



HELPING ADULTS WITH SPECIAL NEEDS

WINTER 2022 NEWSLETTER



READYING FOR BRIGHTSTONE'S FUTURE **6**

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BrightStone is a privately funded 501(c)3 nonprofit serving adults with intellectual and developmental challenges in Middle Tennessee.

BRIGHTSTONE.ORG

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BRIGHTSTONE'S MISSION

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



LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT

In Genesis 28:15 the Lord says to Jacob "Behold, I am with you and will keep you wherever you go, and I will bring you back to this land. I will not leave you until I have done what I have promised you".

MOVING DAY AT BRIGHTSTONE!!

As I reflect on the journey of the past 23 years and the upcoming move onto our new campus, I find myself meditating on God's Promise in Genesis 28:15. So many have invested years of planning and financial support for this exciting day when we move to our Land of Dreams! And this is just the beginning - there is so much more we hope to do. Thankfully, we can cling to God's Promise:

"The Lord himself goes before you and will be with you; He will never leave you nor forsake you. Do not be afraid; do not be discouraged."

Deuteronomy 31:8

BRINGING ADULT LEARNING TO LIFE!

I would like to take a moment to brag. Our teachers are the reason BrightStone has gained so much respect in Tennessee and beyond. They bring learning to life and make it fun while using best practices in our person-centered, innovative environment. Excellent teachers mean more adults desiring to become a part of BrightStone. On this new campus we are excited to be able to serve more students, hire more staff, and develop more enterprise programs.

This journey has just begun! BrightStone's Center for Learning, Art, and Enterprise and two teaching homes are just Phase One. Our Master Plan includes a chapel, more teaching homes, an inclusive enterprise program, a gymnasium, a therapeutic aquatic center, equine education, and therapeutic recreation and horseback riding. It will be an interactive campus community - providing each individual the chance to have a great life!

YOUR SUPPORT AND FRIENDSHIP ARE A BLESSING

I am so thankful for each of you who have and continue to partner with us in support of adults who have intellectual and developmental challenges. You have touched my heart and the hearts of the adults and families we serve. We welcome all who are considering supporting BrightStone in general giving or in the final amount needed for our capital campaign.

Your prayers and generosity have allowed us to keep our focus on what God has planned for BrightStone and called us to do - for that I will be forever grateful.

Brenda Hauk

Brenda Hauk
Founder and CEO



Thank You!

2022 BOWLABILITY RAISED OVER \$103,000!

Nearly 300 bowlers had a great time over the course of two days at our 2022 Bowlability event, bowling with our BrightStone students, winning prizes, dressing to their theme, and contributing to our amazing mission.

Hundreds of non-bowlers also supported our event through donations and participation in our online auction.

Bowlability is an annual event, so if you didn't get to participate this year, we look forward to sharing the fun with you in 2023!



OUR AUCTION BROKE RECORDS!

\$31,000

was raised in our
Bowlability auction!

Over 100 items were up for bid, including trip packages, entertainment, beauty services, designer accessories, dining certificates, and more. Thanks to all of our donors and bidders, our 2022 auction raised the most in our BrightStone history!



THANK YOU TO OUR SPONSORS



WHAT'S NEW *at BrightStone*

CELEBRATING 23 YEARS!

September 7th marked the 23rd anniversary since Founder and CEO, Brenda Hauk started BrightStone! Since 1999, BrightStone has had a profound impact on the lives of adults with special needs - some of whom have been students of ours since the beginning! We are excited for the future and the many years ahead of making an even stronger impact within the community and for the students and families of BrightStone.



"BRIGHTSTONE FAMILY" CHRISTMAS PROGRAM IS SET FOR NOVEMBER 29TH!

For the first time since the pandemic, our much-anticipated student Christmas program will be returning! This is the first year we are able to host the event since 2019. Save the date for November 29, 2022 and kick off your holiday season with the "BrightStone Family" Christmas concert and reception. The event will be held at Liberty Hall in the Factory in Franklin. Join us for an amazing evening with musical performances from our students. Free to the public, the event is our way of giving back to our community for all we've been given. How fitting that this year, our event also falls on Giving Tuesday!

TIS THE SEASON FOR BRIGHTSTONE GIFTS, CARDS, AND MORE!

