



The **PLUS COMPANY** Inc.
People • Learning • Useful • Skills

Dare to Dream!

2009 Annual Results



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The **PLUS COMPANY** Inc.
People • Learning • Useful • Skills

Mission & Vision

Our mission is to empower individuals with disabilities by providing support and services that maximize their independence. Our vision is that all people who live with disabilities have the confidence, dignity, and skills needed to lead lives of independence and quality.

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Joseph Marshall, Chairman	Claire Boucher	John Howard	Michael Monks
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Bernie Streeter Receives 2009 Sandy Garry Award

Making a Difference in the Lives of Individuals with Disabilities

Bernie Streeter is the recipient of the 2009 Sandy Garry Award for his thirty-five years of distinguished service to individuals with disabilities in the greater Nashua community. Bernie's leadership style has cast him as a magnet for change in Nashua and he has been instrumental in positively altering our community's perception and inclusion of individuals with disabilities.

Bernie is genuinely focused on making life better for those with disabilities. Bernie demonstrates his passion through his work in many different ways - as a long time member of the PLUS board, as the chief personality for the Wild Irish Breakfast fundraiser, and as the "go to" person for many involved in advocacy for those with disabilities.

Bernie is always ready to pick up the phone, work out some details, or lead a new initiative. His warm approach to people sparks contagious enthusiasm and he has been a phenomenal ambassador for those with disabilities. Bernie is not one to shy away from the limelight. However, he freely uses the limelight to call attention to the positive spirit of those

with disabilities and how our local community is a better place for including those with disabilities.

Bernie was the 54th Mayor of Nashua for eight years and worked tirelessly while in office. He served on the Board of Directors for The PLUS Company, the Greater Nashua United Way, the Greater Nashua Chamber of Commerce, and Marguerite's Place. He also served eight terms as dean of the New Hampshire Executive Council; working with seven governors and twenty executive councilors.

On the national level, Bernie was appointed to serve a term on the National Health Planning Council by President Ford and was later appointed by President Reagan to assist with the National Advisory Council of the U.S. Public Health Service. A graduate of Keene High School and Boston University, Bernie has lived in Nashua for forty five years.

Bernie's spirit and leadership role have helped many people with disabilities and their families Dare to Dream.



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A Letter from the Chairperson and Executive Director

The PLUS Company Board of Directors, management team, and staff, Dare to Dream that everyone has an equal opportunity for human dignity, self-respect, and self-reliance. PLUS has worked diligently this past year to improve and grow services that help realize the promise of our dream.



Employment Supports

Even in today's economy, PLUS Dares to Dream of a more robust employment picture for our clients. A key accomplishment this year has been the work on Project Search, a training program conducted in partnership with St. Joseph's Hospital, Gateways Community Services, Nashua Public Schools, and Vocational Rehabilitation. Project Search graduated their first class of five students on June 22, 2009; all five of the graduates now have positions with Dartmouth-Hitchcock Clinic.

Massachusetts Certification

In another employment development, Massachusetts qualified PLUS to provide Competitive Integrated Employment Services for consumers referred by DDS and the Massachusetts Rehabilitation Commission. The DDS License Certification Report acknowledges our strengths as follows:

"In summary, the agency has received a Two-Year License and is certified with Distinction. Due in great part to the agency's philosophy and culture, the PLUS Company, Inc. continues to uphold a high standard for valuing the individuals served. Additionally, the agency's involvement and association with the community and many businesses has enabled it to thrive in the current economic environment, therefore promoting the agency's mission to involve individuals in their community through working, volunteering, and recreational activities."

Family Advisory Group

The more people engaged in Daring to Dream, the better the outcomes for our clients. That is why we formed the Family Advisory Council in Massachusetts and held a Family Night in Nashua. Our dream for these initiatives is to provide PLUS with feedback on current programs and ideas about what new programs may be considered to help those PLUS serves.

Adult Education

The PLUS Adult Education program continues to expand their dream, providing clients valuable life skills and group activities. There are currently 55 programs to choose from; of which 13 were newly added this past year.

Residential and Individual Community Resource Programs

A large part of the PLUS dream for our clients is living arrangements and access to community resources that meet the needs of the clients. Our Residential and Individual Community Resource programs grew 15% last year bringing the total number of clients served to 148. Each of these client's program is tailored to their individual needs as determined by them working in conjunction with their support team.

Dare to Dream

PLUS will continue to Dare to Dream of how to implement new programs designed to help our clients lead productive lives in their communities. PLUS invites all of our clients' parents and guardians, current and future employment partners, and community supporters to Dare to Dream with us -- and lead PLUS to new heights in accomplishing our mission.

