

LEAP Celebrates 37 Years of Service with “Night with the Tribe”



LEAP welcomed 200+ guests to the Terrace Club at Progressive on Thursday, Sept. 20 to enjoy Cleveland Indians baseball and celebrate 37 consecutive years of providing services to people with disabilities. Guests enjoyed a dinner of ballpark favorites, auction and raffle of more than 30 prizes, and a visit from Tribe mascot Slider while watching the Tribe take on the Chicago White Sox.

Thanks to the generosity of our sponsors and guests, more than \$25K was raised in support of LEAP programs and services through the event. LEAP would like to acknowledge the support of the Cleveland Indians, Progressive Field, and our many generous event sponsors for making this a night to remember!

Western Reserve Area Agency on Aging • Shurtech Brands • Deborah and Don Adams • Rimeco Products • Walkway Restoration • Squire Patton Boggs • FIT Technologies • Donna J. Trunko • Walter Haverfield LLP • Cleveland Clinic • Mary Kapferer • MRN Leasing • Ciuni & Panichi • Greater Cleveland RTA • Chuck and Loretta Heindrichs • Bill Eyman • State Farm • Franz Ward Medical Mutual • SSE&G • Stranci Tattoo



L to R: LEAP Executive Director Melanie Hogan, Claire Hogan and Zeina Muhieddine



LEAP Board Members Kandy Hricik and Danielle Krakora

Find LEAP on:



Ways to Support LEAP

Donate Online:

Online gifts to LEAP can be made safely and conveniently at : www.leapinfo.org/support/donate

Matching Gifts:

Many Northeast Ohio companies will match your donation to LEAP, effectively doubling your contribution. Please check with your employer to see if they provide matching gifts and request a matching gift form for LEAP to sign.

United Way & Community Shares:

Don't forget LEAP during your annual workplace giving campaigns. LEAP accepts designated gifts through both United Way and Community Shares. Simply write "Linking Employment, Abilities and Potential (LEAP)" on the designation line.

Planned Giving and Gifts of Securities:

For information about planned giving opportunities or making a gift of securities to LEAP, please contact our Finance office at 216.696.2716 Ext. 806.

LEAP Annual Fund:

LEAP's Annual Fund appeal is a great way to lend your support to vital programs for persons with disabilities. The 2018 Annual Fund campaign begins online on #GivingTuesday, Nov. 27, and runs through Jan. 15, 2019. Watch for more details online, in your mailbox and on social media.

Amazon Smile:

Your regular Amazon purchases can benefit LEAP through Amazon Smile, a charitable donation portal within Amazon.com. Simply place your orders through smile.amazon.com and designate LEAP to receive a contribution from Amazon based on your eligible purchases.

Linking Employment, Abilities and Potential (LEAP) Launches Community Education Services

LEAP has launched new fee-based training services to increase opportunities for consumers, families, companies and service-providers to gain new skills, collaborate, and grow as allies for individuals with disabilities. Courses and presentations are designed to take advantage of LEAP's 35+ years of experience and expertise serving people with disabilities. With an emphasis on in-person and interactive sessions, LEAP's programming includes:



- Consumer and Family classes that promote the principles of Independent Living and allow families to strengthen as self-advocates and caregivers
- Employer Training Services that are customized to equip employers with timely and action-able information to maximize company's productivity and profitability
- Community Partners workshops for agencies to further develop the skills and capacity to serve people with disabilities
- Speaker's Bureau that offers on-going disability education and awareness presentations on diverse topics of interest and impact to the community

Services are flexible and tailored to fit you and/or your organization's learning needs. For more information, please contact Priti Pandya, Community Education Specialist at 216.696.2716 or ppandya@leapinfo.org.

Grit and Positivity Result in Long-Awaited Homecoming

After a serious medical emergency resulted in the amputation of her fingers and toes, Carolyn Jones was forced to reside in a Northeast Ohio nursing home for about eight months without access to needed physical therapy. Because the nursing home also lacked adaptive communication tools, Carolyn had difficulty calling or emailing her Medicaid representative to resolve the problem and secure needed therapy services.



Thankfully, LEAP was able to help Carolyn. Working closely with Kelley, a LEAP Nursing Home Transition Coordinator, Carolyn developed a tactical plan to address immediate communication needs as well as achieve her long-term goal of moving back home. She was able to obtain the adaptive tools that enabled her to use the phone and computer while at the nursing home, and work in tandem with Kelley to understand and resolve challenges with her Medicaid application.

Upon Medicaid services reinstating, Carolyn quickly attacked her daily physical therapy sessions with a vivaciously positive attitude. Over a period of seven months, she worked towards the goal of regaining her personal independence and rejoining her husband in their home. While in therapy, Ohio's HOME Choice program also provided her with new household furniture that was not only adapted to her needs, but was also stylish and comfortable for her husband, family and friends.

Today, Carolyn is at home enjoying time with family and friend while she plans to become a mentor to others who are on a similar journey. She is especially thrilled with her new couch, which gives her greater independence and allows her and her husband to sit together while watching T.V. Thanks to LEAP and Ohio Home Choice, this simple act of intimacy is something they have resumed after more than two long years apart.

To learn more about LEAP's Nursing Home Transition Services, visit www.leapinfo.org or call 216.696.2716.