



CULTIVATING A CULTURE OF GENTLENESS

ANNUAL REPORT 2014





Dear friends,

Each new year brings fresh hope for realizing our dreams. It is also a good time to look back on the progress that has been made. In 2014, Providence Center began its full embrace of the Art of Gentle Teaching, a practice that forges a meaningful relationship between a caregiver and those being supported so that an individual can learn and grow and have the richer, fuller life that we all deserve.

Gentle teaching is focused on measuring progress – both in an individual’s life and the effectiveness of their caregiver. It demands that each person involved in this meaningful relationship is doing their very best to obtain outcomes and then measures the steps taken on the path of achievement.

In formally devoting the organization to this overarching philosophy, Providence Center is creating more fulfilling lives, providing better care, and fostering greater respect for humanity as the goals we work towards every day. Gentle teaching gives us the framework to measure our own progress in the context of the progress of the nearly 500 men and women with intellectual and developmental disabilities who we serve.

Because of the support of our Board of Directors, our staff, our families, our participants, and our community, Providence Center is improving lives and moving them and ourselves forward. This is challenging work that is a privilege to perform. We as an organization value these opportunities to work with extraordinary people and be intimately involved in their life’s paths. Thank you for your support which makes this possible.

Charles “Chuck” Coble
Chief Executive Officer

Charles “Chuck” Goodman
President, Board of Directors

A holistic approach to helping individuals.

Gentle Teaching is an approach for helping people that focuses on four primary goals:

- Teaching the person to feel safe with us.
- Teaching the person to feel engaged with us.
- Teaching the person to feel unconditionally valued by us.
- Teaching the person to return unconditional valuing to us.

These four goals contribute to building a sense of companionship and community for the person.

Throughout the last year, Providence Center has immersed itself in a more holistic approach to its work – called Gentle Teaching. Gentle teaching establishes the necessary foundation of trust for an individual and their support team to achieve the fullest, most independent life possible for those with intellectual and developmental disabilities.

Gentle teaching invites us to engage meaningfully in the relationships that are a part of life and views every person as invaluable because of the lessons that they can teach us about ourselves.

Every human has requirements – first among those are food, sleep, and shelter. From there, the need to feel safe and valued are part of a person's overall path to personal accomplishment. They must be comfortable in the environment they are in so they can have the confidence to explore the world around. An individual can discover who they are and what they want for their life with the support of others.

Gentle teaching in the service of those with intellectual and developmental disabilities requires that every individual and the mentors who work with them develop a foundation of trust and mutual respect so that this important work can be done. This relationship is critical to achieving what an individual wants to achieve. By building a strong interdependent relationship, the quality of one's life is improved. Each person in the relationship can have the confidence and support to be better, do more, and challenge themselves.





Charting the Path for a Life Well-Lived.

Accountability is key to creating a culture of “gentleness.” Providence Center and our staff must be responsible for our important role as mentor and caregiver. It requires that we, as providers and as care professionals, ensure we are living up to the standards we require, where mutual trust between staff and individuals can develop, and each unique person served has as much control of their life as possible.

Gentle teaching makes us all better – by inviting us to engage meaningfully in the relationships that make up a good life and view every person as invaluable to our lives through the lessons that they can teach us.

It increases the quality of life for those with disabilities, those who serve to give care, and the world around each person. It does this by putting the focus on ourselves, not others. It demands we ask the uncomfortable questions that prompt growth:

“How effective am I?”

“Am I doing my part in this relationship?”

“Am I being and doing the best I have to offer?”

Staff development in the art of gentle teaching is continuous. The framework is standardized. And progress is measured – both for those served and those providing the needed care. Providence Center staff is assessed in their effectiveness and encouraged to continuously work to develop and strengthen the bonds necessary to open up the world to those we serve.

Care and kindness are what we expect from the most important people in our lives. Those with disabilities deserve and should expect the same in their lives as individuals, persons, humans.

Providence Center is cultivating an environment where everyone is asked to embrace our core values as we work to train the best caretakers for the life journeys that we are on together with those we support. Gentle teaching promotes the shaping of even better lives and creating more fulfilling futures for those we serve today and those who we will serve tomorrow by focusing on the relationships that truly matter in life. We are all students, teachers, and observers as we empower ourselves by helping to empower others.

Financial Review

The support from our donors is critical to keeping our doors open and our programs accessible for generations to come.

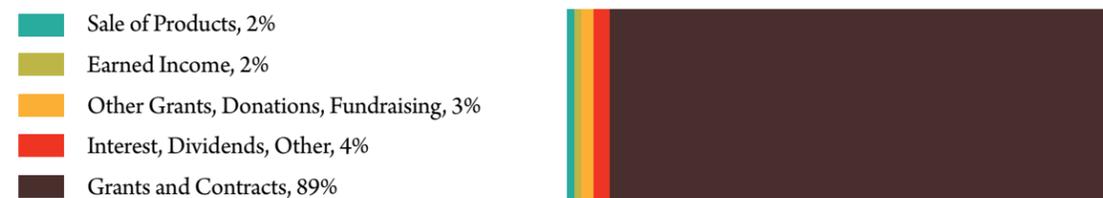
EXPENDITURES

MANAGEMENT & GENERAL	\$ 1,187,292
FUNDRAISING	\$ 113,687
TRANSPORTATION	\$ 1,366,042
PROGRAM SERVICES	\$ 7,082,529
TOTAL	\$ 9,749,550

REVENUE AND SUPPORT

EARNED INCOME	\$ 233,263
OTHER GRANTS, DONATIONS, FUNDRAISING*	\$ 308,297
SALE OF PRODUCTS	\$ 140,061
INTEREST, DIVIDENDS, OTHER	\$ 383,330
GRANTS AND CONTRACTS	\$ 8,786,707
TOTAL	\$ 9,851,658

EXPENDITURES



REVENUE AND SUPPORT

When you make a gift to Providence Center, whether it's a donation or the gift of volunteer time, you are helping to enrich the lives of 500 of our community's residents.

There are many ways you can help the men and women with intellectual and developmental disabilities who count on Providence Center.

DONATE BY MAIL OR GO TO

www.providencecenter.com

Providence Center is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization registered with the State of Maryland that serves adults with intellectual and developmental disabilities. We depend on donations to help support our individuals and our programs and services.

When you give to Providence Center, you can be confident that your gift is truly shaping lives and creating futures for the nearly 500 adults we serve.

Donate now to support Providence Center's dynamic programs and services. **410 766 2212 ext. 110**



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At Providence Center, our mission is to provide the most comprehensive services possible that allow individuals with disabilities to enjoy increased self-determination in leading a more independent, valuable and functioning role in society. These support services are individually designed and professionally managed to enable these individuals to exercise higher levels of control over their lives.



930 Point Pleasant Road
Glen Burnie, MD 21060
410 766 2212
providencecenter.com