



2022 ANNUAL REPORT



While Cottonwood has faced challenges throughout 2022, we continue to move forward and celebrate the accomplishments. Rooted in a rich history and strong foundation, we continue to evolve and aspire to grow. We have new contract work in our production facilities along with new equipment that will increase our productivity and position us for even more new business. Cottonwood's roots are based in employment options for individuals with IDD and we are committed to growing and evolving these options. It is no accident that we are so incredibly fortunate to have an array of opportunities from which individuals may choose. Choice is paramount for those we support, and we believe that each one of us has the right to choose what we do, how we work, how we play, what we do for fun and with whom we do it. We are excited to explore additional avenues and choices to enrich lives in new ways.

We are also excited to welcome new individuals to our programs. The JobLink program continues to grow and support individuals throughout the entire community in jobs at local businesses. Our employment and community partners are amazing to work with. We would like to give a huge shout out to Lawrence Public Transportation System. Transportation is a huge barrier for individuals with disabilities to access jobs and activities in their communities. LPT makes it happen and we are so grateful for this community investment.

Both Cottonwood Boards have a huge vision for the future and bring the expertise, energy, and commitment to bring it to fruition. The staff and consumers of Cottonwood are the glue that holds it all together.....every day and always. Thank you all!

Colleen Limmberg

190 AWESOME STAFF

continue to drive Cottonwood's
mission each and every day



2022 marked Cottonwood's 50th anniversary of providing quality supports and services for people with Intellectual/Developmental disabilities in Douglas and Jefferson counties. It was a year full of celebrations amid change. With only joy for her new chapter, we said goodbye to long time CEO, Sharon Spratt and welcomed with open arms our new CEO, Colleen Himmelberg. We began accepting new friends for Day Services, brought on new contract work, worked through the lingering effects of the pandemic, sought better ways to provide the essential supports and services while always driving our mission of helping people with disabilities shape their own future. As always, our staff sprang to meet the challenges of change with the same, awe-inspiring creativity and energy which they always bring to their compassionate support of persons-served. A true positive from life over the past two years is the strengthening of our abilities to be nimble and flexible.



The Cottonwood family welcomed
a new, talented CEO into the fold!
Colleen rocks!

Life Enrichment:
Serving ~47
people



Day and Residential Staff unselfishly continued to navigate the changes and bolstered each other to support persons-served.

Retirement Enrichment staff delivered 513 classes, including chair exercise, arts & crafts, board and electronic games, hygiene skills, cooking skills to name a few. Community activities and opportunities remain high priority for persons supported, including print making classes at Lawrence Art Center, Music Therapy, van rides, community strolls, fishing and park activities, and visiting friends.

Work Enrichment staff delivered 1,095 "Learning Burst" classes over the 251 service days.



Residential:
serving 93
individuals in
42 locations
and received a
97%
satisfaction
survey from
persons
supported.

Health Supports: 1,891 health-related appointments scheduled for persons supported (24,635 miles traveled to transport persons-served to health-related appointments)

Cottonwood's own Susan Rogers, Health Supports Nurse Manager at Cottonwood, Inc. received the COVID 19 Hero Award at the state-wide Interhab Power Up conference on October 14, 2022. The COVID-19 Hero is a person who has gone above and beyond during the coronavirus pandemic. The way this person has gone above and beyond could be demonstrated in a number of ways – whether it be coming up with a new, creative solution, working through illness, or supporting others. Susan's work for Cottonwood during this time exemplifies just those qualities and more. She was not searching for a challenge when the COVID-19 pandemic struck, but she rose to the occasion and became a vital contributor, communicator, and key influencer in Cottonwood, Inc.'s efforts to interpret guidelines, establish parameters, limit exposure, test, trace, quarantine, isolate, vaccinate, address personal protective equipment needs, calm frayed nerves, and mobilize her staff and others to meet the ever-evolving needs of the people we support. Susan's infectious enthusiasm and energy towards her work enabled Cottonwood to mobilize its efforts on a dime. Her resilience in the face of the pandemic continues to be an inspiration to those of us who have the privilege of working with her.



*Health Supports:
938 persons-supported
seen in the clinic by HS
Nurses; 1,311 medication
changes coordinated*

Case
Management:
641 people
receiving services



JobLink Voted "Best Staffing Agency" in the
Best of Lawrence competition

JobLink continues to excel at supporting people with
barriers to employment to find good jobs.



JobLink:
of people
served in jobs:
256
of people
served seeking
jobs: 37

Cottonwood Industries: 100% work availability over the past 104 consecutive months even through a global pandemic and supply chain issues



MAP continues to grow. MAP is a program designed to expand Cottonwood's workforce to include people with ALL types of significant disabilities.



Salute! 2022 was a huge success, raising over \$160,000 for Cottonwood.

All 3 events were a sell out!

