

Working with You Working for You

Bollinger Enterprises, Inc.

BEi-LINE

July 2017

Service with a Smile

Lead Story

Dairy Queen

In April of this year, three individuals from the BEi's Supported Employment Program began working at the local Dairy Queen in Warren. Having a chance to work in the community has been a benefit to all involved. Justin Allen talks quite frequently to others about how much he enjoys his job at DQ. Samantha Miller added that she enjoys "making the buster bars and dilly bars," while Scott Petitt loves "greeting people and keeping the dining area clean." Gary Stoops, Owner/Operator of Dairy Queen had some positive feedback to offer regarding the BEi employees, "I'm proud to say that Justin, Samantha, and Scott are proving to be an asset to our restaurant. They are almost always smiling, while delivering customer's orders to the dining room, contributing to a relaxing, friendly environment. Let's not overlook the job coaches, who report daily with the workers which makes my job as an owner/operator so much easier. Customer's orders are generally correct, and the dining room area is always in ship shape condition. I believe the general public appreciates the added attention they're receiving with this new service concept. Finally, I speak for our entire staff when I say that the workers from BEi have been very beneficial to the restaurant and have been a pleasure to work with."

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Donations Received

The United Fund
Sokolski Family Grant
Barrett Trust
Community Foundation
-Agatha Wright
Warren Gives
M. Southwell



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

Work Based Learning Experiences (WBLE).

In April 2017, BEi partnered with the Office of Vocational Rehabilitation to provide Job Shadowing and Work Based Learning Experiences (WBLE) for 16 high school students referred from Warren and Forest County. BEi provides a job coach to monitor each student's progress, assess abilities and ensure safety.

Job Shadowing provides an overview of the work environment, required tasks and abilities. The student visits 5 or more businesses for up to 25 hours. A WBLE is intended to assess a student's strengths and limitations, teach soft skills, and provide opportunities to explore career interests. Students are paid \$10.15 per hour up to 90 hours. WBLE jobs have included assembling/packaging plastic cups, small engine repair/maintenance; and sorting/cleaning/organizing donated items for retail sale. Both services are being provided through the end of the summer and into the new school year.

BEi would like to send out a big *"Thank You"* to the following businesses for their participation:

Whirley Industries
Slagle's Speed and Sport Shop
Paws and Shop Humane Society Thrift Boutique
Floyd's North Warren Barbershop
Touch of Tranquility Salon and Day Spa
Therapeutic Massage
Dr. Gotto Chiropractor
Warren Family Chiropractic
JC Warren Real Estate
ERA Realtor
G & S Graphics
Falconer Printing and Design Inc.
Kara Lyn Designs
Kersey & Associates

P.E.T.S. Program

The final Pre-Employment Transition Services class for the 2016-2017 school year was held on 6-2-17. Classes began on 12-12-16 and were held weekly throughout the Warren County School District concluding just 2 weeks before the end of the school year. The first 9 weeks addressed topics related to Independent Living Skills with 275 students attending 1 or more classes. The following 8 weeks encouraged student development of Self Advocacy Skills with 159 students participating. The final 7 weeks included Workplace Readiness Training with 143 students participating.

A continuation of P.E.T.S. Workplace Readiness Training is planned as part of the WCSD Extended School Year curriculum beginning in mid-July.

Due to the program's success, BEi is seeking to provide P.E.T.S. services in additional settings throughout the area. Plans are set to provide classes at the Tidioute Community Charter School and Forest County School District in addition to WCSD during the upcoming 2017-2018 school year.

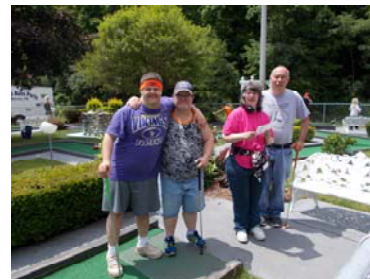
In April 2017, BEi began working with students who have been referred by the Office of Vocational Rehabilitation for Job Shadowing and Work Based Learning Experiences. As of this date, 16 students from both the Warren and Forest County Area have been referred for services. BEi is actively working to match each student with area businesses that meet their individual interests. As part of the service, BEi provides a job coach for each student to assist them throughout the work or job shadowing experience.