Make the season brighter with gifts made with love! Our BrightStone students have all your Christmas needs covered. Place your order for cards designed by our BrightStone student artists, plus, cookie, tea, fudge mixes, and, of course, our beautiful student-created ceramics. Visit our new Land of Dreams campus for shopping fun at our pop-up store beginning December 3rd, or call our office for more information and to place card orders. **615-790-4888**

While you're doing your Christmas shopping, don't forget to add BrightStone to your Amazon Smiles account. Using Amazon Smiles is a great way to help support ongoing operations for BrightStone all year long, since we receive a percentage of each purchase made. To sign up for Amazon Smiles, visit smile.amazon.com

THANK YOU TO OUR VOLUNTEERS!

Our BrightCorps volunteer program helps keep our cost down, and allows those passionate about BrightStone to contribute to our daily operations. This past year, BrightStone volunteers helped with building and landscape maintenance, front desk duties, cleaning of our buses, art projects, special event operations, and more! Learn how you can be a BrightStone volunteer - contact Elaine Farmer at elaine.farmer@brightstone.org, or 615-790-4888.



NEW COMMUNITY WORK SITE FOR BRIGHTSTONE STUDENTS

BrightStone continues to grow its P.A.T.H. program, as several students expand their job skills by interning in community partner work sites. We are excited to welcome the Franklin location of SoulShine Pizza to our program in addition to our current partners. The Well and GraceWorks. Through our expanded day programs, residential housing, staff, and PATH program, BrightStone has truly readied itself to fulfill our vision at new levels to help adults with special needs gain independence and purposeful lives.



BRIGHTSTONE RECEIVES PRESTIGIOUS GOVERNOR'S AWARD

In August, BrightStone was honored to receive the 2022 Governor's Award of Excellence from the Governor's Office of Faith-Based and Community Initiatives. Several of BrightStone's staff, Board of Director members, and Founder and CEO, Brenda Hauk, attended the award ceremony at the William R. Snodgrass Tower in Nashville. Each year, the Governor's Office bestows this distinction to just 15 of the 20,000 nonprofits aiming to make an impact on Tennessee. This award recognizes the group effort of BrightStone staff and community as we work together to fulfill a vision unlike anything in Tennessee has seen for individuals with intellectual and developmental challenges.



Make a difference in the lives of
adults with special needs.

brightstone.org/donate

Readying For BrightStone's Future

With the completion of our first phase on the Land of Dreams campus, BrightStone is steadily preparing for the future with a growing staff, new students, and expanded programs on the horizon! As our vision comes to life, we will continue to grow in all areas.



NEW CENTER FOR LEARNING, ART, AND ENTERPRISE

Our new Center for Learning, Art, and Enterprise is now complete! The 23,000sf center will house our administration offices, multi-purpose center, nursing clinic, job training classrooms, and learning lab.

BrightStone staff and students will be completing our move to the new campus this Fall! We are so very grateful to the amazing help of many, many volunteers such as these from HCA.



OUR STAFF IS GROWING - AGAIN!

BrightStone is proud to welcome our newest staff members...

To anticipate the needs of our growing programs and new campus, we are excited to welcome new staff members to the team!

Susan Sistrunk joined BrightStone in September as our new Director of Programs. She brings 15+ years of experience in nonprofit management and program development from the YMCA of Middle Tennessee, having worked with several branches and serving as Director for the YMCA Full Circle outreach program.

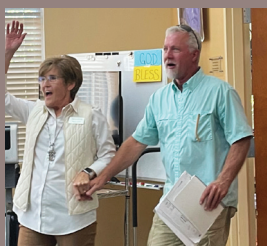
Among her many responsibilities within BrightStone, Susan will direct the admissions team and processes, oversee the curriculum of our day program and health and well-being of students, and implementation of therapeutic programs. She will also be instrumental in driving BrightStone's new residential program through the management, hiring, supervision, and training of staff, development of residential protocols and processes, management of admissions and records, and more.



Michele Creter, Susan Sistrunk,
Elizabeth Manley

A SPECIAL THANKS

and congratulations to Lee Rose, Director of Operations, who celebrated 15 years with BrightStone. We appreciate all you do!



In addition to our new Director of Programs, we are pleased to announce two additional staff helping to drive the growth of our day program and upholding the exceptional standards of our teaching staff. We are proud to welcome Michele Creter as our new Lead Teacher, and Elizabeth Manley as our Teacher Assistant.

