



THE COORDINATING CENTER

INSPIRED SOLUTIONS

2012 Annual Report

Building Foundations

2012 HIGHLIGHTS

Aging & Health Services



The Coordinating Center completed its third and final year of the Opting for Independence project. The project goal was to create an effective model that would be successful in helping older adults find community resources to age in the home or residence of their choice and avoid inappropriate facility placement. In 2012, The Center served 117 older adults. A

Customer Satisfaction Survey was conducted in August 2012 with project participants and their caregivers. Respondents showed strong satisfaction with Opting for Independence, specifically in awareness and community services. Opting for Independence conducted two case study projects among more than 60 older adults in 2011 and 2012. The 2011 results were published and widely disseminated to key stakeholders in Howard County and state agencies. The Howard County Council noted the 2011 case study findings as it passed groundbreaking 2012 legislation providing local tax credits for persons modifying their homes.

In 2012, The Center established an Aging and Health Services division. Opting for Independence will continue as a care coordination service available under contract to individuals through the new division. Staff members are working hard to develop partnerships with hospitals and other organizations interested in improving health outcomes for older adults.



Housing and Community Planning



The Housing and Community Planning division continues to expand its services and outreach as the need for accessible and affordable housing for individuals with disabilities continues to rise. The Coordinating Center has continued its work with the federal Community Living Initiative. This initiative fosters cooperation between federal Housing and Urban Development (HUD) and Health and Human Services (HHS) departments. During 2012, we attended and presented at the following:

- Housing Resources and Access to Housing for Transitioning Individuals to Community Living Seminar
 - Conducted workshop for New Jersey MFP program for Community Living contract on housing resources for person transitioning from institutions
 - Presented with Technical Assistance Collaborative and New Editions Consulting, Inc.
 - Provided training on housing resources, how to access housing resources, supporting consumers in meeting responsibilities of tenancy and housing advocacy
- HHS-HUD Capacity Building Initiative for Community Living Regional Meeting-Dallas Texas
 - Facilitated small group discussions
- HHS-HUD Capacity Building Initiative for Community Living Regional Meeting-Seattle, Washington
 - Facilitated small group discussions
 - Contributed “From a Nursing Home to a Home of One’s Own” for small group activity

- HHS-HUD Housing Capacity Building Initiative for Community Living, Federal Headquarters Training
 - Coordinated “Consumer Perspectives: Transitions to Housing in the Community—Challenges and Solutions” training
 - One of The Center’s Living at Home participants spoke

The Coordinating Center is a member of the Maryland Partnership for Affordable Housing Advisory Committee. The partnership is responsible for developing the infrastructure, including coordination of services and supports between agencies, as well as an efficient and timely unit referral system, all of which are required to implement the Section 811 Project Rental Assistance (PRA) option in Maryland. The Center began preliminary work on developing content for the 811 PRA Training Guide for Case Managers.

PERSONAL STORIES

Family Maintains “Normal Life”



While Janet’s new born son was a patient at Kennedy Krieger Institute, a nurse often spoke to her about the Model Waiver Program. “I kept telling her I had insurance and I didn’t need it,” she said. “Finally, I took the information to get her off my back.” Four years later, Janet is so very grateful for that nurse and

the Model Waiver Program.

Janet’s third son, Luke, was born with paralyzed vocal chords and problems with his diaphragm. After 17 days in the NICU, Luke came home on oxygen. His time at home was short. Within 10 days, he was admitted to the hospital for low levels of oxygen. On May 18, 2009, Luke received a tracheostomy tube. “We thought he would maybe have it for a year,” Janet said. “Instead this stupid piece of plastic turned our lives upside down.”

Luke has undergone four surgeries. He has spent months in the hospital. Common colds would sometimes be debilitating. But through it all, Janet, her husband, George, Luke and her two older sons were able to maintain a normal life thanks to family, friends and the Model Waiver program. “I



always said we were going to continue to live our lives as normal as possible and we did,” she said. “Luke went to preschool just like any three-year-old. The only difference is a nurse went with him.”

Exactly four years to the day when Luke had his trach inserted, it was removed. “We have our lives back,” Janet said. “We are free from nurses. We are free from fearing. Luke feels free. We aren’t constantly on him.”

Advocacy Runs in the Family



The saying goes, “Good things come in small packages.” Laverne would have to agree. Her son, Brent, was born several months premature, weighing in at 1 pound, 13 ounces. He was a fighter then, just as he is now at the age of 23.

