FEATURE STORY

Kitchen/Breakroom Renovation a Reality

"The fondest memories are made gathered around the table." This quote holds true at New Perceptions. We are a place where individuals can be themselves without fear or worry. A place where friends are made, where opportunities for achievement exist, where ordinary and extraordinary days are celebrated, and laughter and fun round out the day. It is no coincidence that the first and last place that participants enter New Perceptions is the very place where the fondest of memories are made – around the tables in our kitchen and breakroom.

New Perceptions moved into its current location in 1990. Over time, the organization has done its best to update and maintain the two acres of space under roof. But just as would occur in an old home, things simply get worn out. With more than 100 people utilizing our kitchen and breakroom every day, wear and tear quickly occurs.

Thanks to several area grantors, New Perceptions is getting a complete kitchen and breakroom renovation! From new flooring, cabinets, tables and chairs, to refrigerators, ice machines, and even garbage cans, our participants, staff, and guests will have a clean, welcoming, and refreshed space to gather.

With nearly all of the necessary funds raised, renovations should begin by the end of the summer. Watch our next issue for our before and after pictures!

IN THIS ISSUE

What's Been Happening

The 10th Annual Our Children Achieve fundraising event was held on March 8. See photos from this great day!

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Want to benefit your company while supporting individuals with intellectual/developmental disabilities?
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MISSION
To promote the welfare of children and adults with intellectual and/or developmental disabilities (and their families) by providing opportunities for education, growth and employment in a normalized setting, in order to facilitate each individual's achievement to their maximum potential.

Words from the Executive Director
BY SHAWN CARROLL

As we turn 65 this year, the wonderment that is New Perceptions continues to amaze me. The wonderful families that started New Perceptions so many years ago knew something the rest of us needed to learn. The presents we receive here, not only for our birthday but every day, are the best presents one could ever open. I am speaking of the intrinsic beauty of those we serve. I recently required knee surgery and was on crutches before the surgery. The incredible kindness of those we serve was never more prevalent to me than when it appeared to my participants that I was in need. The participants would ask me daily if I was okay. One of our non-verbal participants touched my knee as if to wish he could fix it himself. Another participant that never really shows engagement emotionally would place her hand on my back and give me a short hug as if to reassure me and show her support. Others would say they were praying for me to “get better.” This went on for weeks. I was constantly struck by the overwhelming love and kindness that was exhibited every single day by so many different individuals. It made me realize even deeper what a small piece of this wonderful mosaic called life, that we all play.

If you ever need to open a present that is filled with love, genuine care and true gratefulness, just visit us at New Perceptions. Every day I get to receive the greatest present anyone could ever get – the incredible beauty of those I am so fortunate to serve at New Perceptions. Thank you to those visionaries in our community that knew those with special needs would so enrich our community some 65 years ago. Happy 65th birthday to those we serve for teaching us daily about their most precious gifts.
Our Children Achieve 2017

This year’s Our Children Achieve fundraising luncheon honored New Perceptions participants Sophia Crawford and Eric Goessling.

Watch videos about our Guests of Honor at www.newperceptions.org/event/oca17/

PARTICIPANT EMPLOYEES OF THE MONTH

The David G. Benzinger Employee of the Month award recognizes participants who learn new skills, achieve production goals, or greatly improve attendance or work attitudes. The award was established to honor the memory of David Benzinger, a New Perceptions participant and encourage other participants to adopt David’s positive work attitude and his spirit of self-motivation, persistence, and joy of living.

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We Want to Work for You!

Our Work Center is an on-site work program offering paid, meaningful work to more than 100 adults with disabilities. Skills such as keeping a schedule, setting and meeting goals, and building relationships are taught throughout the day in a fun, upbeat environment.

**While meeting our participants’ needs, our team is driven to provide quality services to local businesses.**

Businesses that partner with New Perceptions save resources spent on hiring, training, managing and replacing temporary employees; may reallocate floor space, skilled labor, and supervision to higher value activities; expand workforce and work space without additional administrative workload; and provide meaningful work experience and income for individuals striving to become more independent.

Learn more about what we offer by contacting David Hoffman, Contract Manager, at (859) 344-9322, ext. 27 or dhoffman@newperceptions.org.
Annual Report Highlights, FY 2016

FINANCES

INCOME

- Program Income: $3,030,749
- Fundraising
- United Way
- Other/Investments

EXPENSES

- Program Delivery: $2,864,464
- Management/General
- Fundraising

We are grateful to have had another year of financial security and we are blessed that you, our community of donors, volunteers, and staff are contributing to that success. Thank you!

Stephanie Stitt
2015-2017 Board President

PROGRAM OUTCOMES

CHILDREN SERVICES

⇒ 85% of participants made progress in cognitive and language skills, while 90% made progress in fine and gross motor skills*

SUPPORTED EMPLOYMENT

⇒ 96% of participants obtained employment and 86% retained employment for 12 months*

THE LEARNING CENTER

⇒ 61 participants were part of one of three Learning Center programs: Adult Day, Adult Learning, and/or Art Abilities.

THE WORK CENTER

⇒ 95% of those enrolled in the Work Center program continued in the program*

*As reported to United Way for full-year 2016

COUNTIES SERVED

- Kenton: 42%
- Boone: 22%
- Campbell: 18%
- Carroll: 6%
- Grant: 5%
- Owen: 2%
- Pendleton: 2%
- Other/Unknown: 2%
- Gallatin: 1%

PARTICIPANTS SERVED

- 761 unduplicated participants

Supported Empl.
249
Children Services
121
The Work Center
388
The Learning Center
61
Thank you!

The following funders are making our kitchen-breakroom remodel a reality:

⇒ Robert H. Reakirt Foundation, PNC Bank, Trustee
⇒ The Spaulding Foundation
⇒ Elsa M. Heisel Sule Foundation
⇒ The Sutphin Family Foundation

What’s in a Name?

Do you know why we are named New Perceptions? We are an organization that views people with intellectual/developmental disabilities with a new perception: as individuals who have talents and accomplishments and should be given a chance to succeed as much as any other person. Our logo, the symbol that represents our name, speaks to the same view: The small circles represent each part of the participant’s life (e.g. family, hobbies, education) and the middle circle, New Perceptions, brings all of these personal characteristics together to empower the individual to their maximum potential.

Did You Know?!?

⇒ Our Work Center participants produce more than 8.5 million units of contract work annually!

Interested in learning more about how we can help your business?
See PAGE 6.

Celebrating 65 Years!
1952-2017

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