Helping adults with special needs

CELEBRATING A GROUNDBREAKING YEAR

IN HIS OWN WORDS: WHAT A STUDENT THINKS ABOUT BRIGHTSTONE P6
LAND OF DREAMS DONOR RECOGNITION AND UPDATE P9
COMMUNITY SUPPORT IN ACTION P11

BRIGHTSTONE PROVIDES A COMPREHENSIVE WORK, SOCIAL SUPPORT, AND FUTURE RESIDENTIAL COMMUNITY FOR ADULTS WITH SPECIAL NEEDS, EXPANDING THEIR POTENTIAL, AND HELPING THEM DEVELOP MENTALLY, PHYSICALLY, SOCIO-EMOTIONALLY, AND SPIRITUALLY.

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FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

WOW! WHAT A YEAR!
Since the beginning of 2019 (just ten short months ago), BrightStone has been blessed beyond measure. From generous and enthusiastic participation in fundraising events like The Big Payback, Bowlability, and our annual Golf Benefit, to a new passenger van for a new community-based learning program, to million dollar gifts for building a “Land of Dreams” future campus, to an amazing 20th Anniversary and Groundbreaking celebration, I am speechless as to the awesome year our awesome God has provided through YOU!

Thank you for valuing the lives of the individuals at BrightStone. Thank you for your generous hearts, for your prayers, and for helping those with special needs have what we all desire – to be loved, to have a reason to get up every morning, and something of value to do each day.

We are so energized by your support to not only provide the best services possible but to sustain those services as we transition to our beautiful new campus. Your compassion is providing the opportunity for adults with special needs to enjoy the BEST LIFE POSSIBLE right now and for generations to come.

Our students are ready and thrilled to have a new campus of opportunity and home of their own. They do not hesitate to tell others, “I’m going to live there!” One student often adds, “I don’t know when and I don’t know how,” then pointing his finger toward the sky, “but the Man upstairs knows!”

We are all depending on “the Man upstairs” to continue inspiring you, individually and as a community, to help these adults realize their dreams. Donor, volunteer, sponsor, influencer – YOU will make this LAND OF DREAMS a reality.

BrightStone wishes you a blessed Thanksgiving and Christmas filled with loving others as Jesus loves us.

Brenda Hauk

LASTING CHANGE STARTS WITH YOU

When you give to BrightStone, you help adults with special needs today and tomorrow. Inspired by the love of Jesus, we work with you to create life-saving change that lasts a lifetime.

Ways to give include:
• Give monthly or yearly
• Employer matching
• Beneficiary designations
• Corporate giving
• Tax-smart donations of stock
• Give through your will
• Sponsorships
• Volunteer & engage

For more information, contact Randy Elliott, Director of Advancement at randy.elliott@brightstone.org, 615-790-4888 (office), or 615-491-0096 (mobile)
PET WITH A PURPOSE

“I feel I was brought here for a purpose,” says Sandy Hull, owner of Lucy, a certified therapy dog she brings to BrightStone weekly.

After a 27-year career as a property manager in Colorado, Sandy moved to Tennessee to pursue her passion for helping animals and the disabled. “Lucy and I had been volunteering at some other organizations but felt we could be doing more.”

For Sandy, BrightStone is special because, “The learning opportunities here are tremendous. The students have independence and are part of the real world. The first time I visited BrightStone I cried... I knew I found where we belong.”

Benefits of Pet Therapy
• lowers blood pressure
• encourages communication
• decreases anxiety
• improves focus

Source: pawsforpeople.org

VOLUNTEER OF THE YEAR

On May 22nd during BrightStone’s annual volunteer luncheon, Chaplain Larry Yarborough was recognized as “Volunteer of the Year” for the impact he makes in the lives of students, their families, and staff on a regular basis.

For students, Larry is a source of unconditional love. He embraces each individual and finds their unique strengths and joy.

For families, Larry is there in times of need. He steps outside the walls and operating hours of BrightStone to provide a comforting presence at home or in the hospital.

