



www.pslstrive.org

# STRIVE Newsletter

VOLUME 12 ISSUE 5

MAY 2012

## STRIVE Bayside: A Team Centered Approach to Independent Living

PSL's STRIVE Program is opening a new Program using Section 29, called STRIVE Bayside, dedicated to expanding independent living capacity and community connections for people with developmental disabilities! This program will utilize the STRIVE U curriculum which has been used to assist young people with disabilities to live and work in their communities, and refined and improved over the past 10 years. The main goal of STRIVE Bayside is to work with you over a two year period to expand your abilities to live a more Independent life.

This program will run from 9am-1pm- Monday-Friday and will be two years in duration.

An afternoon session will be added in year two.

We are now accepting applications!

### We will also be hosting two STRIVE Bayside informational sessions:

Tuesday, May 8th, 3-5pm- 28 Foden Road, South Portland

Tuesday, May 8th, 5-7pm- 28 Foden Road, South Portland

For more information, contact Bill Hughes or Peter Brown at (207) 774-6278 or [info@pslstrive.org](mailto:info@pslstrive.org).

## STRIVE Given Grant from UPS

STRIVE is pleased to announce that we received a \$25,000 grant from UPS to help purchase adaptive equipment and to make updates to our facility!

Thank you to Kevin Fitzgerald for helping STRIVE receive this generous donation.

With this grant STRIVE will be installing two Smartboards—one in the STRIVE Conference Room and one at STRIVE U for student use. We will be making updates to the STRIVE Center with a new air circulation system, a projection system and screen and replacing games such as Skee-ball, Air Hockey and Basketball.

### 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.

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# STRIVE NEWS

## STRIVE U News

**STRIVE is thrilled to announce the STRIVE U Class of 2014**

Alizah Brandwein  
Erica Boivin  
Hillary Lawrence  
Mathew Poland  
Jamie Trites  
Elizabeth Gray



**Thank you to all of those who applied to STRIVE U**

### STRIVE U Experience Weekend

Applications available May 1, 2012

Here's your chance to learn more about the STRIVE U Program. We'll be hosting a weekend-long seminar September 28<sup>th</sup>-30<sup>th</sup> at Camp Tall Pines in Poland, Maine.

The cost is \$285.00 and includes everything!  
25 applicants will be accepted on a first come first serve basis, subject to program availability.

### STRIVE U Spring Open House

Come and see what STRIVE U is all about!

Date: Thursday, May 10, 2012

Time: 12:00pm-6:00pm

Place: 12 Nye Street, Portland, ME 04101

First day applications for the STRIVE U Experience will be available! For more information on the STRIVE U Experience Weekend and Spring Open House,

contact Erin Berg at 207-774-6278 or [eberg@pssl-services.org](mailto:eberg@pssl-services.org).

## STRIVE U Works

Second year students listened to a presentation given by a Vocational Counselor from the Department of Labor. She emphasized the lead role students must take in planning and securing future employment. Some students are clear about the work they want to do; others are choosing further exploration through job shadowing and informational interviews. Each student is creating an individual employment profile to help determine their path to work after graduation.

Those students who are completing temporary placements will be updating their resumes and planning for their next job. There are some exciting new employment partners in the pipeline, so stay tuned for future announcements!

**Please contact MaryAnn Schwanda, Employment Coordinator to find out the many benefits of becoming a STRIVE U Employment Partner at [mschwanda@pssl-services.org](mailto:mschwanda@pssl-services.org) or call 207-774-6278.**

# STRIVE NEWS

## Next STEP: STRIVE’s Transitional Education Program

The Next Step students have enjoyed the early spring! We are working to set up an area out back of the STRIVE space on Foden Road so we can spend as much time outside as possible. We have also played some great group basketball games recently. We spent some time at the Portland Headlight and Kristine helped us paint. We had a great day, enjoyed the scenery and were very creative. We have been learning about personal safety in recent weeks as well as discussing the “word of the day”. These are words such as unique, applicant, awareness, assertiveness and integrity. Next STEP also got to see a great game at the Portland Sea Dogs. They won in the 9<sup>th</sup> inning!

Please check us out on the STRIVE website!

