

CONTACT



In touch with all things Cottonwood...

Fall 2017



We help people with disabilities shape their own future. Real People. Real Lives.

A Message from Our CEO

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On The Cover

Pennie loves her job as a Beautification Worker for Downtown Lawrence. "Without me, Downtown Lawrence wouldn't be as beautiful!"

-Pennie

You can make a lasting difference!

The Cottonwood Foundation is a charitable organization, and gifts are tax deductible. To learn more about how you can have an impact on the lives of individuals with intellectual/developmental disabilities by making a donation to the Cottonwood Foundation, contact Ettie Brightwell, Director of Community Relations and Development at (785) 842-0550. For more information about Cottonwood, Inc. as well as the Cottonwood Foundation, visit www.cwood.org.




COMMUNITY – the word community can mean different things to different people. For many, it means being a part of the community where they live, work and play. This is no different for individuals with disabilities. Whether it's attending a KU sporting event, gardening in their backyard, helping host an Art Show at the Lawrence Arts Center, or working at their chosen job, this issue

of Contact showcases a few of the fun activities enjoyed by individuals supported by Cottonwood. They are truly integral and valued members of the communities in which they live. Thank you to our staff, our boards, our donors and all the many community partners that contribute to our making our mission "helping people with disabilities shape their own future" a reality.

Sharon Speitt, CEO.

CONTACT is published for the friends and supporters of Cottonwood, Inc. by the Community Relations and Development Department: Ettie Brightwell and Kari Bentzinger.

Cottonwood, Incorporated is a 501 (c) (3) not-for-profit organization that serves children and adults with intellectual/developmental disabilities. Cottonwood provides an array of employment options, onsite and in the community, residential, and case management services. Cottonwood is a member of Interhab, the Resource Network for Kansans with Disabilities.

Cottonwood is partially funded on a contractual basis with the Kansas Department for Aging & Disability Services. Cottonwood receives some funding from Douglas and Jefferson Counties. Some funding is also received from United Way of Douglas County. Cottonwood is accredited by CARF, the rehabilitation accreditation commission. Cottonwood is an affirmative action equal opportunity employer. We do business in accordance with the Federal Fair Housing Law. (The Fair Housing Amendment Act of 1998). 

Labeling and mailing services for this newsletter have been provided by men and women of Cottonwood. An adapted version of this publication and other materials are available by calling 785.842.0550 or by visiting us on the web at www.cwood.org.



Direct support professionals (DSPs) are people who work directly with people with physical disabilities and/or intellectual disabilities with the aim of assisting the individual to become integrated into his/her community or the least restrictive environment.

We kicked off DSP Week (September 10-16) with breakfast donated by McDonald's. DSPs also received gift cards and cookies later in the week.



Thanks for all you do!



We love our DSPs!

Welcome New Board Members!



Kerry Glasgow

Kerry grew up in Emporia, Kansas and has spent most of her adult life in Lawrence. She and her husband, Jeff, own and run Advanced Specialty Anesthesia, LLC. They have three children: Grant, Kennedy and Madison and are actively involved in school and church activities. Kerry loves being outdoors and attending her children's activities.



Steve Tesdahl

Steve comes to us with over 30 years of executive experience in business and IT. His career includes 16 years as a CIO at four public companies and 15 years as a partner and consultant at Accenture. He and his wife, Lori, have lived in Lawrence for 14 years and have two children, T.J. and Kaley. Steve enjoys cycling, golf, fishing and cars.

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Cottonwood Industries is a very busy place these days. For the 36th consecutive month, there has been over 99% work availability. The jobs include many opportunities for the people we support to earn a paycheck and do meaningful work for a wide variety of businesses.

- Bulk Mail
- Fulfillment
- Manufacturing
- Assembling
- Packaging
- Shipping
- Receiving
- Warehousing

7 Million Straps



The work on our cargo tie-down straps is going strong—we just completed our 7 millionth strap under the contract! And our folks are very proud to be providing straps for hurricane relief efforts.



If you are wondering how Cottonwood Industries can help your business, please contact Robert Bieberle, Cottonwood Industries Business Development Manager, at 785-842-0550 or at rbieberle@cwood.org.



Employees of the Month



MAY- Cody

I have worked at The Market at the Kansas Union for 2 years. I wash dishes and put them away. I like the people and they pay well. My advice? Do your job right, get along with the people you work with and get to work on time.

