



Marc of Excellence

Marc Center provides opportunities for people with disabilities to be actively involved in determining where and how they live, learn, work and play.

Marc Center of Mesa, Inc.

Summer 2007

Volume 11, Issue 1

Inside this issue:

Special Gifts	2
BHS Village East Grand Opening	2
Marc Employee Picnic	3
Letter of Appreciation	3
Employee Tenure Recognition	4
Marc Center Cookbook	5
Donate-A-Brick	6

Marc Breaks Ground for Vocational Training Facility



Mayor Keno Hawker, Penny Wolfswinkel, Chris Schneck, Randy Gray, Tom Mousel (MTV Construction), Vince DiBella (Saemisch DiBella Architects), and Lori Crawford break ground for the new vocational training facility while Rob Beck (MTV Construction) looks on..

Special points of interest:

- ◆ Marc Center breaks ground for the new vocational training facility.
- ◆ Grand Opening of BHS East Village Program and Outpatient Clinic.
- ◆ Marc Center Cookbook contains more than 200 recipes contributed by employees, board members, families and friends.

On June 11, 2007 Marc Center broke ground for the new vocational training facility. Approximately 100 people attended, including the media.

Remarks were offered by Chairman Chris Schneck; Mayor Keno Hawker; Penny Wolfswinkel; and Lori Crawford, a board member and consumer who will work in the new vocational building. Brad Perkinson provided the invocation.

Following formal remarks, everyone adjourned to an "official" breaking of ground with shovels and hard hats.



Chris Schneck addresses those gathered

Board of Directors

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Maynard Schneck

Knights of Columbus Present Donation to Marc Center

John Flores, Grand Knight and Jim Davis of Council 9485 Knights of Columbus presented Marc Center with a donation to be directed to our home-based program for children birth to three years of age. Many of the children who are served by Marc Center are too medically fragile to be transported to our agency for services and outpatient therapy. Funds raised by the Knights of Columbus allow Marc Center to send teachers and therapists into the home to work with these children and their families.



Left to right: John Flores, Randy Gray, James Davis

Behavioral Health Services



Brian Kotsur, 2nd Vice Chair, presided over the grand opening ceremony of the Behavioral Health East Village Program and Outpatient Clinic at 4250 East Florian Avenue on June 19, 2007. Diane Hough, Marc Center Board Member-at-Large, provided the invocation.

During the dedication, it was acknowledged that Marc Center has gained state-wide and national recognition for incorporating a strength-based model of recovery and using a hub approach (one-stop center that provides life skills training, family support, counseling, peer support, recreation, community integration and job services).

While BHS has only been in this facility since March, the facility has already achieved contract capacity in serving 100 people each month. The BHS team has been asked to speak at national conferences and the Veterans Administration has asked us to make a presentation in Washington D.C.

Remarks were offered by Vice Mayor Claudia Walters and Kim D., one of our program members.

As part of the ceremony, the community room was dedicated in memory of Don Jackson. This room will be called the Don Jackson Community Room and will be used to host social, educational and therapeutic activities, as well as pre-employment groups. This room is truly the heart and hub of activities and exemplifies Don's sense of vision.

Remarks were offered by Vice Mayor Claudia Walters and Kim D., one of our program members.

As part of the ceremony, the community room was dedicated in memory of Don Jackson. This room will be called the Don Jackson Community Room and will be used to host social, educational and therapeutic activities, as well as pre-employment groups. This room is truly the heart and hub of activities and exemplifies Don's sense of vision.



Ribbon Cutting



Don Jackson's Family

Marc Center

Marc Center employees and their families enjoyed this year's Employee Appreciation Picnic on Saturday April 21 at Mesa Riverview Park.

In addition to a delicious catered country BBQ lunch, everyone was able to enjoy face painting, bouncy castle, bungee run, fishing, live music, games and more.

One of the highlights was a raffle during which everyone received a prize.

The picnic is a celebration of



employees' hard work reaching goals and, most of all, togetherness.

Many thanks to the Human Resources staff for hosting this wonderful event. And, kudos to Maria Larsen, Marc Center's HR recruiter, for her hard work in coordinating all aspects of this day.



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Terry Wideman
Director/Community Day Services
(480) 222-3223

Barbara J. Smith-Odum
Executive Assistant
(480) 222-3210

The letter on the right was written by a Mercy Care consumer in sincere appreciation of the services she receives from Marc Center's vocational training program. This is what it is all about!

"If we had no winter, the spring would not be so pleasant; if we did not sometimes taste of adversity, prosperity would not be so welcome."

