

LifeTimes

News & Information

28



Programs in:

Albemarle

Burlington

Charlotte

Dobson

Greensboro

Monroe

Mt. Airy

Statesville

Troutman

Waynesville

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Meet Carl, Artist

LIFESPAN Arts is a multi-disciplinary, fully inclusive art studio situated in the North Davidson Art District in Charlotte. LIFESPAN Arts program began in 2001 as a two-hour weekly session serving eight individuals. Today, eight resident artists and 56 student artists participate in the studio. The resident artists have their own work space and have complete freedom over their creative process.

Carl Everley joined the art program in 2008 and is now a resident artist at LIFESPAN Arts. In August, 2010, Carl applied for, and was one of five artists chosen to be a participant in the LIFESPAN Arts Micro-Enterprise program. The program is sponsored by a generous \$20,000 grant from the Reemprise Fund. The Micro-Enterprise program is a person-centered approach to providing opportunities for individuals with significant developmental disabilities to realize their dreams of employment and community involvement. Carl is now setting up his own small business to sell his art. As part of the program, he is creating a business plan and setting artistic, financial and marketing goals for his business. He gets the benefit of working with community mentors and advisors, along with LIFESPAN staff who work to educate him on how to execute the plan and succeed. Through a partnership with McColl Center for Visual Arts he is being mentored by an artist from the center who is challenging him to meet his creative potential. Carl and his peers attend bi-monthly business meetings with their mentors to discuss successes and challenges. He also attends workshops and media classes that are enabling him to produce his own business cards, learning how to create a blog, and stretching his artistic abilities by being introduced to new creative techniques, such as printmaking and mosaic.

Do you want to get involved and learn more about the artists? Stop by the program to learn about becoming a mentor, get an update on the Micro-Enterprise program, and meet Carl. Art is available for purchase at the studio.

For more information contact: Tracy Hartzog at thartzog@lifespanservices.org or 704-336-4098.



Six Month Updates

JULY 1 - DEC 31, 2010

Employment:

19 adults were placed in employment

Served:

1,144 children and adults were served in 18 locations

Program Participants

Volunteered:

150 adults volunteered each month for a total of 11,429 volunteer hours over six months

Community College Classes:

250 participants attend community college classes

Community Art Classes:

77 adults are enrolled in community art classes



Significant Corporate Accomplishments:

- All adult programs have been transformed into Creative Campuses with curriculum based learning opportunities in our programs as well as in the community. This initiative is ongoing in the second half of the fiscal year with new curriculum development in the areas of culinary, self-advocacy, home improvement, and sewing.
- LIFESPAN seeks input from the individuals and families we support, as well as funders, via a satisfaction survey. The 6 month results show that 99% of our program participants are satisfied with the services they receive and funders indicated 97% satisfaction with our services as well.
- LIFESPAN received 34 external audits from regulators across the organization in all service areas during the last 6 months. Thirty-four audits resulted in no financial paybacks for the organization.

A Word with Leigh



As I drove back to Charlotte from a Crossroads district staff meeting in Troutman, I reflected on what I experienced. Something was different. While our managers are always professional and positive in these meetings, this one had a profoundly different tone. Each person reported improvements, and stories of individuals' successes. But, it wasn't just the content of these reports and discussions, it was the enthusiasm and in some cases, obvious joy with which they were delivered. They congratulated each other and applauded the accomplishments. It was the LIFESPAN of a few years ago. It felt to me like a cloud had lifted over this meeting as a metaphor for one lifting over LIFESPAN. I have said for decades that this organization's greatest strength is the incredibly devoted management and staff. They have propelled us through the storm of the past few years and are now feeling renewed energy and excitement.

Despite the overwhelming financial challenges of the past three years, our facilities and programs have been transformed into Creative Campuses. Despite high unemployment, we have placed dozens of individuals in community jobs. Despite a (UNC Charlotte) reported 53% decrease in Charlotte area nonprofits' gross revenues, our giving levels are back to where they were in the past. All the while, we have improved LIFESPAN from our governing board to our program services.

Indeed, LIFESPAN is alive and well and doing incredible things; and doing them with the excitement and enjoyment of old.

Leigh Dobby



In Memory of our Former Board Member and Friend Keith Womble

LIFESPAN lost a dear friend with the passing of Keith Womble on February 12th. Keith was instrumental in bringing LIFESPAN to Iredell County in 2003. He was a passionate advocate for our programs and served on the statewide LIFESPAN Board of Directors and LIFESPAN Board of Visitors-Iredell. Keith was a kind and generous man who will be missed by many.

Fund Raising and Friend Raising



Charlotte Philanthropy Luncheon

Over 350 guests attended the Charlotte Philanthropy Luncheon at the Westin Hotel on February 9th and raised \$98,000. Environamics was honored with the 2011 Corporate Philanthropist of the Year Award for their efforts raising \$118,000 over the last fifteen years through their annual golf tournament to benefit LIFESPAN. Thank you to our generous sponsors that include: **PLATINUM SPONSORS:** Womble Carlyle Sandridge & Rice, PLLC and Wells Fargo. **GOLD SPONSORS:** LarsonAllen, LLP and Benefit Solutions. **DIAMOND SPONSORS:** Ballantyne Insurance Group; Fifth Third Bank; First Citizens Bank; Jennie Derby & Associates; Paul C. Schmidt, CPA; Pioneer; Reemprise Fund; Sunshine Cleaning Systems, Inc.; Tolt Service Group; and Triune Capital Advisors, LLC. **SILVER SPONSORS:** Anonymous; Davan Cloninger; Woody & Becky Efird; Jim & Wylly Guterman; Johnson & Wales University; and Signature Healthcare.



