Barber National Institute 🚫

Barbe

November 2016



Make your reservations at www. BarberInstitute.org/Ball

## **President's Message**



Dear friends:

The event marking Disability Employment Awareness Month was truly inspiring as we listened to several adults talk about how important it is to them to have a job in the community. You can read some of their comments in this issue, but it is impossible to overstate how essential it is to create opportunities for employment. We continue to aggressively pursue the Employment First philosophy that is the state and national mandate. Our focus is informed and driven by the hopes and dreams of our adults and their families that we are committed to fulfilling.

We have also responded to requests for more social experiences by further developing ESO—Expanding Social Opportunities—to now include evening recreational activities. The structure is based upon the popular ESO dances that continue with Erie area colleges and the new camp that was held this summer.

Listening to the community and responding to its needs has always led us in the development of new services and facilities. The most recent example

is the opening of the new Barber Behavioral Health Institute Outpatient Clinic at 1621 Sassafras Street in Erie. The facility was greeted with enthusiasm during an open house last month as it meets a vital need for mental health services for children, adults and families in the general population. Everyone is welcome here to find the help they need to live a healthier, more fulfilling life.

Providing innovative services and meeting the highest standards of quality would not be possible without the dedication of our staff. We were very proud that several were recognized last month at the annual state conference for PAR (Pennsylvania Advocacy and Resources for Autism & Intellectual Disability.) Those honored included our Chief Operating Officer, Robert Will, as PAR Advocate of the year; Violetta Galustyan, program specialist in our Supported Employment Program, as Front Line Manager of the Year; Katrice Fischer as Self-Advocate of the Year; and LECOM Health as Employer of the Year.

As the holidays quickly approach, we look forward to one of our biggest events of the year, "*Bash on the Bay*," this year's Christmas Ball. It is always wonderful to see so many friends, neighbors and families gather to celebrate the season and support the mission of the Barber National Institute. We are truly grateful to all of those who are committed to our goal of providing hope and opportunity to the individuals and families we serve. On their behalf, we wish you the merriest Christmas and good health in the New Year.

Sincerely, Byter

John J. Barber President & Chief Executive Officer

Erie Gives

# Thanks, Erie Gives!



#### **Mission Statement**

We "Make dreams come true." We provide children and adults with intellectual disabilities and behavioral health challenges and their families the education, support and resources needed to be self reliant, independent and valued members of their community. In addition, we provide the professionals who serve them with world-class education and training.

Generosity from across the community resulted in a successful 2016 Erie Gives Day. Thanks to the 124 donors who made a gift, and a pro-rated match from the Erie Community Foundation, the Dr. Gertrude A. Barber Foundation received donations totaling \$16,450. Bridget Barber, center, director of External Affairs at the Barber National Institute, accepted the donation during a presentation at the Erie Zoo from Erie Community Foundation Board of Trustees members, from left, Lynn McBrier, Board Chairman Russell Warner, Maryann Yochim Flaherty and Michael Batchelor, right, Erie Community Foundation president.

Front cover: "Bash on the Bay" chair couples celebrate with our students! Seated, from left, Dr. Paul Diefenbach, Kim Schultz, Rob Schultz and Tracey Diefenbach.

# Celebrate with Bash on the Bay

The best of the Erie region and the mission of the Barber National Institute will be celebrated at Bash on the Bay, the Barber Christmas Ball set for Saturday, Dec. 17 at the Bayfront Convention Center.

The event chair couples, Dr. Paul and Tracey Diefenbach and Rob and Kim Schultz, promise a festive gala that reflect the goals of the Love Erie campaign that they initiated to recognize the many assets of the Erie region. "We look forward to bringing the community together in celebration of the many wonderful things about our region, which includes the tremendous resource that we have in the Barber National Institute," said Rob Schultz.

