



# Newsletter

Jan-April 2017

Volume 48



## *Stevens Center Valentines Prime Rib Dinner & Auction*

### **Prime Rib Dinner with Home-Baked Dessert**

Bring-your-own wine permitted; glasses provided

**Dinner music by Karen Huey String Ensemble  
Music for entertainment and dancing by Joyful Noise**

**Saturday, February 11, 2017**

**at the Stevens Center  
1576 Kelly Drive in Sanford**

Door open at 5:30; Dinner from 6-8

**\$25 per person**

**\$200 Table Sponsor includes dinner for 6 and \$110 tax deduction**

This event benefits Lee and surrounding counties, as the Stevens Center, a nonprofit agency, provides personalized support for people with developmental disabilities to live fulfilling lives as part of the community.

#### **Tickets available at:**

**Stevens Center** 1576 Kelly Drive or call 919-776-4048

**Stepping Stones Children's Center** 1550 Kelly Drive

**Hair Associates** 2109 Tramway Rd

Online at [www.stevenscenter.org](http://www.stevenscenter.org)



Media Sponsor

Childcare for this event is available next door at Stepping Stones Children's Center. \$16 per child. Call 919-708-7866 by Feb 6 for a childcare reservation

# 2017 Calendar of Events

## Weekly:

**Mon-Thurs** Connections Program 8 a.m.-2 p.m.

**Mondays:** Jan 23 – March 20 Recreational Bowling League –see page 7

## Monthly:

**Mon Jan 2** New Year Holiday – office closed

**Fri Jan 6** – First Friday Family Night 6 - 8 p.m. Bring snacks to share

**Mon Jan 16** Martin Luther King Holiday – office closed

**Wed Jan 18** NCI Initial Certification 8:30 a.m. – 3:30 p.m. \$50

**Fri Feb 3** 🎵 First Family Night Dinner and Dance 5:30 -8:30 p.m. Free.  
Bring an appetizer, side dish or dessert to share

**Sat Feb 11** ❤️ **Valentine Benefit Dinner & Auction 6p.m.** ❤️ \$25

**Thurs Feb 23** NCI Recertification 8:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. \$35

## MARCH IS DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES MONTH!

**Fri March 3** First Friday Family Night 6 – 8 p.m. Free! Bring snacks to share

**Thurs March 23** NCI Recertification 8:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. \$35

**Fri April 1** First Family Friday Night 6 p.m.-8 pm Bring a snack to share

**Wed April 12** NCI Recertification 8:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. \$35

**Wed May 10** NCI Recertification 8:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. \$35

**Mon May 29** – Memorial Day Holiday – office closed

## MARK YOUR CALENDAR:

**Tues Aug 8** Annual golf tournament at Tobacco Road Golf Club

### 2017 Stevens Center Board of Directors

Ron Hewett  
*President*

JJ Cuff, Jr.  
*Vice President*

Linda Foushee  
*Treasurer*

Nancy Adams  
JoAnne Cameron  
Patricia Freeland  
Debbie Lowther  
Cathy Swindell  
Ruth Washer

# Thanks to Our Supporters

Our thanks are extended to the following individuals and businesses who invested in the Stevens Center during September through December 2016. Each donation, large and small, helps support people with developmental disabilities to live fulfilling lives in a welcoming community.

## Businesses:

Adcock & Associates  
 Eta Phi Beta Sorority, Inc.  
 First Calvary Baptist Church  
 Pentair Pool & Spa, Inc.  
 Pfizer Foundation

## Individuals:

Dorothy Schad Andres  
 In loving memory of Helen, Clarence &  
 Adaline Schad  
 Robert & Louise Burkey  
 William Cameron  
 Everett Cox  
 Faye Cress  
 Lora B. Culberson  
 S.S. Curry  
 In memory of Gerda Munzenayer  
 & Harry Wilson  
 Fran Edmonds  
 Margaret Flaherty  
 Robert & Cathy Gilleland  
 James & Karla Hancock  
 Susan Hincks  
 In honor of friends this holiday season  
 Joan Caviness & Scot Huber  
 Ron & Carol Huber  
 O.A. (Buddy) Keller  
 Robert P. Lawrence  
 In memory of Nicholas Lawrence