\$1,000,000 Capital Campaign Launched in Greensboro – Strengthening the Branches of LIFESPAN

A campaign was launched in Guilford County to raise \$1,000,000 to pay down the debt on our new facility located conveniently between Greensboro and High Point. LIFESPAN has delivered high quality enrichment, employment, and case management services in Guilford County since 1998. Today, we serve 500 individuals and their families out of the Guilford Creative Campus representing 43% of the people supported by LIFESPAN. To learn more about the campaign or to make a donation contact Michelle Davis at mdavis@lifespanservices.org or 336-601-3917.



\$300,000 Residential Campaign in Charlotte

LIFESPAN has operated four group homes in Mecklenburg County since 1982. The residential program allows twenty-one men and women with significant developmental disabilities to live in a traditional home environment within their community of family and friends.

LIFESPAN Residential Services is launching a financial campaign to raise \$300,000 to meet the critical needs within our four group homes that includes:

- \$74,000 Interior Renovations and Repairs
- \$186,000 Exterior Renovations and Repairs
- \$40,000 Residential Reserve for Repairs and Maintenance

To learn more about the campaign or to make a donation contact Nancy McEneny, CFRE at nmceneny@lifespanservices.org or 704-944-5109.

Contacts

LEADERSHIP TEAM

Leigh Derby, *President & CEO*

704-944-5128 | l Derby@lifespanservices.org

Ralph Adams, *CFO*

704-944-5125 | radams@lifespanservices.org

Davan Cloninger, *Vice President Program Services*

704-944-5121 | dcloninger@lifespanservices.org

Nancy McEneny, *CFRE, Vice President*

Advancement

704-944-5109 | nmceneny@lifespanservices.org

EXECUTIVE DIRECTORS

Christopher White, *Mecklenburg and Haywood counties*

704-944-5108 | cwhite@lifespanservices.org

Robin Devore, *Union and Stanly counties*

704-944-5136 | rdevore@lifespanservices.org

Steve Knier, *Guilford and Alamance counties*

336-852-1495 | sknier@lifespanservices.org

Bonita Stanley, *Iredell and Surry counties*

336-374-4466 | bstanley@lifespanservices.org

DEVELOPMENT AND MARKETING TEAM

Staff:

Amee Lee, *Executive Administrative Assistant*

704-944-5110 | ameelee@lifespanservices.org

Lori Avery, *Director of Development*

(Haywood, Mecklenburg, Union and Stanly counties)

704-944-5112 | lavery@lifespanservices.org

Debbie Brown-Smith, *Director of Development*
(Iredell & Surry counties)

704-873-5646 | dbrown@lifespanservices.org

Michelle Davis, *Director of Development*
(Guilford & Alamance counties)

336-601-3917 | mdavis@lifespanservices.org

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Carrie Venable

Wish List

Spring 2011

Wii and Wii Fitness

Flat Screen TVs

Yoga Mats

Hand Held Weights

Gift Cards
(Wal-Mart, Target, Lowes,
Michaels, BP)

Event Tickets
(Festivals, Movies, Plays,
Concerts)

Horticulture Supplies

Art Supplies

General Supplies
(Batteries, Light Bulbs,
Paper Products, and
Hand Sanitizer)

Digital Cameras

Our Mission

LIFESPAN transforms the lives of children and adults with developmental disabilities by providing education, employment, and enrichment opportunities that promote inclusion, choice, family supports, and other best practices.

LIFESPAN currently supports close to 1,200 individuals in our collection of community programs across North Carolina from Haywood to Alamance counties.

Individual Volunteer Opportunities

Become a buddy

Accompany a group during a visit to the museum or to a movie

Participate in an art class – paint beside an aspiring artist

Participate in the horticulture program – help to plant a garden

Corporate Volunteer Team from Harland Clarke



Group Volunteer Opportunities

Host a supply drive

Adopt a learning room and do a “make over”

Host a spring party at one of our programs

NOTE: LIFESPAN works with each individual or group to create the right volunteer experience to match your needs.



LIFESPAN Awarded 3 Year CARF Accreditation

LIFESPAN secured a three year national accreditation through the Commission on Accreditation of Rehabilitation Facilities. 901 standards were reviewed and LIFESPAN must develop a quality improvement plan for only 7 recommendations received. A few remarks from the surveyors include:

- LIFESPAN, Inc. demonstrates strength in many areas.
- LIFESPAN is an excellent organization with innovative programs. Leadership at all levels is outstanding. The governing body has been transforming itself over the last few years and is more appropriately involved and active than ever before. As an example, some board members are directly involved in the process of developing the targets of the organization in the strategic planning process as opposed to that entity functioning with a more limiting governance perspective of review and approval.
- There is sound financial planning in a very austere funding environment. The organization is seeking to be proactive in developing new and expanded business lines.
- Persons served/individuals and family members convey full trust and respect for LIFESPAN staff members throughout the organization.



Save the Date

Saturday, September 10, 2011

2:00-4:00 P.M.

Latitude 36

18665 Harborside Drive
Cornelius, NC (Lake Norman)

Sponsors and prizes needed.

CONTACT: Nancy McEneny, CFRE 704-944-5109.



200 Clanton Road
Charlotte, North Carolina
28217

704-944-5110
www.lifespanservices.org



LIFESPAN Incorporated does not discriminate against any person because of race, color, religion, sex, handicap, familial status or national origin.

Financial information about this organization and a copy of its license are available from the State Solicitation Licensing Section at 888.830.4989.

The license is not an endorsement by the State. LIFESPAN is recognized as a 501 (c) (3) organization accepting tax-deductible charitable donations.

If you no longer wish to receive our publication, please call Amee Lee at 704-944-5110 or email ameelee@lifespanservices.org.