"In addition to providing innovative and high quality services that have earned the organization a national reputation, the Barber Institute plays a key economic role as Erie's ninth largest employer," Schultz added. "This is an Erie asset that is known for fostering an entrepreneurial spirit that finds new and creative responses to challenges and opportunities that have an impact on our community and beyond. We are asking others to join us in supporting the Barber National Institute and its mission."

The highlights of this year's Bash on the Bay will include a dynamic fireworks display over the bay. Once entering the Convention Center's Great Hall, guests will be awed by a 12-foot sculpture of Erie's Bicentennial Tower created by Barber Institute Fine Arts Director Frank Fecko.

Entertainment for the event will be provided by The Company's Best, a ten-piece show band that offers a wide repertoire ranging from pop and rock to swing and holiday favorites.

Sponsorship levels are available at \$5,000 and \$2,500 offering businesses, families or other organizations an enhanced presence at the Bash on the Bay, a complimentary table of ten and an opportunity to support the mission of the Barber National Institute.

Reservations are \$90 per guest and include heavy hors d'oeuvres, desserts, soft drinks and two complimentary cocktails; cash bar also available. Complimentary valet parking also provided.

Both the Bayfront Sheraton Hotel and the Courtyard Marriott are offering specially priced overnight packages that include a bay view room, parking and buffet breakfast.



**Gold Level Sponsors** 

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What to know:

**BARBER CHRISTMAS BALL** 

Saturday, Dec. 17

**Bayfront Convention Center** 

Fireworks display 8:45 p.m. • Dancing 9 p.m. – 1 a.m.

Purchase your reservations at

BarberInstitute.org/Ball

Questions? Call 814-878-4096

v Health Net

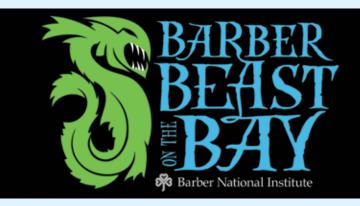
Bash on the Bay











# A Beast of a Great Time

Whether you want to relive the fun of the 2016 Barber Beast on the Bay, or catch up on anything you missed, here is a snapshot of some of the highlights.

**10-Mile Course** 

The elite wave included competitive participants who led the way for more than 1,300 participants.

Into the trails for Charlotte's Revenge

No Monkeying Around





Triangles of Terror

**Volunteers were** 

vital throughout

the event.

Are You Tire-d?



After the first obstacle at the North Pier, participants made their first trip in the water with Slog & Splash.

> The talk of the day – Marsh Madness

Walk the Plank





One of the new obstacles – and a favorite – Over Under.



# Adapted Course

More than 100 participants started the course at Waldameer Park.

**Row Your Boat** 





**Cannonball Shuttle** 



Bucket

Brigade

Beast Cave



The adapted and ten-mile course participants came together to share in Beast

**Backbreaker** 



FINISH CONTRACTOR

and in a shared finish line and sense of accomplishment.

It's not too early to plan for the 5<sup>th</sup> annual Barber Beast on the Bay on Saturday, Sept. 9. More than 400 participants are already signed up and taking advantage of early registration discounts. Register today at BarberBeast.org

### Cheers for the Cheer Zones

Representatives from local organizations set up Cheer Zones sponsored by Insurance Management Company to encourage and motivate participants along the course. After the event, participants voted the Gannon University



Phi Sigma Sigma sorority and Zeta Beta Tau fraternity as their favorite Cheer Zone, awarding the top prize of \$500. The second place award of \$300 was given to the Gannon University Ultimate Frisbee Club, while employees from Wegman's won third place and a \$200 prize. Groups interested in forming a Cheer Zone for the 2017 event, and competing for cash prizes, can apply at BarberBeast.org/cheerzone



#### **Beastly Awards**

The Beast joined Barber National Institute President John Barber, fourth from left, in presenting awards to the top finishers and fundraisers. Erie's Andrew Hellman, second from left, won first male finisher

for the third year in a row with a time of one hour and 15 minutes. The first place female finisher, Jacqueline Flaherty of Pittsburgh, PA, won with a time of one hour and 34 minutes. The top fundraiser for the fourth year in a row was Patrick Eller, a former Erie resident now stationed on active duty in Virginia who raised \$5,000, pictured with his daughter, Braelyn. Fundraising awards were also presented to Emily Smeltz of Indiana, PA and Daniel Wisinski of Erie.



