

THE AFTER GATEWAY ADVOCATE

A Newsletter Published by After Gateway Inc.

July 2013

Important Announcement

The After Gateway Board of Directors is pleased to announce and welcome **Scott Logan** as Director of After Gateway. Scott has been Clinical Supervisor at AGI since January 2011 and before that he briefly worked directly with participants. Scott comes with vast knowledge and experience in working with the special needs population. He knows what families, caregivers and supporters experience on a daily basis. He has been working closely and tirelessly with Sandhills Center and other agencies to make the necessary changes for the new Innovations Waiver. We welcome you to visit AGI and introduce yourself to Scott.

Sherrie Wyrick,

After Gateway Board of Directors Chairperson

From the Director's Desk

The first six months of 2013 have been a time of transition, both administratively and programmatically. I hope these changes will be beneficial to After Gateway, our participants and families. If anyone has any concerns or comments I welcome your input. My direct e-mail address is slogan@aftergateway.org or you can call or come by the office.

I would like to welcome the three new graduates and one summer participant to our program. It is wonderful to have you and your families as part of After Gateway.

Last, but not least, I would like to thank all the generous donors. Without you, we could not provide an enriching program. I want to thank all of the families, guardians and caregivers for their continuing support. You are the foundation which After Gateway is built upon. Also, I'd like to thank the staff for the terrific job they do. From the program assistants to the nursing staff, to the office administration, I want to express my gratitude for the contributions you make to After Gateway every day.

Scott Logan, Director

After Gateway Leadership

Director	Scott Logan
Business Manager	Glenda Selman
Health Care Coordinator	Julie Rafter-Lodics

Medicaid Innovations

The State of North Carolina mandated that we transition from Medicaid CAP funding (which has been discontinued) to Medicaid Innovations funding. This major change has required AGI to review each participant's individual plan and in many cases do a complete rewrite of that plan. The administrative staff have been challenged to revise all AGI programs and procedures to be in compliance with the new requirements. This remains an ongoing and time consuming process.

Due to these state-mandated changes of allocating funds for services affecting the developmentally disabled citizens, we must find creative ways to finance the AGI enrichment program that makes AGI special for participants.

Read on for some exciting news from several loyal supporters of the AGI program.

Greensboro Science Center and SciQuarium

Our participants have always enjoyed going to the **Greensboro Science Center**, but the cost of admission for our participants was prohibitive so the visits were rarely scheduled. There have been two exciting developments. First, an anonymous donor gave AGI an annual business membership to the GSC. This allows AGI to take 10 persons each visit as many times a year as desired. This is a wonderful gift! The AGI Activities Coordinator is scheduling outings for one of our five classrooms each week. Second, with the opening of the new SciQuarium, the participants have new areas to explore and enjoy all the animals and aquatics.

AGI Appreciates iPads

The Blessings Foundation provided a grant in the amount of \$3,500 to purchase four iPads and apps. These tablets are a big hit with both the staff and the participants. The iPads are used every day by the participants to make delightful art designs, plan events, play music, practice counting and alphabet as well as – don't say it! Play games! The staff and participants used the iPads to create a totally original music and video program for the Holiday Program. It was amazing! Thank you, **Blessings Foundation**.

Also, a big thank you goes to Claire Buchan (Emily's aunt) for a donation of \$1,000 for an additional iPad and apps.

Human Race – April 13, 2013

It was a beautiful Spring day – just right for a walk with friends. The walk/race was held a bit later this year and the weather cooperated to give us sunny skies. We had a nice group of families and supporters at the **Greensboro Coliseum** for After Gateway. The Human Race brought AGI over \$4,000 which will be used to purchase a new patient lift system for the AGI participants. We deeply appreciate all those who participated and those who contributed financially. **THANK YOU!**

Guilford Medical and Dental Managers Golf Tournament

After Gateway was pleasantly surprised when the Guilford Medical and Dental Managers organization chose AGI as a recipient of their annual charity golf tournament. The event was held June 6th at Greensboro Country Club Carlson Farm Course. A foursome from NewBridge Bank wore custom made After Gateway golf shirts to show their support. This event resulted in a benefit of \$4,000 for After Gateway. The GMDM Charity Committee Chairman, Jace Strandberg presented a check to AGI on July 15th. After Gateway is extremely grateful GMDM.



