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### Looking to get involved?

Are you an active person who likes to get involved in causes? HMEA is looking for family members, volunteers and friends to join a few of our special committees, such as...

- the Annual Golf Committee,
- The Annual Independence 5K "Walk /Run in the Park" Committee,
- The Development Committee, and/or
- The 45th Anniversary Gala Committee.

For more information on how you can get involved please contact Doug MacPherson, VP of Development and Public Relations at HMEA, 508-528-8635 x288. ■

### Do YOU have a good story to share about your experience with HMEA?

Take a few moments to write us a good story about support you or a family member may have received at HMEA. Or, about a staff who made a difference in your life. Then mail it to The Development Department at HMEA or submit it to [dmacpherson@hmea.org](mailto:dmacpherson@hmea.org). ■

### A Heartfelt Thank You!

We want to take this opportunity to say THANK YOU to all of our friends and supporters who helped make HMEA's 2005 Fiscal Year a tremendous success. Whether you participated in or supported our Golf Tournament, The Independence 5K Walk/Run or contributed to one of our funds, your valuable generosity is greatly appreciated and we are proud to call you **OUR FRIEND!**

**Have a healthy and enjoyable summer!**

### Want your HMEA information faster? Have HMEA's Newsletter e-mailed to you

Your time is valuable, so why not let HMEA e-mail you this newsletter! Simply send your name and e-mail address to [hmea@hmea.org](mailto:hmea@hmea.org) and start getting your HMEA information fast and efficiently — AND you'll be helping HMEA save money — e-mail us TODAY! ■



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Summer 2005



Standing from left to right are members of the Maynard family who gathered for the day; Linda, Michael, Eli, Helen and sitting: niece Stephanie, Steven, niece Michelle and, Susan.

## After 40 years...a family reunites

Remembering stories of the last time they saw each other, when they were just children, members of the Maynard family spent an afternoon together for the first time in nearly a generation earlier this summer. House Manager, **Robyn Heroux** coordinated the family gathering at an HMEA home in Franklin along with her staff, the Maynard family and Wrentham Developmental Center, which reunited the family after nearly forty years.

Two of the family members, Susan and Eli, used to live together at Wrentham Developmental Center where Robyn had worked since 1981 prior to coming to HMEA. While at Wrentham, Robyn worked with both Susie and Eli Maynard and an ongoing friendship was started that has lasted to this day. It was this relationship and her discovery that other members of the Maynard clan had not been together for nearly 40 years that led Robyn to strive for a Maynard gathering. With the persistent help of Susie and Eli's brother Michael and his wife Helen, the idea for a reunion was formed.

A lot of time and effort went into coordinating this overdue reunion, which meant contacting Wrentham Developmental Center where Eli still lives, Alternative Inc. where brother Steven receives supports and other family members who come from the area, and finally the date was set!

They all knew each other so well. It was remarkable at how well they conversed, and just as comfortable alongside one another as they "caught up" after all these years... and the resemblances were obvious, this was a family that although they were not kept together, were strongly united in their love for each other. Before leaving at the end of the day birth dates and addresses were shared to keep the communication ongoing until then next reunion.

As Robyn reflected back on the day "I feel so honored to have been a part of this special day in Maynard history." ■

## ■ Cisco \$5,000 Grant Brings Work Place Mentor to HMEA

*Helping People with disabilities get the right job!*

Beginning this July a new and innovative program called WorkPlace Mentor from The Vocational Research Institute in Philadelphia will be used to help individuals in the five Employment programs at HMEA achieve more satisfactory job placements and success in retaining the right job, thereby giving each participant an increased opportunity for success and fulfillment. WorkPlace Mentor is a comprehensive system for planning and conducting community based assessments and attaining gainful employment for individuals with special needs or limited work histories. The program focuses on a six step process.

- Job Analysis
- Consumer profile
- Profile matching and assessment planning
- Observations & Strategies
- Summary & Priorities
- Individual Plan design

According to Kevin Salera, Director of Employment, "This program will have a profound impact on the 163 individuals we support in the Employment programs here at HMEA, and ultimately we will see the success in the job matching and retention for the people we support." ■

## ■ 11th Annual HMEA/Jack Nicolas Golf Tournament Set for August 1st at Charter Oak Country Club

The 2005 HMEA Golf Tournament has moved to a new (4years young) private course in Hudson, Massachusetts. The Robert Trent Jones Jr. designed course takes full advantage of the beautiful, rustic, New England woods landscape and is sculpted out to offer a fun and challenging round of play.

The Tournament traditionally sells out and is always a fun-filled day with plenty of good food and prizes and a lively raffle, and both a live and silent auction. Proceeds from the tournament go directly to benefit the programs and individuals supported by HMEA.