**If you have any questions about Next Step, ideas about activities we can be involved in or would like to schedule a tour please contact Bill Hughes at (207) 774-6278 or [info@pslstrive.org](mailto:info@pslstrive.org).**



### Anthem Volunteer Day at STRIVE

STRIVE wishes to express our sincere appreciation to the 30 volunteers from Anthem that volunteered their time at STRIVE on Saturday, April 28th.

Anthem paid for all the supplies, sent the volunteers and completed the following projects for us: painting the STRIVE Center floor, cleaning the two kitchens, cleaning the carpets, building stairs, and landscaping.

We are so grateful for this partnership. This is the second year in a row working with Anthem. We would never be able to accomplish this many important tasks without Anthem’s help.

### Run Beach to Beacon for STRIVE!

Did you miss out on registering for Beach to Beacon this year? STRIVE can still get you in! We have a limited number of bibs left in exchange for fundraising!

Contact STRIVE at (207) 774-6278 or [info@pslstrive.org](mailto:info@pslstrive.org) for more information.



# Volunteer & Member News

## Anthony's Italian Kitchen

*Gas prices got you down?  
Don't stop eating out...  
EAT FOR LESS!*



**Anthony's Italian Kitchen**

*"A lot of Italian for not much American"*

Mon & Tues 4-9pm	<b>Buy one get one free</b> \$10.00 MAX. lesser priced item is free
Wed 4-9pm	<b>Any 16" Pizza 1/2 Price</b>
Thurs 4-9pm	<b>\$5.00 Off Dinner for Two</b>
Fri & Sat 6-9pm	<b>Free Live Music</b>


151 Middle Street, Portland 774-8668  
Free Parking Beer & Wine Available  
www.anthonysitaliankitchen.com

**Correction:**

We mistakenly omitted Anthony's Italian Kitchen from the list of Dance Marathon sponsors in our last newsletter. Thank you to Anthony's Italian Kitchen for donating 25 pizzas to the 2012 STRIVE Rocks! Dance Marathon!

## TWEENS

**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!**



**MAY SCHEDULE**

**May 4:** Cinco de Mayo Celebration  
**May 11:** Fun with UNUM  
**May 18:** Police Dog Demonstration  
**May 25:** Paper making & make a summer treat

## Gateway to Independence—STRIVE's Annual Auction Update

We are pleased to announce that Norway Savings Bank is the Title Sponsor of STRIVE's 8<sup>th</sup> Annual Live and Silent Auction held on October 10<sup>th</sup> 2012. Our other sponsors include Knowles, This Time Around LLC and Stone Coast Fund Services. If you would like to learn more about sponsorship opportunities, please contact Kristina Smalley at (207) 774-6278 or ksmalley@psslservices.org.






## Thank you April STRIVE Supporters!

Dr. Curtis & Lisa Obery  
Robert Junkins  
Anna Claire Hindson  
Bill Taplin  
Allan McHale  
Steve and Nancy Sawyer  
Karen and Terry Johnson  
Cynthia and Larry Vaughan

## Thank You STRIVE Volunteers

STRIVE has been fortunate to have many wonderful student volunteers over the span of several months! We would like to highlight three volunteers who spent ten hours a week with us for a semester. Thank you to Brittany Beauchesne, Amanda Berry and Marilyn Smith for volunteering your time with Cooking Group, Monday Night Classes, TWEENS and Next STEP!

We truly appreciate your help and enthusiasm and wish you all the best in the future!