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# Parents Beast in Honor of Daughter

ten-mile course with more than 25 obstacles. Mark Spellman and his wife, Megan, had never done anything like that before. But it didn't stop them from signing up with six of their friends for the 2016 Barber Beast on the Bay. To keep them going, they all had some special inspiration.

Mark and Megan's daughter, Leah, has been attending the Elizabeth Lee Black School for three years. "The amount of hope and opportunity Leah has had in that time surpasses anything we have known," said Mark. "It's just not comparable to anything else."

In fact, the Spellmans had been living in Ohio, but were not satisfied that their school was meeting Leah's needs. Over and over, people told them that they should look at the Barber National Institute in Erie. "We visited on a Wednesday afternoon, stopped at a realtor's on the way home and put our house up for sale two days later," said Mark. "Moving was the best decision we made."

#### From Volunteer to Participant

Mark and Megan were introduced to the Beast on the Bay in 2015, when they volunteered at a water station with other members of their family. Halfway through, they decided, "Next year we're doing this," said Mark.

"We had thought that this would be something we could never do. But we watched people of varying fitness levels and ages and decided that we had to try," said Mark. "When I crossed the finish line, I felt like it was really an accomplishment."

In June, Mark dislocated his shoulder playing softball but was determined that his injury would heal in time for the event. Unfortunately, Megan wasn't so lucky. She injured her ankle a few weeks before the Beast and so again joined other family members who were volunteering. But the couple is already signed up for 2017, and Mark is looking forward to coming back.





Megan and Mark Spellman with their daughters, Addy and Leah, at right.

"It was great how people help each other over the obstacles," said Mark. "It's not like we knew who everyone was, but we were all helping each other."

Mark and Megan named their team "Beast for Bug" in honor of their daughter, who is now six years old. "Before she was born and we didn't know whether we were having a boy or a girl, we just referred to the new baby as 'doodlebug.' It was shortened to 'Bug' and the name stuck," said Mark. "More people probably know her by 'Bug' than Leah."



### **Getting Ready for 2017**

The Spellmans are well on their way to reaching - and maybe surpassing – their goal of 20 team members, with 18 friends already signed up for 2017. Mark said that getting people to register was pretty easy. "We have a very diverse group, with some people who run and work out a lot and others not so much. But everyone knows how much the Barber National Institute means to us and how much we love the school."

Mark said that the most challenging part of the event was running on the sand, and he plans to be better prepared for that next year. But the physical challenges were only a part of the appeal. "One of the best things is how everyone seemed to know what the race meant, how it impacted the Barber National Institute and Erie," said Mark. "Everyone was there for the same reason. It was awesome to see everyone doing this for the cause."

The team "beasts for Bug!"

Sharing a Life

Sue Osborne has been a part of many families. She is a proud mother and grandmother, a devoted sister to her five siblings, and, as an employee, has been part of the Barber National Institute family for more than 28 years. But it was the family that she formed with two women with intellectual disabilities that merited the Excellence in Lifesharing Award presented in October at the Pennsylvania Lifesharing conference in Harrisburg.

Sue learned about Lifesharing, a program that matches an adult with disabilities to live with a provider family, through her work at the Barber National Institute. Nine years ago, she helped her sister, Dawn, become a provider to MaryAnn, and was part of their extended family.

Then, Sue first became a Lifesharing provider herself five years ago when she was matched with Susan, a woman in her mid-fifties. Susan had just been diagnosed with dementia, and within a few months of moving in, her symptoms began to progress. Soon, Susan was not able to go to work or go to a day program, and Sue arranged to have caretakers come into the house during the day so that Sue could go to her job at the Barber National Institute Senior Center. Sue has worked hard to keep Susan comfortable and safe, and accommodate her many preferences, such as having dinner at 9 p.m. and staying up well into the night when Susan can't sleep.