## Individuals (continued)

John & Audrey MacDowell  
 Brian & Christa McRae  
 Mrs. Dennis Maddox  
 In memory of Jamie Jernigan  
 Helen Maddox  
 In memory of Mable Faye Wicker Baker  
 Greg & Barbara Martin  
 In honor of Steve & Cindy Martin  
 Joseph & Joan Martin  
 Jack & Alice Maxwell  
 Ruth Meeks  
 David & Dawn Nestor  
 Brian Ritch  
 Israel J. Pattison  
 In honor of Camille Durfee  
 James W. Smith, Jr.  
 William Wayne Staton, Jr.  
 In memory of Bill, Ellen & Allyn Staton  
 Jim & Nancy Turner  
 In memory of C.K. Caldwell  
 Joyce Reddington Wagner  
 Maria Hazel Wakefield  
 James & Carolyn Washburn  
 David and Barbara Walton  
 In honor of Susan King  
 Rose Marie Wimberley  
 Harold & Lucille York

Enclosed is \$200 for Valentine Benefit Table Sponsor \_\_\_\_\_  
 Cost of Individual Tickets - \$25 each x \_\_\_\_\_ = \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Enclosed is a gift of \$ \_\_\_\_\_

THIS GIFT IS FROM:

\_\_\_ Mr. & Mrs. \_\_\_ Mr. \_\_\_ Mrs. \_\_\_ Miss

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Street \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Online Donation at [www.stevenscenter.org](http://www.stevenscenter.org)

This gift is (circle one) in honor OR in memory of:

PLEASE SEND CARD TO:

\_\_\_ Mr. & Mrs. \_\_\_ Mr. \_\_\_ Mrs. \_\_\_ Miss

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Street \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Please remove from mailing list

# WINNERS Makes a Difference

Can you imagine the challenge of every three weeks successfully helping find someone a job? That is exactly what **Beth Bray**, employment specialist with our WINNERS program, accomplished in 2016.

WINNERS is funded through a contract with NC Vocational Rehabilitation, to assist referrals who have a barrier to employment find and maintain employment. Typically, the barrier is related to an intellectual, mental health or physical condition. Beth's job is to see beyond the diagnosis, to observe the skills and attitudes that will lead to successful employment. Then, with the job seeker, she searches for an employer and job that will utilize these skills.

In 2016, Beth worked with jobseekers/employers to fill 19 jobs. After the jobseeker is hired, Beth then assists the employee and their supervisor, to supplement training the employer typically provides, and if needed, to help the employer develop any work site accommodations the person might need. (An example of an accommodation is developing a checklist for the employee to follow.)



Beth Bray (right) successfully found 19 jobs for people, and still had time to volunteer at the August fundraiser held at Tobacco Road Golf Club.

Beth's accomplishment is further magnified when considering that seven of the 19 jobs were for jobseekers receiving supported employment services. These are individuals that will require, for a very long time, Beth's assistance in troubleshooting any issues that could have a negative effect on employment.

In the past, society pegged individuals needing supported employment services as unemployable. However, as has been

demonstrated over and over again, with appropriate support from an employer, and additional outside support from an agency such as the Stevens Center, individuals with more significant disabilities are good employees.

There are two ways to access WINNERS services. First, individuals in Lee County that receive NC Innovations supported employment services through Sandhills Center will be assisted through this program. Second, individuals that receive services through NC Vocational Rehabilitation Services may be referred by their VR Counselor to the Stevens Center. Unemployed individuals that are interested may call the local VR office at (919) 775-2247 to determine whether they qualify for assistance.

# A Place for Every Child



It's been a phenomenal year at Stepping Stones Children's Center (SSCC)! We're honored that the parents share their children with us and trust them in our care! We've enjoyed watching all of the children grow, learn and positively transform!

