

As 2010 came to a close, the Braddock Facility witnessed two landmark events for the individuals and MCPRS as an agency in the year's final quarter.

To begin, Mr. Elvin Alvarez, Residential Services Coordinator of Braddock – House B was formally and officially recognized by the Florida Alliance for Direct Support Professionals (FADSP) during 2010's National DSP Recognition Week. Given his positive impact as a Supervisor and given the fact that he also became MCPRS' first employee to gain the *DSP – Credentialed* status at the National level, Elvin took the lead within the Braddock Facility in encouraging and aiding other Direct Support Professionals under his supervision in becoming both Registered & Credentialed DSPs. Most recently, Elvin also joined the ranks of the select few Nationwide DSP-Cs that will begin participating in the formal portfolio submission review and critique process for DSP-Rs seeking to gain Credentialed DSP status. These accomplishments are a huge honor for Elvin, the Braddock Facility, and MCPRS!

Lastly, in November 2010 was highlighted by the ***First Annual Braddock Fall Festival Event***. Held November 13th, this unprecedented event provided individuals from all of MCPRS' residential programs an opportunity to participate in an exciting day alongside one another, MCPRS staff members, and their families, while simultaneously raising funds for the MCPRS Resident Government Committee. MCPRS individuals were involved in every aspect of the Festival: from granting admission, to handling funds, distributing raffle tickets for prizes, providing official agency information in the form of flyers and brochures, creating sculptures and painting ceramics, and performing various outstanding open-mic acts consisting of singing, dancing, piano, drums, guitar, poetry readings, and fashion shows. This event was unique in the way that it provided an opportunity for communication, collaboration, and celebration amongst the facilities at MCPRS while fostering inter-facility support and advocacy. Moreover, it continued to build trust, care, empathy, and love between the families, individuals and staff more than perhaps another more formal event could. The event was a huge success and with every "First Annual," there's bound to be a "Second" – So look out for it again in 2011!