#### THADE Tar Heel Association of Disability Examiners







Volume 2015-2016, issue 3

# LOOK TO THE FUTURE!

#### By: Henry Boyd, THADE President 2015-2016

#### QUOTE:

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"Nobody knows the future. You can only create the future."



A commitment to community service is a big part of what the Tarheel Association of Disability Examiners (THADE) organization is all about. THADE demonstrates its commitment to service by participating fundraisers, volunteering time, and cooperating with outside agencies like Relay for Life and The Food Bank of North Carolina. I want to highlight some of the key accomplishments that we were able to achieve over this 2015- 2016 THADE fiscal year:

Successfully hosted "DDS Goes Hollywood" the annual agency Employee Appreciation Week

• Raised money to fund the \$750 THADE scholarship and fund a partial scholarship to the NADE conference in Denver, Colorado.

- Donated over 800 lbs of food and \$70 to the annual food drive in October.
- Participated in the American Cancer Society's Relay for Life event in Garner, raising over \$2,900 in the process.

• Raised over \$500 for the Ronald McDonald House Charities of NC and SPCA of Wake County in our 1st (possibly) annual pet and costume photo contest.

• We collected 150 bunnies, chicks, and other assorted critters to be distributed through area hospitals.

I would like to thank THADE for the generous donation of time and resources to make these events possible. I would also like to thank the DDS management and all those who supported those causes. Without the support of the DDS management and staff, THADE would not be able to accomplish its goals of education, advocacy, networking, professional recognition and making a difference.

I am honored to be a part of THADE, and have truly enjoyed growing with our professional organization over the last year. I am excited to build on what we have accomplished this year. For the first time, we were able to fund a partial scholarship for the NADE conference. We also collaborated with new community organizations to meet our philanthropic goals. Our membership drive was very successful and we have brought in new, talented, members that will make a significant impact in our work! As outgoing president, I would like to say how proud I am of our THADE organization, and how humbled I am of the giving spirit of our members.

The agency workload has increased each year requiring THADE members to be good stewards of our time. With this in mind, THADE has delivered on its commitments to our charity partners and remained steadfast with our DDS obligations. I would like to encourage all our members to continue to be creative, supportive, and resourceful as we head into the next THADE fiscal year!

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#### Officers

President—Henry Boyd Vice President—Ashley Miller Secretary—Suzanne Puckett Treasurer—David Kramer Board Member—Whitney Atkinson Board Member—Todd Utech Past President-Thomas Gautier

Committee Chairs Communication/Newsletter--Jennifer Pounds Community Service-Jennifer Pounds Constitution/By-Laws--Dr. Edwin Swann Library-Jennifer Carles Membership-Henry Boyd Organ Donor Awareness--PERC-Jeff Price Programs-Ashley Miller Social-Jackie Adeeb & Paula Gary Ways & Means-Todd Utech Page 3



# Team NCDDS Fighting Cancer Together

by: Jennifer Pounds, Team Captain

NCDDS took a stand in the fight against cancer and participated in Garner North Carolina's, Relay for Life Event. Participation was open to all NCDDS employees for this "Up and Rising Star" Team. Team goal was set at \$1000 as this being the first year NCDDS participated in the event. We were overwhelmed with the generosity of our co-workers and family members in their giving. The team along with THADE's Community Service Committee, held a competition to see which unit could raise the most money selling ribbons to recognize friends/family members who have battled cancer. The ribbons were in memory/honor of the loved ones and were on display throughout the building for all to see. In the NCDDS spirit of giving, the members of the winning unit donated back the money they won.

The Relay event took place at Lake Benson Park in Garner on Friday April 22, 2016 beginning at 4pm. Cancer survivors and their caregivers were treated to a dinner sponsored by Raggazi's Italian Restaurant at 5pm with the Survivor Lap held at 6pm. The rain did not dampen the spirits of participants as they continued to walk all through the night. At 9pm, the luminary ceremony lit up the track. Team member, Lacy Nichols commented, "It was really touching to walk and see the hundreds of bags surrounding the track area with all the names on them of those who have been affected by cancer."

In the end, Team NCDDS raised \$2,918.18 for the American Cancer Society and placed 9<sup>th</sup> out of 48 teams in fundraising efforts in the 2016 Garner Relay for Life Event. The total raised by all 48 teams was \$109,180.78.



Craig Brown, Lacy Nichols, Jennifer Pounds (survivor), Henry Boyd and Marcia Golden

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## **THADE ELECTIONS**

By Thomas Gautier, THADE Past President

This time of year is always exciting for the THADE Organization as we begin to think about and ponder, as a member, if we would like to take that next step and become a leader. Becoming an Officer in THADE brings great pride and understanding of what exactly this Organization provides to the NC DDS agency and throughout the community. THADE is much more than hosting events every month and bringing in speakers for Lunch-N-Learns. We provide learning opportunities

to grow as a disability examiner and expand our social horizons.