WELCOME TO OUR NEW STUDENTS TOO!

We are so excited to welcome six new students to BrightStone this year. They each bring their own individual talents, skills, and joy to the BrightStone "family."



Cheyenne

Bayden

Hannah

John

Matthew

Nathan

Helping Families Have a choice

BRIGHTSTONE
SCHOLARSHIP
PROGRAM

BrightStone provides a life-changing opportunity not only for the individuals we serve, but also for their families.

We want families who choose BrightStone for their adult to never have to worry about finances, so we have a prolific Scholarship Program helping families who need financial assistance. We partner together with individuals like you to support families who are providing a lifetime of care for their loved one.

brightstone.org/donate

Choose "Student Scholarship Fund" as your choice for what you would like your donation to support



BRINGING ART TO LIFE

Ceramics class allows student's talents to be recognized



Welcome to ceramics class! Here's where you will find art take shape through the hands of our BrightStone adults. Those who see our beautifully crafted pottery products are amazed to hear that, before hitting the kiln, they were crafted by our very own students.

BrightStone students — literally — have a hand in everything made. Led by teacher Claire Richardson, students hand-turn the roller to smooth out clay, place doilies and other items to make a unique design for each piece, help hand shape the clay into bowls, dishes, and other items, and then proudly place the BrightStone stamp on the bottom of each piece. After glazing and firing, the beautiful hand-crafted pottery emerges. Most products are oven safe and perfect for personal function or décor, or as gifts for any occasion.

Our new Land of Dreams campus will allow us to expand the production of our ceramic products even more. Our new classroom will allow for additional kilns and more work space to fire off more products for sale.

Student products are showcased at our pop-up shop during the Christmas season, and at special events and local festivals. You can also stop by our BrightStone office lobby to shop our products all year-long.



LAND OF DREAMS

Capital Campaign

INVESTING IN THE FUTURE

BrightStone's 140-acre campus will help adults with special needs lead purposeful lives for a lifetime. This interactive community will provide the opportunity for adults to use their abilities and develop friendships on the campus and in our local town.

We began construction on this beautiful campus completely debt free. Our prayer is to complete Phase one debt free! This will take the love and support of a caring community. We know this is a journey of faith and we invite you to come alongside with us as we serve our neighbors and friends.

Join our journey of faith and help us build our campus so we can serve more adults and families.

"IT TAKES A VILLAGE"

What a blessing – many of you have provided \$14,856,531 towards our Phase One Goal!!

Thank You!

We only need \$5,700,000 to fund the total costs of construction of Phase One — completion of the Center for Learning, Art, and Enterprise and two teaching homes. You can join with us to give BrightStone adults a place to develop independence and enjoy a safe, faith-filled, caring environment — for a lifetime. Whether a one-time donation, multi-year pledge, or shares of appreciated stock, we are grateful and blessed!

You can help transform lives and give families hope while also strengthening our community for decades to come.

MAKE A DIFFERENCE FOR A LIFETIME

A planned gift is a wonderful way to ensure BrightStone's mission can be carried out for years to come. Planned gifts include adding BrightStone to your Will, making BrightStone the beneficiary of a life insurance policy, retirement account, or charitable trust.

Planned gifts have tax advantages and include donating real estate or shares of a business interest.

For more information, please contact:

Randy Elliott

Director of Advancement

615-491-0096 or

randy.elliott@brightstone.org

or VISIT:

www.brightstone.org/landofdreams



Each Teaching Home Can be Named In Honor or Memory of Someone You Love



Each Teaching Home Costs \$750,000

21ST ANNUAL JIM HINTON GOLF BENEFIT

New and existing sponsors and donors continue to support BrightStone's largest fundraiser.

BrightStone's 21st annual Jim Hinton Memorial Golf Benefit was held October 3rd, 2022. The annual event was once again hosted on the breathtaking grounds of The Governor's Club in Brentwood, TN. The course served as the perfect backdrop to a day full of support, friendship, and beautiful weather. This



year, we were proud to have Walmart join as our presenting sponsor, in addition to over ten other sponsors who help make our event so successful.

Thanks to donors and sponsors alike, this year raised over \$215,000 and continues to be one of our most successful peer-to-peer fundraising events that helps call awareness to BrightStone within the community. We hope that you will join us in supporting next year's event!



