



# Chat Plus



## Inspirational, Heartwarming Story from one of our own employees

February 2009 Volume 2

Three years ago, Carla Mortimer joined the Cerebral Palsy Staff as our receptionist for the new Appleton Branch office. Carla brings many talents to the organization which include her typing skills, creativity, determination and her radiant smile. In her spare time, Carla loves to sew, which included wedding dresses, and clothes for her 3 year old granddaughter.

In 2000 Carla's life took a sudden change. Due to a medical situation, she slipped into a coma for over two months. She lost circulation to her fingers on both hands only to discover they would need to be amputated. Soon after having her fingers amputated, she suffered congestive heart failure and was flown to a hospital in Madison for open heart surgery.

Carla is not a person who gives up easily. She was very resourceful in getting help which included Goodwill Industries and working with Jim Lain, CEO of Employ-Ability in Appleton, who trains people with disabilities and assists them in finding jobs. Using a modified keyboard Carla is able to type and navigate through the computer.

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Living in a two story apartment, not designed for one with disabilities presented so many challenges. After falling down the stairs and injuring herself, Deb Wirth, Cerebral Palsy's Certified Occupational Therapy Assistant and Toy Lending Specialist, recommended Carla apply for a new home through Habitat for Humanity. Together completing all the paperwork, her application was submitted and after much anticipation, she received word she was a candidate. With the help of volunteers, Deb Wirth and family, Grand Chute Kiwanians, family and friends, her home was built and a dream became reality. Carla moved into her new home on December 15th.

When talking to Carla and all that has happened to her this year, candidly she summed it up:

***"I believe God was not ready to take me to his home, but was going to make the remaining time on this earth a little more comfortable thanks to Habitat for Humanity and all the wonderful volunteers. Thank you to all who helped make this a reality!"***



**Social Development**

**Santa and Mrs. Claus  
Come to Oshkosh!!**

A Holiday party at the Marine Corps League Club House in Oshkosh, which included lunch, Bingo and arrival of Santa and Mrs. Claus to hand out gifts to over 80 participants and helpers.



**Completion of our Wautoma House  
Recreational Building.**

Our much needed building was completed this year to store our vehicles and provide an indoor space for consumers to get exercise through play during these cold winter months.



**Toy Lending Library (and Equipment)**

A child with a physical disability may need modifications or adapted toys in order to interact with the environment creatively, emotionally and intellectually. Toys are available for children and their families through our Certified Occupational Therapy Assistants who work closely with families in choosing toys that will be both fun to play with and assist in building motor and sensory skills.

We are always looking for new or gently used electronic toys that can be adapted; toys that can be used with computers and technology of today; any sensory stimulation due to large number of autistic children in the area.

**Please contact our office for any donations to our Toy Lending Library.**

Summer is around the corner and we have low riders, side by side and special bikes to lend out, so sign up today to reserve a time to use these bikes. Call Cerebral Palsy at 920-424-4071 or 1-800-261-1895.

**Counties Served**

- Adams
- Calumet
- Fond du Lac
- Green Lake
- Marquette
- Outagamie
- Waupaca
- Waushara
- Winnebago

In 2008, Cerebral Palsy of Mideast Wisconsin provided services to 1,066 Consumers through out the nine counties.

## Cerebral Palsy of Mideast Wisconsin

## Volunteer Time and Charitable Donation

**Cerebral Palsy of Mideast Wisconsin** is filled with opportunities for people who want to become involved in an organization who prides itself on providing quality support and services to individuals and families.

If you are age 70½ or older, only through 2009, you can benefit Cerebral Palsy of Mideast Wisconsin because of the 2008 Rollover Act signed by President Bush. You can transfer any amount up to \$100,000 from your IRA to Cerebral Palsy of Mideast Wisconsin without incurring any federal income tax. Please call us with any questions or comments at 1-800-261-1895 or 920-424-4071

## FEBRUARY IS CEREBRAL PALSY OF MIDEAST WISCONSIN ANNUAL MAIL CAMPAIGN MONTH



A letter will be going out from our Honorary Chairperson, *Aaron Kampman* #74 Green Bay Packers and our Ambassador, *Judas Ticknor* asking you to consider making a contribution to our mail campaign.

