

News and Views

Spring/Summer 2014

www.malcolmeaton.org



Community Foundation of Northern Illinois funds computer literacy at Malcolm Eaton

The classrooms at Malcolm Eaton will have a powerful new tool at their disposal this Fall, thanks to a grant from the Community Foundation of Northern Illinois (CFNIL).

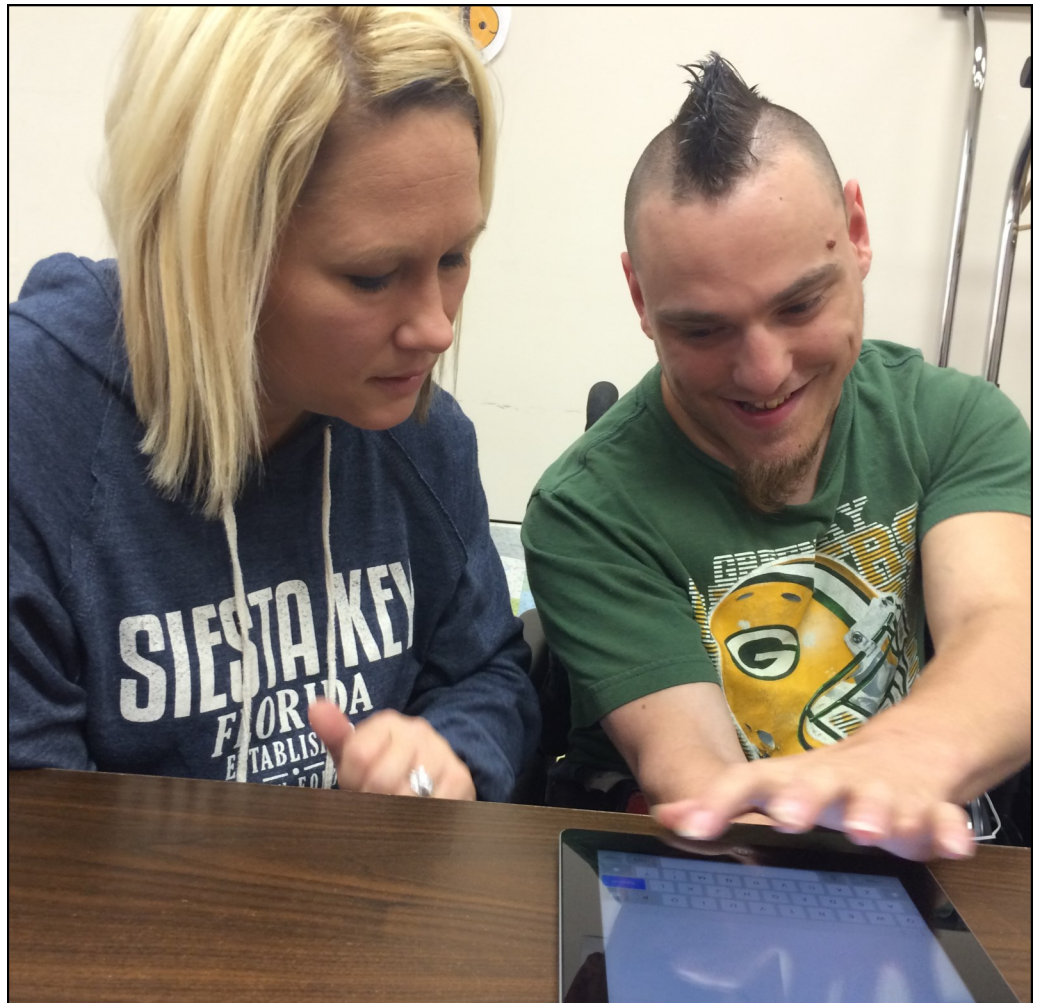
One of the CFNIL's grant providers, The Dr. Louis and Violet Rubin Fund, awarded Malcolm Eaton \$14,976.12 to purchase 30 iPads. The grant also provided funds for the purchase of a storage cart that can sync all 30 iPads at once, and several licenses of an application, TapToTalk, that helps individuals who are nonverbal communicate.

Malcolm Eaton Enterprises plans to integrate this technology within its existing training programs over the next several months.

There are already a wide variety of applications available that can assist students in learning topics such as math, spelling, reading and writing.

