

Working with You Working for You

Bollinger Enterprises, Inc.

BEi-LINE

January 2017

Lead Story

BE Inspired Art Show

BE Inspired Art Show

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The BE inspired Art group was provided the opportunity to work with local photographer Monika Garami in presenting a Documentary Photography Art Show at the Warren Library's Wetmore Gallery. The Art Show took place January 3rd—31st, 2017. Art work shown at the gallery showcased the BEi Artist group's paintings, drawings, and handmade jewelry. The Art Show also featured works from the Barber Institute and Monika Garami's documentary photograph series. BEi extends a sincere thank you to Monika because of the volunteer to work with the individuals in BEi's Art group. One aspect of Monika's instruction was teaching several classes on how to use a camera and how to take

pictures from an artist's viewpoint. Monika expressed that working with the individual's from BEi was an extremely rewarding experience for her. An article was written by Monika in the most recent "Steppin Out" magazine featuring the event. A public reception was held at the gallery on January 9th, where speakers from both organizations of BEi and Barber Institute held informational presentations.



Donations Received

Vicky & Fred Venal
United Fund of Warren County
Edith L Trees Charitable Trust



BEi Services:

Educational Opportunities

Pre-Employment Transition Services for Youth

Employment & Skill Building

Pre-Vocational Services
Transitional Work Services
Supported Employment

Community Living & Learning

Life Skills Training
Adult Training Facility
Therapeutic Activities Program

Support for Families

Information Sharing

Recreational Activities

BE inspired Community Art Program
Wellness Activities
Community Events

Business Outsourcing Opportunities:

Packaging or Repackaging of Materials
Hand Assembly Work
Quality Control Inspections
Shrink Wrapping of Products
Light Industrial Work
Custodial Contracts

For more information, call BEi at (814) 723-8431 or visit

www.beiwarren.com

Brian Freeborough – P.E.T.S. Coordinator

Brian Freeborough comes to BEi with 36 years of experience working with people with differing abilities. He originates from Pittsfield, PA where he was born and raised.

After graduating from Edinboro University in 1980 he moved to Omaha, NE where he worked for the Eastern Nebraska Human Services Agency.

He moved to Phoenix, AZ in 2002 where he worked for The Tugland Corporation and Peckham Inc. Brian returned to Pittsfield in 2014 and began working as a Building Aide within the Warren County School District (WCSD) prior to being hired as the new BEi Pre-Employment Transition Services Coordinator .



The first P.E.T.S. classes began on December 12, 2016. BEi is working in coordination with the Office of Vocational Rehabilitation and WCSD to present weekly classes for eligible students in the areas of Independent Living Skills, Self-Advocacy and Workplace Readiness Training as defined by Workforce Innovation Opportunities Act (WIOA). Students involved in the program range in ages 14 through 21 years old. The P.E.T.S. Coordinator travels to 6 schools throughout the WCSD conducting 20 classes per week. Classes will continue after the holiday break until the end of the school year.

Jeanine Valencia—ATF Program Specialist



Jeanine Valencia began working in the human services field in 2004, providing support services for adults with intellectual and developmental disabilities. She has worked with multiple individuals in Warren County, and has become familiar with the difficulties, triumphs, and needs within this population. Jeanine has a BA in Psychology from Pennsylvania State University, which she earned while being home fulltime with her children. In October 2015 Jeanine returned to work as a Direct Care Staff in the Adult Training Facility (ATF) program at BEi. Surrounded by individuals she had provided services to over the years combined with her years of experience, stepping into the position of Program Specialist

made sense.

Jeanine's vision for the ATF program is to offer our individuals the opportunity to build confidence and independence through the development of life skills, to be active in therapeutic activities such as music and art, and to develop relationships in the community through volunteering.

ATF Volunteering



One component of the ATF program at BEi is to provide our individuals with opportunities to volunteer in the community. Volunteering helps our individuals improve social skills, feel good about themselves, and to develop relationships in the community. In addition to socializing cats at Paws Along the River, individuals have been volunteering at St. Francis Episcopal Church in Youngsville, Audubon Community Center in Jamestown, and New Hope Assistance Dogs in Starbrick. During the holiday season, individuals rang the bell for the Salvation Army. Going into the New Year, we will be making new connections in order to provide our individuals additional volunteer opportunities.

BEi Craft and Vendor Show



The ninth annual BEi Holiday Craft and Vendor show was well attended regardless of the weather on December 10th. Over thirty vendors displayed a variety of crafts. Revenue raised from the Craft and Vendor show will be used to enhance BEi programs. A Special thanks to Jennifer Gibson, BEi employee, for organizing the craft show and to board members who volunteered for the event: Melissa Proctor, Laura Bierbower, Jane Dunshie, Julie Bennett, BEi Staff and friends of BEi.



2016 Halloween Dance



The BEi annual Halloween Dance took place at the Jefferson DeFrees Family Center on October 28th. Everyone enjoyed snacks and danced to the music provided by DJ Denny. Everyone had a lot of good costumes this year, but only three could win the gift cards for best dressed. The winners were Christine, Ashley, and Priya.

Yoga

During the winter months, BEi offers an option for those who would like to exercise and promote wellness. Rick Nuhfer offers his services to us to teach a weekly class for an hour at the Jefferson DeFrees Family Center. Some benefits from maintaining a regular yoga routine are increased flexibility, increased muscle strength and tone, weight reduction, cardio and circulatory health.

2016 Christmas Dance

On December 16th BEi held their annual Christmas Party at the North Warren Fire Hall. Clients worked the first half of a day and second half enjoyed food, music, and dancing. Kondak's Market catered the party and DJ Denny took care of the music. For the third consecutive year, the Youth Connection was able to perform a show for everyone to enjoy.



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Mission

To Enrich the Lives of People with Disabilities

- * **B**ringing opportunities to people with disabilities for independence at work, at home and at play!
- * **E**nhancing self-worth and enjoyment in life!
- * **i**nvolving the community to make it happen!

**Check out our website at
www.beigarren.com**



Message from BEi Executive Director

Dear Friends:

I am excited to be a part of BEi. After six months on the job, I quickly recognized the many outstanding qualities of the individuals and employees at BEi. I can only hope my skills and background can allow BEi to grow in a similar manner that blossomed under Bob Klebacha's leadership.

The landscape is changing by forces beyond the walls of BEi. During the past year, Governor Wolf issued an Executive Order designating Pennsylvania as an Employment First state and the Workforce Innovation Opportunities Act (WIOA) replaced the Workforce Investment Act of 1973.

Executive Order 2016-03 outlines the governor's goal of increasing competitive integrated employment for Pennsylvanians with a disability. The policy reflects the Commonwealth's goal of making Pennsylvania a model state by creating a climate hospitable to workers with a disability.

WIOA will allow for a phase in of the standards imposed under the Act. WIOA outlines that by January 1, 2018 individuals will have 25% of their time in competitive integrated employment plus time in community locations and hubs. The percentage moves to 50% in July 2018 and 75% in January 2019.

As we all wind down from the holidays and look forward to 2017, I can say these are exciting times at BEi. As these new regulations unfold and impact BEi, my position is to make sure BEi stays true to its mission which is To Enrich the Lives of People with Disabilities.

Sincerely

William A. Clark, D.Ed.
Executive Director