Anne Bradstreet

April 1, 07
To: Marc Center,
I thank you for changing my life and giving me a chance of a new life, and being so nice to me. I promise that I will work hard for your company and be a dedicated hard worker. I thank you for giving me a chance at a new beginning of life. Your organization is great.
Mary Lane

Marc Center Employees Recognized for Tenure

Committed, loyal employees are a company's greatest asset. They are at the heart of efficient business operations. Marc Center understands this and appreciates employee loyalty and commitment. Marc Center also believes that employee recognition is important. Letting workers know they are appreciated reflects Marc's pride in their hard work, dedication and tenure. Randy Gray and Pat Gilbert presented these employees their catalogs, congratulating and thanking them for their years of dedication to Marc Center.

15 YEARS

Sheila Davis - CLS

Dennis Harvan - CLS



10 YEARS

Amber Diego - CLS

Lisa Calhoun - CSS

Mary-Helen Garcia - ERS

Linda Minniear - CLS



Lisa Calhoun, Randy Gray, Christine Kouame



Randy Gray, Mariann Bushnell, Pat Gilbert

5 YEARS

Rhoda Amendola - ERS

Fantasia Arbuckle - CDS

William Baker - CLS

Mariann Bushnell - CLS

Norm Duve - IT

Monique Ekrisin - CLS

Sallee Hill—CLS

Christine Kouame - ERS

Valarie Munoz - CLS

Cindy Nollen - HRD

Dee Perrotta - ERS

Ramon Veleta - ERS

Sheila Wells - BHS



Randy Gray, Norm Duve, Linda Minniear, Sheila Wells, Cindy Nollen, Pat Gilbert



Pat Gilbert, William Baker, Randy Gray



Randy Gray, Amber Diego, Rhoda Amendola, Ramon Veleta, Mary Garcia, Dee Perrotta, Sallee Hill, Pat Gilbert



Randy Gray, Fantasia Arbuckle, Pat Gilbert



Sheila Davis, Dennis Harvan, Randy Gray, Valarie Munos, Monique Ekrisin

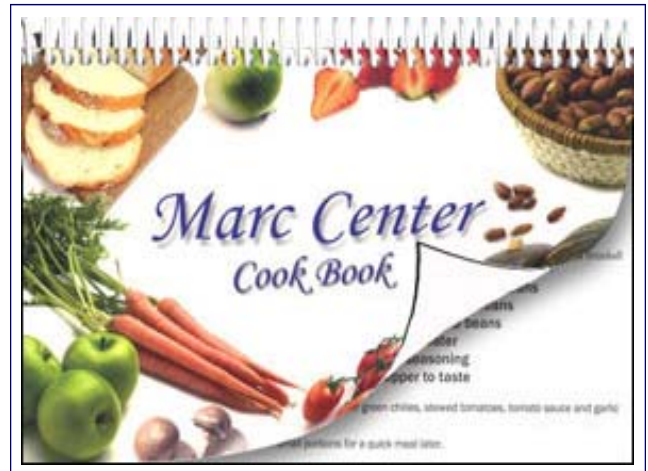


Marc Center Cookbook

Proceeds from the sale of this cookbook will be set aside to fund consumer activities.



After much anticipation, our cookbook has finally arrived! With more than 200 recipes contributed by employees, board members, families and friends, Marc Center's cookbook will be a wonderful addition to your kitchen library. The front and back covers can be used as an easel to display a recipe as you prepare the food. You will find recipes for everything from appetizers to desserts, such as Salmon-Nut Log, Spicy Pecans, Homemade Root Beer, Hobo Stew, Taco Soup, Carrot Salad, Fruit Salad, Broccoli Delight, Fettuccine Alfredo, Flank Steak Roulades, Linguini and Clam Sauce, Chocolate Cavity Maker Cake, Snowflake Pudding and more. [Are you hungry yet?] In addition to your own kitchen, this cookbook would make a great gift for family and friends.



Questions - Contact Barbara J. Smith-Odum at (480) 969-3800, ext 230.



Cookbook Order Form

Please send me _____ [quantity] at \$15.00 each. Total enclosed: \$ _____

Make checks payable to: **Marc Center**

Mail completed order form and check to:

Marc Center Cookbook · 924 North Country Club Drive · Mesa, Arizona 85201

Name: _____

Daytime Phone: _____

Address: _____

Evening Phone: _____

City/State/Zip: _____

Donate-A-Brick



Rendering of the Marc Center Vocational Training



Marc Center, a non-profit corporation in Mesa, Arizona, has been providing services to children and adults with disabilities since 1957. Our mission is "...to provide opportunities for people with disabilities to be actively involved in determining where and how they live, learn, work and play." Over the past 50 years, as a result of community support and strong volunteer leadership, Marc Center programs have grown from serving just 20 people to serving in excess of 3,600 people and their families each year.