Warren County Therapeutic Activity Group Happenings



The Therapeutic Activities Program has definitely had a busy summer so far!

Highlights have included miniature golf, picnic at Wildcat Park, movies, bowling, shopping, cooking class, bingo at the Friendship House, Dairy Queen, and a trip to Waldameer Park & Water World in Erie, Pa.



2nd Quarter Outstanding Employee for 2017



Mike Markovich has been employed at BEi since June 17, 2014. He is an outstanding employee and his favorite job is to assemble Whirley Drinkworks mugs. Mike was promoted to plan and coordinate our Monthly Fire drills in all buildings for the Safety Committee.

BEi employees are very fortunate to work with Mike on a daily basis. His radiant personality and smile have made a very positive impact on all who come into contact with him.

He truly is an asset to BEi and worthy of being chosen 2nd Quarter Outstanding employee for 2017.

North Warren Trash & Treasure Sale

August 19, 2017, the entire North Warren Community will be teeming with people, chatter and laughter as everyone comes together for this fun filled active day. We look forward to seeing everyone that day and being able to say "Hello"!!

BEi is asking for donations of items for the sale; and volunteers the evening before (August 18th) to help set up along with the day of the sales (August 19th).

House-hold items, gadgets, decorations, tote bags and or backpacks, odd pieces of furniture you may want to find a new home, baby and children accessories are just a few things that seem to go well.

Please NO clothing or electronic donations; clothing is not easy to prepare or clean up.

We will be happy to accept your donations from 8 am to 4 pm during the week, by appointment, or call us to make arrangements for a pick up 723-8431 ext 10.

New BEi Board of Trustees Member



John Kersey has lived in the Warren area most of his life. He holds a bachelor degree in Economics/Accounting from Edinboro University, and a Master of Business Administration from Gannon University. John is a Certified Public Accountant and the owner of Kersey & Associates, PC, a local CPA firm providing accounting, auditing, and tax services in the region for over 40 years. John lives in Warren with his wife Barbara, and daughter Jennifer. He is active in community organizations and church, and enjoys outdoor activities.

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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**



Executive Director Message

Dear Friends of BEi:

With 2017 over half over, I am excited as I reflect on where BEi started at the beginning of 2017 and where I see BEi going for the remainder of 2017.

In early 2017, BEi was offering Pre-Employment Transitional Services (PETS) in all four attendance areas of the Warren County School District. Brian Freeborough was a newly hired employee for the program. He provided instruction in Independent Living Skills, Self-Advocacy Training, and Workplace Readiness. In the fall of 2017, PETS services will be expanded into Tidioute Community Charter School and Forest Area School District.

As new requirements were imposed by the Office of Developmental Programs (ODP), BEi management has spent time participating in webinars and attending trainings in Harrisburg. After these trainings, BEi management took time to review individual hours to determine the application of the changes to BEi's day to day operation. The goal is to work with local agencies to provide opportunities for individuals in the areas of tours, volunteering, and employment. Tours of local businesses will have the goal to expose clients to potential job opportunities at that place of business. Individual's time as volunteers in the community shows them the valuable role they have to help a non-profit to be successful. Becoming an employee of a local business can occur with various supports for the individual if they are willing to take that step.

In this newsletter, BEi is honored to thank Dairy Queen as a local employer who approached BEi staff about employing clients. In order to establish a successful program for clients, BEi wanted to make sure a procedure was followed. First, BEi management visited with the owner of Dairy Queen to determine the scope of work for the individual. Second, a job coach went to Dairy Queen to determine the skills necessary to complete the tasks requested. Third, various individuals at BEi were approach about a supportive employment opportunity and practiced skills necessary for employment (carrying trays, serving people, wiping tables). Finally, the individual and job coach reported to work. By reading the article about Dairy Queen, the experience was a win-win for everyone. BEi hopes to expand into other businesses in the future.

In order to continue the responsibility BEi has to recognize our outstanding employees, Mike Markovitch was selected as the Outstanding Employee for the 2nd Quarter. During a Safe Quality Foods (SQF) meeting of BEi employees, Mike was acknowledge for his award.

Sincerely
William A. Clark, D.Ed.
Executive Director