

## NEWS RELEASE

Contact:  
Karen Knavel  
Community Relations Director  
New Avenues to Independence  
216-481-1909 ext. 224  
kknavel@newavenues.net



### **Cyrus Eaton Foundation grants New Avenues To Independence funds to support Children's Programs**

#### FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

CLEVELAND, OH, January, 2012 – New Avenues to Independence was recently granted \$2,000 to support the Children's Programs by the Cyrus Eaton Foundation. The Foundation's commitment is to provide financial support to the disadvantaged in Northeast Ohio whose programs enhance the quality of life and its missions are in accordance with those of its founder, the late Cyrus Eaton.

New Avenues' Children's Programs have been providing educational, therapeutic and recreational experiences for children with special needs for over 13 years. The programs include Swim, Gym & More and Summer Camp, which are held in Mentor, Ohio. Together these programs serve children ages 3-21 years old with disabilities and chronic health conditions, such as autism, Down Syndrome, brain injury, cerebral palsy and mental illness.

Swim, Gym & More is unique in that there are no other programs of its kind in the area. Although there are other summer programs available, New Avenues' program is the most inclusive because they accept all disabilities and levels. Countless children with disabilities have developed independence, gained confidence and learned to interact with peers. In addition, the programs have enabled the children to retain the knowledge that they have learned from school and build upon those skills. Maintaining skills is important to all children. However, for children with special needs it is imperative to their continued development, future growth and maturity.

New Avenues serves more than 600 individuals with physical, cognitive and mental disabilities. In addition to its Children's Programs, they offer residential, community-based housing, vocational, emergency respite, therapeutic (music, language, art,

occupational and physical) and nursing services. These services are provided throughout Northeast Ohio including Cuyahoga, Lake, Geauga, Ashtabula, Summit and Lorain Counties.

For more information about the Children's Programs, contact Gretchen Halliday, 216-481-1909, ext. 282, [ghalliday@newavenues.net](mailto:ghalliday@newavenues.net), [www.newavenues.net](http://www.newavenues.net).

**About New Avenues to Independence**

New Avenues to Independence, Inc., is an organization that proudly provides support services, programs and opportunities for people with disabilities to become more independent and productive members of the community. For more information, contact Karen Knavel, 216-481-1909 ext. 224, [kknavel@newavenues.net](mailto:kknavel@newavenues.net), [www.newavenues.net](http://www.newavenues.net).