



www.pslstrive.org

STRIVE Newsletter

VOLUME 14 ISSUE 5

MAY 2014

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.

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

| | |
|---------------------|---|
| Program Updates | 2 |
| Contact Information | 3 |
| Supporter Page | 3 |
| Member Page | 4 |
| Birthdays! | 4 |
| Tweens | 5 |
| STRIVE Events | 5 |
| STRIVE Updates | 6 |
| Pictures | 7 |

Plan Ahead for Summer... STRIVE Summer Camp!



Campers (Ages 11-24) participate in classes and activities including: sports & games, nutrition & cooking, arts & crafts, and field trips to local attractions.

****Camp starts June 19th-
August 29th****

****Camp Runs 9am-5pm****
(Early drop available at 8am)



Registration &

Calendar now available!

<http://www.pslstrive.org/camp>

Contact Heather: hguglielmo@pslservices.org 207-774-6278

STRIVE NEWS

Next STEP Open House



Monday, May 19, 2014

4:00 - 7:00 p.m.

28 Foden Road, South Portland

Next STEP is a very unique, private pay program that combines independent living skill development with social, recreational and wellness opportunities that utilizes the STRIVE U curriculum.

The Next STEP program operates on a rolling admissions process and participants can begin at any time throughout the year. Full time is available Monday-Friday from 9:00-5:00 and early drop off is available starting at 8:00. Additionally, there are many part time opportunities available as well. Costs are \$205/week for full time and \$125/week for part time.

Next STEP is a great option to consider while on a waiting list for services, in combination with a community support program or for those who do not qualify for other services.

For more information, please contact Setsy Morrison, Program Manager bmorrison@pslservices.org or 207- 774-6278.

What participants and their families are saying.....

"If I wasn't going to Next STEP, I'd just be home on the couch watching videos."

"I wish I could come to Next STEP 7 days a week!"

"My husband and I are both so impressed and pleased with all our son has learned in 4 short months at Next STEP"

STRIVE Bayside Update

We've been busy here at Bayside this month! From writing resumes to learning NEW recipes to cook, everyone has been learning new skills to further independence. We are hoping to find places to volunteer in the next few weeks, incorporating it into our weekly schedule. Participants have been finding places they would like to volunteer, as well as learning what questions to ask when signing up

to help. We look forward to working with the community surrounding Bayside!



We still have openings in our afternoon session and are expecting openings in the morning session this fall! STRIVE Bayside is a unique community supports program that is dedicated to expanding independent living skills and community connections. If you have any questions or would like a tour, please contact Katelynn Davis at 207-899-1725 or Setsy Morrison at 207-774-6278.

Get Involved!

Employment News!



STRIVE U collaborated with Portland Vocational Rehabilitation in hosting an Employment Specialist Fair at the USM campus. Second year students met with representatives from seven agencies and will soon be choosing their Employment Specialist for additional supports after graduation – unbelievably just weeks from today!

A first year student was hired by O'Donal's nursery in Gorham. He is the first to see the beautiful new plants, shrubs and flowers as these long-awaited signs of spring are delivered. He does a great job unloading and organizing the wide variety of new merchandise for customers. After only one week on the job, he has learned how to refresh perennials that have wintered over, removing old growth, fertilizing and mulching. He also learned how to prepare, plant and label bare roots that will grow into lush, flowering Hibiscus plants by July.

If you or someone you know would like to benefit from the many rewards of working with STRIVE U – hire a productive & professional employee, increase your customer base, enhance your community profile, share the spotlight with one of Maine's most well-known and respected organizations to serve people with developmental disabilities – call or email us today!

To find out how to become a STRIVE U Employment Partner, please contact MaryAnn Schwanda, Employment Coordinator: mschwanda@pslservices.org or call 207-774-6278.

Volunteers Needed!

STRIVE Auction Committee

Meet once a month
STRIVE @ 5:30-6:30pm

STRIVE's 10th Annual Auction is
November 5th, 2014

Contact Heather

STRIVE's 15th Anniversary Committee

Meetings coming soon!

STRIVE's 15th Anniversary Party
is set for January 2015

Contact Heather

Tweens & STRIVE Nights

Every Friday
Tweens: 3:30-5:30pm
STRIVE Night: 6pm-9pm

Contact Heather

Questions, Comments, or Concerns – Contact Our Staff!

Michael Faust

PSL Services Executive Director
mfaust@pslservices.org

Peter Brown

STRIVE & STRIVE U Program Director
pbrown@pslservices.org

Heather Guglielmo

STRIVE Program Manager
hguglielmo@pslservices.org

Jenny Castiglione

STRIVE Special Projects Coordinator
jcastiglione@pslservices.org

Betsy Morrison

STRIVE U and Next STEP Program Manager
bmorrison@pslservices.org

Katelynn Davis

STRIVE Bayside Program Coordinator
kdavis@pslservices.org

Bill Hughes

STRIVE/STRIVE U Programs
bhughes@pslservices.org

Sarah Thurston

STRIVE U Transition Coordinator
sthurston@pslservices.org

Erin Berg

STRIVE U Admissions Coordinator
eberg@pslservices.org

Katie Collins

STRIVE U Student Life Coordinator
kcollins@pslservices.org

MaryAnn Schwanda

STRIVE U Employment Coordinator
mschwanda@pslservices.org

Katie Church

STRIVE U Education & Training Coordinator
kchurch@pslservices.org




Spring Fling Theme!

