

What's Up at CCS

Summer 2016



Champlain Community Services

From the Executive Director



Hello, CCS Family — It's been a wonderful and eventful summer at Champlain Community Services. We've welcomed new consumers and staff, and have been busy with Lake Monsters baseball games, trips to our many parks, and work in our vegetable garden. (It's full of zucchinis and tomatoes, many making their way into our cooking classes.)

CCS artists presented a photography show with VSA and, of course, we held our beautiful family-staff picnic (with perfect weather, as usual). We had volunteer support from our long-time sponsors—**Colchester Knights of Columbus** — plus a crew from **AstenJohnson**. Many of you probably also notices *our new roof*. We're happy with the results — come by and take a look!

As summer wraps up, Bridging Program students will soon be back in the building. We've missed them. Next up, we look forward to a wonderful Jamie Lee Thurston concert fundraiser in St. Albans and then — the big one — turning 50 in 2017. We plan a year-long celebration, so stay tuned . . .

Sincerely,

Elizabeth Sightler
Executive Director

The Bridging Program at CCS

This program “bridges the gap” from high school to adult life for students with disabilities.

Last year, CCS became the new home base for this 11 year old program.

Twelve participating students rotated through three learning pods — Community Connection, Career Exploration, and Independent Living, and also formed a self-advocacy group called **Bridging Advocates Together**, an affiliate of Green Mountain Self Advocates.

Emily Anderson, coordinator, has plans for the new year, which begins in September. “We hope to introduce a few changes, including inspiring each student to develop a way to introduce community members to our program, and using iPads to collect and share information with others about the work we're doing in the program,” she said.



***Celebrating Don Kent
on 40 years at CCS!***

CCS dedicated a week to honoring our beloved Safety Officer **Don Kent** for 40 years of service (*and counting*).

Thanks, Don!



***CCS Photographers Present
at Fletcher Free Library***

Seven CCS consumers presented an **“Awesome Photography Show”** early this summer at Burlington’s Fletcher Free Library.

Presented through our friends and long-time partners at *VSA Vermont*, the show kicked off with a well attended opening reception on June 22nd. Artists’ work was on display through the end of August.

A very impressive show! Congratulations to the artists and VSA Vermont.

More about VSA at www.vsavt.org.



... now, mark your calendars

***Community Bake for CCS at
American Flatbread Burlington***



CCS gets a donation for each delicious flatbread sold (eat-in or take-out) from 5 to 11 p.m. on **Tuesday, November 15th** at American Flatbread Burlington Hearth in downtown Burlington. You do NOT want to miss this!



***Jamie Lee Thurston benefit show
for CCS at 14th Star Brewery
in St. Albans on October 16th***

CCS is honored to be the recipient of proceeds from a benefit concert by the amazing **Jamie Lee Thurston** at **14th Star Brewing** in St. Albans. The show is being organized by our inspiring ambassador **Simonne Gratton**, who also set-up our **Paint Nite** event last winter.



The show is Sunday, October 16th, with a great raffle, food, and fun planned. Doors will open at 4 p.m. with **Jamie Lee Thurston** hitting the stage around 5:30 p.m.

Support the CCS Annual Fund!

Please consider a gift to the CCS Annual Fund. Your tax-deductible gift directly supports our programs, and helps leverage additional dollars by showing foundations, companies, and other potential partners that the people who know us best invest in our work!

