: 5—6pm
Tuesdays: 10am—12pm & 2—6pm
Wednesdays: 11am—3pm 3—5pm biweekly, 5—6pm
Thursdays: 10am—12pm; 2—3pm & 4—6
Fridays: 10am—1:30pm, 1:30pm—3pm

To sign up or to learn more please contact Katie Collins
At 207-774-6278 x207 or kcollins@pslstrive.org

Aktion Club

Last month, the Aktion Club held elections for the upcoming year. Congratulations to the new officers:

President: J.J. Sarapas
Vice President: Sherry Reynolds
Secretary: Brian Burnham
Treasury: Christina Mailhot
Editor: Brad Ouelette

December is a special month for Aktion Club- throughout the year they raise funds to support a family for the holidays! Aktion Club is proud to support a local family and has raised over \$200 to do so.



**Snow Ball
Theme Night**

Friday, December 17th

Join us for a night of dancing, prizes, special treats and winter surprises!

For more information, call STRIVE at 207-774-6278 or email info@pslservices.org

Member Spot Light: Jake Hair



Favorite Color: Red

Favorite Movie: Terminator—the Original. Its kind of scary, but it has good action.

Any pets? A Black Lab: Hunter

If you could have 1 holiday every day, what would it be? Groundhog Day, because it's a movie too!

Favorite thing about STRIVE: Meeting all my friends.

If you could choose an actor to star in your life story, who would it be? Arnold Schwarzenegger, he could help me learn to lift weights and to have a healthier diet.

Favorite song right now: "Let Me Hear You Scream" by Ozzy Osbourn

Favorite holiday tradition: Eating turkey...the bad part is it makes you tired.

If you could eat one food everyday for a month, what would it be? Jalapeños, eating hot stuff is better than eating ice cream for a month.

Favorite hobby: Sports— especially soccer; I like being a goalie because you can throw it and kick it back into play.

Any suggestions for STRIVE? Different types of soda.



DECEMBER BIRTHDAYS



Michael Godin	December 1
Heather MacLean	December 4
Jimmy Makowiecki	December 4
Clifford Page	December 5
Christian Clarke	December 6
Scott McInnis	December 7
Brittany Gooch	December 7
Sherry Wheeler	December 8
Megan Tucker	December 8
Michael Beamish	December 9
Daniel Kelloway	December 9
Chandler Hawkes	December 10
Laura Layton	December 12

Tamika Nudd	December 12
Caitlin Killarney	December 12
Michael Gregorie	December 12
Zach Hansen	December 14
Julia Hildreth	December 14
Daisy Hutchins	December 16
Joey Spiller	December 17
Carmen LaPointe	December 17
Arthur Newman	December 19
Kate McHale	December 19
Karla Dennison	December 20
Timothy Mitchell	December 20

Jun Yang Lin	December 20
Justin Cleveland	December 21
Zack Conley	December 21
Ben Gulino	December 23
Megen McCormack	December 23
Robert Mendillo	December 23
Kate McKillop	December 24
Brian Hopkins	December 24
Megan Squiess	December 25
Adorra Small	December 27
Julie Willams	December 28
Anthony Koutsivitis	December 31

HAPPY BIRTHDAY FROM STRIVE!

Members' Page

2011 Personal Wellness and Educational Class Series

Personal Wellness Class Series *Monday Nights 5:30-7:00pm*

Art and Soul

(January 3-March 14)

Start the year off with a hands-on class to get your creative juices flowing! From beading to painting, students will learn about a variety of art forms in classes presented by guest artists from around the area.

Zumba Gold Dance Craze

(April 4– June 20)

What do you get when you combine plain old aerobics with Latin dance? Zumba! Certified Zumba Gold instructor Becki Jaques leads you through the FUN way to get in shape for summer! Great for a wide range of physical abilities.

Iron Chef STRIVE

(October 3– December 12)

Calling all chefs to the kitchen! We'll start off with the basics, like kitchen and food safety and healthy eating, then move into the kitchen for some delicious competitions!

For More Information
Contact:

Kate Reingold at
207-774-6278 or email
kreingold@pslservices.org

Educational Class Series

Wednesday Nights 6:00-8:00pm

On the Job!

(January 5– February 9)

Are you ready for your first job? This class will help you get to work on employment skills and workplace etiquette, from perfecting your resume to acing the interview.

Money Management

(March 2– April 20)

Learn what to do with your dough! Students will learn about budgeting, checking accounts, credit cards, loans, and more.

Sustainable Living

(May 4-July 20)

This class will focus on sustaining our world from the ground up! Students will plant and care for a STRIVE garden throughout the 12-week series, while also learning how to compost, recycle, and how to "go green" in everyday life.

Healthy Relationships

(August 31-November 2)

This popular class series is back! Planned Parenthood will run this 10-week course and provide students with information about dating safety and healthy relationships.

Winter BookWorms

(November 16-December 14)

There's no better way to spend a winter day than curled up with a good book at STRIVE. We'll read and discuss one mid-level fiction book together throughout this 4-week class.

November Events

Advisory Board Meeting:

December 3 & 17 from 5:00– 5:45pm

Aktion Club:

December 8 & 22 from 3:30-4:00pm

BookWorks! Holiday Book Sale:

Saturday December 4th 9—2

11th Anniversary STRIVE Night and Dance Marathon Kick-off:

Friday, December 3 from 6:00—9:00pm

Dance Marathon Planning Committee Meeting:

December 7th at 3:30pm

Theme Night: Snow Ball!

December 17

Winter Camp:

Monday December 27—Thursday December 30
9:00am—5:00pm

NO STRIVE NIGHT:

Friday December 24 (Happy Holidays!)

Friday December 31 (Happy New Year!)

On the Horizon:

STRIVE Night at the Red Claws:

Thursday, January 6

Dance Marathon:

March 5—6

Winter Camp

Winter in Maine is filled with fun! Especially if you spend it at STRIVE!

Come to STRIVE's Winter Camp!
Cost is \$45/day or \$180 for all four days.
Camp runs from 9—5.

We'll be doing lots of fun activities including arts and crafts, games, and snow tubing!



Contact Katie Collins at 207-774-6278 or
kcollins@pslservices.org for more
information or to sign up.

STRIVE PICTURES



Pete Brown, Crusher, and the participants of the Celebrity 3 Point contest, tipping off the Red Claws 2010-2011 season.



STRIVE Safety Class is having a blast on Monday Nights!



Pat Thibodeau, Mary Greslick, Pete Brown and Norm Karkos of WMTW at the Celebrity 3 Point Contest.



Devan Libby poses with a member of the South Portland Fire Department.



Emma Campbell shows off the scarecrow she made during the After School Program.

Do you have pictures that you would like to share with us? If so please send them to info@pslstrive.org





STRIVE
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South Portland, ME 04106

Phone: 207-774-6278

Fax: 207-774-7695

Email: info@pslstrive.org

*Serving tweens, teens and
young adults with
developmental disabilities*

www.facebook.com/strivenation

**Visit our website:
www.pslstrive.org**

- Sign up for the STRIVE e-mail list
- Latest news
- Upcoming events
- View past newsletters

Has your address or phone
number changed?

*Email us at
info@pslstrive.org*

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