

## Client Receives Award!

Congratulations to **Jamal Blazer!**



Jamal was presented with the IMPACT Award at the most recent FAIRFAX PARTNERSHIP FOR YOUTH CHANGING LIVES ONE YOUTH AT A TIME, 3rd Annual Awards Breakfast, held on October 28th at the Hyatt Regency Reston.

Jamal was awarded a plaque and \$250 monetary award from the Apple Federal Credit Union Education Fund and also got to meet Hall of Fame Redskin, Art Monk.

Jamal's story of living with a brain injury inspired the committee to create an IMPACT Award which all Virginia residents are eligible for in the future. We are so proud of Jamal!

On behalf of Brain Injury Services, we would also like to thank his mother for being a great resource to our organization and her ongoing efforts to seek out great avenues for survivors of brain injuries. **Congratulations and we are all so proud!!**

## Respite Opportunity

The Renaissance Program at Iliff Nursing Center provides in-patient care to children. They have available beds which could be used for temporary respite. Children who have Medicaid and have a g-tube or tracheostomy might have coverage for respite in this type of facility. Otherwise the private pay rate is about \$100/day. If you would like to discuss this, please contact Mary Jane White at (703) 560-1000 and ask to have her overhead paged.

## Parent's Night Out

Parents' Night Out was held on Saturday, November 15<sup>th</sup> 6:30-9:30 p.m. at the Mott Community Center in Fairfax. Nine pediatric clients and siblings participated in the activities including playing with the pet therapy dogs, craft projects, basketball, board games, and video games. The children's parents enjoyed a rare evening out by

themselves for shopping, dinner, and movies. A special thank you to the Fairfax County Therapeutic Recreation Services staff, Mott Center staff, and the additional volunteers who helped to make the event a success! We also owe a big thanks to the pet therapists, Kris Campesi and Chris Spangler, and their therapy dogs, Titus and Daisy. They were a big hit! We look forward to the next event and will keep you posted when it is scheduled.



## Upcoming Educational Programs

**Transition Fair** – February 21, 2009 at  
Hylton High School in Woodbridge

**International Conference on Diversity  
and TBI Rehabilitation** in Arlington –  
March 12 & 13, 2009

**Accessibility Summit** at McLean Bible  
Church in Vienna – March 20 & 21,  
2009. Visit  
[www.accessibilitysummit.org](http://www.accessibilitysummit.org).

**Caregivers' Conference** – June 6, 2009  
in Williamsburg

**Pediatric Brain Injury Conference** –  
Fall, 2009