## Cinco de Mayo STRIVE Night!

Friday, May 4th



**Nacho Bar! Dancing! Music!**



## Member Spotlight: Tim Dwyer



**Age:** 15

**Favorite Movies:** Police Movies

**Favorite Color:** Purple

**Favorite Holiday:** Christmas and my birthday

**Favorite Food:** Pizza

**Favorite Soda:** Coke

**Something I am good at:** Frisbee

**Favorite Sport:** Tennis

**Something about myself:** I have a cat named Kitty



## MAY BIRTHDAYS



Kyle Cutter	May 2	Alexandra Agostino	May 11	Joshua Weidemann	May 24
Lane Grant	May 3	Miranda Doughty	May 13	Caroline Frawley	May 29
Michael Angers	May 4	Jamie Trites	May 13	Spring Grace	May 29
Alisha Wade	May 7	Nicholas Taddia	May 14	Jesse Leslie	May 30
Andrew McIver	May 7	Matthew Leeman	May 15		
Andy Cormier	May 8	Chantelle Blanchard	May 16		
Johnathan Lucas	May 8	Eric Hughes	May 16		
Jonathan Powell	May 10	Mona Cates	May 18		
Niels Doughty	May 10	Tyler Cartwright	May 20		
Kristopher Kadziauskas	May 11	Andrea Davidson	May 23		

HAPPY BIRTHDAY FROM STRIVE!

**Employment Supports for Youth in Transition**

**Announcing the second in a series of presentations in 2012 sponsored by PSL/ STRIVE.**

*Employment Supports for Youth in Transition: what services are available and how can you prepare for future employment.*

Are you interested in learning what supports may be available to assist youth with disabilities to gain employment as well as provide information on what youth and their families can do to prepare for employment as they transition to adult services?

**WHEN: Thursday, May 24th from 6:00-8:00PM**

**WHERE: STRIVE at 28 Foden Road in South Portland, Maine**

**Lisa Sturtevant: DHHS- Developmental Services**

**Jennifer Kimball: Work Incentives Planning and Assistance Services (WIPA)**

**Mary Ann Schwanda: STRIVE U Employment Coordinator Vocational Rehabilitation**

**For more information contact STRIVE at (207) 774-6278 or info@pslstrive.org.**

**Wednesday Night Educational Series**

**Healthy Relationships**

*Wednesday Nights 6:00-8:00pm*

*June 20-August 29*

The most popular class of the year! SARSSM will lead this 10 week course and provide students with information about dating safety and healthy relationships.

**Each series is \$20. For more information or to register, contact Lisa Yanzer at 207-774-6278 or [lyanzer@pslservices.org](mailto:lyanzer@pslservices.org). Space is limited—sign up early!**

**Monday Night Personal Wellness Class Series**

**Summer Fun Series**

*Monday Nights from 5:30-7:00pm*

*June 26—August 6*

Every week we will do a different summer camp activity: tie dye, make s'mores, play games, have fun outside, garden, and for the last week we will have a camp dance!

**Each series is \$20. For more information or to register, contact Lisa Yanzer at 774-6278 or [lyanzer@pslservices.org](mailto:lyanzer@pslservices.org).**

**May Meetings & Events**

**STRIVE Theme Night: Cinco de Mayo**

Friday, May 4th

6:00-9:00pm

**Member Advisory Board Meeting**

Friday, May 4th and 18th at 5:00pm

**STRIVE Bayside Informational Session**

May 8th from 3-5pm and 5-7pm

STRIVE, 28 Foden Road, South Portland

**Kiwanis Aktion Club**

Wednesday, May 9th and 23rd

**FOR THE MONTH OF MAY AKTION CLUB WILL BE HOLDING A FOOD DRIVE!**

Contact Kristina Smalley for more info at 207-774-6278 or [ksmalley@pslservices.org](mailto:ksmalley@pslservices.org).

**STRIVE U Open House**

Thursday, May 10th from 12-6pm

10 Nye Street, Portland

**Employment Supports for Youth in Transition**

Thursday, May 24th

6:00-8:00pm

**Wednesday Night Educational Class  
Healthy Relationships**

June 20-August 29

6:00-8:00pm

**Monday Personal Wellness Class Series**

**Summer Fun Series**

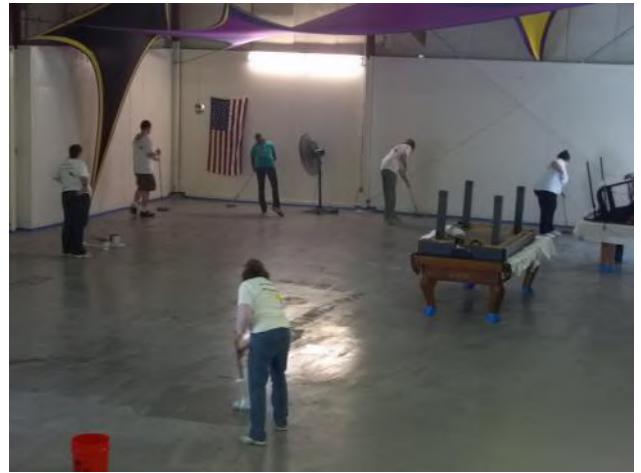
June 26—August 6

5:30—7:00pm

# STRIVE PICTURES



The Anthem Volunteer team—thank you!



