



EPI News



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More Than You See - Seats are Going Fast!

We envision a world where society looks to the inner person, and past differences.

With this vision in mind, Exceptional Persons Foundation is making plans for its third annual silent auction, dueling pianos benefit, **More Than You See**. New Venue. New Pianos. New Memories.

We celebrate the uniqueness and abilities of all people. Some of our favorite moments from the last More Than You See included:

- A conga line containing most of the room!
- An *interesting* rendition of "Head, Shoulders, Knees, and Toes"
- Hilarious improv from MC Gary Kroeger... who will be returning!

Make Plans Now to Be There!

2016's More Than You See dueling pianos, silent auction benefit will be better than ever! This is an event you won't want to miss.

Be a part of this transformation:

- Friday, April 1 beginning at 6 pm
- Gallagher Bluedorn Performing Arts Center (GBPAC) in Cedar Falls
- Guest MC Gary Kroeger
- Dueling Piano Entertainment by Felix and Fingers

Proceeds from **More Than You See** support the mission of EPI and may support needs such as: employment services - helping persons with disabilities in finding and keeping a job in the community, critical housing improvements, and more. Your support would mean so much.

Reserve Your Seats Today

Reserve your seats for **More Than You See** - EPI's Dueling Piano Benefit by visiting our website at www.episervice.org.

For more ►►►
information visit
www.dhs.iowa.gov

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Legislative Watch

Managed Care Organizations (MCO)

As you may have heard, federal administrators have ordered Iowa to delay the implementation of Managed Care for administration of Iowa Medicaid funded services. Since then, IA Health Link has submitted a new timeline as follows:

February 17, 2016 - Health care plans are due. Once you receive your IA Health Link packet in the mail, look at who you were assigned and check with your doctor or other service providers to make sure this MCO is a company they will be working with. **We can tell you that we are very excited to begin working with Amerigroup (Anthem), United HealthCare, and AmeriHealth Caritas.**

March 1, 2016 - New health coverage begins.

May 18, 2016 - Last day to change your MCO for any reason. After this date, you will need "good cause" to change your MCO.

What does this mean for you?

- In the interim, you can continue to see your current provider.
- You should have received a letter regarding the IA Health Link updates.

- Continue working through your enrollment packet - keep in mind these will be due February 17.

What does this mean for EPI?

For those utilizing EPI's transportation and receiving Medicaid funding, managed care will require a signature from passengers to confirm each ride. Initially, the requirement is likely to slow the service down. We ask for your patience.

On January 11, we began collecting signatures so we may be fully ready to implement this new rule by March 1.

To help speed up the signing process, please make sure that the rider(s) you accompany have their hands free and ready to sign when getting on and off the bus.

For more information visit the Iowa Department of Human Services (DHS) website. Iowa Medicaid Member Services can be reached at 1-800-338-8366, Monday - Friday from 8:00 am - 5:00 pm.

If we can at all be of further assistance, please feel free to reach out to us at (319) 232-6671.

A Happier Holiday - Thanks to You

Each year the Giving Tree is decorated with the most modest needs and a few 'wants' for persons with disabilities - children and adults. Because of you, this year was a record-breaker.

We had trees hosted out in the community, the most ever, thanks to Waterloo Police Protective Agency and Larry K. Fox and Associates, making it easier for the public to pick up a tag.

2015 was the first year to have 290 tags on the tree. Meaning, it was the year with the most needs but also the year with the most needs fulfilled.

Over 1,000 dollars were donated directly to the Giving Tree. This made it possible for every person on the tree to receive a gift and sometimes two.

Equal Employment Opportunities

Throughout the community over 30 businesses are providing real work for persons with disabilities. The importance of giving someone a chance turns into purpose, self-worth, and a chance to earn a living.

Witham Auto Centers, Hansen's Farm Fresh Dairy Outlet, and Rydell Chevrolet, Inc. are a few of the newest business added to the rapidly expanding list.

Call us today at (319) 232 - 6671 to hire someone ready and fully able to work.



We also had the largest number of people contact us online for tags and shipping information. Gifts were shipped from as far away as Tennessee!

At the heart of it all is you - we couldn't do it without you. Thank you for your kind generosity and for providing a happier holiday for many.



◀◀◀ 2015 Giving Tree - Record Breaking Year

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ELECTRONIC SERVICE REQUESTED



Our Mission

Exceptional Persons, Inc. (EPI) makes a positive difference for people living with disabilities, enhances community child care, and strengthens families.



Want to Make a Donation?

Your generosity means so much - thank you. Donations allow us to fulfill our mission when other funding runs short. We accept cash donations anytime. Visit our website at www.episervice.org.



Mark Your Calendar

April 1 More Than You See dueling pianos, silent auction benefit. Beginning at 6 pm, the event will be held at Gallagher Bluedorn Performing Arts Center in Cedar Falls. Reserve your seats online today at www.episervice.org.

MS Support Group Meeting Schedule

Bremer/Butler 10:30 am at Redeemer Lutheran Church, 2001 W Bremer, Waverly

- **March 9**
- **April 13**
- **May 11**

Waterloo 11:00 am at EPI 760 Ansborough Ave

- **March 16**
- **April 20**
- **May 18**

Tama 9:30 am at the Senior Center Community Building, 103 S. Church, Toledo

- **March 30**
- **April 27**
- **May 25**



Cornerstone Giving

Please include the Exceptional Persons Foundation in your will and estate planning to ensure EPI services will live on forever.