For staff, Larry is a wellspring of spiritual strength. He lifts up teachers, administrators, and volunteers daily in their work and life.

Thank you to Larry, and to all of our volunteers, for the generous donation of your time and talents!

RENE BROWN
Lead Teacher, Learning Lab

“Our adults love their time working on computers. I am so proud of how much their skills have zoomed!!”

DEE LANIER
Lead Teacher, Paint Room

“The students are GREAT... Every day with them is a good day.”

JACOB CAMPBELL
Teaching Assistant

“Seeing the joy on students’ faces when they work together and accomplish things they never knew they could do makes teaching here so much fun.”

TABBY MAYS
Teaching Assistant

“I love the staff and how much joy is felt just by being around the students. There is always something to smile about.”

KAYE COLLINS
Product Designer

“I love bringing art to the classroom! Everyone has the ability to create!”

SOMETHING TO SMILE ABOUT

BrightStone is pleased and excited to welcome five new staff members!

Larry exemplifies unconditional love,” said Executive Director, Brenda Hauk (left), about Volunteer of the Year, Larry Yarborough (right).
MUSIC THAT TOUCHES THE HEART. PRESENTED BY STAR PHYSICAL THERAPY
Luke Bryan headlines a record breaking Songwriter’s night. $269,000 raised!

PILGRIMAGE MUSIC & CULTURAL FESTIVAL
BrightStone benefits as an official charity partner of one of the top rated music festivals in the country. 36,000 festival goers attend and see BrightStone’s logo and products!

THE BIG PAYBACK
You help support BrightStone’s music program to the tune of $40,000! Kevin Griffin, Pilgrimage Festival co-founder and lead singer of the band, Better Than Ezra, visits BrightStone and composes the “BrightStone Jam” with students.

20TH ANNIVERSARY & GROUNDBREAKING, PRESENTED BY ALLIANCEBERNSTEIN
Nearly 500 gather to celebrate and see build-out plans for BrightStone’s “Land of Dreams.” See article on p. 8.

BOWLABILITY, PRESENTED BY ALDI
Sponsored by Franklin Synergy Bank, Clearwater Pools, Gamble Design Collaborative, The Schneider Family, STAR Physical Therapy, The Stinnett Family, Twine Graphics, Union Sportsmen’s Alliance, Your Williamson
Special Thanks to Franklin Family Entertainment Center.
366 bowlers break the all-time Bowlability fundraising record by raising more than $87,000. The “Gutter Busters” are awarded Top Fundraising Team and maintain a 5-year winning streak. The “most fun you’ll have fundraising, ever” event will return next year with cosmic sessions, first-rate prizes, and a new over-the-top spirit contest.
Reserve your lane for next year at Bowlability.com.
JIM HINTON MEMORIAL GOLF BENEFIT, PRESENTED BY KIRKLAND’S
Sponsored by Churchill Mortgage, RJ Young, Silex Data, Chuy’s, Waltrip Automotive

55 golfers play an 18-hole scramble at The Governor’s Club in Brentwood after raising more than $127,000. Top Fundraiser and Top Fundraising Team prizes are awarded to BrightStone student, Jon Hasty, who individually raised $20,500.

View fundraising results and donate at BrightStoneGolf.com.

QUARRY CRUSHER RUN
“Rock the Quarry” for the benefit of adults with special needs at BrightStone. See details on p.11.

Register at QuarryCrusherRun.com. Enter code BRIGHTSTONE for $10 off!

#GIVING TUESDAY
A national day of online giving.

DEC 3

LAST DAY TO GIVE IN 2019

DEC 31

ANNUAL CHRISTMAS PROGRAM AND RECEPTION

DEC 5

“Season of Love”
6:30pm
Liberty Hall,
The Factory at Franklin
Doors Open at 5:45pm

Come early to shop the BrightStone store! Stay after the show for refreshments.
This free event is our gift back to the community - we hope you will join us!