Register TODAY — visit [www.hmea.org](http://www.hmea.org) and follow the links to the registration/sponsorship forms, or call (508) 528-8635, ext. 228 or ext. 288 for more information. ■

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### Newsletter Staff

Douglas MacPherson, *VP of Development & PR*

Linda Conley, *Special Events & Projects Coordinator*

Contributing Editor(s): Michelle Bellerose, Michele Mayer

## ■ HMEA Staff Present at National and International Conferences

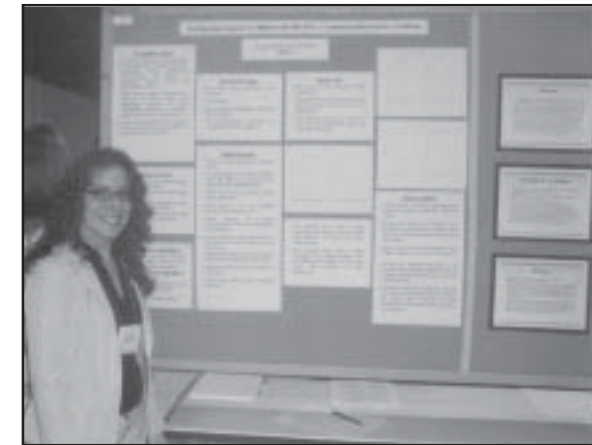
Recently HMEA has been well represented on the national and international level for panel and workshop presentations. "We are pleased and proud to see the accomplishments and expertise of staff recognized by invitation to speak at prestigious conferences." – **Mike Moloney**, HMEA CEO



John Boisseau, CDDN is HMEA's Health Education

The first conference was the Developmental Disabilities Nursing Association National Conference, which was held in Columbus, Ohio in early May. The conference brings over 500 nurses together from across the country who are supporting individuals with developmental disabilities. HMEA's Health Education Coordinator, **John Boisseau**, CDDN (*Certified Developmental Disabilities Nurse*) presented "Today's Faces Tomorrow's Future". This focused on the methods of improving communication between nurses and an increasingly diverse direct support workforce in order to make the delivery of care as efficient and effective as possible. Mr. Boisseau's message to his audience was "...*treat each person as an individual rather than as part of a group, and respect the differences of each person.*"

In mid-May staff from the Children's Services Division and the Adult Services Division attended the International Applied Behavioral Analysis (ABA) Conference in Chicago. The conference focused on recent trends and research in the field of ABA. Symposia and workshops at which the seven recently Board Certified Behavior Analysts and other staff from HMEA presented included; *Treatment Integrity in Early Intervention Behavioral Science*, (**Stacey Considine, Sandy Beaton and Jan Bolton**); *Achieving Fluent Responses in Children*



Jolene Renaud with her presentation "Teaching Sign Language to Children with PDD"

with Disabilities, (**Kara Muirhead**); *Strategies for Improving Accuracy and Retention of Physical Crisis Intervention Techniques*, (**Sue O'Shea, Rob Shapiro and Lori Piniarski**); and *Using Sonic Feedback to Enhance Task Accuracy and Efficiency*, (**Rob Shapiro**). Also **Jolene Renaud** did a poster presentation titled "Teaching Sign Language to Children with PDD" (Pervasive Developmental Disorders).

Finally, **Ben Mbwambo** from the Sterling Day Habilitation program participated in a panel discussion at a state wide conference titled "The Art of Retaining a Cross Cultural Workforce." The conference was sponsored by the Institute for Linguistic and Cultural Skills, and The Consortium. The panel discussion focused on perspectives of both supervisors and direct support workers in a multi-cultural employment setting.

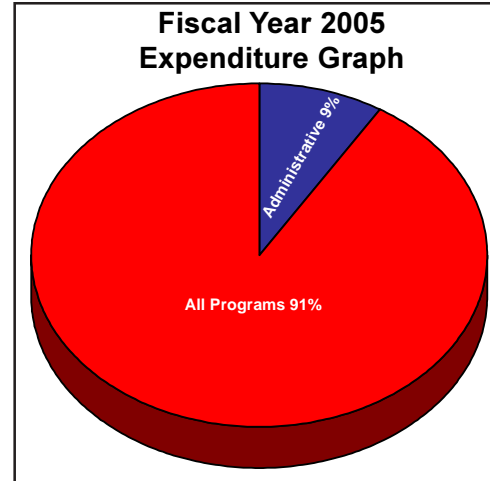
Each year, HMEA continues to look for opportunities to share the best practices in conferences and workshops throughout the nation. This past year focused on diversity and workforce development, and diagnosis and program design for children with autism. ■

