

BELIEVING IN THE POTENTIAL OF ALL

Imagine! That

THE IMAGINE! NEWSLETTER

VOLUME 18, ISSUE 2

SUMMER 2009

BOULDER POLICE OFFER FREE TEEN SAFETY FIRST CLASS

The Boulder Police Department will offer its Safety First Fall Class for Teens this fall. The class is designed for teens with developmental disabilities who are between the ages of 13 and 17. For consumers who are older than 17 but are still in school, please call Kris Gibson at (303) 441-3332 to discuss if the consumer is better suited for the teen or adult class.

The class curriculum covers decision-making skills, street-smart safety, home security, fire prevention, and safety while riding public transportation.

The classes will be held on the following Thursdays: Oct. 1, 8, 15, 22, and 29. The final day to register is September 24. Call Kris Gibson at (303) 441-3332 to register for the class or if you have any questions.

The Safety First Class for Adults is scheduled for the spring of 2010.



Officer Sue Barcklow and Imagine! consumer Liz Creech enjoy the graduation ceremony for the Adult Safety First Class.

THE IMAGINE! WEBSITE CALENDAR LISTS UPCOMING EVENTS, ACTIVITIES, AND SEMINARS

Remember to visit the Imagine! website calendar for information on upcoming local activities, events, and seminars related to people with developmental disabilities. You can find the calendar at www.imaginecolorado.org/Calendar.htm. Bookmark the site and visit often!

ONLINE PETITION TO END WAITLIST



There are currently more than 9,100 individuals with developmental disabilities and their families on a waiting list to receive services in Colorado. An estimated 8,756 people with developmental disabilities in Colorado are living with family caregivers aged 60 and older.

Please help to address this crisis by signing an online petition to End the Waitlist. The link is: www.gopetition.com/petitions/noewait.html.

COMPUTER CLASSES BENEFIT IMAGINE! CONSUMERS

With computers becoming more and more essential for day-to-day living, it is important that our consumers learn how computers can enhance their lives.

Learning Adventure Center in Lafayette provides computer classes for children three to seven years old. Children with developmental disabilities are welcomed. Sessions include how to use a computer as a tool for self-expression, communication, and learning, with a focus on teamwork and social interaction. For more information visit www.learningadventurecenter.com or call (303) 665-5650.

The Association for Community Living (ACL) offers computer classes for teens and adults at various times during the year. Their computer classes teach how to search for information on the Internet, how to use email, and other skills. For more information visit the ACL calendar at www.aclboulder.org or phone Nicole Newsome at (303) 527-0888.

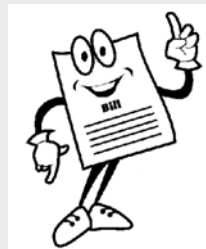
Workforce Boulder County also offers career development and self directed labs to increase or update computer skills. For more information on the free workshops visit www.wfbc.org or call (303) 301-2900.

THANKS TO OUR SUPPORTIVE LEGISLATORS

All of us at Imagine! would like to express our sincere appreciation for the hard work and actions of the Colorado State Joint Budget Committee this year. Senators Moe Keller, Abel Tapia, and Al White, along with Representatives Mark Ferrandino, Don Marostica, and Jack Pommer, and demonstrated a great commitment toward protecting Colorado citizens with developmental disabilities.

In a terrible budget year, with multiple rounds of cuts to many programs, developmental disability service providers and community centered programs were spared cuts time and time again. We owe this Committee a debt of gratitude.

In addition, we would like to thank State Senator Brandon Shaffer and Representative Dianne Primavera for their sponsorship of two bills that ensured that early intervention services and treatment of autism and are provided for by insurance companies and health plans.



SPECIAL TRANSIT'S EASY RIDER PROGRAM OFFERS AFFORDABLE TRAVEL INSTRUCTION

Special Transit's Easy Rider Program helps seniors and people with disabilities expand their travel options in Boulder County. The travel instruction program is designed to assist people in learning how to safely and confidently use public transportation (RTD and Call-n-Ride). Since its inception in 2003, more than 100 Imagine! consumers have benefited from this program.

Travel Training Includes:

- Planning a bus trip using a route schedule and map
- Getting on and off buses using the proper fare
- Identifying landmarks



The registration fee for this one-on-one training is only \$25. Before the program begins, an expert instructor conducts an in-home assessment with each individual to get acquainted and help determine the person's needs and goals. Travel sessions are then scheduled to provide first-hand experience riding buses in the community. Each individual's needs and abilities are different, so the amount of practice time varies from person to person.

For details on the Easy Rider Program, contact Susan Unger, Special Transit's Travel Training Coordinator at (303) 447-2848, ext. 105.

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Imagine! That is the newsletter of Imagine!

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THE MISSION OF IMAGINE! IS TO CREATE AND OFFER INNOVATIVE SUPPORTS TO PEOPLE OF ALL AGES WITH COGNITIVE, DEVELOPMENTAL, PHYSICAL, AND HEALTH RELATED NEEDS SO THEY MAY LIVE FULFILLING LIVES OF INDEPENDENCE AND QUALITY IN THEIR HOMES AND COMMUNITIES.

Imagine!
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CHANGE SERVICE REQUESTED

Special Transit offers
affordable travel training.

Read More Inside.

NONPROFIT ORG.

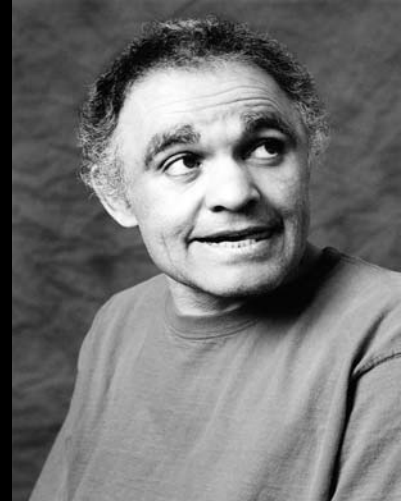
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