Brent has paraplegia with cerebral palsy and osteoporosis. But he has never let his physical conditions stop him from achieving his goals and fighting for his rights. Things were not always easy for Brent and Laverne. As Brent continued to grow, it became more difficult for Laverne to lift him from his wheelchair. Laverne sustained multiple injuries herself and instead of seeing his mother in pain, Brent sometimes slept in his wheelchair. The house they have lived in since 1995—an 890-square-foot rancher— isn’t accessible and doesn’t allow Brent to easily move around in his electronic wheelchair.

But Brent never complained. He never asked for anything. Instead, like his mother, he became an advocate for himself. “God put me and Brent together for advocacy,” Laverne said. She says he makes friends easily and openly shares his story. This has gotten him to where he is today.

Through his stories, community members began to reach out to Laverne and Brent. Neighbors would come by to help lift Brent. “This was hard for me to get used to,” Laverne said. “I don’t receive help well and I had to learn how to trust people.” She still hasn’t gotten used to the hammering and saw dust that is occurring in the back of her house. It is not the construction or the noise, but rather the generosity of the community that Laverne still cannot believe. A project organized by the Bethany Community Church, local community businesses and organizations are creating an addition on Laverne’s rancher for Brent. The new space will include a new bedroom, an accessible bathroom, a roll-in closet and the space to have a lift. Brent will be able to easily get in and



out of bed and allow him to use a gait walker. It will also give him his privacy and working space to compose his music—a passion of his.

At the age of 23, Brent has quite the resume. He has completed internships at NASA, University of Maryland and the Maryland Legislature. He was a People on the Go representative for the Arc of Prince George's County. He was the first to apply for President Obama's presidential internship program and was selected to volunteer for the Correspondence Office. He received his AA degree from Montgomery College in the spring of 2013 and started Bowie State University this fall with a major in music technology.

Brent says his mother always played music in the background when he was younger. By his teenage years, Brent took a real interest in music and enjoys listening to an array of musicians including Luther Vandross and Bob Marley. "I find comfort in music and there is always something for whatever type of mood you are in," Brent said.

Within a few weeks, Brent will be enjoying his new space. He is already thinking about how he will decorate it. While Brent knows the details of the addition, he will not see it until it is complete. "I can't wait to see it and have my own space," he said.



A New Outlook on Life

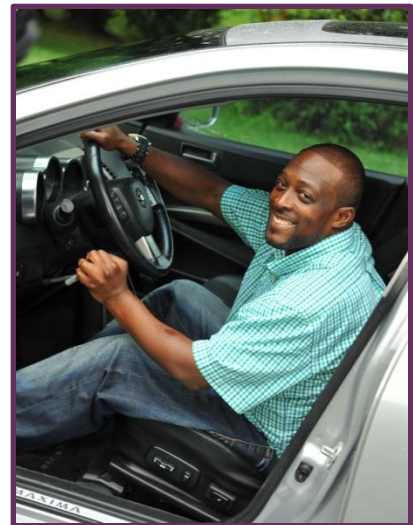


Antonio had turned his life around. He was staying out of trouble and setting goals for himself. At the age of 27, he had his whole life in front of him. Then in a split second, his life changed. He found himself lying in an alley, with a bullet wound, bleeding and unable to move.

“I did what I knew—I prayed. It was the first thing that came to mind,” Antonio said. “I was determined to keep a positive outlook. I thought things could not end this way.”

Luckily, they did not! A neighbor taking out the trash found Antonio and got him the medical attention he so desperately needed. Paralyzed from the waist down, he spent his late 20s in nursing homes. “I thought I was too young to be in a nursing home,” Antonio said.

While at Kernan Hospital (now University of Maryland Rehabilitation and Orthopaedic Institute), Antonio formed a special relationship with Gwen, one of his therapists. “She was exactly what I needed,” he said. She helped me be open and talk more and I learned to give people a chance.” Antonio started going to church with Gwen on a regular basis. He went with her to different nursing homes to talk to young people who were in similar situations, as he. “I found it to be very therapeutic for me, too,” he said.



In 2005, the Living at Home Waiver program allowed Antonio to leave a nursing home for good. Gwen and her family graciously opened up their home to him. “Gwen gave me balance, a better way of living,” Antonio said. “My whole demeanor and outlook on life changed.”

