



CLOVERNOOK CENTER
FOR THE BLIND AND VISUALLY IMPAIRED

the perspective

semi-annual publication fall 2015

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our mission

our mission is to empower people who are blind and visually impaired to be self-sufficient and full participants in their communities.

contact us

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cincinnati, ohio 45231
513.522.3860
www.clovernook.org



At Clovernook Center we are committed to promoting and supporting the health and wellness of our staff and consumers, which is why the Wellness Committee offered a variety of options for staff to stay active this summer!

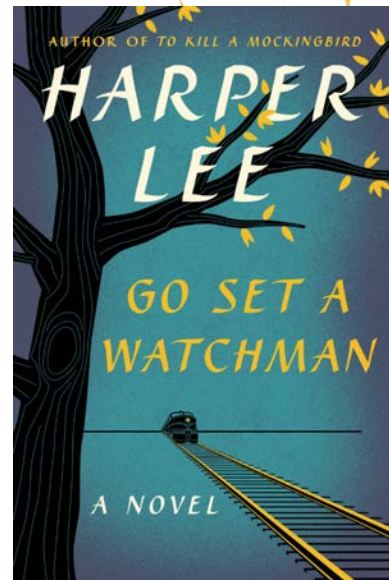
From lunch time walking clubs, to afternoon yoga classes, and even a mindfulness workshop, there was a little something for everybody! In addition to these options, we hosted our annual Biggest Loser Competition. With 15 participants, and over 50 pounds lost, it was a great success! Each candidate paid a \$10 entry fee and participated in bi-weekly weigh-ins. If a candidate gained weight week over week, they were required to pay an additional \$5 if they wanted to get back into the competition. The summer was a great success as many of our staff and consumers explored health and discovered wellness! Check out social media for our Biggest Loser 2015 winners!

Photo of participants back row: Deana Marshall, Angela Maddox, Pam Timme, Ed Knox
Front row: Melissa Hoppe, India Griffin, Deanna Lewis, Saul Garza, Samuel Foulkes, Ryan Miller



literacy matters,

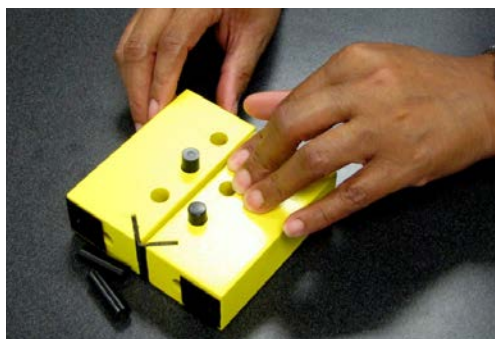
which is why Clovernook is excited to promote and teach braille literacy in Greater Cincinnati. For over 100 years, Clovernook has been the industry leader in braille publication, and has set the standard for teaching braille literacy. With only 10% of individuals who are blind or visually impaired able to read braille, there is a large contingency of people who are, in essence, functionally illiterate. The statistics are staggering. Over 50% of students who are blind drop out of high school and 70% of adults who are of working age, who are blind and visually impaired, are unemployed. Because of this, Clovernook's goal is to make braille literacy accessible for all individuals, blind or sighted. "Many people do not realize that a person who is blind and unable to read braille is similar to a sighted person who is unable to read print. They lack the skills necessary for most jobs, and many everyday situations. We want to stem that, and focus on promoting literacy for all. Our goal is to empower each individual that we serve, so they can be self-sufficient and participate fully in their community." Says Chris Faust. In



Clovernook Center is in the midst of publishing **Go Set a Watchman**, by Harper Lee,

conjunction with the braille literacy classes, Clovernook will also begin a book club in late fall. The book club will be open to all readers of print or braille, and their anticipated first book will be *Go Set a Watchman*, by Harper Lee, a book which Clovernook is currently in the works for publishing.

For more information call Debbie Albert at 513-522-3860. Classes are held in the evenings at 7000 Hamilton Avenue, and are open to the public.



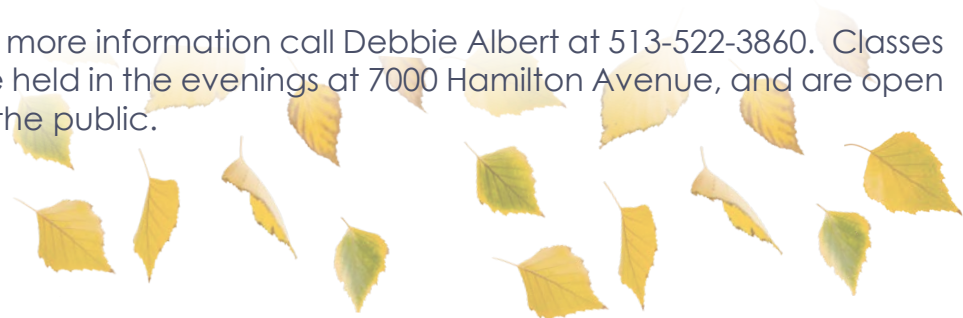
A student learning the braille alphabet, with a six cell peg jig.



