

Annual Report to Sponsors

The Annual Sponsors Meeting and Luncheon was held on October 27, 2001, at the Best Western Maryland Inn in Laurel Maryland. Mindy Morrell, Community Policy Director for the Arc of Frederick County, was the guest speaker. She gave a very interesting presentation on Medical Decision Making. Marsha Carow, MTRC Chairman presented the following Annual Report as of October 1, 2001:

Walpert & Wolpoff, LLP completed the Audit of MTRC's financial records as of June 30, 2001. Their audit found "the financial position of MTRC as of June 30, 2001, and the results of its operations and changes in fund balances for the year then ended, in conformity with generally accepted accounting principles." Branch Banking & Trust Company (BB&T) manage MTRC's investments. Operating funds are obtained from the investment income and from undesignated donations. This past year, the Trustees have diligently reviewed MTRC's financial position.

Luanne Frebertshauser, RN, LSWA, MS, continues to work under a contractual arrangement as a consultant for MTRC. Case Managers, Minna Culiner, RN, Linda Heinsohn, and Marilyn Folus, provide services to the active clients and perform case management for the supplemental service contracts. Beverly Rill continues as the Director of Administration.

The MTRC membership totals 286 as of October 1, 2001. Of this number, 234 are vested (have completed their membership payment), 10 are part of the Original Trust which provided payment of the membership fee through a Will provision, and 42 are receiving active services due to the death of their sponsors. The deaths of 3 members have been reported to MTRC since October 2000. Two applications for membership have been approved and have become vested members.

During the spring and summer of this year, written requests were sent to every family to update their Family Information File and complete the Care Plan. This process enabled our staff to update the database with correct information.

Sponsors who have not responded by mail will be receiving telephone calls this winter requesting the information.

The active members are in the process of being visited by either a Volunteer or one of the MTRC Case Managers. Written assessments are sent to the closest relative, trustee, or guardian for their review and follow up instructions. The Shrine of the Sacred Heart in Baltimore once again donated Christmas presents which were either mailed or hand delivered to the active members.

MTRC continues to offer educational information to its families regarding care plans, estate planning, financial planning, and resources to contact for services. Support for siblings is available through the Sibling Support Group. Visits, attendance at planning meetings, and concentrated services performed by the MTRC professionals are billed on a fee for service basis through the Supplemental Services program.

The MTRC program continues to be governed by a volunteer Board of Trustees. Trustees serving during the Fiscal Year 2001 included: Marsha S. Carow, Chairman; James A. Kushel, Treasurer; Christine Rykiel, Secretary; Dorothy Baranauskas; Shirley Carson, Jeffrey Dahlka, Sr.; Louise Michaux Gonzales, Esquire; Joan Koloblielski; Donna Rae Smith; and Harvey W. Yurow, Ph.D. There are presently eleven trustees on the board serving staggered 3-year terms. Donna Rae Smith and Christine Rykiel's terms expired July 1, 2001. Harvey Yurow resigned his position. Colleen Sinclair Prosser, Esquire; Kim Knapp; and William D. Ward were elected for 3-year terms effective July 1, 2001. Officers elected to lead the MTRC board effective July 1, 2001, are Marsha S. Carow, Chairman; James A. Kushel, Treasurer; and Patty Wolfe, Secretary.

The Trustees constantly search for individuals from different professions who are willing to serve on the board or act as support for the various board committees.

Respectfully submitted,
Marsha S. Carow
Chairman/Trustee, FY2002

SPECIAL NEWS FOR SIBLINGS
By Joan Koloblielski,
MTRC Trustee and
Sibling Project Facilitator

SIBLINGS, FAMILIES - IT IS HERE FOR US
ON THE INTERNET

Now we can stay in touch with brothers and sisters whose siblings are developmentally disabled from all over the USA. This free non-commercial and confidential list serve on Yahoo was created by a renowned leader in the area of family needs of the handicapped, Donald Meyer. Try it to get ideas, advice, and support. Although I am a parent of my 50-year-old daughter, Christine, I have belonged for many years and love it. One of my sons is also an active participant in the list serve. Currently to get on this list serve go to

SibNet-subscribe@yahoogroups.com.

The Arc will be carrying this contact some time in the future on its site at <http://www.thearc.org>.

