



# UCT inAction

Information for UCT's Members and Councils

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## Alternative Council Training Session a smash!

The first one-day UCT Alternative Council Training Session, held at the home office in October, was a huge success! Over 18 alternative council officers and members from across the U.S. attended and walked away with valuable information about UCT.

"I think every member left with a complete and better understanding of UCT - and with an excitement to share this information with their council members," said Community Outreach Manager Jen Chillinsky. "We see the session helping our new members in talking about UCT, sharing our story

and being better able to recruit new members.

The training session also allowed members to network, share success stories, and even offer guidance to other members. Contact information was shared, and several councils talked about collaborating on community service efforts in the near future.

At the end of the day, the training session turned out to be a smash! As Abigail Ruggles, secretary of Golden Keys Council 2010 in Sacramento, California, summed it up: "This training session was an invaluable experience. I feel confident and energized for my council, and I can't wait to get out there and do some good!"

## Don't miss your last chance to support the 3rd annual UCT Winter Hockey Festival!

The 3rd annual UCT Winter Hockey Festival is coming up Jan. 17-19, 2014, at The Gardens Ice House in Laurel, Maryland. Twenty ASHA special hockey teams from across the U.S. are expected to participate in this year's festival, making it bigger and better than ever! However, hosting more teams means more ice time - and more funds needed to run the tournament.

You can help by joining the UCT councils and members that have already become festival sponsors! Just choose the sponsorship level that works for you and/or your council and send

your donation to the home office by Dec. 31. Sponsors will be recognized in the official 2014 UCT Winter Hockey Festival program and during the festival. Sponsorship levels include:

- \$500 - Center Ice Sponsor
- \$350 - Red Line Sponsor
- \$200 - Blue Line Sponsor
- \$100 - Penalty Box Sponsor

Your support will help make this year's festival a memorable event for participating athletes with developmental and intellectual disabilities. Send your contribution by **Dec. 31, 2013**, to:  
**UCT, c/o Sandy Shafer,  
1801 Watermark Dr., Suite  
100, Columbus, Ohio 43215.**

Contact Sandy at [sshafer@uct.org](mailto:sshafer@uct.org) or at 800.848.0123, Ext. 146, with any questions.



## New benefit for Canadian members coming soon!



Our newest benefit - UCT's

**Financial U** - is on its way for Canadian members! The benefit is a confidential financial helpline that provides one-on-one live financial guidance. Members will benefit from the guidance of professional, accredited or certified financial counselors on nearly every kind of financial matter.

Subjects range from crisis-type issues such as foreclosures, collections and repossessions to planning and strategizing questions involving retirement, college expenses and saving goals.

UCT's Financial U counselors are located nationwide and will deliver immediate, fact-based guidance confidentially and compassionately to help you make better financial decisions day after day.

Canadian members take note - and watch for more details headed your way!

## New UCT Leadership Development Program set to target teens

UCT has been committed to youth, education and leadership development across the U.S. and Canada for over 125 years. As a non-profit organization designed to give back to local communities in which members live, UCT is excited to offer a new program for high school students that will help shape tomorrow's leaders.

The UCT Leadership Development Program will provide students an opportunity to engage in service projects in local communities, network with community leaders,



and gain valuable leadership skills to prepare them for the next phase of life. The program will offer countless benefits for students and their schools - and

just might help increase UCT awareness in local communities and attract young people to local councils!

**Watch for more information coming soon about this exciting new program. In the meantime, contact Community Outreach Manager Jen Chillinsky at [jchillinsky@uct.org](mailto:jchillinsky@uct.org) or at 800-848-0123, Ext. 207, with questions.**

## It's your last chance to help your local program or school win \$10,000 through UCT Gives Back...AGAIN

If you know of a school with a program for students with intellectual disabilities, or a university that trains special education teachers, this is your last chance to help them win \$10,000 through the UCT Gives Back...AGAIN video contest!

UCT is calling for entries from U.S. and Canadian programs and schools through Dec. 31. Videos are encouraged to be short - 2 minutes or less - and simple. Don't forget, this year we're sweetening the contest by giving away two prizes - a \$10,000 first place award and a \$5,000 second place award!

Check out the [UCT Gives Back...AGAIN](#) flyer for full details. Better yet, print and



**A student at Galax Elementary School's Cooperative Care Center for Exceptional Children (CCEC) in Galax, Virginia, demonstrates how to use the Smart Board purchased with the \$10,000 prize the school received after winning last year's UCT Gives Back video contest.**

distribute the flyer personally to programs and schools in your area, and encourage them - or even help them - to participate before the Dec. 31 deadline!

**Contact Marketing Manager Heather Darling at [hdarling@uct.org](mailto:hdarling@uct.org) or at 800.848.0123, Ext. 206, with any questions.**