Several studies have shown

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A MEE staff member helps one of the individuals in Malcolm Eaton's Developmental Training program learn to access the internet using one of 30 new iPads the agency was awarded by the Community Foundation of Northern Illinois. The iPads will be used in Malcolm Eaton's classrooms as a tool to help individuals learn core concepts such as math, reading, and writing. They will also help staff teach people how they can use technology safely and responsibly.



Malcolm Eaton Enterprises received a 2014 Ford E450 this Summer to help transport people to and from Developmental Training. The vehicle is one of two that Malcolm Eaton will receive this year as part of the State's consolidated vehicle procurement program.

Malcolm Eaton adds New Vehicles to Fleet

This August, Malcolm Eaton Enterprises added a new vehicle to its fleet of 13. The newest addition is a 2014 Ford E450 that is capable of transporting up to 14 individuals.

The vehicle was obtained from the State of Illinois as part of a grant program designed to assist nonprofit agencies that provide transportation to individuals with disabilities. Malcolm Eaton applies for assistance from the program annually to replace vehicles that meet the State's criteria for age and mileage.

By the end of October this year, Malcolm Eaton is scheduled to receive another vehicle from the same program that is capable of transporting 16 individuals.

All of these vehicles are wheelchair accessible, and feature a variety of safety features that ensure everyone is transported as safely and as comfortably as possible.

Malcolm Eaton Enterprises provides transportation to 178 individuals each day. Each year, Malcolm Eaton's



This is a look inside of the new vehicles that Malcolm Eaton Acquired through the State's Vehicle Procurement Program. The new vehicles feature some of the newest safety innovations available, ensuring that everyone is transported as safely and comfortably as possible. One new feature this year is the inclusion of softer, fabric, seats that wick away moisture.



In 13 years, Spirit Paper has grown into a regional brand that provides adults with developmental disabilities over 15,000 hours of paid vocational training each year.

Spirit Bathroom Tissue Posts Record Year

When Malcolm Eaton Enterprises began manufacturing bathroom tissue in 2002, few could have imagined how successful the program would become just 13 years later.

What began as a program to provide vocational training to adults with developmental disabilities has grown into a regional brand that is available for purchase in retail outlets spanning two states.

In the most recent fiscal year, Spirit Bathroom Tissue produced just under 58,000 cases of paper, resulting in net sales of over 1.6 million dollars. This

was a 10% increase from the previous fiscal year and a new sales record for Spirit.

More importantly, the production of Spirit paper created over 15,000 hours of paid vocational training for the men and women enrolled in Developmental Training at Malcolm Eaton Enterprises. Currently, over 125 individuals at Malcolm Eaton help produce Spirit Bath-

room Tissue each year.

The production of Spirit is an important component in helping people in our area develop the vocational skills needed to work independently in their community. Many of the individuals at Malcolm Eaton that have successfully transitioned into community employment worked on the Spirit production line, learning valuable skills that helped prepare them for a job in the community.

Spirit also helps those that choose not to seek outside employment by providing them with a source of income





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Coming Up

Nov. 27, Thanksgiving Day
Nov. 28, Thanksgiving Break
Dec. 5, Institute Day
Dec. 22-26, Winter Break
Jan. 1, New Years Day

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that computer based intervention can be highly effective when working with people with developmental disabilities and autism.

Many individuals at Malcolm Eaton already work on technology-related goals, however, an even greater number struggle to access technology because of the barriers created by a traditional keyboard and mouse. By using iPads, with an intuitive touchscreen interface, Malcolm Eaton hopes to make the benefits of technology learning accessible

to a much larger group of people.

In recent decades, technology has become commonplace in classrooms, at home, and in the community. Today, technology plays an increasingly important role in how people socialize and communicate with one another.

By helping people learn to use technology safely and responsibly, Malcolm Eaton Enterprises hopes to help people with developmental disabilities in our area become more independent and better integrated within their communities.



Don Morse Golf Invitational Makes Donation

For the third straight year, members of the Don Morse Golf Invitational made a very generous donation to support services at Malcolm Eaton Enterprises. From Left, Tim Cook, Malcolm Eaton; Rob Jacobs, Frito Lay; Janey Morse, The Morse Group; Mark Winter, Winter Construction; Bill Morrow, The Morse Group; Craig Joesten, Malcolm Eaton Enterprises. Not pictured: Stan Kasper, The Rockwell Group; Todd Weegens, Fehr Graham & Associates; and Lynn Wilson, Freeport Sealcoat.