## ■ HMEA Welcomes New Homes, New People

Recently HMEA welcomed 12 individuals in three new homes in Southeastern Massachusetts. The homes located in Westport and Swansea come as a result of South Shore Mental Health Inc.'s decision to streamline it's focus of programs. In addition to the 12 individuals living in the homes, 24 staff were also welcomed. Jule Gomes Noack, VP Residential Services said, "This is a wonderful opportunity for these individuals and staff to become part of a great organization that has been supporting individuals with developmental disabilities since 1961." This brings the total number of homes supported by HMEA to 35 covering 23 towns in central and Southeastern Massachusetts. ■

## ■ YOU helped make Dreams Come True

The HMEA 2005 Fiscal Year Annual Drive was completed on June 30th and thanks to everyone who made a gift to the Annual Fund between July 1, 2004 and June 30, 2005, many individuals received financial support or medically necessary items, which otherwise would not be available to them. Your donation made it possible for HMEA to purchase orthopedic shoes for a lady we support since her Medicaid no longer covered this expense. One of our residences had some much needed landscaping done to enhance the home of the four people we support who live there. Your donation also helped several people experience a vacation and community inclusion trips, all in an effort to help them "reach out for independence." As you can see *your donations go where they are most needed!*



We take this opportunity to list and **THANK** all our contributors to this past year's Annual Appeal...

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Chris Brown (front center) from The Natural Choice, shared her knowledge of Vegan food prep and storage with staff from HMEA in Attleboro from left to right: Nancy Enos, Pam McGill, Kerry Riessen, Kathy Bordieri, Anne Carine.

## ■ HMEA and The Natural Choice

Recently, Chris Brown, proprietor of The Natural Choice Food Co. delivered some unique and practical information to developmentally disabled individuals living in Attleboro. One of the individuals is a strict vegetarian and she, along with staff and other individuals living in the comfortable group home spent a day with Chris learning how to prepare and store food for a healthy Vegan lifestyle. Chris also left informative literature for the staff and the families of the people at the home who are supported by HMEA.

According to **Susan Haberlin**, R.N. Sr. Medical Coordinator at HMEA, "Vegan is really nothing new in the world, it's just that people with developmental disabilities must be offered the same choices and opportunities to live a life style that they would like and that is consistent with their family values. This was an opportunity for one person in particular and a group of staff to learn about Vegan food preparation and storage so that they can then share it with others."

The staff who attended come from six Attleboro area towns and their involvement with this program now puts them in a unique position to offer vegan meals to many other individuals/staff at HMEA.

For information on The Natural Choice Food Co., or how a Vegan lifestyle might benefit you and your family please contact Susan Haberlin at HMEA at (508) 528-8635, ext. 281

## ■ 4th Annual Independence 5K "Walk/Run in the Park" brings families and friends together

Although the weather did not fully cooperate, the spirits and enthusiasm of more than 500 participants were not dampened. As the day broke the weather was a little overcast, but this did not stop families and their loved ones from coming out to be part of what has become the HMEA signature event, **The Independence 5K Walk/Run**. It is an event that has made many dreams come true for the 1200 children and adults supported by HMEA.

In addition to the families, many HMEA staff came out in support of the event along with the individuals who live and work in the programs they run. Joining this large group of supporters was the business community who stopped by to enjoy the day's events, many of whom also donated goods or services or generously made a cash donation...ALL of which goes directly back to the programs.

Of special note were the walking teams of Gates Lane under the captainship of Children's staffer, **Heidi Warren**. With over 22 walkers this motivated team alone brought in over \$2000! West Boylston Team raised over \$1000 and numerous other HMEA Teams came out in force to participate in the event, including; Bellingham Day Hab, Hopedale Employment, Maynard Street, Bellingham Employment, Team McGregor, Sterling Day Hab, 16 Foster Street, 427 Sutton Street, and Raynham Office Children's Team. According to Mike Moloney, HMEA's CEO "This day is one of my favorite days. People from all walks of HMEA life come together to share in the event and to accomplish personal goals, whether it's running 5K, walking 5K, or volunteering, it is great to see everyone connecting out there."

Proceeds from this event over the past four years have gone to support individuals with the purchase of medically necessary items such as prescription eye-glasses, along with many recreational activities such as community trips and vacations...helping make the dreams of people supported by HMEA come true.

See center page spread for exciting pictures of the day's event. ■

**MARK YOUR CALENDAR...**  
**HMEA's 5th Annual Independence 5K**  
**"Walk/Run in the Park"**  
**Sunday, May 21, 2006!**

# HMEA's 4th Annual Independence 5K Walk/Run in the Park Thank You to All...

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