"I have heard that when someone has dementia, we take the journey with them," said Family Living Program Specialist Cherylynn McIntosh in the award nomination. "I can say with certainty that Sue takes Susan's journey every day. She is extremely committed to Susan and her needs."

Sue's generosity was evidenced again in early 2015 when a devoted Lifesharing provider who had given a brother and sister a caring home for many years had to make the difficult choice to leave the program due to illness. "As with all of us, there are situations that change and new opportunities are created. The search for a caring home or two caring homes was launched." Said Cherylynn.

After inviting Tina to live with her, Sue encouraged her other sister, Bonnie, to become a provider for Tina's brother, Todd. "Tina sees her brother every day and they participate in family events since they live within the same extended family," said Cherylynn. "They may not live under the same roof but they are still as close as ever. Sue's insight, initiative and actions changed the lives for both Tina and her brother, Todd."

While everyone was confident in Sue's ability to provide a thriving home for Tina, they were surprised by the positive impact that the new living arrangement would have on Susan. She loved having Tina living at her home, and again began engaging in activities and



Sue Osborne, right, has made a home for Susan, left, and Tina.

socializing outside of the home. "This was not what anyone expected," said Cherylynn. "Sue's openness to communicate and engage with the ladies made this transition smooth for them both. It was surely Sue's love and guidance that fostered this beautiful relationship, to the benefit of both ladies in her home."

A few months after the move, Sue noticed that Tina had very few pictures from her past. Sue began making scrap books for both Tina and Susan with all of highlights of their lives, activities and family events. She also started one for Tina's brother to ensure that he would have memories of special times.

It is just one of many ways that Sue goes above and beyond to enrich the lives of those in her Lifesharing family. "Sue is invested not only in the welfare of these two ladies, but of all the people she has in her life," said Cherylynn. "She has made their lives so full of joy, love and happiness."

While a death in her family prevented Sue from accepting the award in person, she conveyed her feelings in a letter that was read at the presentation. "When I originally decided to become a lifesharing provider, I imagined I would be bettering the lives of my individuals," wrote Sue. "I had no idea what a positive impact this program would have on not only me, but the rest of my family as well. Susan and Tina are as much a part of my family as my own two sons. Lifesharing has made such an impact on my life that I cannot imagine what it would be like had I not had this opportunity."

Lifesharing providers can be single adults, a traditional family or "empty nesters." All that is really required is a desire to share your home and life with an adult with intellectual disabilities. Providers receive a federally tax-exempt stipend for room and board, and support from the program staff to ensure that needs are met.

For information about Lifesharing, in Erie contact Maggie Dimitriadis at (814) 878-5517 or Cherylynn McIntosh at (814) 874-5623; in Philadelphia contact La'Tashia Gatling at (215) 871-0731. 8

# **Enthusiasm Abounds for Community Employment**

A fter hearing her name called, Amy Murphy bounded up in front of the audience, grabbed the microphone, and proudly proclaimed: "I'm working at Wendy's and I'm not going anywhere!"

This is the kind of pride that was recognized at the presentation commemorating Disabilities Employment Awareness Month to celebrate the achievements of all adults with disabilities who have attained community employment. In the past year, 28 individuals in Erie and 10 adults in Philadelphia have been hired with help from Supported Employment at the Barber National Institute. The program provides a range of services to help ensure a good match for both the adult seeking employment and the prospective employer, including a community based work assessment, job development and job coaching.

Barber National Institute President John Barber said the day was a celebration of the efforts of all who make employment for individuals with disabilities possible.