JUNE - David

I have worked at Scott's Temperature for 3 years. I scrap metal, clean the shop, and bag ice in the summer. I like it when they ask me to do special projects. They have BBQ for employees and I like hanging out with the guys in the shop. Making money puts food in my belly and pays my bills.



OCTOBER- Michelle

I have worked at Pioneer Ridge since 2013. I wash dishes, pots and pans. I like meeting new people. I like my job because they treat me with respect and I am part of the team. My advice about being a good employee is to be respectful, kind, honest, and be on time.



JULY - Owen

I work at LMH and have been there for 4 years. I take out the trash in the cafeteria and do other things they ask of me. Sometimes I help the housekeepers. I like seeing my co-workers and my job coach, Delilah.



AUGUST - Donna

I have been working at Merchants Pub & Plate for 2 years. I fold and polish silverware and also fold cocktail napkins. I like everything I do there! My advice is to have a good chirpy attitude!



SEPTEMBER - Phillip

I have worked at KU's The Underground for 1 year. I store items from trucks, clean, take out recycling and garbage- the whole 9 yards! My job is easy and no stress. My advice is to work hard.

Employers of the Month

May - People's Bank

June - Crown Automotive

July - Dillon's

August - Children's Learning Center

September - Christal K-9

October - Googols of Learning

JobLink candidates have a variety of skills and abilities with an array of educational levels and work experience. JobLink is your employment agency resource for dedicated and talented employees in the Lawrence, Kansas area. You'll find that we share your commitment to quality.

For more information contact Phil Bentzinger 785-842-0550 or pbentzinger@cwood.org.

Fore!

The **Cottonwood Classic Golf Tournament** was held on Monday, May 22, 2017 at Eagle Bend Golf Course. 29 teams participated despite the chance of rain—and we almost made it without a drop!

Congratulations to the winners!



1st Place: Dustin Baker, Dean Grob, Tim Bateman, Tim Stultz



2nd Place: Dennis Spratt, Kenny Click, Curtis Wood



Once again, the **Cottonwood Mini Masters** miniature golf tournament was held at The Lodge in Baldwin City, Kansas on May 25. Alan Tarp was the 2017 champion and Taimee Matchie-Harjo was runner up. We all enjoyed a wonderful hamburger barbecue thanks to Peach Madl and her fantastic crew. The horse drawn wagon rides provided by Dunn's Landing were a huge hit as was the fish pond. The highlight of the night for many, however, was the fabulous street dance! Can't wait until next year!



Cottonwood Classies

The 16th annual **Cottonwood Classies** were held on Monday, September 25, 2017 at Free State High School. This event is truly a celebration of all that is Cottonwood and what makes Cottonwood such a uniquely wonderful place.



The Cottonwood Choir started out the evening with songs from the 80's.



Shining Star Award
Angela Trybom

The Classies is Cottonwood's way of honoring those who excel in their lives and jobs, making our community a better place for all.



Grant celebrating 10 years working at 23rd St. Brewery



Sheila celebrating 15 years working at Children's Learning Center



Cottonwood Industries Business Partner
Clinical Reference Laboratory



Outstanding Community Partner
Lawrence Transit/MV Transportation



Distinguished Service Award
Peggy Wallert



Shining Star Award
Pennie Goodrich



JobLink Outstanding Community Employer Award
Stoneback Appliance



Caring & Commitment Award
Miguel Ramos & Gene Planker



Salute!

A Festival of Wine & Food

The 19th annual Salute! was held July 13-15 and what a 3 days it was! Salute continues to be our largest fundraising event and this year was no exception with over \$200,000 raised for Cottonwood. A special thank you to all of our sponsors, participants, and volunteers for making this year our best ever!



This year's Winemaker Dinner was hosted by The Oread and featured wines from the Ramon Bilboa winery. It was an elegant evening with amazing dishes paired with fabulous wines from Spain.



The Mass St. Mosey was such fun for the almost 600 folks who attended. It started out as a typical muggy, very hot July evening but after a brief rain it cooled down and was a lovely evening to walk down Mass Street.



Thank you to our Salute presenting sponsors:
Standard Beverage Corporation
The Oread Hotel



The Grand Tasting, held at The Oread, was a perfect ending to a wonderful 3 days with food offered from 10 local eateries and over 200 wines to sample. The silent and live auctions proved to be as exciting as ever.

