



# Family Connections

News for the Families  
and Friends of Waves Community Services & Supports

October 2014

## Dear Families and Friends,

Today as I write this note to you, I am beginning my 4<sup>th</sup> week as the New Executive Director at Waves.

In this time I have been warmly welcomed by people receiving services, staff, families, board members, and the community. I have had the opportunity to visit all the houses, Brookwood Day Services and the Fairview Center. I look forward to a visit soon with our Recycling Program to see the great work that Michael, Vann and Tom perform as well as a visit to one of our Early Learning families.

I am fortunate to already have had several opportunities to represent Waves in the Community. I attended the Public Affairs Roundtable at the Williamson County Administrative Complex and met State Representatives Charles Sargent, Jerney Durham, and Glen Casada as well as Judge Jeff Bivins and Supreme Court Judge Jack Johnson. I have met leaders from High Hopes, United Way, Williamson, Inc. Chamber, Tennessee Rehabilitation Center, Tucker's House, and the Arc of Davidson County.

As I have met people in the community, the message has been the same "Waves is a great organization". I am honored to be part of this great organization.

I would like to meet you and invite you to a family and friends event that we are having on Wednesday, November 5<sup>th</sup> from 10:00am to

11:00am at the Brookwood Day Program. I will also be at the Fairview Halloween Party on Friday October 31<sup>st</sup> from 11:30 to 1pm. I hope to meet many of our families and friends at one of these events.

If you are not able to attend one of these two events, you may contact me by phone or email if you have any questions or just one to say "Hello".

I look forward to meeting and working with each of you in supporting your family or friend that receives services from Waves, Inc. Sincerely,  
Shannon Nehus  
Waves, Inc.  
Executive Director  
[snehus@wavesinc.com](mailto:snehus@wavesinc.com)  
615-794-7955 Ext. 2118

## Thanks for the Relationships and Memories

Well it looks like Marilyn, Jennifer, and I were all running for the finish line at the same time. So for those of you who know me, it should come as no surprise that I am finishing last. I too have decided to retire after 30 plus years in the field.

My association with Waves for the last twelve years has been very rewarding. I am proud to have been associated with such a fine agency whose mission and purpose is so honorable.

I have been surrounded with many talented and passionate people who are truly working for people with intellectual disabilities to help insure that everyone have a quality life. I have been humbled and inspired by my co workers, families and particularly the

individuals that we support at Waves. I have learned so much from all of you particularly the people we support. These friendships and the good works of this agency will be missed.

Thank you all for sharing your lives with me. I know that Waves is in good hands and will continue to prosper and be one of the best organizations around!  
Sincerely,  
Beth Duning

## Halloween Dance

Halloween is just around the corner, so put on your best costume and join us for Waves' annual Halloween Dance. This year's dance will be held on Friday October 31st from 11 am to 1 pm at the Fairview Day Center. Spooky treats will be served, and DJ Dude will be playing all your favorite dance music. Admission is \$3. Friends, families and caregivers are welcome to attend!



## Waves is Now Hiring



We are looking to hire a few direct support professionals. Who better to refer these people to us than family and friends of the people we support. If you know of anyone

who might be interested in working for Waves please ask them to contact John Blackwell at 615-794-7955 ex 2135.

*Our vision . . . All consumers we serve enjoy an enhanced quality of life, have a sense of personal value, and are successfully included in community activities.*

## Easy Way to Benefit Waves!

Everyone grocery shops, right???? You probably go to Kroger and have a Kroger Plus Card too. Well if you will go to [www.kroger.com/communityrewards](http://www.kroger.com/communityrewards) or call 1-800-576-4377, option 3. You can sign up for Waves to earn rewards on all eligible purchases you make using your Kroger Plus card. It is that easy and when you use your card at Kroger you will be helping Waves!

