

DDS EMPLOYEE NEWS

Governor M. Jodi Rell

Commissioner Peter H. O'Meara

Edition 18

May 22, 2008

North Region Family Forum



Over 25 family members recently attended the North Region's Family Night in East Hartford. Family Nights are held throughout the region several times a year to give families an opportunity to be advised of new initiatives, services and ask questions.

Community Training Home (CTH) Program Manager Tim Lavoy spoke to the families about CTH support that is an option for their loved ones. In addition, Regional Director John Houchin presented a demonstration on how to maneuver through the department's website. Using the East Hartford high-tech training room, the website was projected onto a large screen so families could be walked through various pages on the site.

According to Dr. Houchin, families were most interested in the staff contact directory and information on licensing reviews and providers. They were impressed with how much information is available to them regarding supports and services on the website, which was launched in October 2007.

Keeping the Lid On Financial Stress *By George "Bud" Wassell, MS, LPC, CEAP Director, Solutions EAP*

Of course, these days all we hear about in the news is the Housing and Mortgage crisis. If you are having trouble paying your mortgage, Liz Pulliam Weston, the financial columnist says, "Check your options, get help, be realistic - and most of all, don't dawdle." Please check out her article for lots of helpful suggestions: *Facing Foreclosure? 9 Options* www.articles.moneycentral.msn.com/Banking/HomeFinancing .

Another good resource about foreclosure is *About Foreclosure: A Homeowner's Guide To What It Is, How It Works, And Options You May Have*. www.larcc.org/pamphlets/housing/about_foreclosure.

Connecticut's residents who are facing foreclosure on their homes may call **Mortgage Foreclosure Assistance Hotline (877) 472-8313** toll-free and receive advice and guidance regarding their mortgage problems. The free hotline will be open Monday-Friday, 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

Call Solutions EAP at 1-800-526-3485 for assistance for all of life's challenges. It's free, confidential and open to your family members. Check us out on-line at www.solutions-eap.com

CT State Employees Campaign for Charitable Giving

BJ's has a special membership offer just for **CT State Employees Campaign for Charitable Giving**



Where values come to life.™

4 Great Reasons to Join or Renew*

- 1. Get \$10 off our \$45** Annual Membership Fee**
- 2. FREE Additional 3 Months of Membership**
- 3. FREE Second Membership Card for a household member**
- 4. PLUS, BJ's will donate \$5 of your Membership fee to CSEC!!**

Temporary passes will be issued while your membership is being processed to start your shopping.

**It doesn't matter when you last renewed, we will add 15 months to your current expiration date.
This special offer is not valid online or at any BJ's Club location.*

Completed applications and payment should be returned to:

Ct State Employees Campaign

24 Stott Ave Norwich CT, 06360

on or June 30th

Attention: Jan G.

No cash accepted. If paying by check vs. credit card, your check must be payable to:
BJ's Wholesale Club, Inc.

**Plus state tax where applicable. All applications are sent to our Home Office, processing takes approximately 3 to 4 weeks.

Go to our website for the BJ's application at: www.ct.gov/dds .

Department of Developmental Services

www.ct.gov/dds

Central Office: 860-418-6000 ♦ North Region: 860-263-2500 ♦ South Region: 203-294-5049

West Region: 203-805-7400 ♦ Southbury Training School: 203-586-2000

DDS Employee News Contacts

Central Office: Joan Barnish, Dianne Gill ♦ North Region: Linda Schaefer ♦ South Region: Jolie Crescimano-Goss

West Region: Eunice Rivera ♦ Southbury Training School: Kathie Logan

Employee Assistance Program (EAP)

www.solutions-eap.com ♦ 24/7 Assistance ♦ 1-800-526-3485

Questions?

E-mail: Joan Barnish, Director of Communications ♦ joan.barnish@ct.gov or call 860-418-6044

WWW.CT.GOV/DDS