Tours



Stephens Real Estate

See What's Goin' On at Cottonwood

We are very proud of the work that is done at Cottonwood to support people with intellectual and developmental disabilities. Come see for yourself all that Cottonwood does.



Jefferson County Administrators



The J.M. Smucker Company



Representative Eileen Horn



US Bank



Therese & David Yost



City of Lawrence



Board of Trustees- Marilyn Bittenbender,
City Commissioner-Lisa Larson,
Cottonwood, Inc. CEO
Sharon Spratt



Deb Young
Ms. Wheelchair Kansas
2017

If you are interested in finding out more about Cottonwood and/or touring our facilities, please contact Ettie Brightwell, Director of Community Relations/Development at ebrightwell@cwood.org or (785) 842-0550.

Rock Chalk Jayhawk

Special Visitors

Kansas Football Team



Kansas Women's Basketball Team





Dog Day Afternoon



Rock Chalk!



Branson



Health Fair



Life Enrichment Art Show

SHAPING LIVES



KU Natural Ties



Gardening



Eclipse Viewing



Going to the State Fair



Sit Ski



Talent Show



Volunteers/Giving Back

The Volunteer Program at Cottonwood was established to enhance supports to individuals, foster community relations, and provide additional resources to the agency. A wide range of opportunities are available that we believe will be equally beneficial to the people we support and the community volunteer.



Leadership Lawrence



Keller Williams

To learn more about the program contact:
Courtney Herron, Program Facilitator
785-840-1646 or cherron@cwood.org

Free! Cottonwood, Inc.
App Now Available



Community Rewards Giving More Back to the Community!

Dillons is committed to helping our communities grow and prosper. Dillons Community Rewards makes fund-raising easy..all you have to do is shop at Dillons and swipe your Plus Shopper's Card!

Sign up today! Visit www.dillons.com



You shop. Amazon gives.

AmazonSmile donates 0.5% of the price of your eligible purchases to Cottonwood, Inc. Support Cottonwood, Inc. by shopping at smile.amazon.com

Shaping Futures

“Success has nothing to do with what you gain in life or accomplish for yourself. It’s what you do for others.”

Danny Thomas



Through PLANNED GIVING you can have a great impact on the future of Cottonwood—helping persons with disabilities shape their own future. PLANNED GIVING is a decision to make a charitable gift now or at sometime in the future. Cottonwood encourages thoughtful individuals to make decisions today—to create your legacy for tomorrow. Talk to your financial or legal advisor today.



*Make a Decision Today
to Create a Better Tomorrow*

The following is a list of possible methods of PLANNED GIVING:

Bequests Included In Wills—gift by naming Cottonwood to receive a gift through a will.

Outright Gift—donation of cash, securities, real estate or personal property.

Life Insurance—donation of policy itself or naming Cottonwood as the death beneficiary.

Establishment of Trusts—naming Cottonwood as beneficiary when trust ends.



Find out about the supports provided to persons with intellectual/developmental disabilities and how you can make a difference in their lives— today and in the future. Please call 785-842-0550 to arrange a tour of Cottonwood.



2801 W 31st St Lawrence, KS 66047
785-842-0550 www.cwood.org

We help people with disabilities shape their own future.



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Opportunities to shape the future

The Cottonwood Foundation is a separate but affiliated 501 (c) (3) non –profit organization established to facilitate the contribution of funds for the benefit of Cottonwood, Inc. The Foundation's purpose is to promote and further the advancement of services at Cottonwood. With increased competition for limited philanthropic funds, gifts have become even more critical to help ensure a long, healthy future for Cottonwood, Inc. Contributions to the Cottonwood Foundation can be made in a number of ways, including cash, securities, real estate and personal property, life insurance, retirement plans, in-kind gifts, and planned gifts through a will or trust. Each contribution makes a difference and helps ensure the future of Cottonwood.



ONE-TIME GIFT

Your gift makes a big difference!



QUALIFIED CHARITABLE DEDUCTIONS

Individuals who've attained age 70 1/2 may make QCDs.



MEMORIAL & HONORARIUM

Honor your loved one with a gift today.



PLANNED & ESTATE GIFTS

Learn how to leave a legacy through a Will or Trust.



MONTHLY GIVING

Help shape the future of the people we support year-round with a monthly automatic gift.



Company Match

Many companies offer a company donation match.