Antonio learned to drive again using hand controls. He often participates in outdoor activities, including kayaking, skiing and riding roller coasters. “I don’t limit myself,” he said. “Don’t think just because I am in a wheel chair, I can’t do anything.” Antonio

says he could be angry or feel sorry for himself, but he doesn't. "I met Gwen, a wonderful person. I am here. I am blessed."

His positive attitude expands beyond his home, family and friends. He is a certified mentor and works for several organizations, sharing his story and helping young adults get out of nursing homes and into their own homes. Antonio says a good support system is key. "You think you are not good enough, you are not worthy," he said. "You need someone to say 'You can do this. You don't see it, but I do.'" For Antonio, that someone was Gwen.

Antonio loves mentoring and what he gets out of the experiences, as well. He remembers when a young man told him, "I am getting myself together because of you and what you said to me." Antonio said that comment really touched him and he now realizes the difference he is making in the lives of others.



PROGRAMS BY THE NUMBERS

Model Waiver Program - designed to avoid costly long term hospitalization of children with complex medical needs and disabilities by providing medically necessary supportive services in the home.	216 participants
Rare and Expensive Care Management Programs (REM) - provides integrated coordination of services for individuals with specialized health care needs, which have been defined as rare in occurrence and expensive to treat.	1,463 participants
Living at Home Program - designed to transition individuals, who wish to live in their community, from nursing facilities to their own homes. It is also intended to assist people, who are at risk for nursing home placement, in locating support services they need to remain in their homes.	113 participants
Autism Waiver Program – supports eligible children with Autism Spectrum Disorder to receive waiver services to keep them in their homes and communities.	154 participants
Infants and Toddlers - available to children who are participating in either the REM or Model Waiver programs and who live in Baltimore City, Baltimore County or Prince George’s County.	28 participants
Amerigroup Case Management Program - designed to assist participants in accessing appropriate services to optimize health and to avoid hospitalizations or other disruptions to their care in the community.	246 participants
Opting for Independence Program - helps older adults find community resources to age in the home or residence of choice, avoiding inappropriate facility placement.	117 participants
Take a Break Program – in partnership with the Anne Arundel County Infants and Toddlers Program, The Coordinating Center offers Anne Arundel County families and caregivers the opportunity to “take a break” through a unique respite care program.	27 participants
Leap Program - The Coordinating Center is a community partner of the HSC Foundation’s LEAP program to assist young people who have special needs by providing funding for an item or service.	9 nominations

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION

September 30, 2012

	2012	2011
Assets		
Cash	\$ 1,917,396	\$ 1,757,754
Investments	1,269,192	2,005,868
Accounts Receivable - Net		
Model Waiver	103,000	102,000
REM	278,885	261,060
LAH	387,284	424,189
Other	460,369	588,961
Prepaid Expenses	126,510	104,754
Building Acquisition Costs	3,644,352	117,171
Property and Equipment - Net	336,058	349,278
Deposits	4,980	4,980
Total Assets	<u>\$ 8,528,026</u>	<u>\$ 5,716,015</u>
Liabilities		
Accounts Payable	\$ 55,612	\$ 25,244
Payroll Liabilities Payable	23,024	21,422
Accrued Wages, Benefits and Expenses	894,270	869,624
Accrued 403(b) Matching Contribution	32,413	37,302
Lease Payable - Equipment	16,506	-
Note Payable - Building	2,520,000	-
Deferred Income	2,186	5,867
Total Liabilities	<u>3,544,011</u>	<u>959,459</u>
Net Assets		
Unrestricted	4,969,425	4,737,597
Temporarily Restricted	14,590	18,959
Total Net Assets	<u>4,984,015</u>	<u>4,756,556</u>
Total Liabilities and Net Assets	<u>\$ 8,528,026</u>	<u>\$ 5,716,015</u>

See independent auditors' report and accompanying notes.

The Family Resource Fund

The Family Resource Fund assists The Coordinating Center's individuals and families with critical needs that cannot be met in any other way. Access to a crucial service item can make the difference in a family's ability to care for a family member with complex health care needs. When The Coordinating Center cannot provide direct help, we assist families in locating other resources in the community. In 2012, The Center served provided \$7,718.46 to 43 program participants through the Family Resource Fund.

To make a donation to the Family Resource Fund, call 410-987-1048 or visit <http://www.coordinatingcenter.org/make-a-coordinating-center-donation/>.



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The organization is certified under the Maryland Association for NonProfits' Standards for Excellence.



The Center is nationally accredited by URAC under the Case Management Program.