"We have always been focused on employment, selfsufficiency, and independence," he said. "Here in Erie, we've been Employment First all along." In March, Gov. Tom Wolf officially designated Pennsylvania an Employment First state, making integrated community employment the ultimate goal for all persons with dis

For Katrice Fisher, who has worked at Erie Insurance Arena for three years, employment has been the key to happiness. That happiness, she said, has been a long time coming. "When I was about 14-16, I had a lot of struggles," said Fisher, who is now 37. "The puzzle pieces are finally starting to come together."

Katrice had previously worked in two other jobs, but said neither felt like a really good fit for her. She decided to again connect with the Supported Employment program to find a better match, and now believes she's found it at the Erie Insurance Arena.

"I love going to work. We all joke around and have fun," she said, before adding, "I think I'm going to be there for a while. I thank the Barber Center for helping me. I could not have done it without them and thank all of the job coaches. They are a big help."

Other employees who spoke about their experience included Paul Groom, who works in maintenance at Triangle Tool, a company that creates plastic injection molds. Paul had words of encouragement for those in attendance still looking for jobs in the community.

"You guys can do it; don't give up!" he said. "If you keep doing good work here, you'll get your chance out there."

Another Wendy's employee, Becca Tomczak, also tried to inspire adults still in the job search. "I once was sitting where you guys are at and I'm here to tell you anything is possible if you put your mind to it," said Becca. She said that her general manager nominated her as Champion of the Month for their location. "Just to be nominated is a huge honor for me. I can honestly say after working for



Erie County Executive Kathy Dahlkemper, center, presented a proclamation designating Disabilities Employment Awareness Month in Erie County to John Barber as well as, from left Rebecca Tomczak, Katrice Fischer, Paul Groom and Michael Schultz.

four years this by far is my most amazing unforgettable year yet."

To Amy, Paul, Becca, Katrice and all of the other adults working, congratulations on making the dream of employment come true.

For more information on how our Supported Employment program can assist adults with disabilities and behavioral health challenges in finding employment and meeting the needs of employers, contact Marycarmen Walker at 814-835-8075 or <u>MFrutos@barberinstitute.org</u>



Supported Employment staff work with high school students to offer job shadowing experiences.

#### Preparing for Employment: The Earlier the Better

Students can start planning for employment while they are still in school thanks to a new program developed by the Barber National Institute with the Office of Vocational Rehabilitation. Pre-Employment Transition Services for Youth offers two options for students ages of 14 to 21 with a disability to prepare for employment within the community:

**Group Pre-Employment Classes:** Barber Institute staff holds classes for students at their high schools that include instruction on Self Advocacy Training, Independent Living Skills, and Workplace Readiness. (Students do not have to be approved by OVR.)

#### **Community Pre-Employment Experience and Assessment:**

Opportunities for job shadowing in the student's areas of interest with hands-on work experience at local businesses. At the same time, Employment Specialists will work one-on-one to provide assistance and assessment. An in-depth Transportation Assessment further assists students with future decisions pertaining to realistic career opportunities.

Students must have an IEP or 504 plan to be eligible for services. For more information, contact Maggie Dimitriadis, Director IDS Services, (814) 874-5517, MaggieD@barberinstitute.org, or Marycarmen Walker, operations specialist for Supported Employment, (814) 878-4120, MFrutos@barberinstitute.org



Anne Marz, left, Associate Director of Behavioral Health Operations, shows a therapy room to Gina Adams from Saint Vincent Hospital.

#### **New Outpatient Clinic Hosts Open House**

Professionals and providers in the mental health field toured the new Barber Behavioral Health Institute Outpatient Clinic during a recent open house. The Outpatient Clinic opened this summer in a modern, newly renovated suite at 1621 Sassafras Street to serve children, adults, couples and families in our community.

The opening of the facility is both an extension of the Barber National Institute mission and an effort to meet a pressing community need, according to John Barber, president and chief executive officer of the Barber National Institute. "Our organization has a long history of responding to needs in our community with high quality, innovative disabilities services that have been recognized both nationally and internationally," said Barber.