THADE Elections for 2016 will be held on June 2<sup>nd</sup> in the Cooper Library from 11:00am to 12:30pm. This year, positions available to fill are: President, Vice President, Secretary, and Board Member. Below is a brief summary of details pertaining to each position.

President: shall preside at all meetings of the Chapter, including meetings of the Board of Directors of THADE, shall appoint standing committees and the chairpersons of these committees; shall appoint any other committees and their chairpersons as may be deemed necessary by the President or Executive Board; shall exercise supervision over all business matters involving THADE, and aid in coordinating the work of THADE with that of its parent organization (NADE). The President shall be responsible for the development of a general budget for the fiscal year. The President shall call meetings of the Board of Directors as the need may appear, or upon the written request of two members of the THADE Board of Directors. The President of THADE shall have been a member of THADE for at least the two years which immediately precede the date they assume office.

Vice President: shall preside at meetings of the Chapter and the Board of Directors in the absence of the President; shall serve as chairperson of the Program and Conference Committee. The Vice President may be assigned other duties by the President or Board of Directors of THADE. The Vice President of THADE shall have been a member of THADE for at least the two years which immediately precede the date they assume office.

Secretary: shall record the minutes of all meetings of the Chapter, including meetings of the Board of Directors of THADE; shall notify all members of THADE of the date, time, and location of THADE meetings. Such notification shall occur at least three days in advance of the meeting. The Secretary may also be assigned other duties by the President or Board of Directors of THADE. The Secretary of THADE shall have been a member of THADE for at least the one year which immediately precedes the date they assume office.

Board Member (Directors): Directors shall held membership in THADE for one full year prior to their being elected to serve. An elected Board Member has a vote on the THADE Board and helps to promote the Organization and its events.

THADE looks forward to providing great events and participating in community service projects within this upcoming year beginning July 1, 2016.



# **PROMOTIONS**

\*Jeff Price, Supervisor I QA

\*Justin Calhoun, Unit 32 Case Consultant

\* Steven Rogers, Unit 9 Case Consultant

\*Loren Trotman, Unit 21 Case Consultant

\* Bridget Bone, DEIII

\* Cheri McClellan, DEIII

\* Arlene Roberts, DEIII

\* LaDonna Byarse, DEIII

\* Jasmeen Calhoun, PRO DEIII

\* Tina Tomlinson, Purchasing Agent Budget

\* Belinda McNeil, OA IV QA

\* Tammy Perry, Recruitment Specialist



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## **QUARTERLY PRIDE WINNER:**

Mary Kirkman, Unit 21



## QUARTERLY PRIDE CUSTOMER SERVICE AWARD:

Kelsey Webster, Unit 25



## 2015 REGIONAL PRIDE WINNERS:

Dr Robert Pyle, Unit 30 Medical Consultant of the Year (No picture available) Betty Mize, Unit 31 Mary Simmons Special Act of Service Unit 16 DEII Team, Thomas M Leahy Creative Achievement Award







Unit 8 Congratulates Jessica Chambliss on her wedding in April



*Congratulates Chantel Best on the birth of her son, Asa Patrick Best 3/30/16*  Unit 10 Congratulates Kim Lee on the birth of her son, Kaden Jesse Lee on 4/30/16



# CONGRATULATIONS

JEAN MELTON, Unit 22 BILLIE MURRAY, QA

# THADE SPRING SILENT AUCTION

By: Todd Utech, Chair Ways & Means



With the season of spring comes new life. For THADE the warmer weather meant an opportunity to help fellow employees at NCDDS start their spring-cleaning efforts by donating any new or lightly used items that were in need of a new home. On Tuesday May 4th THADE held a spring silent auction with all of the items that had been donated. Books, kitchenware, rain boots, jewelry and many other items found happy new owners. The fundraiser was a success and raised \$279.80 for THADE.

# THADE CELEBRATES MARDI GRAS AND CINCO DE MAYO

By: Jackie Adeeb, Co-Chair THADE Social Committee

The THADE social committee has sponsored three social events this year. The first, in September, was a fall football kickoff. Members enjoyed snacks, football trivia and those in attendance were entered to win door prizes. In February, THADE members kept the good times rolling with a Mardi Gras themed event. We had a great turn out and enjoyed the company of all our new members who had joined in January. Members enjoyed receiving beads, listening to jazz music and playing games. Most recently, Cinco De Mayo was celebrated with another great turn out. Members feasted on Mexican cake, chips and salsa and partook in word searches and trivia to win prizes. Social Committee members Jackie Adeeb, Paula Gray, Anita Nichols, Donna Gould and Suzanne Puckett have really enjoyed planning events for their fellow THADE members, which give some fun reprieve to their co-workers.



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## JOIN NADE

By: Jennifer Pounds, Southeast Regional Director, NADE

Your membership in NADE is an investment in your career. As a member of NADE, you have a voice in the policy making process with SSA. Your membership makes it possible for NADE to meet face to face with SSA leadership to convey your ideas and opinions.



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