Warren Gives 2018

On behalf of the BEi Board, Employees and Clients, “Thank You” to members of the Warren Community for your donations during the Warren Gives 2018 Campaign. Over 1,248 donors participated in the event on May 23rd. BEi placed 17th overall and received $5,925 in donations and with the Warren Gives Match BEi had an overall total of $6,457.71. Last year, BEi received $6,512.41 in donations.

The funds will be used to continue to enhance BEi programs.

On behalf of the individuals with intellectual and development disabilities that BEi serves, thank you for supporting BEi during Warren Gives.

Pictured is Samantha Miller (BEi employee) and Bob Crowley (Community Foundation of Warren County Board member) at the Warren Gives Check Ceremony.
Northwest Donation

Northwest had a community sale of their stockpile of office materials over the summer. BEi management team was able to secure items that if purchased new could have cost between $10,000 - $15,000. Attached is a picture that was sent along with a thank you message to Bill Wagner, Northwest retiring president, and other leaders at Northwest. At the new reception desk and filing cabinets with Julia Fratrich and BEi Individuals (Greg, Natalie, Jerrod, and Vennie).

Job Shadow and Work Based Learning

BEi has had an outstanding couple of months with our Job Shadowing (JS) and Work Based Learning Experience (WBLE) thanks to the Warren and Forest County Businesses. BEi started a City of Warren Program in July with two students and a job coach in the Department of Public Works and one student and coach working in the City of Warren offices. BEi is also in Forest County doing a program in Jenks Townships where 2 students and a job coach are involved in Community Beautification by pulling weeds, painting, and spreading dirt. On July 27th, BEi partnered with CVS to place 3 students to 1 job coach. On top of these placements, BEi has 8 WBLE students out in the community and 20 students in the Job Shadow Program. Students are very excited by these experiences.

It’s truly a great feeling helping students find out what they want to do with their future.
Community Participation/Production Manager

Congratulations to Ron Heinrich for his promotion to Community Participation/Production Manager. He is replacing Jeff DePetro, former Production Manager who recently retired on July 13th. Ron has been with BEi for over 8 years as a Program Specialist. He holds a Bachelor’s degree from The University of Pittsburgh at Bradford and has several years of experience working with individuals with intellectual disabilities. He brings a wealth of knowledge and understanding to his new position.

Community Participation

Volunteers from BEi’s Community Participation Program recently helped assemble gift packages for participants in the Special Olympics Golf Tournament held on June 18th, 2018. The Special Olympics Golf Tournament celebrated a 25th Anniversary with the event this year. Conewango Valley Country Club has hosted the event each year. Around $$$$$$ was raised by the Golf Tournament this year with fund dedicated to help Special Olympics. A pizza lunch was donated by Special Olympics for the volunteers.

Pictured L to R: Casey Haner, Curtis Ferrie, and Jim Farnsworth.

Outstanding Employee

BOLLINGER ENTERPRISES- 2ND QUARTER OUTSTANDING EMPLOYEE FOR 2018

Matt Dunn has been employed at BEi Pre-Vocational/Workshop for a period of 2 ½ years and has been cross trained in a number of different job capacities and excelled in all of them. During Matt’s time working here he has developed into an exemplary employee with a positive work attitude, he is a role model for other employees, team leader, and displays willingness to volunteer to work in any Workshop capacity.

He also participates in Special Olympics, works in the Community Participation Cleaning program and Supported Employment at Youngsville Dairy Queen. Most of all Matt is well liked by all his co-workers and always is a pleasure to be around. He truly deserves the distinction of being the 2nd quarter Outstanding Employee at BEi.
Production Manager Retires After 18 Years

On July 13, 2018, Jeff DePetro retired as Production Manager of BEi after serving the individuals of BEi for 18 years. BEi staff, individuals, and Board Members took time to wish Jeff well as he moved into retirement. Time was taken at the BEi board meeting held on June 19th by the board and the rest of the management team to thank Jeff for his years of service. As a token of their appreciation, Jeff was presented with a Gift Card to Cable Hallow Golf Course. Jeff’s retirement plans included golf, working around the house, and spending more time with family and friends. Jeff will be missed as a figure at BEi who greeted individuals as they exited the bussed with their work assignments daily as they exited the buses each morning.

Pictured is Jeff DePetro and Justin Allen

In partnership with Barber National Institute and BEi, BEi’s website has been completely refreshed with up to date content and pictures. The website has a complete outline of the BEi programs along with updated pictures of BEi individuals.

Take a moment to review the refreshed website and send your comments to wclark@beiwarren.com

www.beiwarren.com
RED OAK CAMPGROUND

2018 Summer Picnic
Message from the Executive Director

Dear Friends:

Times are changing at BEI. As you read our newsletter, you will hear about the BEi website update, new office furniture from Northwest, staff retiring and others moving into new positions, PETS programs, and community donations through Warren Gives. These are exciting times for BEi employees and clients as we continue to partner with Barber National Institute in order to not only update our infrastructure but also program offerings.

All of these changes are targeted at the same end result which is to improve the environment and offerings for individuals with disabilities that BEI was designed to serve. By reading the articles in the August Newsletter, you can see that the BEi staff is working hard every day to strive to “improve the lives of individuals with disabilities”.

Sincerely,

William A. Clark, D.Ed.
Executive Director