## Cheekwood Visit

Each year Cheekwood Botanical Gardens hosts Scarecrows, an event where families and organizations in Middle Tennessee craft a scarecrow that is displayed in their gardens. This year Cheekwood had 42 scarecrows



and Waves was one of them. Our scarecrow, Potricia, was designed and created by our

Meals on Wheels participants. They helped to construct and paint the pots she was made out of.

On October 8<sup>th</sup>, 2014, the group and several of their peers took a trip to the garden to see Potricia in the display. Marilyn Kruse, a member of Cheekwood and former Waves HR employee, joined the group on the trip as well. While there, the group walked through the Scarecrow display, mini pumpkin patch, and the flower gardens. It was a beautiful sunny day to go to the botanical gardens. The scarecrows will be displayed until November 2<sup>nd</sup> at Cheekwood if you too want to check out Waves' beautiful creation.

## Fire Station Tour



On October 9<sup>th</sup>, 2014, a group from Waves Brookwood and Fairview Day Program visited the firefighters at the Franklin Fire Station 2. To show our appreciation for all their hard work and dedication to their job, Waves clients brought them handmade cards. After the delivery of the cards, they took a tour of the station and fire truck. Waves' clients learned about the variety of trucks and apparatus that firemen use on a daily basis. The firefighters even put on their gear for the group so they could see and hear how they would sound when they enter a burning building. After the tour, there was a question and answer session. The trip to the fire station was such a success that Waves will be taking a different group in November so everyone gets the chance to experience it.

## Belcourt

Each month we get to go to a movie at the historic Belcourt Movie Theater in Nashville. This month a group from the Waves Day Programs saw *Fantastic Mr. Fox*. This movie was created using clay-mation and stop motion. Before the showing of the film, a two-minute introductory video was presented about stop motion and how these types of movies are made. After having all the background information about the movie, we watched our feature film. It was a wonderful trip to the theater and we can't wait to go back next month!

## Southern Fried Fun

With the sun shining, the air filled with music, and the morning temperature pleasant groups from Waves residential program set out on September 27<sup>th</sup> to enjoy the Southern Fried Festival in Columbia. Clarissa L., Christy W., and Ruth

R. along with friends Vera J. and Carolyn D. enjoyed watching bands play their instruments as their music floated out into the air. They encountered more residents, Robert C. and Allen J., as they sat upon hay bales to enjoy the blue grass music of Grass Kickers, a recurring band at the festival. They also got a chance to feed animals such as alpaca, llamas, a giant sea turtle, and goats before they sat down to enjoy their lunch. When lunch was finished it was time to go just as Barney Fife pulled up in his vintage police car in front of the court house. All in all it was a wonderful day.



### Waves New Executive Director

Join us for a meet and greet with Waves' new Executive Director, Shannon Nehus, on November 5<sup>th</sup> from 10:00-11:00AM at the Franklin Day Program (1405B

Brookwood Avenue Franklin, TN 37064). The event will include two performances by our clients and a presentation by Shannon on her vision for the future of Waves. Please RSVP to Emily Layton by November 3<sup>rd</sup> at 615-786-1705 or [elayton@wavesinc.com](mailto:elayton@wavesinc.com).

### Welcome Sandra Woods

We are fortunate to have Sandra Woods, an MTSU social work intern, working with us this semester. Sandra managed a restaurant lounge for about 30 years in Michigan and then decided to change careers and get a degree in social work. When she graduates in May 2015, she is interested in going into the field of intellectual disabilities or working with the elderly. She has a particular interest in advocating for social justice. We are glad to have you with us.



### Welcome Belmont Occupational Therapy Intern Tonya Hill

Tonya is originally from Arkansas. She obtained her Physical Therapy Associates at Arkansas State University before moving here to Nashville to further her education at Belmont University. Tonya will graduate with a degree in Occupational Therapy in 2015. After graduation, Tonya plans to move to Long Beach, CA and has plans to open her own PT, OT clinic. In Tonya's spare time, she enjoys biking, hiking, painting and spending time with her Boston Terrier.

Thanks for doing some of your internship with Waves.