



# Abilities

of Northwest Jersey Inc.

Opportunities • Growth • Independence



ANNUAL REPORT 2013-2014

# 40 YEARS OF SUCCESS

## 1974 - 2014

## **OUR VISION:**

An inclusive community where individuals with disabilities are given the opportunity to reach their fullest potential in life

## **OUR MISSION:**

We are dedicated to improving the employability and quality of life for people with disabilities by providing training and individualized services

## **OUR VALUES:**

We take pride in setting the standard for providing innovative services that promote acceptance, self-worth, independence and success. Our team of caring professionals hold the following core values while carrying out our mission:

**Communication** - Keeping the lines open for a brighter future.

**Compassion** - Understanding the sensitive needs of each individual.

**Fun** - Stopping to smell the roses along the way.

**Integrity** - Saying and doing what we mean.

**Respect** - Treating each individual with a high regard.

**Safety** - Promoting a healthy environment.

## **CONGRATULATIONS ABILITIES ON 40 YEARS OF EXCEPTIONAL SERVICE**



# CELEBRATING SUCCESS

Forty years ago, our founders recognized the need to provide vocational services to every level of our special needs population and today, we continue to focus on those needs through our many individualized employment and day programs.



Celebrating individual achievements; Joe Murphy as Transition Student of the Year, Pauline Dalrymple as employee of the year, Kelly Burch and Albert Howard for Individual Achievement and Keith Wyker for Long Term Achievement

Celebrating community and business partnerships; Linda Gregg of the House of Good Shepherd, Mars Chocolate North America & Service Partner, Rossi GMC, Edible Garden, Norwescap Food Bank, Hackettstown High School and Quick Chek.



Phillipsburg Center Branching Out Food Pantry and Thrift Shop Boutique celebrates 10 years of giving back to the community and serves over 200 families a month.

Abilities has been accredited by CARF International for another 3 years. Abilities has been accredited for its Community Employment Services, including Employment Supports and Job Development, Organizational Employment, Comprehensive Vocational Evaluation and Student Transition Services.



## NEW VENTURES

# VINYL PRINT

A new service offered to the business community while offering a training opportunity to the individuals we serve.



We are proud to announce a new partnership that has been developed with **Edible Garden/Naturally Beautiful** in Belvidere in providing hydroponic skill training. Edible Garden operates a five acre, state of the art hydroponic system and has partnered with Abilities to train individuals to produce locally grown, fresh produce while teaching skills that will be transferable to employment and community integration activities. Our trainees will learn teamwork, innovative farming and a discovery of employment opportunities in Agribusiness occupations.



SustainAbilities recycles electronics and other materials with a mission of providing training and employment opportunities to person with disabilities . Not only are we providing a service by giving meaningful "green" job skill training, we are also providing an environmentally sound "green" solution to the local community.

To date, SustainAbilities has recycled **11,196 lbs. of e-waste.**





## GROWTH

Relaxing & enjoying one of the many sensory activities that are available



Exploring artistic talents



Keeping up with current technology trends



Staff learning the new electronic health record system

*“Over the years, your organization has continued to grow, and you have helped countless individuals realize their time and talents are valuable to employers and communities.”*

# INSPIRATION

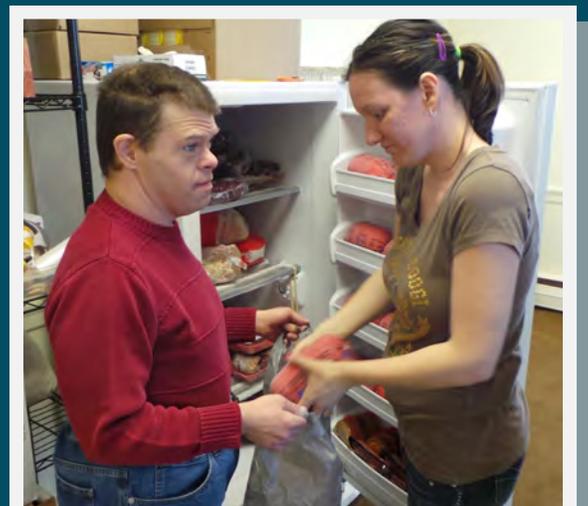


“We have found the staff and managers at Abilities to be dedicated, responsive, caring and competent in meeting the needs of our sons and in communicating to us about all matters that affect their experiences”



## ABILITIES EMBRACES GIVING BACK TO THE COMMUNITY

Meals on wheels, visiting seniors, food pantry, thrift shop...these are all volunteer activities available to our Abilities attendees.