Founded in 1966 as the Commission on Accreditation of Rehabilitation Facilities, CARF International is an independent, nonprofit accreditor of health and human services. Providers that meet CARF standards have demonstrated their commitment to being among the best available.

Clovernook Center is proud to be **the only local agency, serving the blind and visually impaired** community that is accredited through CARF.

We are excited to welcome the CARF Surveyors back to Clovernook Center on October 5, 6 & 7.





letter from the president

Fall is always a busy season at Clovernook Center, and this year is no exception. As our summer interns and campers head back to class, we begin classes of our own! In August we welcomed a cohort of students to our Braille Literacy Classes. Although we have been teaching Braille Literacy in Memphis for over 16 years, we are thrilled to now be able to provide this service to consumers in the

Greater Cincinnati Region as well.

In addition to these classes, we have also resumed our Low Vision Support Group. Our first meeting, held in early September, was a great success. We had a wonderful turnout and while we were happy to catch up with a few people from the past, we also welcomed many new individuals! I am excited to watch how this group grows in the coming months.

Fall is also gearing up to be a season of growth for our Social Enterprises. We are constantly looking for ways to build capacity and we continue to explore new options and opportunities. We look forward to sharing some of these opportunities with you in the coming months. None of our growth and success would be possible without our dedicated team of staff and volunteers, and on September 25, we were able to celebrate everyone's hard work at our Annual Staff Picnic & Awards. And, while we appreciate the contribution of each staff member, Natasha Green, Case Manager, was honored for her outstanding commitment to our mission, over the past year.

I am proud to be a part of a team that lives out our mission every day, to empower people who are blind and visually impaired to be self-sufficient and full participants in their communities.

Sincerely,

Chris Faust



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Wanda Owens singing the national anthem at Fountain Square.

wanda owens

originally connected with Clovernook out of a need for Orientation and Mobility instruction, and 14 years later she is still here! "It has been great. I originally came for Mobility Instruction, then I was connected with the art therapy classes, and then I became an employee."

Wanda began losing her sight over 47 years ago, and although she has a Bachelor's Degree in Sociology and a background in musical theatre, she wasn't sure what she would do after she lost her sight. "I thought to myself, I will work, but who will hire a visually impaired senior citizen?" Much to her surprise, as she was touring Clovernook with her sorority sisters a few years ago, she was asked if she'd be interested in working at Clovernook Center, her answer was yes!

Wanda began working in Clovernook's manufacturing department in June 2014. She has worked on the contract packaging side and has also manufactured file folders. But recently Wanda began noticing some changes, she started experiencing pain and numbness in her hands. After seeing a doctor she was diagnosed with Carpal Tunnel Syndrome, which significantly impacts the ability to do her job, a job that requires repetitive work with her hands. "I do believe that giving up is not an option, so you've got to go for something. I asked Human Resources if

there might be other options for me," Wanda said. Working closely with Human Resources and her supervisor, Wanda was introduced to other employment opportunities at Clovernook. This summer she accepted a position working with our Adult Day program. "Adult Day is important to me because I am an encourager and I love to see people excited. The individuals in Adult Day are important, and I want to make them feel important to me. I love making them laugh." Wanda is a great example of someone who has been able to utilize Clovernook as a consumer, but also use her skills and talents to serve with Clovernook in a variety of capacities. She has even had a chance to use her musical theatre skills with Adult Day, as they regularly perform throughout the city.



social enterprises

Earlier this month we participated in Social Enterprise Cincy, an event promoting Social Enterprises in Greater Cincinnati, and encouraging the public to support these businesses. As you may recall, earlier this year, we transitioned our Industrial Operations to a Social Enterprise. Social Enterprise, is a term that more accurately reflects the mission and vision of Clovernook Center. The move was more than a name change, it was a philosophical change. Unlike traditional non-profit models that rely solely on solicited funds, or traditional for-profit businesses that generate revenue for outside stakeholders, the primary focus of a Social Enterprise is to generate revenue that is redirected to furthering social goals. In our case, to further our mission: to empower people who are blind and visually impaired to be self-sufficient and full participants in their communities. While revenue generation



Left:
Vince Porter,
Angela
Maddox,
India Griffin

Right:
Nancy
Blizzard
Greg
Matheney
James
Woodruff



remains essential, and we continue to focus our attention on business development and customer service, our focus has shifted to our deeper defining characteristic, our mission. To help support Clovernook's Social Enterprise, or to find out more go to our website www.clovernookproducts.com

On July 27, Clovernook Center's compostable and biodegradable paper cups were featured on FYI Network's newest show Home Factory! Home Factory uncovers the stories behind the household objects we can't live without, and proves that our everyday stuff is anything but ordinary. Home Factory offers a whirlwind tour of some of the most incredible production facilities in North America, of which we are one! And along the way, introduces the mega machines and assembly line heroes who make it all happen. At Clovernook,

cups with a cause
by Clovernook Center
featured on **fyi.**

those heroes are individuals who are blind and visually impaired, who work in our Social Enterprises! Check your local listings or online at fyi.tv/shows/home-factory for upcoming showings of our episode, **The Bear Necessities.**



CLOVERNOOK ASSOCIATES

classic rewind



1987

Connie Mitchell grocery shopping with an assistant



1982

Ingrid Hillworth, Sharon Kelly and Connie Mitchell hike the Parcours Trail at Winton Woods.



