

WINTER  
2013

CITIZEN  
ADVOCATES  
OF WASHINGTON COUNTY

"MAKING A POSITIVE  
DIFFERENCE IN THE LIVES OF  
PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES."

VOLUME 9 NO. 1



The River City Christmas Brass played over fifty traditional and modern Christmas Carols. Accompanied by some jingle bells assistance from members of the audience, the holiday sound was superb.

We were pleased to see so many attending our first Christmas event of this type and look forward to doing it all over again this year.



## Over 100 Celebrate Christmas with CA

### River City Brass and St. Johns Church host event!

I've been working with Citizen Advocates for nearly ten years. In that time there have been many opportunities to bring together advocates, partners and members of the community through dinners, gatherings and fundraising events. Despite the opportunity of literally dozens of such events over this span of time, none has ever equaled the event hosted by St. John's Church, West Bend this past December 9th at *St. John's On Main* in West Bend. Featuring the *River City Christmas Brass* and their repertoire of dozens of the most beautiful Christmas carols, the band played for two hours entertaining an audience of over one

hundred advocates, partners, individuals with developmental disabilities, residents of group and apartment homes in the area as well as members of the community and especially St. John's congregation. It was a capacity crowd and music knit everyone together in a spirit of Christmas celebrating.

All of this cheer was the brainchild of Dan Peterson, a members of St. John's and a principle of the *River City Christmas Brass*. Citizen Advocate's Board Chairman, Sandy Passineau, approached Dan in early November with the idea of bringing together St. John's and Citizen Advocates in some sort of holiday celebration. Dan added the *River City Christmas Brass* and *St. John's on Main*. What resulted was a thoroughly enjoyable evening of

fellowship, celebrating and fun. Everyone agreed that a repeat performance in 2013 was a must.

Many thanks to Sandy, Dan, Program Coordinator, Jessica Frederick, the River City Christmas Brass, Warren Graf and Dave Kellerman and all of the volunteers from St. John's Lutheran Church, West Bend.

Mark Brunner  
[mbrunner@cawash.org](mailto:mbrunner@cawash.org)



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## 2012 Annual Dinner Celebrates 34 Years of Advocacy in Washington County



(LEFT) Among the Nashes, Hudsons, Kissels and dozens of other makes of cars, trucks, and motorcycles our guests enjoyed a catered dinner and an informative Power Point presentation on Citizen Advocates current and future growth plans.



(Above) Former Citizen Advocate's President, Miles Severson, receives a certificate honoring his service on the Citizen Advocate's Board of Directors from 2008 to 2012. Miles left the Board in August of 2012 after two terms. (UPPER LEFT) Dr. Tom Albiero receives Business Investor of the Year Award from Executive Director Mark Brunner. Dr. Albiero accepted the award for Dental Professionals of Germantown. (LOWER LEFT) Volunteer, Cheryl Starling, receives the 2012 Citizen Advocate's Volunteer of the Year Award.



Thursday, October 18th marked the 34th annual dinner for Citizen Advocates. Over the past several years we've continued to see decreasing numbers at our annual, dinner. However that trend seems to have been reversed with the 2012 event. Returning to the Wisconsin Auto Museum in Hartford, the site of our 2007 Annual Dinner, we were pleased to welcome 78 guests including perhaps the biggest number of advocates and partners we've seen in some years. Wellspring Church of Hartford, our newest Community Connections advocacy group, brought their community band and entertained with some inspiring background music prior to dinner. Many thanks to Wellspring Church as well as Mr. and Mrs. David LeFeber for donating the cost of the venue.

# Citizen Advocates

Making a positive difference in the lives of people with disabilities.



## Program Grants

### Return to CA!

As the recession tightened on the economy late in 2008 and really gripped us over the last several years, one of the first casualties our advocacy program suffered were program grants. Beginning in 2009 these grants, supporting specific ongoing projects and programs that CA has established in Washington County, had nearly dried up.

We're happy to report that beginning in 2013 they have returned. Three foundations, the West Bend Mutual Charitable Fund, the Community Memorial Hospital, Froedtert Health Community Outreach Steering Committee Fund, and the Forest County Potawatomi Foundation, have each committed to a \$1,500 program grant to sponsor one Community Connections match in 2013. The Potawatomi and Froedtert Health grants will sponsor matches in the Germantown area and the West Bend Mutual grant will sponsor a match in the West Bend area. Each of these grants will assist Citizen Advocates in matching a Group or Apartment Home with a community advocacy group in the coming months.

We would like to thank all three grantors for their generosity and look forward to working with them in 2013 making our advocacy program strong in Washington County. We couldn't do it without your help.

## Relationships

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Citizen Advocates  
of Washington County  
102 S Main Street  
PO Box 582  
West Bend, WI 53095  
262-334-3384  
[www.cawash.org](http://www.cawash.org)

**Editor/  
Executive  
Director:**

Mark Brunner

**Staff:**

Jessica  
Frederick  
Program  
Coordinator  
  
Katie Staupe  
Coop Worker

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Passineau  
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### Tickets Available!

The date for this year's 2013 *Dancing For A Difference, Gala 2013* is May 10th. Tickets are \$75 and are available by calling 262-334-3384 or 262-626-2131. Tables of eight are also available at a 10% discount until April 15, 2013. Save \$60 when you reserve a table now. Go to [www.cawash.org/2013gala.html](http://www.cawash.org/2013gala.html) and make your purchase online.

**Reserve Your  
Tickets today!**



**Watch for our Spring Relationships  
Newsletter in April where we will be  
announcing our ten celebrity  
dancers!**

## We're Looking For A Few Good Men and Women!

[Your Church or Civic Group May  
Make a Great Advocacy Team!](#)

An advocate is a person that cares about others and who builds a relationship with someone that has a disability. This same definition applies to advocacy groups as well. We are currently recruiting groups of individuals, church organizations and civic groups, to advocate for group and apartment homes in Washington County.

No special degree needed, only the desire to make a difference.



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No special degree needed, only the desire to make a difference.

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Creating relationships that make a positive difference in the lives of those with disabilities.

**Citizen Advocates**  
Making a positive difference in the lives of people with disabilities.