NOV 9

QUARRY CRUSHER RUN
“Rock the Quarry” for the benefit of adults with special needs at BrightStone. See details on p.11.

Register at QuarryCrusherRun.com. Enter code BRIGHTSTONE for $10 off!
Tracey is BrightStone’s newest student. Since starting in February he has become known for his calm and kind spirit. He enjoys learning new things and participating in activities, especially painting and sports.

Though quiet and reserved in person, Tracey has openly shared his thoughts about being at BrightStone through a series of emails and texts. Here are his own touching words about his experience.

Tracey is an award winning National Special Olympics golfer. He was honored to be invited to play in this year’s Jim Hinton Memorial Golf Benefit.
I wanted to let you know. That I’m really enjoying Brightstone. I love being there. I like Mrs Brenda and all of my teachers. I’m not bored at all I love being there knowing how to make and package things and also hoping to learn to sing and cook one day.

I really like Lucy and Sandy. I love dogs. I’ve got a dog Bailey. But sometimes I’m quiet it takes me a while to get to know people and also the teachers. But I really really like it.

I’m really excited about coming there and hope to still come there at the new Brightstone one day.

I’m hoping we still do yoga my mom wants me to breathe when I get anxious.

I loved cooking with Erica yesterday. I liked working with Justin yesterday too. It’s really cool I love it there.

I was wondering if I could play bocce ball next year with Brightstone?

What if there’s bad weather tomorrow? What are we going to do tomorrow? If that happens? I still would like to come.

I had an idea yesterday after the celebration. Ceremony... my grandpa left me some money after he died. I would like $500 to go to Brightstone. In his memory if that’s ok? I don’t know if students are allowed to donate? But I just would like it to match what you have from the other person who said to match his money...

My grandpa gave us all the grandkids money same amount. So I didn’t really want it. I love my grandpa I just wanted him to be here. But he gave it to me to use on something I enjoyed and liked. So I told my mom and dad about it. They liked it. They are going to donate too. But I would like to in his memory if that’s ok...

I’m sad right now because my grandpa is not here. It’s hard. But I love being with my friends and teachers at Brightstone. That makes me happy.
On September 7th, nearly 500 members of the community gathered at BrightStone’s “Land of Dreams” property on Columbia Pike to celebrate BrightStone’s 20th Anniversary, and break ground on Phase 1 of the new campus.

To learn more about BrightStone’s Land of Dreams or to schedule a tour, please call 615-790-4888.

Thank you to the sponsors who made this very special event possible!

Music by: The Nashville Hayriders
Cake by: Jo’s Custom Cakes and Catering

FIRST TIME CAPITAL CAMPAIGN DONORS: YOUR GIFT COULD BE MATCHED!

For more information about BrightStone’s Land of Dreams capital campaign and matching donations up to $250,000, please contact Randy Elliott at 615-790-4888.
Thank you Land of Dreams donors, for your support!

General giving contributions for 2019 will be acknowledged in a future publication.

**Founding Partners** $1,000,000+
- Jennifer and Billy Frist
- Marilyn and Calvin Lehew
- Emily Magid
- Beth and Don Stinnett

**Visionary Partners** $250,000+
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- Michael Hampton
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- Rita Hardeman
LAND OF DREAMS MASTER PLAN

BrightStone's campus project will be completed in three phases of construction at a cost of $25M.

Phase 1 will include a new 22,000 square foot Center for Learning, Art, and Enterprise plus two student homes.

Future phases will include planned facilities for an equestrian center, horticulture center, gym and therapeutic aquatic center, chapel, and more student homes.

TIMELINE & COST

Phase 1 will cost approximately $12M. Of the $12M needed to complete Phase 1, $6.6M has been raised so far.

Construction of Phase 1 will begin in 2020.

BARN UPDATE

The newly refurbished barn will be used for equine therapy and nature exploration classes.

FERRELL HOME UPDATE

The first student residence on the campus will be dedicated to the memory of BrightStone friend and champion, Dr. Craig Ferrell. To date, $370,000 has been given specifically for “The Ferrell Home.”

