

# Program Update

June 2010



Champlain Community Services

## From the Director....

Welcome to our Summer Update!

The past winter and spring were challenging for those of us in developmental services as Legislators wrestled with State budget shortfalls. The ultimate one percent cut was far less than originally proposed, thanks to the self-advocates, family members, local legislatures, developmental services directors and board members whose efforts and testimony effectively made the case to protect funding for these essential services.

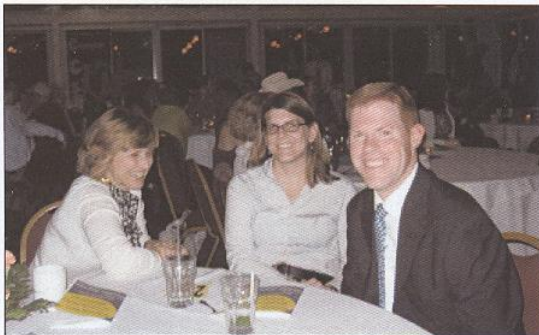
At CCS, this meant no reductions in direct services, and I can assure all of you our financial position remains strong. While times remain challenging, CCS looks forward to expanding and enhancing services. Way2Work keeps generating new employment opportunities by emphasizing individual supports and building strong community connections, and CCS is also increasing outreach and developing options for school-transition-age youth.

Your continued support helps make it possible, so *thank you*. Happy summer.

~Kelley Homiller



## Fifth Annual Benefit Auction a Success!



Guests from our long-standing sponsor, Key Bank

The 5<sup>th</sup> Annual CCS Auction, May 14th at **The Essex**, was an amazing event and **raised about \$10,000** after expenses for CCS programs.

Nearly 100 guests bid on more than 90 items in a silent auction and another 20 in an exciting live auction that featured high-energy auctioneer **Jamie Polli**. They were also treated to a full buffet barbeque (with steak, barbeque chicken, corn on the cob, plus a baked potato bar with the biggest potatoes ever!), prepared by **NECI** chefs, while **Myra Flynn and Spark** provided musical entertainment.



Our auction staff from left  
Standing: Jen Ciechanowicz, Michelle Paya, Jenn Palmer,  
Mike Reilly, Mike Blanco, Shana Lathrop,  
Seated: Christopher Celotto, Karen Ciechanowicz, Sadie Moody

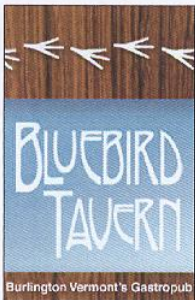
Thank you to our sponsors – **Key Bank, Chittenden Bank, APS Healthcare, and NorthCountry Federal Credit Union** – and co-sponsors **Merchants Bank, Paul Frank + Collins, and Northern Benefits**, all our volunteers, and the many local and regional restaurants, businesses, artists, and organizations that donated gifts!



Auctioneer Jamie Polli

## Dining for Dollars! Local Restaurants Support CCS!

In April CCS supporters had two chances to dine out and raise funds for the cause! We renewed our partnership with **UNO Chicago Grill** on Shelburne Road, which gives 10 to 15 percent of each eligible food bill to the host agency during “Dough Raiser” events. Later that month, the **Bluebird Tavern** on Riverside Drive in Burlington held a “community night”, giving CCS 10 percent of ALL sales that night (a great introduction to this gem of a neighborhood “gastro pub” for CCS supporters who had not tried it before).



*Thanks, UNO and Bluebird!*

Think your business—or your favorite restaurant—would like to hold a similar event – **contact Mike Reilly at 655-0511 x125, mreilly@ccs-vt.org** with your ideas!

### Volunteer Extraordinaire

When CCS posted an opening for “volunteer development assistant” with United Way’s Volunteer Center, we never dreamed we would find someone like **Shana Lothrop**. But are we *ever* glad we did!

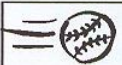
From October to May Shana energetically volunteered in support of CCS development efforts: helping organize the Annual Benefit Auction, updating our media contact list and writing a foundation grant proposal in support of our Annual Fund.

A participant in “Best Buddies” while at St. Michael’s College, Shana brought a specific interest in CCS and a broader interest in gaining experience in human services and development work.

Shana offered CCS her time, skills and professionalism while searching for a full-time job. (And she can count on us for a strong recommendation to any employer!)



*Want to learn more about volunteer opportunities at CCS?*  
**Contact Mike Reilly at 655-0511 x125, mreilly@ccs-vt.org!**



### CCS Night at the Lake Monsters

Come to the **Lake Monsters game vs. Hudson Valley on Wednesday, July 28th** and help support CCS! Buy advance tickets through CCS -- \$7 for adults and \$5 for kids and seniors – and we'll earn up to \$4 for each ticket sold!

Buy one, or take all your friends and family . . . or buy them for a staff or club outing . . . even buy a block of tickets and give them back to CCS for *out* staff and consumers to have an outing!

Call Mike at 655-0511 ext. 125, or email him at [mreilly@ccs-vt.org](mailto:mreilly@ccs-vt.org) to reserve your seats!

### The 2010 Annual Fund

*. . . is underway and  
any gift helps.*

To donate or learn more  
contact Mike Reilly at

[mreilly@ccs-vt.org](mailto:mreilly@ccs-vt.org)

655-0511 ext. 125

[www.ccs-vt.org](http://www.ccs-vt.org)