We expect to have 42 children enrolled on January 3! Families desiring the quality and inclusive (children of all abilities are part of the same classroom) services provided will now be added to a waiting list.

All the children participate in indoor and outdoor learning environments. The program also includes an NC Pre-K classroom. On-site speech therapy services and occupational therapy services are available to children during their day in the program, and are also available for children in the community-at-large.

If you like lots of cute photos, like [facebook.com/steppingstonesanford](https://www.facebook.com/steppingstonesanford).



# We Are Growing

Due to the increase in the numbers of families that have chosen the Stevens Center to be the provider of their NC Innovations (formerly CAP) services, in October we invited **Tory Roti** to join **India Laws** and **Barbara Thomason** as a QP/supervisor.

Tory started her career in human services as a support worker, providing training and support to individuals with developmental disabilities. From there she continued in jobs that included plan reviews, performance improvement, staff training, recipient rights investigation. Her breadth of experience has already benefited many of the 45 individuals currently receiving NC Innovations services through this agency.



QP Tory Roti presents a prize to Support Worker James Carroll, who won the random drawing from support workers whose paperwork from July through September was error free.

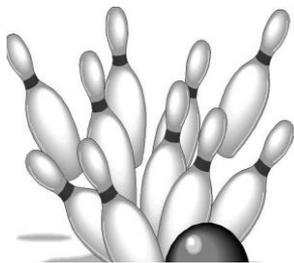
With the addition of Tory, we are now able to accept additional individuals who would like to receive Innovations services through the Stevens Center. For more information, call Executive Director Roger Bailey at 919.776.4048, or speak with your care coordinator at Sandhills Center.

“The employee that we have through the Stevens Center has been a blessing. She is well trained and has a heart for what she is doing. She has been the best fit for our family and with our daughter, Natalie.

Before coming to the Stevens Center, other agencies had people come in and help us with our daughter. It was very hard to find someone that fit in with our family lifestyle and to find people that were really qualified to do the work.

Natalie’s life, and ours, are better because of the Steven Center.”

Perry Lewis, Parent



**Stevens Center  
Recreational Bowling League  
Ages 16 and older for  
All abilities and disabilities**

Nine Mondays  
Jan 23 – March 20, 2017  
3:45 PM to 5:00 PM

**Deadline to register: January 15**

**Where:** Kendale Lanes in Sanford

**Cost:** \$8 registration fee (includes banquet & Tee shirt) plus \$6.00 per week paid at the bowling alley for shoes and 2 games

**To register:**

- Call Stevens Center 919-776-4048
- Pick up form at Stevens Center
- Download form [stevenscenter.org](http://stevenscenter.org)

**Rideability – Increasing Independence**

Few things are as frustrating as making plans, then having to depend on someone else to get you there. This tends to affect every person as they age and develop conditions that make it unsafe or impossible to drive. For adults with developmental disabilities, lack of a driver's license and vehicle can limit access to the community for their entire lives.

In 2013 the Stevens Center applied for and received a grant for NC Department of Transportation, to provide limited evening and weekend transportation for individuals with a documented disabling condition. The cause of the disability does not matter. Currently over 200 people are signed up to use the service, which costs passengers \$1 per one-way trip.

Signing up is easy. A one page form must be completed. Proof of disability must be provided. Proof includes living in a licensed setting such as a group home, attending a program for people with disabilities, receiving Social Security Disability or SSI (Supplemental Security Income). The Stevens Center will provide a photo ID, and then rides can be scheduled.

For more information, call 919-776-4048 and talk to Gail Brown. She will make arrangements to help complete the process. Gail is also available to speak before groups, and do group sign-ups for agencies.



**Ride Schedule:** Call 919-776-4048

Thursday 5-10 pm – Call by Tuesday noon

Friday 5-10 pm – Call by Wednesday noon

Saturday 9 am-2 pm – Call Wednesday by noon