Only $230,000 is needed to complete BrightStone’s first and special student home.
DIGGING DEEP FOR A BETTER COMMUNITY

On Saturday, November 9th, walkers and runners ages 12 and up will “dig deep” into their reserves of physical and mental stamina to complete a challenging 3.6 mile course around a rock quarry for the benefit of adults with special needs. Vulcan Materials Company is hosting a “Quarry Crusher Run” at their Franklin quarry (1001 Downs Blvd) and 100% of the proceeds will be donated to BrightStone!

Of course digging deep is nothing new to Vulcan, the nation’s largest producer of construction aggregates such as crushed stone, sand, and gravel. Having already donated over 3,700 tons of materials to build a vital road on BrightStone’s Land of Dreams property earlier this year, the industry leader is now reaching further to increase community awareness and provide life-saving financial support.

As Randy Elliott, BrightStone’s Director of Advancement states, “It’s a great honor to have a partnership with such a world-class organization. We share Vulcan’s passion for investing in the lives of people in our community. The financial support we will receive from the Quarry Crusher Run will provide resources needed to help the adults we serve live the best life possible.”

100% of proceeds from Vulcan’s Quarry Crusher Run in Franklin will benefit BrightStone students. Register to walk or run at QuarryCrusherRun.com!

NEW CUSTOM PASSENGER VAN WILL CARRY STUDENTS TO A NEW LEVEL OF LEARNING

Thanks to a donation from an Anonymous Foundation, BrightStone was able to purchase a brand new passenger van for transporting small groups of students to various activities in the community.

“We are very excited about the opportunity this vehicle brings to BrightStone,” says Executive Director, Brenda Hauk. “It will allow us to add an innovative layer of individualized, community-based learning to our program, and it will increase awareness and pride within our community. Students will be able to explore work opportunities and practice social skills in a variety of environments while community partners will benefit from the unique and special a-ilities our students have to offer.”

3RD GRADE GO-GETTER UNITES ORGANIZATIONS AND CAUSES

Jonah Humphres, 3rd grade student at Battle Ground Academy in Franklin and nephew of BrightStone student, Ryan, wrote and delivered a speech to his school which inspired fellow students to collect plastic bottle caps for the benefit of BrightStone. “Project Caps” recycles the plastic into community assets like park benches and picnic tables that BrightStone would like to have at its new campus.

Not only does 9-yr old Humphres dutifully collect caps from each classroom of his school on a weekly basis, he spearheaded a large donation of caps through a friend whose parent works at a plastics manufacturing company. Thanks to Humphres’ efforts, Silgan Plastics drove a whopping 750 lbs of plastic caps from its Kentucky plant to donate on behalf of BrightStone.
CONTACT & GIVING INFO

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615-790-4888 Office
info@brightstone.org
www.brightstone.org

@BrightStoneTN

Lobby/BrightStone Store:
140 Southeast Parkway Ct.
Franklin, TN 37064

Hours of Operation:
Mon-Fri, 8 am to 4:30 pm

SHOP TO SUPPORT BRIGHTSTONE!

• Purchase student-made food mixes and ceramics at the BrightStone store on Southeast Parkway Ct., or, at our annual Christmas concert on Dec. 5th at the Factory.

• Order student designed Christmas cards from our online store at shop.brightstone.org.

• Donate an item from our wish list at brightstone.org/donate/wishlist

• Select “BrightStone, Inc” as your charity of choice when shopping at AmazonSmile (smile.amazon.com).

• Enroll in Kroger’s Community Rewards program for “BrightStone.”

NEW 2019 BrightStone Christmas cards are available now at shop.brightstone.org!

Duplicate Mailing or Incorrect Address? Please let us know. Thank you!

BRIGHTSTONE IS A PRIVATELY FUNDED 501(C)3 NONPROFIT ORGANIZATION SERVING ADULTS WITH SPECIAL NEEDS IN WILLIAMSON COUNTY AND SURROUNDING AREAS OF MIDDLE TN.