May's Theme Night:
SPRING FLING!



Join STRIVE on May 16th
 Please join us for food, games,
 prizes & decorations!
 Dress to impress!

Tweens: 3:30-5:30pm
 STRIVE Night: 6:00-9:00pm

STRIVE Employee in the Spotlight!
Katelynn Davis

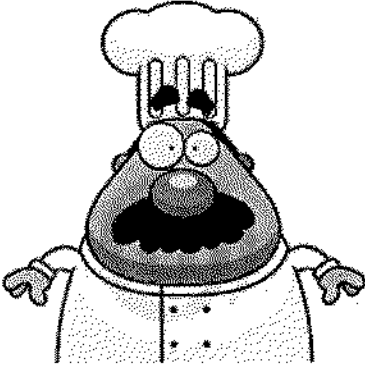



What is your title: Bayside Program Coordinator
Where are you from: Presque Isle, Maine
Favorite movie: Labyrinth
Favorite color: Red
Favorite holiday: My birthday!
What are you most looking to during your time at STRIVE: Getting to know all of the participants at Bayside and meeting new people
Dream job: THIS ONE!
Talents: Thankfully, I've inherited my grandmother's cooking skills; being in the kitchen is one of my favorite things to do!

 **May Birthdays** 

Wednesday Night Class

| | |
|------------------------|-------------------|
| Niels Doughty | Molly Snowden |
| Kristopher Kadziauskas | Elizabeth Gray |
| Alexandra Agostino | Alisha Wade |
| Miranda Doughty | Andrew McIver |
| Jamie Trites | Alexander Cormier |
| Nicholas Taddia | Johnathan Lucas |
| Matthew Leeman | |
| Chantelle Blanchard | |
| Eric Hughes | |
| Kyle Cutter | |
| Tyler Cartwright | |
| Leah Gouldsbrough | |
| Jason Wotton | |
| Joshua Weidemann | |
| Andrew Wildes | |
| Caroline Frawley | |
| Spring Grace | |
| Aphrodite Makrides | |
| Jesse Leslie | |
| LorjeAngers | |
| Kaya Thompson | |

Cooking: April 16th– May 21st Classes taught by Opportunity Alliance
Employment: May 7th-June 4th Classes taught by Kaplan University
 Wednesday Night Education Class 6:00-8:00pm
 Any STRIVE member ages 16-24
 FMI contact: Jenny at JCastiglione@pslservices.org

TWEENS Schedule of Events

Are you between the ages of 11 and 14? Are you looking to make new friends?
Then join us every Friday afternoon from 3:30 to 5:30pm at the STRIVE Center!

Cost is \$10 - See you on Friday!

May 2nd– Sports Mania!

May 9th– UNUM!

May 16th– Kite Making!

May 23rd– Zumba with Jenn!

May 30th– Movie Day!

Feel free to contact Jenny at STRIVE at 207-774-6278 or email at jcastiglione@pslservices.org with any questions about our Tweens Program!

Run The TD Bank Beach to Beacon

Attention runners! Do you want to run this year's Beach to Beacon 10K, but didn't get a race entry? As a past beneficiary, STRIVE has a limited amount of bibs for this great race to be held on August 2nd in Cape Elizabeth. We ask "our" runners to raise a minimum of \$300 in exchange for the spot. We'll provide you with a personalized website that will allow you to send out email blasts allowing friends, family, and co-workers to contribute online. Many supporters raise the \$300 in less than a week! In exchange, you get the race entry and opportunity to participate with out any registration fees or other costs. If you're interested in running for STRIVE, please contact Pete Brown at pbrown@pslservices.org or (207) 774-6278 ASAP- as these bibs will sell out!

STRIVE Pride Day!



STRIVE Pride Day will be on May 6th as a "Campus Cleanup" type day with planting flowers, raking, and painting.

Upcoming Meetings & Events

Kiwanis Aktion Club

May 14th & 28th

3:30pm

Member Advisory Board Meeting

May 2nd, 16th & 30th

5:30pm

Spring Fling Theme Night

May 16th

Tweens & STRIVE Night

Cooking/Employment Wednesday Classes

April 16th-May 21st/May 7th-June 4th

6:00-8:00pm

STRIVE Next STEP Open House

May 19th

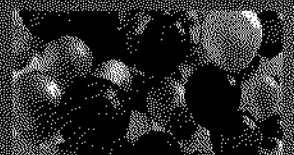
4:00-7:00pm

STRIVE U Senior Presentations

May 22nd

Looking for a Birthday Gift Idea?