THANK YOU
TO OUR SPONSORS



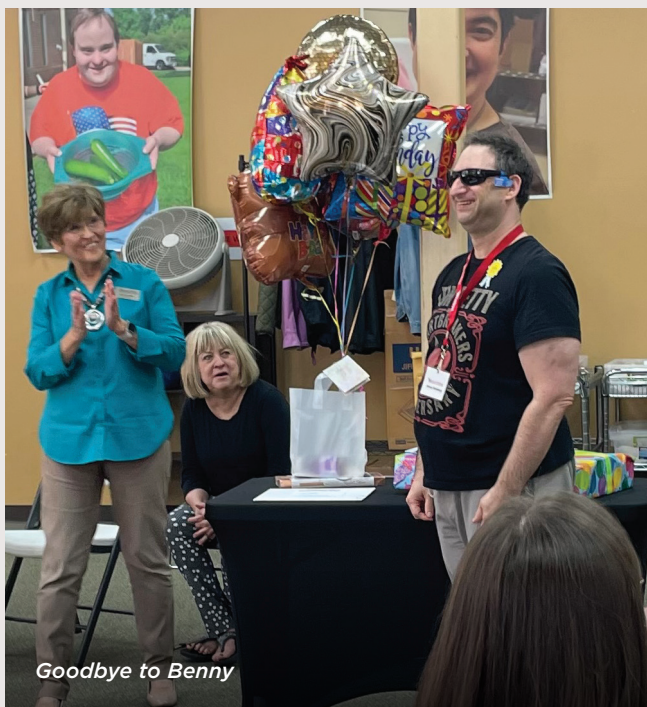


Reggie and Kate



Out & About

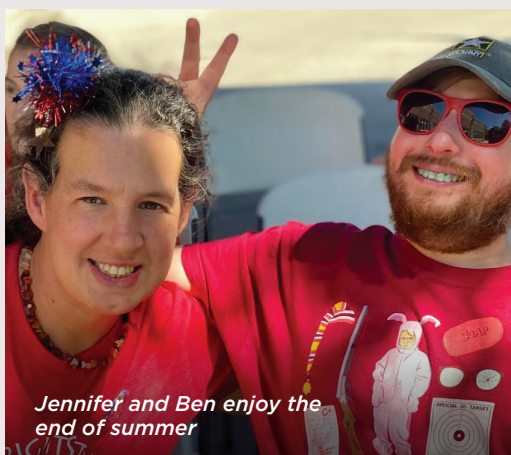
BRIGHTSTONE FRIENDSHIP AND FUN



Goodbye to Benny



John catching sun at the golf tournament



Jennifer and Ben enjoy the end of summer



Nurse Diana and Alea

WISH LIST

ITEMS WE NEED FOR BRIGHTSTONE
STUDENT PROGRAMS, OPERATIONS,
AND OUR LAND OF DREAMS CAMPUS.

BRIGHTSTONE.ORG/WISHLIST

Large project donation:

\$200,000 Landscaping for new campus (trees, plants, shrubs)
Compact Track loader (75HP) needed. New or used in good condition

\$6,500 Promethean board (55-60in)

\$4,000 Stainless steel work tables (2)

\$2,000 Shelving systems

\$2,000 Air purifiers (consumables
and ceramics)

\$1,800 Washer and dryer

\$1,800 Mac computer (marketing)

\$1,600 Lockers for extra clothes

\$1000 4 large, 3 small wire
rolling carts

\$750 Refrigerator (Consumables
Classroom)

\$450 Cricut Maker (paint room)

\$300 Medicine cabinet

\$150 Belt sander with cast iron base

\$75 All-clad oven mitts and pot holders

Lowe's gift cards - any amount

**FOR A COMPLETE LIST OF ITEMS,
VISIT BRIGHTSTONE.ORG/WISHLIST**

TOUR

TOURS FILL UP QUICKLY.
RESERVE YOUR SPOT
TODAY!

ELAINE FARMER
615-790-4888

CONTACT US

3000 BRIGHTSTONE PKWY
FRANKLIN, TN 37064
M-F 8:30AM - 4:30PM

615-790-4888

STAY CONNECTED

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@BRIGHTSTONETN



GIVE

BRIGHTSTONE.ORG/DONATE

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