"We are making that same commitment to now meet a very critical need for accessible mental health services in the general population. We have heard stories of individuals and families waiting months for services that they need. Our facility is here to address a wide variety of behavioral issues that we know people are experiencing and help them achieve healthier, happier lives."

The facility offers counseling services and medication management to the general population for treatment of behavioral health needs such as depression, anxiety, stress, bipolar disorder, and trauma caused by grief, loss or abuse. Services include Parent Child Interactive Therapy that enables therapists to guide parents in changing their patterns of communicating and interacting with their young children.

The Barber Behavioral Health Institute Outpatient Clinic will accept most major insurance plans.

If you have any questions or to schedule an appointment, please call 814-871-4725 or email <u>BBHOPClinic@BarberInstitute.org</u>.



Ron Jones, left, Vice President, Behavioral Health Services and Business Development at the Barber National Institute, and President John Barber, right, welcome Matt Potosnak from Highmark Blue Cross Blue Shield.

# Around the Institute

### Siebenbuerger Club Funds Baseball Clinic

For the third year in a row, three local organizations teamed up so that children and adults with intellectual

disabilities and autism could have a ball this summer.

The Barber National Institute, the Erie SeaWolves, and the Siebenbuerger Club came together to provide day-long day baseball clinics at Jerry Uht Park. Nearly 50 adults in day and residential programs participated in a clinic on July 18, while children in Connections Camp, a recreational program for youth ages 5 - 17 with high functioning autism and



Erie SeaWolves players and coaches provided hands on instruction in batting, catching and running the bases.

Asperger Syndrome, enjoyed camp on July 19.

The baseball event was funded by a generous donation of \$6,000 from the Erie Siebenbuerger Club, marking the third year that the club has funded the clinics.

Erie SeaWolves players and coaches offered hands-on instruction on throwing, pitching and base running.

The goal is for children to take what they learn at the clinic and put it to use on school and neighborhood fields with their friends, classmates or in a league.

"Being able to participate in activities with your peers is an important part of childhood," said Dr. Maureen Barber-Carey, executive vice president of the Barber National Institute. "It is important that children have opportunities that will lead to greater inclusion in their schools and community. We are thankful to members of the



Youngsters and adults had time to get autographs and meet the players.

Siebenbuerger Club and the Erie SeaWolves for making this possible."

In addition to the instruction provided at the Clinic, each participant received a t-shirt, certificate and a ticket to an Erie SeaWolves game.



### **BHRS Allegheny Hosts Family Event**

Staff from the BHRS Allegheny program welcomed children and parents to a Family Night for an evening of games, crafts, face painting and raffles. An Art Show featuring paintings and drawings from program participants was also held this fall at the Pittsburgh location.

#### Campers Close on a High Note

Our Camp Shamrock campers ended their summer experience with a talent show at the Barber National Institute for friends and family. Here, a young camper tells a few of his favorite jokes to the audience, while other campers shared their talents with singing, shooting hoops and dancing.



### **Celebrating Founder's Day**

Many of our students, adults and staff wore green during Founder's Day to celebrate the spirit of our founder, Dr. Gertrude A. Barber. A visit from Granny's Ark Petting Zoo was one of the day's favorite activities, with time to meet new friendly and furry friends. Students from our Pre-K Counts class enjoyed meeting all of the animals!





#### **Getting in the Olympic Spirit**

Adults and staff from our campuses in Girard and Corry joined participants in the Lakeside Senior Center and other day programs to "go for the gold" with their own summer Olympics. Friendly competitions included relay races, basketball dribble, Frisbee toss and golf.

### Santa Visit Set

To meet the needs of children with autism and other intellectual disabilities, the Barber National Institute will sponsor a Sensory-Friendly Time with Santa on Sunday, Dec. 4 from 9:30-11 a.m. in the main concourse at the Millcreek Mall.



This event will provide a low-key environment

that takes place outside of regular visiting hours. Families will receive a number when they arrive and children can work on crafts, play with iPads or have their faces painted while they wait.