A special tour for the blind at the Cincinnati Art Museum is enjoyed by Nancy Blizzard. Wearing white gloves, Nancy and others on the tour handled various art objects.



Cary Cottage, 1928



1976

Students participating in the summer program at Procter Center were, first row, left to right, Sharon Bodine, Mary Berry, Kate Morse; second row, left to right, Jane Michael, Bobbi Long, Julie Bulger, Paula Terry and John Brickweg.



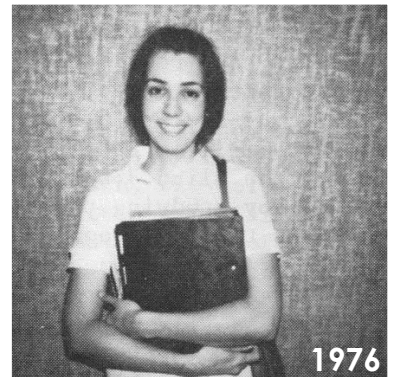
1976

Jeanne Ezelle Simons, director of the Clovernoots, seated at the piano. Members of the group, standing, left to right, are Irene Hewett, Judy Geise, Sharon Garland, Judy Lass, Barbara Liszniewski, Pat Crook, Betty Frye, Marjorie Book, Alice Ware, Thelma Felker, Carole Jones and Rosanna Masters, seated at left. Guide dog mascots are Prince, Mandy and Anita. Cover story on page 12.



1987

Sharon Garland, left, totals the price of her purchases as they are read to her by volunteer Marlene Sheward.



1976

DEBBIE ALBERT - nee Moschel; rehabilitation teacher; recent graduate of Western Michigan University; has worked five summers at Clovernook. Welcome back!

tribute gifts

in honor of

Jerry Ewers

Clark & Ellen Sole

Norma Henry

Don Dickinson

Brian Tiffany

Clark & Ellen Sole

in memory of

Shirley Auciello

Richard Brandenburg

Gerald Brandenburg

Richard Brandenburg

Earl Brandenburg

Richard Brandenburg

Jean Bruns

Dave & Lucy Wynn

Ann Dickinson

Don Dickinson

Janet Dickinson

Don Dickinson

Gordon Gentzler

Richard Brandenburg

Ben Homan

Dave & Lucy Wynn

Delores Logan

Richard Brandenburg

Hearl Rowland

Richard Brandenburg

Margaret Runnebaum

Edward Bunnebaum

Betty Sunnenberg

Ruth Rubendunst

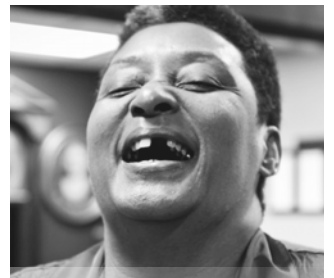
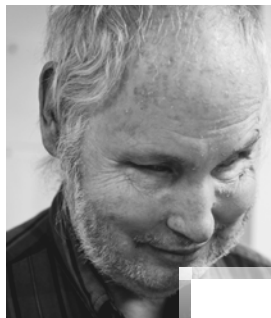
Mary Rita Willig

Ruth Rubendunst

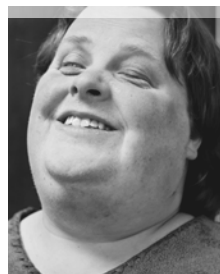
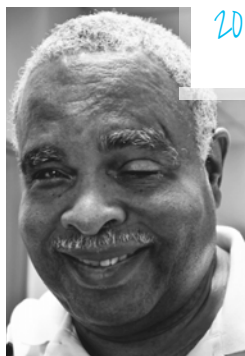


The Burger King,
by Dana Metcalf

The 2014-2015 Annual Impact Report is now available for download on our website at www.clovernook.org.



2014-2015 Annual Impact Report



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Clovernook Savings Coupon

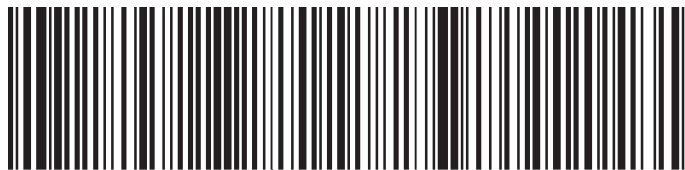
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