

*Helping Adults with Special Needs*

**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**

* 57 million people in the U. S. have a disability, equivalent to 19%
* 11% of students in Williamson County schools have special needs
* By law, students with disabilities may stay in public school system until age 21
* Between 70 to 85% of students with special needs leaving high school at age 21 never find employment

**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 (there is no age limit)
* Students currently come to BrightStone from six middle Tennessee Counties
* About 40% of our students use the BrightStone bus for transportation to and from home
* About 50% of our students attend BrightStone full-time; 4 of our students have been enrolled since 1999

**About BrightStone Finances**

* Our annual operating expense is $1,146,000
* Full-time tuition is $10,584 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 usually in February
* **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 in October at The Governors Club
* **BrightStone 2018 Christmas program** will be December 4th with students performing and a reception (free event)
* **For event or sponsorship information, please contact** randy.elliott@brightstsone.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 eventually live on their own   
• Parents caring for a dependent adult with special needs face a difficult and lifelong financial challenge

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

* We launched Phase One of a multi-million dollar Capital Campaign in 2017
* We plan to build a college-like campus, which will be the first facility of its kind in Tennessee
* BrightStone purchased 138 acres located at 4184 Columbia Pike (just south of Mack Hatcher)
* We will expand our day program so we can serve 120 adults
* We will 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
* For more information about our Land of Dreams Capital Campaign, please call 615-790-4888
  + Brenda Hauk, Executive Director brenda.hauk@brightstone.org
  + Randy Elliott, Director of Advancement 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 questions and feedback
* We do group tours for up to 20 people or more and tours are only by appointment
* Preferred tours days and times include:
  + Monday thru Thursday; 9:30am
  + Monday, Tuesday or Wednesday, 11:00am
* For prospective parent tours, please contact elaine.farmer@brightstone.org or call 615-790-4888
* For group tours, please contact randy.elliott@brightstone.org or call 615-790-4888 ofc or 615-491-0096 cell

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