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## **People Incorporated's newsletter that keeps you engaged, informed, and up-to-date**

As we approach the holidays, we're on "the path to opportunity," and we want you to join us!

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**Meet Samuel, the face of the  
Family Support Center!**



When you take the elevator to People Incorporated's section of the fourth floor of 1 Father DeValles Boulevard in Fall River and enter the reception area of Suite 401, you might not expect to be greeted by an eclectic novelist with two jobs. For the past several weeks, Samuel has worked as the office administrator at People Incorporated's Family Support Center, managing the front desk and greeting visitors with a smile as the first face visitors see. [READ MORE HERE](#)

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## **Jack Rua Invitational raises over \$60k to benefit Camp Jack**

On Tuesday, September 13, People Incorporated held its annual Jack Rua Invitational at Crestwood Country Club in Rehoboth.

The golf tournament raises funds to support the Jack Rua Camp for Children with Diabetes, a program of the Diabetes Association, Inc., which is an affiliate organization of People Incorporated. With over 60 sponsors, the event raised over \$60,000, which will go directly into operating "Camp Jack" each summer. [READ MORE ABOUT THE WINNERS AND THE DETAILS HERE](#)



Debbie & Brian Dutra, one half of the tournament-winning Lopes Companies foursome. (Not pictured: Steve & Linda Hyland)



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## **Bill Perkins retires after 40 years in human services**



In October 2022, Bill Perkins concluded his time with People Incorporated, closing out a career in human services that has spanned over 40 years. Bill's legacy will now live on at our site at Riggerbach Road, where he spent most of his career. While we are all very used to referring to this building as "Riggerbach," we are proud that going forward it will be known as the William Perkins Center, a fitting dedication for someone who dedicated himself to so many others.

The William Perkins Center will continue to be a central figure for the individuals we serve and the People Incorporated staff – just like Bill himself.

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## **People Incorporated granted Supportive Technology funding**



People Incorporated is excited to announce its application for funding for supportive technology has been approved by the Massachusetts Department of Developmental Services (DDS). It is provided through the *Innovation Funding to Promote the Use of Supportive Technology* program.

This will spur the development of organizational expertise and our Agency's capacity to effectively use supportive technology with individuals served by DDS and People Incorporated. It also increases opportunities for adults with intellectual and developmental disabilities (ID/IDD) and Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD) to have better access to technological tools and trained direct support professionals who will help them work more independently and feel more included in everyday tasks.

To hit the ground running, we have already started work on a "lending library" of equipment and technological resources and identifying staff to become qualified to provide this unique assistance, all of which are the first steps in our efforts to create a "tech-first mindset" throughout People Incorporated. We are looking forward to guiding more people toward achieving technological equity and enhancing their community inclusion.

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## Joining forces to improve preschool access in Fall River

People Incorporated has been approved to collaborate with a number of center-based childcare providers in Fall River to improve access to preschool by adding seats, classrooms, and teachers. Through the Commonwealth Preschool Partnership Initiative, we are working with organizations including Citizens Head Start and the Fall River Public Schools in the public-private model of this expansion grant. This effort will not only expand preschool access, but it will also align and improve the quality of our local early education system. Fall River's preschool needs are increasing, and we are ready to be in a prime position to address them.

The People Incorporated Preschool has been an EEC-licensed early education program for many years, and we are excited to be a part of this time of expansion and improved opportunities for our community's youngest learners.

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Before Thanksgiving every year, People Incorporated identifies families in our community who are in need; then we try to make their holiday as enjoyable as possible. We are happy to say that this year 349 families received a \$50 gift card to Market Basket from People Incorporated to be used for a Thanksgiving meal - a turkey and all the fixings!



We are grateful every day for the ability to serve the communities of the SouthCoast. From all of us at People Incorporated, enjoy Thanksgiving with your friends and family.