Jake's Billiards is SUPER!

After Gateway has some "SUPER" supporters and Jake's Billiards has to be one of the best! Jake's held a charity yard sale on June 22nd at their location on Spring Garden Street to benefit After Gateway. They had a huge selection of items for sale. The final check to After Gateway was \$2,100!!! In addition, they gave SEVEN large bags of art supplies to the AGI program. If you would like a fun evening, visit Jake's, play pool, have a brew and thank them for supporting After Gateway.

Additional Donors

After Gateway received a donation of \$1,500 from the **We Care Committee of St. Pius X Church** to purchase clothing, bibs and slings for the new lift. Thank you!

AGI received \$2,000 from the **Lerner Family Foundation**. Thank you!

Greensboro Civitan Foundation donated \$250 to AGI. Thank you!!!

In addition, After Gateway would like to thank everyone who sends in donations throughout the year.

Vote for AGI at di'lishi

di'lishi frozen yogurt bar has created a "giveback program" to support local nonprofit organizations. After Gateway is one of three nonprofits being featured for the next three months. When you visit di'lishi please vote for After Gateway! **di'lishi frozen yogurt bar** has 10 different frozen yogurts with an array of options and abundant toppings that allow you to create an original dessert treat. They are located at 4016-D Battleground Avenue and open daily.

Talent Show

On Monday, June 24th, the After Gateway participants performed in a delightful talent show that they had conceived and created with the assistance of some very innovative staff members. Parents and board members enjoyed the show and refreshments. A guiding force in this endeavor was our music therapist, Jane Maydian, who accompanied the performers on piano and advised the group on the production. In addition, we are grateful for the sound system provided by board member Stan Atwell. It was a fun time!



Classroom Activities

The Program Committee and Classroom Coordinators have been updating the activities in each individual classroom. Participants are grouped in classrooms based on their interests and abilities. The goal is to create activities that are more appropriate for the participants in each classroom. The classroom coordinators have been very involved and innovative in creating these activities. An ongoing process, this has been quite challenging, but also very rewarding for both the staff and the participants.

Luau at AGI

The date is Wednesday, August 7. The time is 12:30 pm. The theme is Luau! We're talking about the "End of Summer Party" for the AGI participants and guests. "Luau" is such a popular theme with the participants that they wanted to do another similar event. The staff is very excited to make this a special celebration. Refreshments, decorations and hosts are needed. If anyone can help or has suggestions, please email our Administrative Assistant, Dana at dgoldsmith@aftergateway.org.

Consider a Donation

While After Gateway has been very fortunate with the events held to benefit the program, there is always a huge need for ongoing expenses not covered by Medicaid. Outings are expensive because often there are admission fees. AGI always needs funds for gasoline and maintenance for the transportation vans that take the participants out in the community. Music and Art Therapies also are only funded by donations. Simply use the form on the back page to mail a donation or go to www.aftergateway.org to make a secure donation through "Network for Good". All monetary donations are always tax-deductible.

Board of Directors News

December elections brought two new members to the After Gateway board: Robert Gray from NewBridge Bank and Brandon Forney, Private Banker. Welcome, Robert and Brandon!

If you are interested in serving on our Board or on one of our committees please contact Sherrie Wyrick at the email address below, or you can call After Gateway at 336-379-7670.

2013 AGI Board of Directors

Chair..... Sherrie Wyrick
Vice Chair.Jane Maydian
Secretary..... Mary Ealley
Treasurer Stan Atwell
Communications Chair Karen Price
Fundraising Chair..... Lavonne Pickens
At-Large MembersPaula Cox Fishman,
Monique Johnson, Joanna Rudder,
Brandon Forney, Robert Gray

Board email: agiboard@gmail.com



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Checks should be made payable to After Gateway. This is a tax-deductible contribution.

Yes! I'd like to help. I have enclosed a check for \$_____.

Yes! I'd like to help. Please contact me about volunteering.

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ ZIP: _____

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Mail your contribution to: After Gateway, 501 S Mendenhall St, Greensboro, NC 27403

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