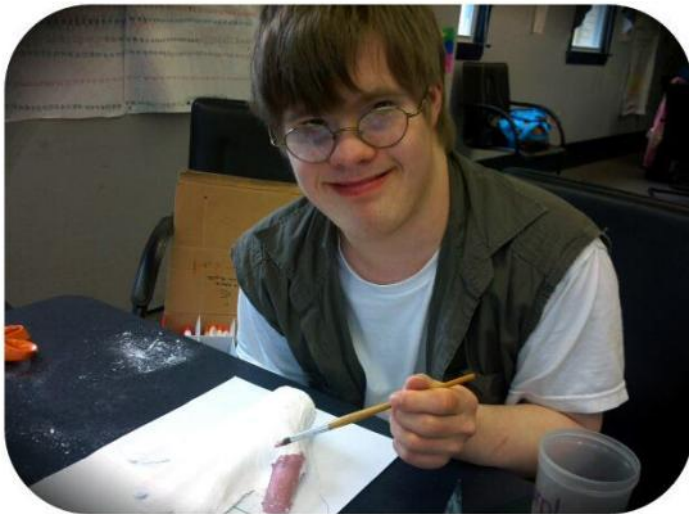
Anthem volunteers painting the STRIVE Center floor!



STRIVE's April Camp at Longwoods Alpaca Farm felting soap!



Next STEP working on an art project



Bennett working on an art project with Next STEP



Some of STRIVE's April Camp at Falmouth Audubon



STRIVE  
28 Foden Road  
South Portland, ME 04106

Phone: 207-774-6278

Fax: 207-774-7695

Email: [info@pslstrive.org](mailto:info@pslstrive.org)

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

[www.facebook.com/strivenation](http://www.facebook.com/strivenation)

Twitter: [@pslstrive](https://twitter.com/pslstrive)

### Visit our website:

**[www.pslstrive.org](http://www.pslstrive.org)**

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

Has your address, phone or  
email changed?

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Return Service Requested

#### **STRIVE U Staff**

##### **Bill Hughes**

STRIVE U and Next STEP Program Manager  
[bhughes@pslservices.org](mailto:bhughes@pslservices.org)

##### **Mara Sullivan**

STRIVE U Transitions Coordinator  
[msullivan@pslservices.org](mailto:msullivan@pslservices.org)

##### **Erin Berg**

STRIVE U Admissions Coordinator  
[eberg@pslservices.org](mailto:eberg@pslservices.org)

##### **Katie Collins**

Student Life Coordinator  
[kcollins@pslservices.org](mailto:kcollins@pslservices.org)

##### **Liz Guillerault**

Education & Training Coordinator  
[eclark@pslservices.org](mailto:eclark@pslservices.org)

##### **Mary Ann Schwanda**

Employment Coordinator  
[mschwanda@pslservices.org](mailto:mschwanda@pslservices.org)

#### **STRIVE Staff**

##### **Michael Faust**

PSL Services Executive Director  
[mfaust@pslservices.org](mailto:mfaust@pslservices.org)

##### **Peter Brown**

STRIVE & STRIVE U Program Director  
[pbrown@pslservices.org](mailto:pbrown@pslservices.org)

##### **Kristina Smalley**

STRIVE Program Manager  
[ksmalley@pslservices.org](mailto:ksmalley@pslservices.org)

##### **Brianna McCabe**

Program Coordinator  
[bmccabe@pslservices.org](mailto:bmccabe@pslservices.org)

##### **Lisa Yanzer**

Special Projects Coordinator  
[lyanzer@pslservices.org](mailto:lyanzer@pslservices.org)