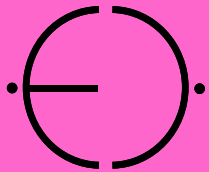


# THE JOURNEY

April—May—June 2012

## Staff Appreciation Day 2012



### Our Mission:

Endless Options, Inc. is committed to supporting and encouraging people with developmental disabilities to have quality life experiences.



Happy Summer

### Our Values:

Differences and similarities in all people.

The rights and responsibilities that come with daily living.

Lifelong learning opportunities.

Endless Options has many wonderful employees helping us meet our mission every day. But sometimes we all get busy and forget to share our appreciation. On May 10, we had a celebration to help us say “thanks” for everything our employees do!



Debra Miller and Patsy Maher preparing for the celebration.

We believe our employees are so good that they “ought to be in pictures” so our Staff Appreciation Day centered around a movie theme. The aroma of fresh-popped popcorn filled the air and all employees were given movie candy and microwave

popcorn. Cupcakes made to look like bags of movie popcorn were enjoyed by all.



Patsy Maher popping the corn.

All employees were given a work culture survey to complete and entered into a prize drawing. The lucky winners were Marcia Lyon, Derek McSparren, and Sophia Whitesell.

Endless Options has been using a work culture survey tool since 2008 to identify priorities and develop goals to help us move closer to our desired work culture. It is

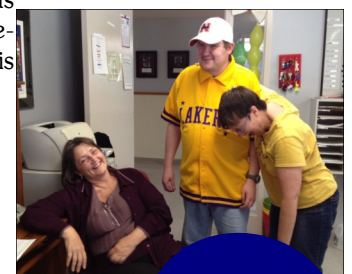
important to have a high level of participation in this survey to make sure every voice is heard. We are proud to say that this year the work culture survey had a return rate of 82%.



Tristy Ginter, Tina Rice, and Liz Dougherty from our HCSC team.



Derek McSparren showing off his prize.



Jamie Wilhoit, Woody Casteel, and Tammy Ames share a laugh.

Be Happy!

**High Five** has enjoyed the nice weather outside any chance we could. We did many activities outside especially the favorite...the parachute! Using the parachute allows all of us to get involved and use our team building skills. The kids enjoyed many different art projects the last three months, such as coloring Easter eggs, potato art, making fossils, shaving cream art and using watercolor paints in many different ways. The biggest hit was making tie die shirts. This was such a great project because the kids are able to show ownership of their own project.



In May, after school let out for the summer, the kids began coming to High Five during the day instead of after school hours. The kids are able to choose from three fun activities that they would like to participate in.

Congrats to Sam who graduated from Fayette High School!!! After graduation, Sam made the transition from High Five to CTC.

Earlier this year, Endless Options was notified by Leadership Boonslick that we would be one of the recipients of fundraising efforts by their group. The group planned a golf tournament and silent auction. The event was very successful and over \$4000 was raised. The money was split between EO and Unlimited Opportunities in Cooper County. This money has been earmarked for use in the High Five program as it continues to grow.



Debra Miller, Emily Smith, Jennifer Waibel, and Anecita Sancho



In April, we had a new volunteer join the EO family and we can't say enough good things about him! Andrew Mallick has helped us with landscaping, moving furniture, cleaning refrigerators, along with many

Andrew Mallick and Casey Kensinger help move furniture and carry purses!

## Community Training Center

There are many new faces around the CTC these days. We have had several people choose to spend their days with us. To help us out, we hired a new support staff. Michael O'Neill joined our team, and we are very happy to have him. Michael started with the CTC earlier this year, as a practicum student from CMU. When that was over, he decided he wanted to stay and applied for a job! Michael is a music education student and in his spare time, sings with the musical group Phi Mu Alpha Simfonia. Michael invited his group down to sing for us. We all loved the music and the visitors!



## Our Future's so Bright...

Don Gereau from GT Mobility has been working with staff and board to set a course for the next few years. He was here June 1<sup>st</sup> and got to see the many sides of EO while asking and learning from administrative staff. Then, on June 2, administrative staff and board members came together for a retreat where we earned about options for not for profits, and completed some worksheets and surveys. In the week following all employees had an opportunity to complete a survey. The surveys were completed anonymously, with the input going straight to Don.



Don Gereau shares ideas with board member Tony Cook

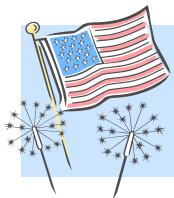
In July Don will be back at the board meeting on the 11<sup>th</sup> to summarize what he learned from the surveys and bring us an overview with possible targets. After that input he will take the information and present a work plan to the board at the August meeting. This is an exciting time of growth and we want to be intentional in our pursuit.

## EO Holiday Schedule

Endless Options, Inc. will be closed:

July 4, 2012

September 23, 2012



## Board Elects Officers

At the regular June meeting Leslie Prothero was again elected as president of the board, with Tony Cook as vice president and Joni Clayton as Secretary/Treasurer. Mike Jackman and Jerri Carter round out the remaining board members until the new members are officially welcomed.

