



## FACT SHEET

### Our Mission

To provide a comprehensive work, social support, and future residential community for adults with special needs, expanding their potential and helping them develop mentally, physically, socially, emotionally, and spiritually.

### About Adults with Disabilities in the United States

The U. S. Census Bureau provides these 2010 data highlights about people who have disabilities:

- 57 million people in the U. S. have a disability, equivalent to 19%
- 17% of people aged 21-64 have disabilities in the state of Tennessee
- Up to 23% of adults over the age of 21 have disabilities in middle Tennessee Counties
- By law, students with disabilities may stay in public school system until age 21
- About 80% of young adults with special needs leaving high school never find employment, even those able and willing

### About BrightStone

We offer lifelong learning opportunities while teaching job skills, productive work habits making student-crafted products, functional academics, computer skills, health and nutrition, physical wellness, art, music, crafts, daily life skills, social skills, and offer leisure and learning activities plus participation in a variety of community activities with supervised transportation.

- BrightStone was founded in 1999
- BrightStone is a 501(c)3 non-profit organization
- BrightStone is licensed by the state of Tennessee but receives no state or federal funds
- We serve adults ages 21 and up who have intellectual and developmental disabilities (i.e. "special needs")
- There are 39 Students enrolled at BrightStone, ages range from 23 to 64
- Students come to BrightStone from six middle Tennessee Counties
- 40% of our students use the BrightStone bus for transportation to and from home

### About BrightStone Finances

BrightStone is a registered and licensed nonprofit 501(c)(3) organization and takes no government money. Funding is derived from student tuition, private and corporate foundations and grants, individual and corporate donors, fund raising benefits, and the sale of student-made products.

- Our annual operating expense is \$1,117,000
- Full-time tuition is \$10,380 per year and funds only one third of our operating costs
- Over \$800,000 is raised annually to fund operating costs not funded by tuition
- Scholarships and financial aid offered at BrightStone are funded through donations
- We are thankful for Individuals, foundations, churches, and corporations who support our mission

### About BrightStone Fundraising Events and Free Christmas Program Community Event

- **Songwriters Night** is a ticketed event on Oct 10<sup>th</sup> at Liberty Hall in the Factory.
- **Clay Shoot** is a ticketed event in May on Gentry's Farm
- **Bowlability** is a fundraising benefit held in August at Franklin Entertainment Center
- **Golf Benefit** is a fundraising benefit held Oct 3 at The Governors Club
- **BrightStone Christmas program**, (a free event) is our thank you to the community for supporting BrightStone; held December 7<sup>th</sup> at Liberty Hall in the Factory; BrightStone students perform; a reception with food following the program
- **For event or sponsorship information, please contact** [daniel.bradley@brightstone.org](mailto:daniel.bradley@brightstone.org)

## About Our Volunteer Program - BrightCorps

- More than 2,800 volunteer hours are donated each year saving BrightStone over \$30,000 in payroll dollars
- Volunteers help at BrightStone, at our events, and maintain our facilities and land
- To learn about current volunteer needs, please contact [Elaine.farmer@brightStone.org](mailto:Elaine.farmer@brightStone.org) or call 615-790-4888

## About BrightStone Enterprise Programs and Products

- BrightStone enterprise programs empower our students to contribute to society making student-crafted products
- Our student-crafted products include greeting cards printed with student designs; beautiful ceramics; and painted crafts
- BrightStone is licensed by the Food and Drug Administration allowing us to package and sell a variety of food mixes made and packaged by our students including fudge, brownies, cookies, dips and teas
- BrightStone products may be purchased at BrightStone (8am to 4:30pm) or at local craft shows or festivals
- BrightStone packaged food mixes may be purchased at Olivia Olive Oil, Savory Spice, Batch Nashville, Handy Hardware, and the Franklin Visitors Center

## About Parents Who Have Adult Children with Disabilities

- The #1 concern for parents caring for an adult child with special needs is the long-term care of their loved one
- Parents want a safe, home-like setting for their adult child to live on their own, with year-round supervision
- Parents caring for a dependent adult with special needs face a difficult and lifelong financial challenge

## About Our Exciting *Land of Dreams* Capital Campaign

Following in the footsteps of our model facility, Brookwood Community in Brookshire, Texas, (see [brookwoodcommunity.org](http://brookwoodcommunity.org)) BrightStone's goal is to provide for the "whole life" needs of adults who are intellectually and developmentally disabled including the provision of a place to live, work, and play. The next phase of BrightStone will be a campus and a whole life program to include student housing with full-time supervision and assistance as needed in graduated levels of living options. Expanded entrepreneurial efforts in a variety of work centers, whole life therapeutic services including aquatic therapy and therapeutic horseback riding will also be provided. The results of this endeavor will be an increase in the number of adults and families served, the student enterprise/service initiative, and value and productivity of this population in this community and beyond.

- BrightStone purchased 138 acres located at 4184 Columbia Pike (just south of Mack Hatcher)
- We plan to build a college-like campus, which will be the first facility of its kind in Tennessee
- We will expand our day program to serve 120 adults and offer 80 adults student housing options to live on our campus with year-round supervision
- New facilities planned include horticulture center with greenhouses, equestrian center, fitness center, aquatic center, chapel, activities buildings, Cafetorium, medical clinic, job training and education building, and student homes
- January 2017, we launched a \$25 million dollar Land of Dreams Capital Campaign to fund our expansion
  - Over \$3M raised in the quiet phase of the campaign towards \$8.5M Phase One
- For more information, please call 615-790-4888
  - Brenda Hauk, Executive Director [brenda.hauk@brightstone.org](mailto:brenda.hauk@brightstone.org)
  - Randy Elliott, Director of Advancement [randy.elliott@brightstone.org](mailto:randy.elliott@brightstone.org); 615-491-0096 cell

## About BrightStone Tours

- We welcome individuals or church groups, corporate groups, or any organization interested in taking a tour
- We don't charge anything nor do we ask for anything, other than your honest feedback
- We can easily do group tours for up to 20 people or more
- Tours are only by appointment and generally take 90 minutes
- Preferred tours days and times include:
  - Monday thru Thursday; 9:30am
  - Monday thru Wednesday, 11:00am
- For prospective parent tours, please contact [elaine.farmer@brightstone.org](mailto:elaine.farmer@brightstone.org) or call 615-790-4888
- For group tours, please contact [randy.elliott@brightstone.org](mailto:randy.elliott@brightstone.org) or call 615-790-4888 ofc or 615-491-0096 cell