Joseph Marshall

Chairperson, Board of Directors

Kim Shottes

Executive Director





Dare to Dream - Nothing Is Impossible for Those Who Try

Advocating for Dreams

Constantly renewing her dreams, Lauren Bambrick, 26, is a motivated and self-confident young woman. She stands out in The PLUS Company community as a self-advocate, a member of the Together Self Advocacy Group, and through her leadership in many PLUS educational programs. She recently participated in the National Self Advocates Becoming Empowered (SABE) Conference in Indianapolis. Over the past three years, Lauren has grown into her role as an advocate for herself and for others.

A graduate of Souhegan High School, Bambrick works at Dartmouth Hitchcock Medical Center as a dermatology assistant four days a week sterilizing tools, restocking supplies, and helping with the mail. According to PLUS Career Trainer, Denise Andrus, Bambrick is a devoted and meticulous employee. "She is phenomenal, has a great personality, and is a very hard worker."

When she is not working or spending time with her family and friends, she enthusiastically participates in many PLUS adult education programs including yoga, dance, and the Performing Arts Club. As a sports enthusiast, Bambrick is very active with PLUS Pride Special Olympics where she plays basketball, softball, and soccer. A student in continued education, Bambrick enjoys cooking classes and regularly attends her Life Skills class at PLUS. When asked how she finds the time for all her interests, she smiles and explains she likes to stay busy and learn.



Music -- A Dream Come True

Music is a dream come true for Linda Roy, 56. Whenever she gets a chance, Roy can be found playing the piano where she escapes to a happy world of melody and harmony. "I really enjoy playing the piano," Roy shares. "The music perks me up when I'm down. I also help others feel happier through my music. It is so great when people sing and dance along. I am so happy people enjoy listening to me play."

Several days each week Roy's music can be heard when she plays for consumers and staff at the Progress Center in Nashua. A PLUS consumer, Roy enthusiastically volunteers her talents for many events, such as Family Night, PLUS Performing Arts shows, and the Gateways Direct Support Professional Breakfast at Rivier College.

On many Friday afternoons, Roy also shares her love of the piano at the Courville in Nashua during the pre-dinner cocktail hour. Besides the piano, Roy is an avid participant in many of the art and music programs offered at PLUS.

According to Roy, she began playing the piano when she was nine years old under the direction of her teacher Steven Childs at the Laconia State School. Roy enjoys playing classical, country and pop music on her keyboard for her two cats in her Hudson apartment.

"My dream is to have my own piano and play more for others. PLUS helps me with my dream by encouraging me to play. I have more self confidence and I have improved my life," explains Roy with a smile.



Dreaming -- Day By Day

Elizabeth Lombardi's dream is simple. She wants to help people have a better day. Everyday she makes a positive difference at her job at McDonald's in Lowell, Massachusetts and through her generous volunteer work with the Lowell Food Pantry. Elizabeth Lombardi, 31, always greets people with a friendly hello and is generous in spirit.

Lombardi enjoys her responsibilities at McDonald's where she cleans tables, sweeps the floors, empties trash, refills condiments, and makes iced tea for the customers. Lombardi's employer explains, "Our regular customers love coming in to see Liz. She is a hard worker who is willing to do what ever needs to be done with a smile. Our customers feel better after spending time with Liz."

According to PLUS Massachusetts Division Manager Missy Giandomenico, in the evenings, Lombardi fills her social calendar with acting in her local theater group, Jazzercise, and ceramics. Lombardi also enjoys spending time with her mother, extended family, and dog Gracie. A caring person, Lombardi makes a difference by volunteering at the Lowell Food Pantry. "Liz puts together bags of food for local needy families," explained Giandomenico. "She is living her dream."



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Financial Highlights

Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2009 and June 30, 2008

	Unaudited June 30, 2009	Audited June 30, 2008	\$ Change	% Change
Total Revenue	7,867,061	7,602,605	264,456	3.48%
Total Expenses	7,778,870	7,561,593	214,277	2.83%
Increase (Decrease) in Net Assets	91,191	41,012	50,179	122.35%
Total Net Assets	779,409	688,218	91,191	13.25%
General Management Expense	416,262	441,569	(25,307)	-5.73%
General Management %	5.35%	5.84%		-8.33%

What You Can Do

The PLUS Company relies on your generous contributions to fulfill our mission. For more information about including The PLUS Company in your estate plan, making a general donation, or designating a gift in honor or memory of a loved one, please contact Kim Shottes, Executive Director, at (603) 889-0652. Your contribution

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