For those of you who receive the Arc's newsletter, Volume 51, No. 4 of the Arc of the United States' newsletter, "inSight", carried a fantastic article on page 30 by Donald Meyer titled, Meeting the Unique Concerns of Brothers and Sisters of Children with Special Needs. The article listed suggestions for parents and service providers to minimize siblings' concerns and maximize their opportunities.

If you have any questions about this service or other sibling issues, you can contact me by calling the MTRC office at 410-876-1836, or 1-800-323-9407, where you can leave a message when I can reach you, or

you can email me at my new address, joank40@comcast.net.

The MTRC program would benefit greatly by having a sibling join our Board of Trustees. Don't be shy. If you are interested in learning more about the duties of the board members, call the MTRC office. Or, if you know of someone who would be a good candidate for the board, pass the information on, or call us. The Board meets the fourth Tuesday of each month at the BARC Resource Building in Towson, Maryland.

Looking forward to hearing from you.

MTRC WEB SITE

By Kim Knapp, MTRC Trustee

If you haven't visited the MTRC website in awhile, check it out. It has now been revised with updated information in a new format, which makes it somewhat easier to navigate. Additional pictures, committee news, and related links will be added in the upcoming months.

Takes a few minutes and log onto the MTRC site at <http://www.netcom.com/-mtrc/mtrc.html>. The site is there for you - the membership - to use. If there is anything you would like to see added to the site, please use the email account at the site and send us your thoughts and suggestions.

MTRC JOINS MCADD

MTRC is very honored to announce that it has become a member of the Maryland Coalition for Aging and Developmental Disabilities (MCADD). This group is led by Connie Urquhart of DDA and meets monthly at the Center for Progressive Learning office. MCADD plans and conducts many activities that include: publishing a Quarterly newsletter, coordinating conferences, and providing training on aging issues. It is dedicated to ensuring that aging individuals with developmental disabilities have diverse opportunities, as they grow older. Members of the MCADD include state and community agencies providing services to people with developmental disabilities, resource coordinators, organizations providing senior services and community health related supports, and advocates.

Services for individuals with developmental disabilities are shifting to address the changes associated with aging. Services for older people will need to address the typical concerns of older people including the option to retire or to work part-time, the ability to remain at home as long as possible, and the opportunity for continued participation in the community through leisure, social, and volunteer activities.

For more information about the MCADD, call the MTRC office at 410-876-1836, or 1-800-323-9407.

MTRC WELCOMES

NEW BOARD MEMBER

It is with great pleasure that MTRC announces the addition of WILLIAM D. WARD to the MTRC Board of Trustees. Bill was elected to the Board in September 2001. He has recently retired from his position as Vice President and Chief Investment Officer for Baltimore Life Company. Bill brings his wealth of financial knowledge to the board and has graciously accepted a position on the Finance Committee.

Bill received his Masters in Business Administration from the University of Illinois and became a Chartered Financial Analyst in 1976. He is a board member at his church in Towson and lives in the Owings Mills area.

Please join us in welcoming Bill to the MTRC Board.

DID YOU KNOW?

People with developmental disabilities are living longer. Our challenge is to see that they are able to enjoy the years. It is a well-documented fact that seniors who are physically fit have fewer medical problems. Walking is the most common, most easily practiced, and best form of everyday exercise for most people. Walking is easy on the joints and your wallet. Walking improves circulation and lowers blood pressure. Walking strengthens bones. Walking briskly for 30 minutes at least 3 times per week can help you sleep better and relieve depression. Try it - you'll like it.

FIRST ANNUAL

SERVICE PROVIDER AWARD

By Colleen Sinclair Prosser, Trustee

There are angels among us . . .

Many times we encounter those who have the capacity to go above and beyond to achieve the unachievable. These unique individuals perform from the heart, not for personal gain, but to make a difference. Most of the time, their actions of selflessness go unrecognized - except to those whose lives are impacted and changed forever.

Each of us has had cause to observe those we consider commendable in this regard, The Service Provider Award Program has been established to recognize those that perform in extraordinary ways.

Has there been a special Resource Coordinator, Service Provider, an advocate, or direct care staff person who has performed an outstanding service for your son, daughter, sibling, or friend this year? If so, nominate this person for the Service Provider Award by sending a brief summary to support your nomination including:

- * The name of the nominee
- * Relationship to the person with the disability
- * Name of employer
- * Special service that was performed.

Submit your nomination to MTRC at 180 Kriders Church Rd., Westminster, MD 21158, by June 30, 2002. MTRC will present the award at our annual meeting in October.