

Spring 2024

Marie Mills Center, Inc.



We Build Abilities

Employment Path Solo

Marie Mills Center, Inc. started providing a new service in November 2023, as part of our employment services program. Employment Path Solo, provides an opportunity for individuals to explore interests and opportunities in the employment world with an employment professional on a 1:1 basis. Each session is committed time to improve skills and find interests. Each person is unique and this program is based on each individual's needs and interests. Preliminary exploration is revisited after 60 days to determine whether the program is meeting expectations. The ultimate goal of this program is to find employment at a community site. Our Employment Services team works in conjunction with this program to provide job coaching and help create a successful finale for the Employer and the individual.

Services could include some of the following:

Weekly Contacts, Employment Visits, Exploration, Bus Training, Basic Skill Building, Communication Skill Building, Application & Resume Assistance, Interview Practice

If anyone is interested in this program service they can inquire about referrals with Holly

Rico- Vocational Program Director or with their personal agent or service coordinator.

We have had one success story with this program since we have started:

Congratulations to Victoria "Mae" Hobbs on her new job at Papa Murphy's! Mae joined the



Employment Path Solo program at the end of December 2023. Mae met with her Employment Professional weekly to work on communication and other skills that would help her obtain an integrated job in the community. Mae was supported with application assistance

and resume building; including employment site visitations to many locations. Mae's patience and persistence paid off with an interview at Papa Murphy's. Tillamook Branch Manager for Papa Murphy's, Brian, hired Mae on the day of her interview. Mae is excited to start her career and proud to be a part of the Papa Murphy's team!

Hallie McCormick, ORA's "Support Professional of the Year 2024"

Hallie has dedicated 19 years of employment to MMCI. She is our Janitorial Crews Coordinator; mentoring, training, and encouraging her teams to be successful at their jobs. Her priorities are training individuals with skills to be successful and find integrated employment. Hallie works with individuals side by side, modeling and shadowing until they reach the desired expectations of each site. She guides them to understand the importance of their work and to maintain positive attitudes. She is a diligent and dedicated professional, usually



training 8-10 individuals on 3 different crews. While instilling a positive work ethic, honesty when committing mistakes and responsibility to work sites and coworkers. In the last year, she has empowered three such individuals to the extent they are now employed in the community with integrated employment. Hallie creates strong bonds with each individual and is emotional when they successfully move forward to better their future.

Hallie's dedication earned her the award for "Support Professional of the Year" by Oregon Rehabilitation Association.

Thank you for all your hard work Hallie!

Mary Rose Reynolds, ORA "Works of Heart Award 2023"

These awards are always such a special way to honor people that work with intellectually and developmentally disabled individuals. Once a year, Direct Support Professionals (DSPs), Employment Coaches and other staff who demonstrate their dedication and compassion through their connection with the people they support can be nominated by Oregon Resource Association (ORA) members for the award. This award is unique and only in the state of Oregon.

Our staff show up every day, supporting individuals during one of the most challenging times in world history, recovering from the pandemic. DSPs relationships with the people they support help these individuals weather the dramatic life changes the pandemic has caused as well as navigating through everyday life.



DSPs are an anchor in a sea of change. ORA members are able to nominate staff that they feel go above and beyond the normal call of duty.

Marie Mills Center, Inc. is very proud to announce that Mary Rose Reynolds was one of the twenty award winning recipients in the entire State of Oregon. Mary Rose is a Supported Living Coordinator and residential DSP. She has an accumulative life experience of 18 years in the professional field of supporting others-four of those with Marie Mills Center, INC. Over 70 nominees were reviewed, and Mary Rose's abilities and dedication ranked her in the top 20! She is the first employee from Marie Mills Center, Inc. to ever receive this award.

Please help us congratulate Mary Rose Reynolds 2023 Works Of Heart Winner!

Deanna Walker, ORA "Employee of the Year 2024"

Deanna began searching for ways to improve her confidence and employment skills many years ago. She was a very shy individual. During her time in Employment Path Services she learned how to be a part of a team, following schedules, task lists, and she increased her communication skills.

Eventually feeling confident enough to apply for a job in the community, with All Star Appliance. She has been working for this family business since 2021, eventually becoming more open and confident allowing job coaches to fade out of her workplace. Her natural supports at the worksite encourage her to grow even more.



Later that year, Deanna was offered another work opportunity with the Tillamook Chamber of Commerce. She was excited but refused to leave her other employer so she happily began working both jobs, decreasing her hours with Employment Path Services.

Desiring to work more in the community, Deanna chose to apply at Tillamook Safeway. She was hired in May 2023 and is currently successful in all three jobs, using natural supports as much as possible.

Deanna has shown a great deal of growth with her independence and in her confidence. She enjoys all of her jobs and helping people in the community. She was nominated for and won "Employee of the Year" through ORA (Oregon Rehabilitation Association) because she exemplifies the positive impact work can have on the quality of life one can lead.