*"Employment Pathways helped me become a great worker..."*



**Meet Ryan...** We first met Ryan in September of 2013. He was pleasant but shy. He was already working a part time as a bagger in a supermarket but wanted a full time position or another part time position. Ryan had many interests and he could drive which was a big plus in the job search. What was a barrier to the job search was Ryan's apprehension and shyness in interactions. He would keep conversations to a minimum, just answering yes or no. After great job development effort, a position was developed at the Toys R Us warehouse in Flanders. Ryan was very interested, went through the application process, and was hired.



Ryan pictured with Abilities Job Developer



**Employment Pathways**

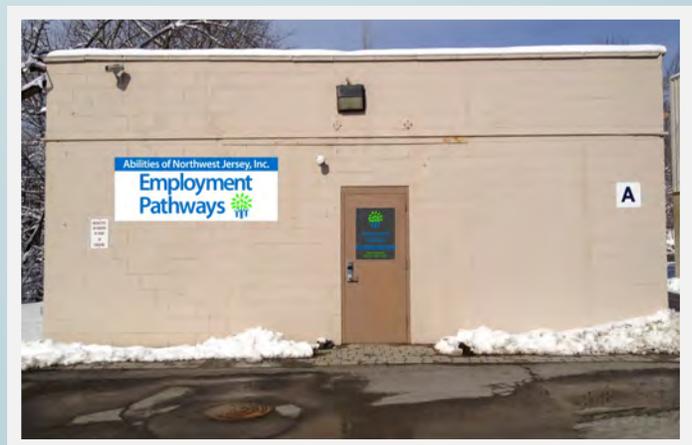
Division of Abilities of Northwest Jersey, Inc.

Opportunities • Growth • Independence

**A great job connection...** during the orientation and the initial learning of his job responsibilities, Ryan showed an interest and asked many questions. During his training he started carrying out conversations with his job coach as well as his co-workers. Ryan was right at home and friendships began to flourish. The position at Toys R Us was a "seasonal" position when Ryan was hired, however, the season ended in December and they chose to keep Ryan. He hopes to remain there, expand his job duties, and hopefully get a full time position in the future.

**CONGRATULATIONS RYAN!!**

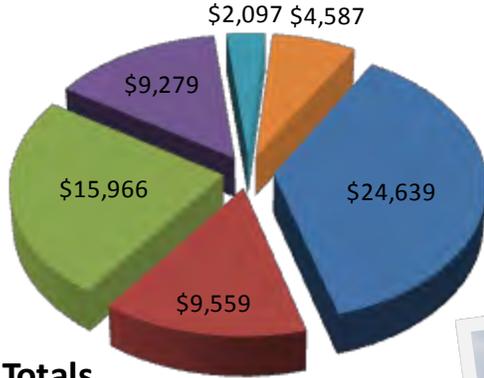
**18 new community placements**  
**Supporting 69 employees in the community**



Employment Pathways has a new home  
14 A Brass Castle Road, Washington

*What you do every day makes such a difference in the lives of so many families, individuals, companies and organizations. You do what you do so well! We have worked with many organizations, and none compare to the outstanding job Abilities does!*

- Annual Gala Event
- Festival of Trees
- Golf Tournament
- Tricky Tray
- Quilt Raffle
- Miscellaneous



**Fundraising Totals**  
**\$66,127**



**COMMUNITY PARTNERS**

In this presentation of our 2013-2014 Annual Report, we celebrate **40 YEARS** of **SUCCESS**. Not only do we celebrate the success of those we serve, but we celebrate the team providing the supports that lead to their achievements. I couldn't be more proud of the accomplishments throughout this report which are a reflection of a team driven by dedication and determination.



In November of 2013, Abilities was awarded yet another 3 year accreditation from CARF International for our transition and employment services. This accreditation reflects our continued commitment in holding ourselves to the highest standards in service provision.

Continually seeking new opportunities for our individuals to reach their personal and vocational goals, we launched our SustainAbilities Electronics Recycling skill training program. This program is an opportunity for our consumers to enhance their skills, a recycling service to the community and a contribution to the preservation of our environment. A win-win-win for all!