## In the Spotlight



Allen Hewerdine is in the spotlight this quarter! Allen has been employed at EO since March 2011 as a Service Coordinator for Howard County Service Coordination. Allen is an integral member of the HCSC team, and we all admire him for his calm demeanor and his ability to stay the course in tough times. Allen is a strong advocate for the people he supports and works hard to ensure that they have what they need. Allen, thank you for all you do!

News From EO

EO Employment

June 1<sup>st</sup> marked the grand re-opening of EO Recycles in our new location at 116 North Church, on the square in Fayette. The new site offers more sorting room and another drop off location, as well as a sales floor for used and repurposed furniture and other household items.

We are now taking donations of used furniture, primarily wood or metal, and all kinds of broken things. We will be looking for ways to repurpose the broken things and already have lots of great items and ideas. Come by and see what we have or call us if you have something for us. Remember, donations are tax deductible!

Call EO at 248-5233 anytime, or EO Recycles at 248-9801



**WISH LIST** for getting settled in and using our new space better:

- Utility sink
- Orbital sander
- Sandpaper
- Paint ( quarts or spray)



Community Living



In April, we welcomed a new person to our residential program. Jerry is new to Endless Options and to Fayette, and is settling in.



Flowers and vegetable plants donated by the Fayette FFA were planted at the homes. Everyone was very grateful to have these donations to spruce up their yards.

Several of the people we support have been taking advantage of the nice weather outside by going for walks and picnics at DC Rogers Lake.



Linda and Beverly kicked off summer by hosting a Memorial Day barbecue at their home.

Howard County Service Coordination

Howard County Service Coordination began doing "intakes" on June 4, 2012. The intake process will take place if a family contacts the Howard County Service Coordination or The Department of Mental Health, expressing an interest in receiving services for themselves, a family member or someone they're concerned for.

If an individual contacts HCSC to start the intake process, we will:

- Contact CMRO so they can track needed information per the Leake Decree.
- Provide the intake application and information to the interested party.
- Assist the individual and/or their family member with the application process.

Local Intake should ease the application process and allow people to receive the services they need in a timely manner.

If you or someone you know feels that services through The Department of Mental Health are a need, please don't hesitate to call (660-248-5105) or come by our office in the lower level of Commercial Trust Company. Our office is open from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., Monday through Friday.



Welcome Linda Leach to EO! Linda is the new House Manager at Howard Street.



**EO Anniversaries**  
Cathy Terrell ~ 14 years  
Lou Munk ~ 3 years

Board members Beth Gold and Paula Ritchie were honored at the board meeting on June 13<sup>th</sup> for four 2 year terms of service. The board is working to bring in two new members to bring the board to the required seven members, and we will update you about that in the next installment. Thanks for your years of service, Paula and Beth!



Tammy gives Casey a going away cupcake and hug

With growth comes change. Casey Kensinger resigned his position as EO Recycles coordinator in June to take full-time employment. Dale Lang will be taking over these duties, starting July 1. Also starting July 1, Lerie Shaffer will be our very first Director of Employment Services. Lerie has been with EO since February, working in the High Five program.

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www.EndlessOptions.org

We're on the web!

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info@endlessoptions.org

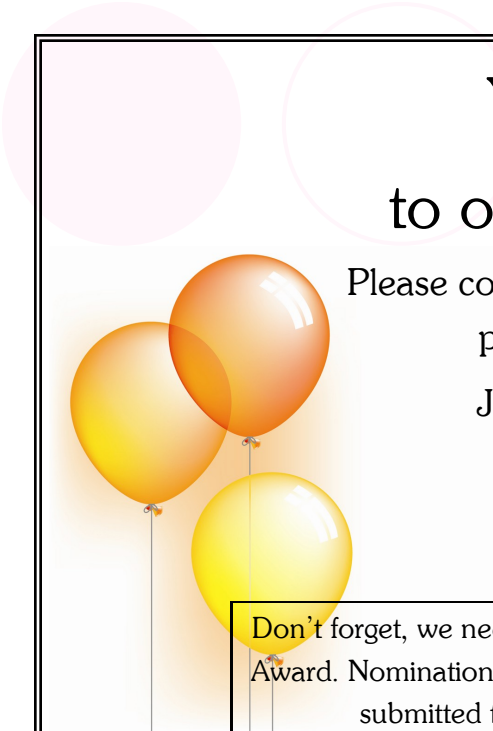
Fax: (660) 248-3779

Phone: (660) 248-5233

Fayette, MO 65248

222 East Davis

Endless Options, Inc.




## You're Invited to our birthday party!

Please come help us celebrate 30 years of  
providing quality services

July 19, 2012 ~ 5:00 pm

Endless Options



Don't forget, we need your nominations for the 3rd Annual Walters  
Award. Nomination forms can be picked up at Endless Options and  
submitted to Debbie or sent electronically through  
email at [info@endlessoptions.org](mailto:info@endlessoptions.org).

Nominations should be submitted by July 3, 2012.