Marie Mills Foundation Update

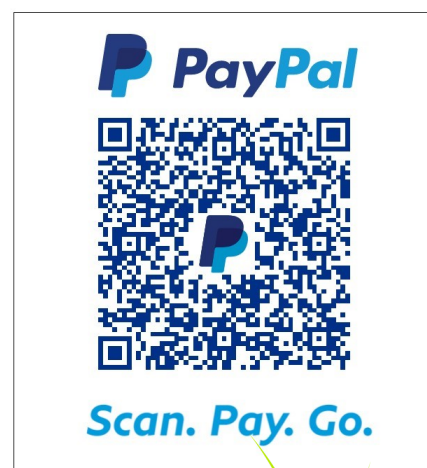
The **Marie Mills Foundation** continues to work towards their goal of supporting future needs of Marie Mills Center. If you would like more information about the Marie Mills Foundation please **contact Cindy Green at 503-842-2539 x 1400** or visit

www.mariemillscenter.com. Also, by remembering the Foundation in your estate planning you can help assure the services provided to intellectually and developmentally disabled in Tillamook County continues. The Foundation and Marie Mills Center would like to express a heartfelt thank you to the following supporters:
Kristijana Barnard, Ron & Muriel Beeler in Memory of Loretta Landolt, Dr. Helen Benscheidt in Honor of son Doug Bergeron, Boyd's Implement Service LLC, Barb Burdick in Memory of James Burdick, Katy Cain in Memory of Jim Snyder, Sue & Jeff Carr in Memory of son Jeffery Carr Jr., City Sanitary Service, Coast Printing & Stationary, Mel Faughender, Ruth Fenk, Bryan Gibson, Judy & Hank Gollon, Hampton Lumber, Estate of Billie Hines, Tonya Hobbs in Memory of dad Tom Thompson, Mark & Kim Hopkes in Memory of Jim Power, Brad & Donna Hubbard, Brett Hurliman, Wanda Hurliman, Pat & Pearl Ireton, Gladys Jacobsen in Hon-

or of Jenny Nuxoll, Tammy King-Crossley, Kottre Family in Memory of Harold and Honor of Jackie, Kerma Lamkin, Sharon Lighthill, Teresa Malarkey, Jim Martin, Pam Mendenhall in Honor of Gregg Carter, Judy Mohr in Memory of Joelle Mohr, Moose Lodge No. 1260, Oregon Idaho Conference Unit, Bob Ouzounian, Port Storage, R.H. Parker United Foundation, Carlo & Roger Raymond in Honor of Helen Bensheidt, Alicia Reed in Memory of Helen Gienger, Robert & Alicia Reed, Gloria Remington, Marilyn Rigterink, Barbara & Salu Rodriguez in Memory of Gwendolyn Medina, Ron & Paulette (Nord) Rush in Memory of Maxine Richter, Richard and Leanne Spence, Carol Thompson in Memory of Tom Thompson, Tillamook Eagles Aerie #2144, Tillamook IOOF No. 94, Tillamook Rental Center, Tillamook Veterinary Hospital, United Women in Faith, Alvin & Joan Veitenhans, John Wassmer, Betty Waud in Memory of Tom Waud and Jim Power, Bob Weitman, Bryan & Julie (Taksdal) White in Memory of Marcus Balmer, Linda Kay Widmer in Memory of Orella Chadwick, Leigh Wilson in Honor of Helen Benscheidt & Teresa Malarkey, Mahlon & Pat Wirfs, Matt & Shiela Zerngast

Foundation Donations Made Easy

If you are interested in donating to the Marie Mills Foundation we have made it really simple. If you have a PayPal account and a smart phone or tablet, this link will take you directly to our donation page and we will be notified of your kindness.



Renovations at our Front Street Building

Thanks to grant funding and donations our Front Street Building has gone through lots of changes this past several months. Exterior painting was done first. We recently completed the interior painting, new flooring, and got a new display cabinet for Marie's dolls to name a few things. With all of these changes we also decided to move our Board Room to the east end of the building.



On December 15th we held our first in person Christmas Party since the pandemic started. Everyone was excited to be back together and to be able to enjoy a ham dinner and receive their gift from Santa!



Save These Dates

MMCI Picnic

August 24, 2024

Halloween Party

October 26, 2024

**Christmas Luncheon with
Santa**

December 13, 2024

Watch for Fliers



Marie Mills Center, Inc. Management Team

Cindy Green,
Executive Director

Holly Rico,
Vocational Program
Director

Barbara Armstrong,
Residential Program
Director

Paula Remington,
Office Manager/
Bookkeeper

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Cindy Green

We invite you to tour Marie Mills Center.
You will observe individuals at work and see our programs in action!
Call Cindy Green at (503)842-2539 x 1400 to arrange a time

Visit Us At:

www.mariemillscenter.com or find us on Facebook