In March of 2014, we celebrated 40 years of service with our annual gala, Margaritaville. We kicked back in our tropical shirts and flip flops, listening to the fabulous tunes of Jimmy and the Parrots while toasting to our anniversary. During the evening we had the distinct pleasure of honoring two of our founding board members, Dr. Frank A. Wolf, Jr. and Phyllis Burd. If not for their extraordinary efforts in the early 1970's, we would not be celebrating our growth and success today. The proceeds from our annual gala were dedicated to the support of our electronics recycling program.

Our Branching Out Food Pantry and Thrift Shop, located in Phillipsburg, also had a reason to celebrate in 2014. This operation has been providing volunteer opportunities for our individuals and services to the Phillipsburg community for 10 years. We look forward to the continued expansion of this operation to meet the growing needs of the community.

In the Spring of 2014, we launched our SustainAbilities Hydroponics certificate training program in partnership with Edible Garden of Belvidere. What a fabulous opportunity for those interested in agribusiness to learn the skills involved in the hydroponic cultivation of produce and herbs grown locally in beautiful Warren County.

All of these accomplishments would be impossible without the support of our Board of Directors, caregivers, donors, funders, community partners and advocates. I would like to take this opportunity to thank all of you who continue to make it possible for individuals with disabilities to reach their fullest potential in life. Without your support, our team of professionals would not be able to carry on with our mission of providing exemplary individualized services to those who need it the most.



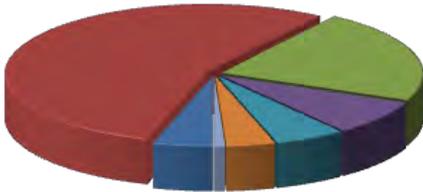
Cynthia B. Wildermuth  
Chief Executive Officer

**CEO MESSAGE**

# WHO WE SERVE

## Primary Disabilities

CD DD ID MI MH PDD SI SD

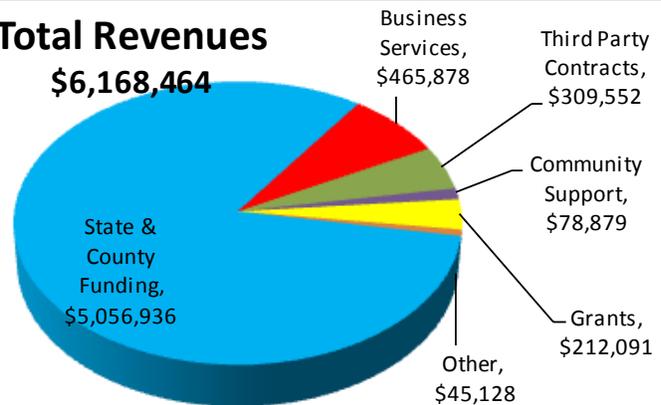


|                                  |     |        |
|----------------------------------|-----|--------|
| Cognitive Disabilities           | CD  | 4.74%  |
| Developmental Disabilities       | DD  | 54.74% |
| Intellectual Disability          | ID  | 21.98% |
| Medical Impairment               | MI  | 8.19%  |
| Mental Health Disorder           | MH  | 5.6%   |
| Pervasive Developmental Disorder | PDD | 3.88%  |
| Sensory Impairment               | SI  | .86%   |
| Substance Disorder               | SD  | 0.00%  |

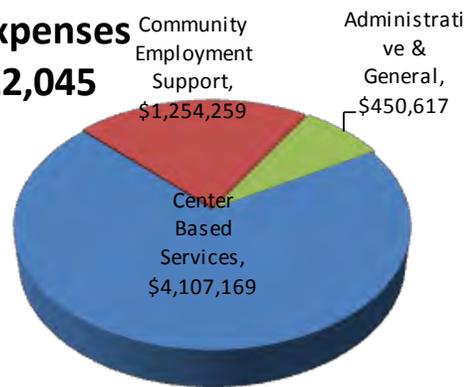
|                       |            |
|-----------------------|------------|
| Adult Habilitation    | 22         |
| DDD Extended          | 11         |
| DVR Extended          | 50         |
| Supported Employment  | 72         |
| Hackettstown Center   | 42         |
| Behavior Supports     | 8          |
| Mary Apgar            | 45         |
| Medical Special Needs | 23         |
| Phillipsburg          | 42         |
| Washington Center     | 20         |
| <b>TOTAL SERVED</b>   | <b>335</b> |



