

2019 ANNUAL REPORT



2019 was a very successful year for Cottonwood in many ways. We continued to provide quality supports and services and achieved high satisfaction from the people we support as well as our many community partners and stakeholders. Cottonwood experienced stable growth in services and achieved excellent outcomes in the numerous regulatory reviews we undergo each year.

Given that this Annual Report is being sent to you in 2020, it goes without saying that like everyone else, Cottonwood has been impacted by COVID-19. When the restrictions went into place including the state wide Work at Home order, we were required to close our Day Services. For a period of time, we have only been serving individuals for whom we provide both Day and Residential Services. We are in the process of implementing our reopening plan and hope to have everyone back into all services as quickly as possible, while keeping everyone safe and healthy. We continue to work closely with our local and state governments

and other partners during this period of recovery.

We are proud of our accomplishments over the years and we are confident that we will work through the many challenges ahead and have another successful, though different year. Thank you for your steadfast support and commitment to the mission of Cottonwood – Helping people with disabilities shape their own future. Please take a few moments and enjoy our 2019 Annual Report.

Stay safe – Stay healthy

Sharow Apriett





Shaping Futures

Ralph was born in 1940 and was admitted to Winfield State Hospital in 1949. In 1974 Ralph moved to a Cottonwood group home.

Ralph is his own person. He sees beauty and purpose in the most unlikely places and items. He is extremely creative. He hates waste and finds treasures every time he goes out and roams around our city.

He tried retirement but the downtown scene with a sedentary lifestyle just did not suit him.

Ralph came back to work at Cottonwood Industries. He is very competitive and likes to show everyone how much work he does during his shift.

Ralph is one of the last individuals at Cottonwood still alive who came out of an institutional setting so prevalent in the 21st century.

It's a tribute to Cottonwood founders and Ralph's hardiness that he still roams among us. Ralph is still one of the hardest workers that Cottonwood has, earning big paychecks every month, which he loves!

We celebrate Ralph and his tenacity and his quirks. He is more than a diagnosis, he is iconic and enduring.

Support Services



At Cottonwood, the Support Services Department is comprised of two areas: Targeted Case Management (TCM) and Health Supports. In 2019, Cottonwood Case Managers provided Case Management services to 309 adults and children. Case Managers provide consistency and support as persons served create their own support plan to shape the life they want. The Health Support Services Team provides health care coordination to many of the people served. Team members schedule medical appointments (1,980 in 2019 alone!), transport and accompany people to appointments, make wellness visits for medical issues, administer medications and inoculations as well as providing medical training to staff and staffing the on-site clinic during regular business hours. The Health Support traveled over 21,200 miles in 2019 to transport persons supported to health-related appointments.



Cottonwood Industries

2019 was another very good year for the Work Services Division with significant achievements in a variety of different areas. Work availability for consumers has averaged 99.8% for the last 68 consecutive months and it again averaged 100% for 2019. Wage earnings for persons served set a record in 2018 with the highest total earnings ever and this record was surpassed in 2019. Work Services received a 96% satisfaction rating from consumers and a 98% approval rating from our business partners in 2019. We celebrated production of our 8 millionth cargo tie down strap for the Department of Defense in 2019 as well, which is quite an achievement. Cottonwood Industries introduced a new program in 2019—MAP (Manufacturing, Assembly, and Production). The MAP Program is designed to expand the workforce of Cottonwood, Inc. to include people with all types of significant disabilities in accordance with the Federal AbilityOne Program. AbilityOne production workers are hired to work 30+ hours/week in a production setting with training, accommodations and supports put in place to address barriers to employment and provide a platform for success and growth in a rewarding career.





Life Enrichment Services (comprised of Work Enrichment Services & Retirement Enrichment Services) strives to provide quality services that are inclusive of local and surrounding communities, classes, activities, leisure and work. Our commitment to consumer choice drives our services and our staff to enrich each participant's life. In 2019, RES/WES persons served and staff ventured out 1,635 times! RES served 19 fully and semi-retired persons in 2019. The LES team delivers a variety of classes that promote wellness, skill acquisition and maintenance. Whether the focus is on ADA diets, getting our hands dirty in a community garden, understanding choices, finding an expressive outlet through art, working on new and interesting recipes, or fun, engaging ways to retain range of motion, staff work with consumers to find what works best. WES served 38 people in the past year. The combination of paid work, learning burst activities, and numerous off-site adventures makes WES a vibrant service option for people to choose.





Provides support to **104**people in **49** locatio

Residential Services provided supports and services to 104 persons in 49 locations during 2019. Our Residential Services are founded on our mission to support each person served in shaping their own future. Along with the rest of the nation, Cottonwood is experiencing the aging of Baby Boomers. The support needs of persons served are ever more complex and demanding. We have seen a trend of people, who were appropriately supported by Supported Independent Living (SIL) staff in privately-leased homes for many years, now experiencing an event that dimished their capacity to live independently. At least two individuals in each of the past two years have had to move from SIL-supported settings to group homes with 24 hour support in order to minimize safety risks. Each person's team strives to address areas of discontent to the greatest degree possible with these type of moves. People receiving supports from Residential Services responded to a satisfaction survey with a 2.9 score (out of a possible 3.0) reflecting the tremendous commitment of the staff to maintain excellent service delivery. This result reflects our bedrock value of residential staff listening to the people they support and working to fulfill their requests.