We provide a wide variety of programs and services for those persons with special needs and their families.

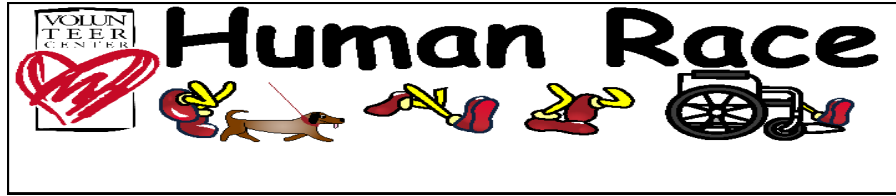
For example, with your donation last year we were able to provide:

- \* Out of Home Respite Care at the Oshkosh and Wautoma Houses to 157 families for 45,974 hours
- \* Toy & Equipment Lending Program to 208 individuals
- \* Residential Camp Sandy Wheels for two weeks to 63 individuals
- \* Family Support to 1,066 individuals who are disabled & families

When you make a contribution it stays locally and you can make a difference.

For more information on **our agency**, or to make your donation, please contact us at:

**Cerebral Palsy of Mideast WI**  
**P.O. Box 1241**  
**Oshkosh, WI 54903-1241**  
**920-424-4071**  
**[www.cpmideastwis.com](http://www.cpmideastwis.com)**



**What Is The Human Race?**

This is a unique opportunity for individuals, families and businesses to work together to raise money for our organization. Participants can collect pledges toward a 5k walk, 5k non-competitive run or one-mile walk held at Thrivent Financial for Lutherans on Ballard Rd. in Appleton and Menominee Park in Oshkosh.

**Who Benefits?**

As a participating nonprofit organization *Cerebral Palsy of Mideast Wisconsin* will receive 75% of the money collected and the Volunteer Center receives the remaining 25% for event coordination. If we collect more than \$5,000 our organization will receive 80% of the money collected with a chance to keep 90%.

**Who to Contact?**

Contact *Cerebral Palsy of Mideast Wisconsin* by calling 920-424-4071 or email [cp@cpmideastwis.com](mailto:cp@cpmideastwis.com) and ask for Lynnae Sievert to join our team and help raise money for our organization.

**Movin' Schools** is a FREE, program designed for individuals with a variety of disabilities and their friends and family to experience several different recreational activities. It is open to anyone school-age to adult. The UW-O Adapted Physical Education students will serve as the leaders of the activities offered each week under the on-site guidance of their advisor.

**Date, Time and Location:** Wednesdays, February 4, 2009 through May 6th from 6:30pm—8:00pm. There will be no program on March 25th and April 15th. North High School Field House, 1100 W. Smith Avenue, Oshkosh.

**Registration or More Information:**

Contact Oshkosh Recreation Department at **920-424-0150** or show up and register on-site.

**Cerebral Palsy Has Moved!**

Effective December 19, 2008, Cerebral Palsy moved within the Hooper Community Center, into the previously occupied American Red Cross location and Family Services moved into the Cerebral Palsy office. Our suite number remained #120. Stop in for a tour.

**In Appreciation**

**We greatly appreciate:**

- ◆ United Way Agencies
- ◆ Foundations
- ◆ Organizations
- ◆ Friends of Cerebral Palsy

All who help assist us in our many tasks, we thank you all.

**Wish Lists**

**Respite House-Oshkosh:**

- \* Living Room and Bedroom furniture

**Camp Sandy Wheels:**

- \* Specialized shower chair
- \* Portable Hoyer Lift

**Wautoma House:**

- \* Funds for park shelter

**IRISH FEST 5k**

**MAY 30, 2009**

Cerebral Palsy of Mideast Wisconsin will benefit from this event.