With your support, Marc Center will soon begin a journey to last a lifetime. Become part of Marc Center by purchasing a brick engraved with a special message to be placed in the courtyard of the new vocational training facility scheduled for construction during 2007 at 924 North Country Club Drive in Mesa. The first *Donate-A-Brick* fundraiser produced a beautiful display (see photos) that sits in front of the Dustin D. Wolfswinkel Rehabilitation Center. You may want to consider a brick in honor or memory of a loved one, a brick for your family, or even one for each of your children. You may prefer an inspirational message or a brick to commemorate a special event or accomplishment.

Bricks are available in two sizes with replicas of each available if full size has been purchased:

Small (4 x 8) Brick - \$50.00	Replica of Small Brick (1-1/2 x 3) - \$15.00
Large (8 x 8) Brick - \$100.00	Replica of Large Brick (3 x 3) - \$25.00

Your brick will become a permanent part of our Commemorative Walkway for the future.



- Please **PRINT** your message on the order form **EXACTLY** as you would like it to appear on the brick.
- The number of characters per line, including spaces and punctuation, cannot to exceed 20 characters.

Brick Order Form

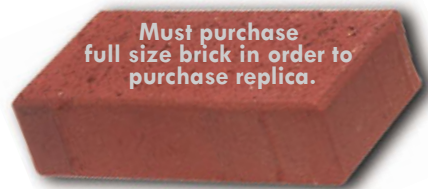
Your contribution will be used to fund the programs offered at Marc Center and is tax deductible to the extent allowed by law.

Make checks payable to: **Marc Center**

Mail your complete order form and check to: **Donate A Brick · Marc Center · 924 North Country Club Drive · Mesa, Arizona 85201**

Name: _____ **Daytime Phone:** _____
Address: _____ **Evening Phone:** _____
City/State/Zip: _____

Small (4 x 8) brick at \$50.00 each x _____ (qty) = \$ _____
 Small replica brick at \$15.00 each x _____ (qty) = \$ _____
 Large (8 x 8) brick at \$100.00 each x _____ (qty) = \$ _____
 Large replica brick at \$25.00 each x _____ (qty) = \$ _____



Total \$ _____

4 x 8 Brick • 3 lines / 20 characters and spaces each line

8 x 8 • 6 lines / 20 characters and spaces each line

Use separate sheet of paper if additional space is required.
 If you have questions, please call: Barbara J. Smith-Odum at (480) 969-3800, ext. 230.
 The full-size bricks will remain the property of Marc Center.
 Marc Center reserves the right to edit for content of engraving on each brick.

Marc Center of Mesa, Inc.

924 North Country Club Drive
Mesa, Arizona 85201

Phone: 480.969.3800

Fax: 480.644.1557



WE ARE LED BY THOSE WE SERVE

Visit Us on the Web!

www.MarcCenter.com



House Bill 2245—Good Faith Reliance Bill Passed

June 22, 2007

ARIZONA CAPITOL TIMES

Page 7

Minimum wage fix exempts developmentally disabled

By BILL COATES
bill.coates@azcapitoltimes.com

The president of a non-profit agency that employs people who are developmentally disabled urged the Senate Appropriations Committee to support a strike-all bill (H2245) specifically exempting companies like his from paying the state's new minimum wage.

Randy Gray, president and chief operating officer of Marc Center, told the committee June 18 that his company could be held liable for violating provisions of Prop. 202, as it currently stands.

Marc Center provides job training and jobs for some 500 people who are disabled.

"I've tried to advise our board about the risk," Gray said. "Should we shut down the work center? Do we send all of these folks home? Should they do to



PHOTO BY BILL COATES

day programs at a higher cost to the taxpayers? Or do we finally get it right and get this legislation passed today?"

Prop. 202 established a minimum wage

of \$6.75, but did not exempt companies and non-profits set up to provide work to people who are disabled — as does federal law. The Arizona Industrial Commis-

sion issued an executive order March 29 that provided such an exemption.

But Gray and others who employ the developmentally disabled said the executive order might not stand up in courts. In addition, the companies could be held liable for not paying the minimum wage between Jan. 1 — when the Prop. 202 took effect — and March 29.

The legislation would exempt employers who tried to comply with the administrative order in good faith, as well as make the exemption retroactive to Jan. 1.

Without objection, the committee sent the bill to the full Senate, which passed it 28-0 later that day — June 18. The House approved it 59-0 on June 19 and sent it the governor. Because the bill was amending a voter-approved initiative, it needed, and received, a three-fourth majority vote. ☐