Salute Events:

- Mass Street Mosey
- Wine Maker Dinner
- Grand Tasting/Auctions



MiniMasters was hosted at Cottonwood. The annual miniature golf tournament for Cottonwood consumers, staff and families returned to the Cottonwood grounds on a perfectly beautiful September evening. Lawrence Mini Golf set up its course in our parking lot. Dinner from Toppers Pizza and the Kona Ice Truck added to the festivities. Old favorites--the street dance and the fishpond plus the wonderful addition of

the Balloon Man helped to make this one of the best ever MiniMasters! How will we top it next year?!

What a beautiful day for the sold-out **Cottonwood Classic golf tournament!** And a huge thank you to 23rd Street Brewery and Matt Llewelyn for the fabulous grilled brat lunch.



Cottonwood Classies highlighted yet another year of Cottonwood awesomeness! Congratulations to the award winners!

Shining Star Award
Yvette Bell & Melissa Franklin

Caring & Commitment Awards
Jarrod Brown & Keri Rodriguez

Distinguished Service Award
Nancy Longhurst

JobLink Employer of the Year
Christal K-9

Cottonwood Industries Business Partner of the Year
B.F. Ascher & Co.



Shaping Futures

Melissa



"When Melissa started with Cottonwood she was pretty shy even though she had this gregarious part about her. And now, it's just amazing how she really feels so confident in herself. She feels her independence, people respect her."

-Sue Zupancic, Melissa's mother

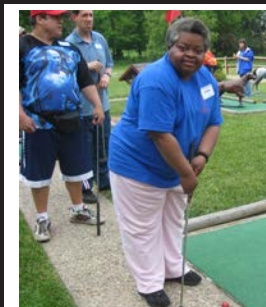


"Melissa always has a smile on her face, no matter what." -Mary Williams, Employment Consultant

Shaping Futures

Yvette

Yvette starting receiving Cottonwood services in the late 80's. She works extremely hard at her job and is always willing to be flexible at a moments notice. Yvette is a kind person. She's super nice and friendly and is a hard worker. Yvette has worked at On The Rocks for 10 years.

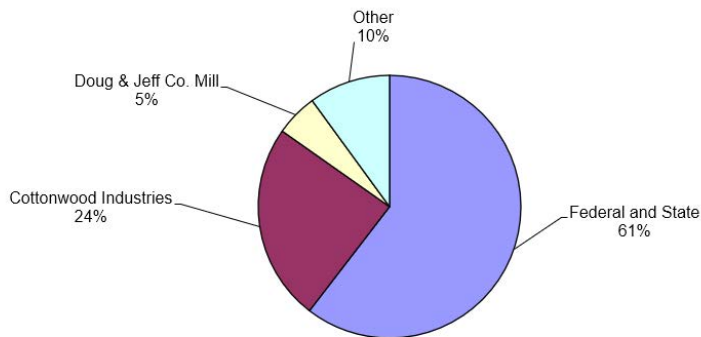


Yvette is very involved in the community. She loves Parks and Rec activities, taking trips and helping with Cottonwood events.

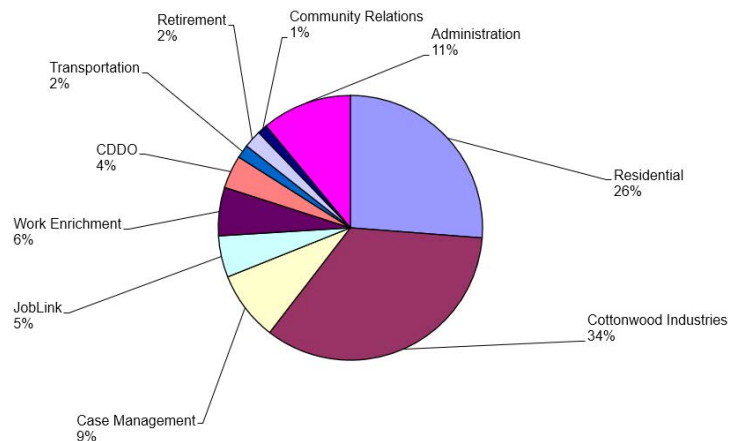


2022 Financials

Revenues



Expenses



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in the amount of

\$

☐ One-time Donation

Name: _____ Phone: _____

Email: _____ Address: _____

☐ Credit Card: _____ Type: _____ CCV: _____

Expiration: ____/____ Signature: _____

☐ Check enclosed ☐ Invoice me

☐ My gift is in honor/memory of: _____

Mail to:
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2801 West 31st Street
Lawrence, KS 66047

☐ Monthly Donation
Log on to www.cwood.org
click *Donate*



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THANK YOU!

2022 was a remarkable year for Cottonwood, in many ways. Challenging and rewarding. And always, working together to provide the best possible services and supports for the people we serve—and continuing to be COTTONWOOD STRONG!



Community activities and opportunities remain high priority for persons supported, including print making classes at Lawrence Art Center, Music Therapy, van rides, community strolls, fishing and park activities, and visiting friends.

MANAGEMENT TEAM

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Phil Bentzinger
Director of JobLink

Ettie Brightwell
*Director of Community Relations
& Development*

Angela Levy
Director of CDDO Administration

Wendi Georgie
Executive Assistant

Dennis Meier
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Heather Poort
Director of Residential Services

Heather Thies
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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.

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