## Total Revenues



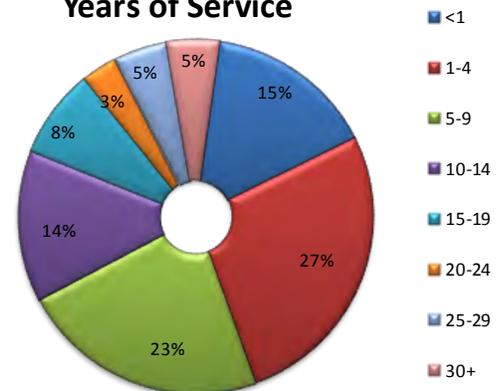
## Total Expenses



## HUMAN RESOURCES

At the end of FY 2014 Abilities had 137 employees, 79 full-time, 42 part-time and 16 substitute staff.

## Years of Service



# FACILITY LOCATIONS

**Community Rehabilitation Program**  
264 Route 31 North  
Washington, NJ 07882  
(908) 689-1118

**Employment Pathways**  
14 A Brass Castle Road  
Washington, NJ 07882  
(908) 689-7460

**Hackettstown Center**  
999 Willow Grove Street, Suite 6  
Hackettstown, NJ 07840  
(908) 850-8214

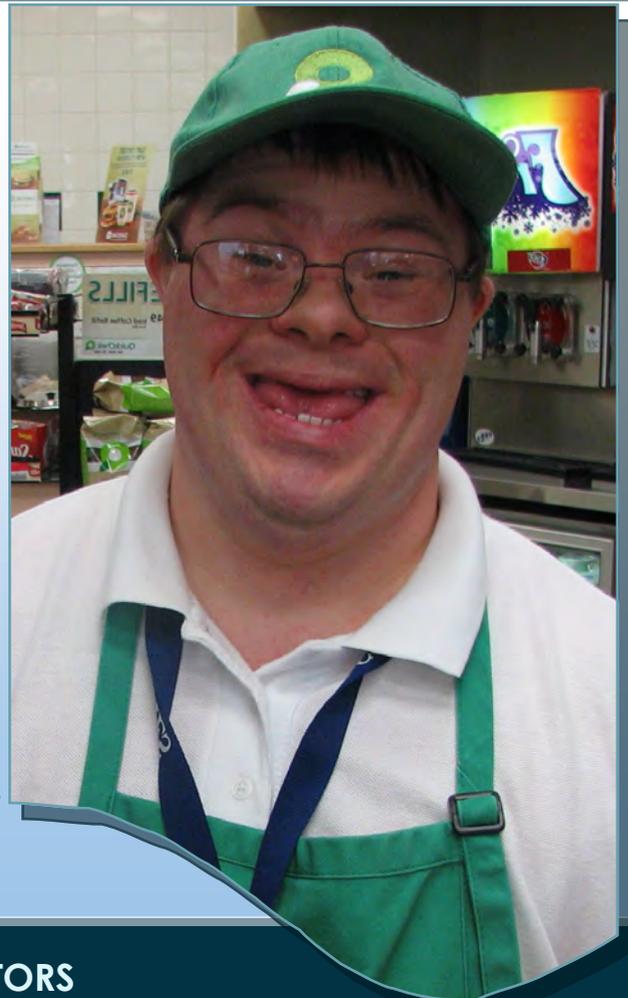
**Washington Center**  
264 Route 31 North  
Washington, NJ 07882  
(908) 689-1118

**Medical Special Needs**  
264 Route 31 North  
Washington, NJ 07882  
(908) 689-6677

**Mary Apgar Center & ISP**  
22 Kayhart Lane  
Washington, NJ 07882  
(908) 689-2063  
ISP (908) 689-4674

**Phillipsburg Center**  
340 Anderson Street  
Phillipsburg, NJ 08865  
(908) 454-2579

**Print Shop Services**  
56 East Washington Ave  
Washington, NJ 07882  
(908) 689-0612



## BOARD OF DIRECTORS

**Paul M. Sterbenz**  
*President*

**David Molinaro, CPA**  
*Treasurer*

**Phyllis Burd**

**Elizabeth Doughty**

**Danielle Dupuis**  
*Vice President*

**Michael Selvaggi, Esq.**  
*Secretary*

**Daryl K. Kim, M.D.**

**David Leary**  
**Teresa March**



[WWW.ABILITIESNW.COM](http://WWW.ABILITIESNW.COM)

