

P.E.P. Offers Day Program for Special Needs Children and Adults Moves to New Location in Livonia

LIVONIA, MICHIGAN – A program serving special needs children and adults recently has moved into its new quarters in Livonia and is now unpacked and fully operating.

The Personal Enrichment Program (P.E.P.) is now serving the community at 29721 Six Mile between Merriman and Middlebelt in Livonia.

For the past three years, P.E.P.'s evening programs have been very successful, offering more than 100 clients a variety of program choices and enthusiastic programming.

The variety of programming includes Monday Night Enrichment, Tuesday Teen and Young Adult Time, Wednesday Fitness, Fun Fridays and Social Saturdays, so there is programming to meet any one's interest. P.E.P. also offers a music program for all ages.

P.E.P. has offered day programming for private pay that is put together with the same fresh approach. The staff offers over 50 years experience in the field of teaching and serving those with developmental disabilities. An easy way to learn more about P.E.P. is to go to www.thepepcenter.com

Anyone in Wayne County are looking for a day program with a different approach should visit the web site at www.thepepcenter.com or contact P.E.P. directly at 734-855-4451 and ask for Cindy or Joseph Scaglione.

P.E.P. is currently approved for day program/skill-building (**P.E.P. Centerprises**) services and community living supports and respite services with Wayne Center and Synergy as well as those that are with M.O.R.C (Macomb-Oakland Regional Center) who are self-determined. Persons affiliated with Wayne Center and Synergy can enroll now.

Persons affiliated with Consumer Link and CLS interested in the P.E.P. Centerprises day program should contact P.E.P. and their Personal Assistant or Supports Coordinator.

The day program "P.E.P Centerprises" is a daily skill shop where participants will be given instruction on daily living skills and also have a micro-enterprise opportunity. The following activities may be included in a typical day at P.E.P. Centerprises:

- Instruction on basic design of custom items including t-shirts, mugs, mouse pads, and fillers for gift baskets. Basic instruction may be given on a printing press on a case by case basis with staff supervision.
- Assistance with meal planning and preparation, practicing kitchen hygiene, safety and sanitation and cleanup.
- Assistance in planting and maintaining a garden as well as assisting with some light landscaping, weather permitting.

- Preparation to go out into the community and introduce themselves and the services they can offer.

P.E.P staff will serve as gentle instructors as well as coaches to help enhance skills in many areas relating to work in the community as well as reinforcing proper social skills necessary to be productive members of their community.

Another important offering is P.E.P. Personal Fitness offering a personal strength and conditioning program for individuals with special needs. The program is conducted by Ray Maleyko of Maleyko's Athletic Training Services.

Cindy Scaglione was a special education para-professional in the Farmington School District for 15 years, working in the Adult Basic Education program as well as being a ceramics/arts and crafts instructor in a program for the developmentally disabled. She began running enrichment classes with Livonia Public Schools in 2008, and then along with husband Joe Scaglione launched the P.E.P. Center. Cindy and Joe along with daughter Nicole Scaglione, a Certified Special Education teacher, have a genuine desire to provide gentle instruction and compassionate care to participants.

-30-

(Media note: For more information or to make an appointment for an interview or photographs, please contact Cindy or Joe Scaglione at 734-855-4451 or by email at cindy@thepepcenter.com or joe@thepepcenter.com.)