For more information, visit BarberInstitute.org/events



#### **Gannon's Adaptive Crayons Arrive**

The new school year started with a delivery of more than 1,600 adaptive crayons designed and created by Gannon University engineering and special education students. The college students and their faculty worked with our occupational therapists to develop a crayon texture and shape that is easier for children with special needs to use. Our PreK Counts students enjoyed getting their own crayons to try. We look forward to collaborating on a research project to see whether the design increases student attention and learning.

### **The Perks of Work**

Starting a new job can be pretty exciting, but this was really a surprise! On his first day on the job at WaWa, a Philadelphia grocery store, Wayne Pickett, left, met NBA legend Charles Barkley. Wayne achieved his dream of community employment through the Supported Employment Program in Philadelphia.





Ladies Only Luncheon Nov. 19, The Kahkwa Club

> Autism Friendly Santa Visits Dec. 4, Millcreek Mall

**"Bash on the Bay" Christmas Ball Dec. 17,** Bayfront Convention Center Reservations at BarberInstitute.org/ball Student Holiday Show Friday, Dec. 16, Gym



Digital Learning Day Feb. 23, Elizabeth Lee Black School



Art Show Submission March 2 – 4, North Lobby

Art Show & Sale April 7 – 10

The community is invited to support our events and activities. For information, visit www.BarberInstitute.org

# Barber National

#### **Educational Opportunities**

Bright Beginning Early Intervention (birth-age 3) The Elizabeth Lee Black School (Approved Private School) Autism Center Happy Hearts Day Care & Inclusive Preschool Deaf & Hard of Hearing Program Adult Education & Literacy Pre Employment Transition Services for Youth

#### Therapies

Outpatient Behavioral Health Clinic Traditional & Specialized Family Based Mental Health Services Advanced Children's Therapies (ACT) Program Speech Therapy Occupational Therapy Physical Therapy Behavioral Health Rehabilitation Services Psychiatric & Psychological Services Nutritional Services Trauma and Grief Counseling Health Services Department Social Skills Training

#### Living In The Community

Respite Care Lifesharing through Family Living Supported Living in homes and apartments Residential Group Homes Community Hab

#### **Daytime Community-Based Services**

Club Erie Community Endeavors Prevocational Services Transitional Work Services Supported Employment Adult Training Facilities Older Adult Daily Living Centers Mental Health Partial Hospitalization

#### **Support for Families**

Blended Case Management for Children & Adults Family Support Services Family and Sibling Support Groups Agency with Choice, Habilitation Services

#### **Recreational Opportunities**

Connections Summer Camp for children with high functioning Autism/Asperger Syndrome ESO Dances and Summer Camp (Expanding Social Opportunities) Camp Shamrock Summer Program Time for Me

#### **Community Resources**

Before/After School & Summer Child Care Programs Consultative services to schools & professionals Swimming Lessons & Water Exercise Classes Kids on the Block Puppet Troupe Gift Shop

For more information, call the Barber National Institute at 814-453-7661 or visit www.BarberInstitute.org.



Barber Spirit is a quarterly publication for friends of the Dr. Gertrude A. Barber Center, Inc. 100 Barber Place • Erie, PA 16507-1863 814-453-7661 • FAX: 814-455-1132 E-mail: BNIerie@BarberInstitute.org Website: www.BarberInstitute.org

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Manager of Public Relations Brandon Boyd Communications Assistant







## Make your reservations now Bash on the Bay

Attention Holiday Shoppers!





Shop local this holiday season with a visit to the Gift Shop at Barber Place. We're stocked with great gift and holiday decorating items, including puzzlepiece trees and snowmen, wreaths, cards and gift bags handmade by adults in our programs. The Gift Shop is open weekdays from 10 a.m. – 2 p.m. in the north lobby on our main campus, or shop for Barber-wear and Beast attire anytime online at BarberInstitute.org/giftshop