JobLink Supported Community Employment

people served through JobLink in 2019

In 2019, 294 people were served through JobLink. 96% of the jobs supported by JobLink during 2019 lasted more than 90 days. The state average success rate is 65% for those people that are referred to service providers and are closed, but overall, only 10% who seek Kansas Rehabilitative Services make it all the way through referral and services. 98% of consumers who receive JobLink services had an average score on the Personal Satisfaction Survey of 2.5 out of 3 or better (up 1 point from 2018).

2019 JobLink Employers of the Month

Jan – Christal K-9 Feb – Humane Society March - KU South Dining Commons July - Raintree Montessori April – Culver's

May – BonBon June - Pizza Hut-23rd St. August – Merchants Pub & Plate

September - Arby's-23rd St. October- Ramen Bowls November – Chick-fil-A December – Texas Roadhouse



Crowd Systems



Laura works at KU The Underground



Josh works at Sigler Pharmac



Community Developmental Disability Organization (CDDO)

Cottonwood CDDO is the single point of entry for application, eligibility determination, and referral for persons with Intellectual & Developmental Disabilities (I/DD) in Douglas and Jefferson counties. It serves as the coordinator of services for all network providers within those counties. Cottonwood CDDO received a total of 60 applications for I/DD services in 2019. 589 Basic Assessment and Services Information System (BASIS) screenings were completed by the CDDO staff for the same period.

Salute! A Festival of Wine & Food

The 20th Annual SALUTE! A Festival of Wine & Food was held July 11-13. This fun-filled 3-day event experience has evolved into one of the premier social events of the Lawrence summer scene. We raised over \$225,000 to benefit the mission of Cottonwood. Thank you to all who participated!









2019 Cottonwood Classic & Minimasters Golf Tournaments



The sold out 2019 Cottonwood Classic Golf Tournament was held on May 20, 2019 at Eagle Bend Golf Course. 128 golfers participated in the tournament at least until the torrential downpours came about 1.5 hours into play! Despite the wet conditions, most teams were able to slosh through to at least the 8th hole.

The MiniMasters, Cottonwood's annual miniature golf tournament and fun night, was held on Thursday, May 30 at The Lodge in Baldwin City, Kansas. Almost 200 people (persons served, staff and families, board and community members) participated in the festivities which included a very competitive mini-golf tournament, a delicious cookout, wonderful street dancing, horse drawn wagon rides compliments of Dunn's Landing and a "well-stocked" fish pond.

Cottonwood Classies

The 18th Cottonwood Classies was held on Monday. October 28 in the Southwest Middle School Auditorium. Hank Booth, longtime Foundation trustee, was again the Master of Ceremonies for this wonderful annual celebration of the people we serve, our amazing staff and community and business partners. Over 500 people attended this event.

And the Classies went to:

Shining Star Award: Ralph Landreth & Michael Grandstaff Berry Global

Caring & Commitment Award: Jane Bowers & Karyn Todd **Distinguished Service Award:** Harry Gibson

JobLink Outstanding Employer of the Year:

Cottonwood Industries Business Partner of the Year: Koller Products



Making an Impact

Whenever we are asked to describe a direct support professional's job, there's a pause as a deep breath is taken and an eye roll is suppressed. The job is immense, encompassing every moment, detail, accomplishment, and setback in a singular person's life. One might start by listing all of the duties, tasks, goals, and assignments which, while impressive for what they are, do not begin to express the masterpiece that a DSP creates each and every day. Our Cottonwood staff are such artists, creating with compassion and resiliency, supports for persons served while helping them to shape the lives they want. Here are some masterpieces which capture this powerful artistry...













Enriching Lives

Shaping Futures

Michael had set some goals for himself: reduce hoarding at his house and get a more challenging job in the community.

His mom and step dad began to help him with his house. Once Michael saw them going through the motions of what his house could look like, he agreed and dove in to help. They organized, painted, and replaced window coverings, built shelves and more. Michael's house looks amazing and he loves it! Michael loves playing Play Station, riding his bike, watching TV and enjoys his model car collection.

Michael got a new job at KU Dining. His boss really appreciates how Michael works and says Michael certainly brightens everyone's day. Michael said he is happy every day he goes to work!

Michael's case manager, Paula Pratt, says Michael mastered some big challenges and should be commended.







2019 Financials DONATION FORM Revenues I would like to make a donation Other in the amount of \$ 6% Doug & Jeff Co. Mill_ 4% Federal and State 40% **One-time Donation** Name:_____Phone:_____ Email: Address: Work Services 50% Credit Card:_____Type:____CCV:___ Expiration: / Signature: **Expenses** □ Check enclosed □ Invoice me Retirement. My gift is in honor/memory of: Community Relations 2% Administration Transportation. Mail to: 104 Cottonwood Foundation CDDO 2801 W 31st St 3% Lawrence, KS 66047 Work Enrichment Residential 4% 23% Monthly Donation **JobLink** Log on to www.cwood.org click *Donate* 4% Work Services 4894 Case Management 6%

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Cottonwood, Incorporated is a 501 (c) (3) not-for-profit organization that serves individuals with developmental disabilities. Cottonwood provides employment, residential, and community support 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 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

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