

## Fun in the Sun! Summer Picnic



Our Picnic was held at Misty Meadows Campgrounds on July 12. The entertainment was provided by Allie. (pictured above)



Our consumers, their families, and our staff enjoyed dancing throughout the afternoon as they listened to their favorite pop and country songs. Food was prepared by Chef Bernie on the outdoor grill!



We appreciate all the parents, guardians, and volunteers that helped make this fun event possible!



From the desk of Barry....

At one of our regular staff meetings, the managers discussed the idea that having a newsletter would be a great form of communication among staff, consumers, and their families. We hope you will enjoy reading our updates and viewing our pictures. Please let us know your ideas and input for upcoming newsletters. ...And please feel free to share this newsletter with your friends and family.



## Opportunities for New Activities!

One of the most exciting endeavors that we have started this year is finding ways to participate in even more community and entertainment events. As you know, during rough economic times, it is difficult to attend events, and afford for caregivers to attend as well, but we are working at getting dona-

tions of free tickets, discounted tickets, or monetary donations to purchase tickets. Some of our consumers attended the Ottawa County Fair with complimentary tickets and we have some other events that we are working on for the fall/winter.

How can you help? Do you know of someone who could donate tickets to us? We would love to offer more and more ways for our consumers to participate in the community in many ways!



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Supports To Enhance Personal Skills  
A SUPPORTED LIVING PROVIDER AGENCY

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*STEPS to a brighter future!*



**About Us**

STEPS is a unique supported living provider agency that was founded in 2005. STEPS (Supports to Enhance Personal Skills) focuses on the needs of individual clients so that, step by step, an individual's personal skills are enhanced. We believe in quality, personal care. We have an experienced and caring staff who are trained to focus on education, community inclusion, and family involvement.

**Philosophy Statement**

We believe that the best way to serve our consumers is to remain a small and professional organization that focuses on the importance of communication and quality of services. We feel that it is essential to have clear, ongoing communication with individual consumers, their parents, guardians and members of the support team.

We support our consumers in their continuous growth through education in daily living, social skills, community awareness and in their right to make informed choices and decisions concerning their future. It is our philosophy to assist our consumers in community inclusion. We believe our clients should not just live in the community but feel that they are truly part of the community.

As advocates, we believe that we have a responsibility to positively influence barriers and obstacles that may limit the quality of our consumers' lives.

**Satisfaction Survey**

Your Opinion Matters to US!!



We care very much about your satisfaction, as consumers and family members. Therefore, we have recently revised our satisfaction surveys so we can get your feedback on a regular basis.

In addition to the consumer satisfaction surveys, guardians will also be given satisfaction surveys to complete and share with us all the ways we are doing well and the ways where we can serve you better.

**Annual Training**

The annual Direct Care/Teacher Training will take place **the first week of November at DaVinci's conference room in Fremont.**

Covering state requirements such as:

- Certification requirements
- Gentle teaching
- Confidentiality
- Incident Reporting
- Behavioral Supports
- MUI Rule

**Consumer Spotlight**



Meet Les Cunningham!  
He says, "I do not think of STEPS as my provider but as part of my real family!"

This summer Les has made the move from his trailer in Marblehead to a historical family home in Lakeside. Les has adjusted well to his new surroundings and is a fifth-generation "lakesider." Les continues to be very active in his Chautauqua community.

Les' sister, Pat, states that at his yearly family gatherings, Les talks about his direct care providers as being part of his family and has accepted STEPS as a true extension of his family.