Give the gift of STRIVE! Gift certificates for our Tweens Social, STRIVE Night, and evening classes are now available and make great gifts! Or how about a T-shirt or sweatshirt? Check out our online stores at cafepress.com/pslstrive and cafepress.com/



Thank You to Our Donors!

Thanks to all of you who have contributed to STRIVE's Annual Campaign. Here are the donors whose contributions we have received by the time this newsletter went to print. All others will be included in a future newsletter. As you may know, STRIVE relies 100% on your contributions and fundraising efforts to run our social, educational, and employment programs. These programs, such as Friday Nights, Tweens, and Wednesday Night Educational Series, are all made possible by your support. It's not too late to get involved and thank you! If you have any questions, please contact Peter Brown at (207) 774-6278 or by email at pbrown@pssl-services.org.

Anonymous X2
 Robert Junkins
 Lois & Michael Dennison- in honor of Archie Dennison
 Glenn & Doris Meehan
 Eric & Bethany Swan
 Michael M. Makoweicki
 Richard & Barbara Wigton

Karen Crandell
 Meredith Kerr
 Peter & Judy Hayes
 Thomas McKeon
 John & Donna Dwyer
 EC & Catherin Sanders
 William Gourde
 Jerry Betsy Grondin
 Francis Egan
 William Taplin
 Nappi Distributors
 Dom & Julie Restuccia
 Carlos Montgomery
 Patricia Kurowski
 David & Sharon Michaud
 Cynthia & Lawrence Vaughan
 Raymond & Betty Clark
 Leon & Lisa Gorman
 James & Jessica Blanchard- In Honor of Eric Hughes
 Linda Lamberson- In Honor of Alex MacMath
 Erin & Michael Soucy
 Andrew & Kimberly Perry
 Gloria Kierstead- In Memory of Josephine

Gaccetta
 Karen & Peter Jannace
 Knights of Columbus- Maine State Chapter
 Lorraine & Stephen Colby Jr- In Memory of Josephine Gaccetta
 E. Gerry & Betty Johnson
 Jeanne/Vito Gaccetta- In Memory of Josephine Gaccetta
 R & B Whiting- In Honor of the STRIVE U Class of 2009
 Sheila Ouellette
 Mary Rollo- In Memory of Jo Gaccetta
 Mary Rollo- Memory of Josephine Gaccetta

2014 Wednesday Night Educational Class Schedule

April 16th-April 30th: Cooking by Opportunity Alliance
May 7th-June 4th: Employment by Kaplan University
June 4th-June 25th: Healthy Living/Nutrition
July 9th-September 17th: Healthy Relationships by SARSSM
October 1st-October 29th: Intro to Computers
November 12th-November 19th: Public Safety
November 26th-December 17th: Money Management

Email Jenny to sign up or with questions:
jcastiglione@pssl-services.org



STRIVE U Save the Dates!

May 22nd: STRIVE U Senior Presentations
June 21st: STRIVE U Graduation



Contact Admissions if you would like information or a tour.
 If you have any questions, please contact Erin Berg at 207-774-6278 or eberg@pssl-services.org

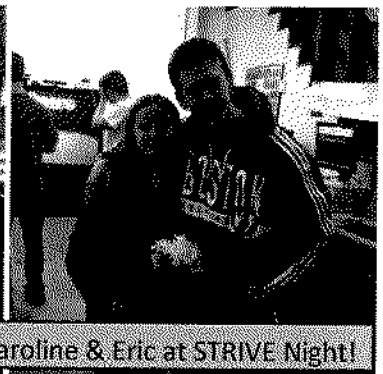
STRIVE Pictures



STRIVE U Libby, Lucas & Bre



Team STRIVE and Miss Maine Teen USA at STRIVE & Legends Open House



Caroline & Eric at STRIVE Night!



Camp STRIVE at Narrow Gage Railroad



STRIVE U (back, l-r) Alizah ('14) Mat ('14) Gus ('15) Lucas ('14) (Front l-r) Emily ('15), Sophie ('15), Elizabeth ('14) at Harlem Globetrotters Game!



Bayside working with Bill



Tweens Obstacle course with Magda from UNUM



Team STRIVE at Legends for Open House!



If you have photos that you would like to contribute and see in the STRIVE monthly newsletter or on the STRIVE Facebook page, please email them to Heather at hguglielmo@pslservices.org.



STRIVE
28 Foden Road
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

Twitter: @STRIVE_PSL

Instagram: STRIVE_PSL

Pinterest: STRIVEPSL

NON-PROFIT ORG.
U.S. POSTAGE PAID
PORTLAND, ME
PERMIT NO. 144

Return Service Requested



Great News!

Legends & STRIVE Open House in Auburn!



NEXT Step shooting pool!