**WATCH FOR DETAILS!**



**Mission Statement:**

The mission of the corporation is to affect positively the quality of life for persons with severe disabilities, including, but not limited to cerebral palsy and the families with multiple service needs.

**Board of Directors– 2009:**

Ginger Beuk  
 Roger J. Birschbach  
 Vicky Bodin  
 Barbara Chesna  
 Andy Dumke  
 Valerie Gehrke  
 Phil Janes  
 Nicole N. Leiter  
 Beverly McCarthy  
 Jean Long Manteufel  
 Todd M. Miller  
 Todd A. Moely  
 Matthew Murphy  
 Jennifer Nicholson  
 Sandy Noe  
 E. Arthur Rehbein  
 Pat Seaman  
 Ritu Tannan  
 Cindy Tisinai  
 Pamela DeLap (Leadership Oshkosh)

**Officers:**

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**Sandy Noe**  
 1st Vice President  
**Matthew Murphy**  
 2nd Vice President  
**Jennifer Nicholson**  
 Treasurer  
**Ginger Beuk**  
 Secretary  
**Beverly McCarthy**  
**E. Arthur Rehbein**  
 Delegates-at-large to the Executive Committee  
**Todd M. Miller**  
 Immediate Past President  
**Judith K. Britton**  
 Executive Director

## VITA/TCE OFFERS FREE **TAX ASSISTANCE**

**VITA/TCE, The Volunteer Income Tax Assistance and Tax Counseling** for those with low income, persons with disabilities, and older taxpayers who file Form 1040EZ, Form 1040A, or a basic form 1040 Federal tax return.

Tax payers who visit the VITA/TCE sites should bring this year's tax package, wage and earnings statements (W-2 forms) from all employers, interest statements from banks (Forms 1099), a copy of last year's tax return if available, information on other income and deduction, Social Security cards for taxpayer and dependents. Those claiming home-stead credit should bring a rent certificate or copy of 2008 property tax bill.

**Goodwill Community Center**, 1800 Appleton Road, Menasha.  
 Mondays - Wednesdays from 1:00 pm to 6:00 pm  
 Sat. 8:00 am to 12:00 pm  
 In addition, during the month of February, they will be open on Thursdays from 1:00 pm to 6:00 pm  
 By appointment  
 Call: 920-962-6872

**Oshkosh Senior Center**  
 200 North Campbell Road  
 Tues: 12:30 pm to 4:00 pm  
 Wed-Thurs: 8:30 am to 3:30pm  
 By appointment only  
 Call: 920-232-5301

**Hooper Community Center**  
 36 Broad Street  
 Sat: 8:00 am to 4:30 pm  
 Wed-Thurs: 8:00 am-3:30pm  
 By appointment only  
 Call: 920-235-8560

**Oshkosh Public Library**  
 106 Washington Ave  
 Sat: 9:30 am to 12:00 pm  
 NO appointment required.  
 Paper file only





**Cerebral Palsy**  
of Mideast Wisconsin, Inc.  
Over 50 Years of Service  
**Serving All Disabilities**

NON-PROFIT  
ORG.  
U.S. POSTAGE  
**PAID**  
OSHKOSH, WI  
PERMIT NO. 280

36 Broad Street, Suite 120  
Post Office Box 1241  
Oshkosh, WI 54903-1241

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

**Remember us** when you are shopping at **Festival Foods**, mail or bring us your receipt by the 5th of the month and we will receive 1% of total purchase.  
**Pick 'n Save**, ask Customer Service to list us as your preferred agency.  
**Morton's Pharmacy**, ask Customer Service to list us as your preferred agency.  
Any **aluminum cans** can be dropped off at the Oshkosh Respite House for recycling.  
**Contact Cerebral Palsy for any additional information or questions.**

If you would like to receive this newsletter via e-mail, please forward your name, address and e-mail address to our new e-mail address: [cp@cpmideastwis.com](mailto:cp@cpmideastwis.com) - please update your e-mail contact list .



United Way Partner Agency .