



O'Berry Center Foundation, Inc.

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CHARITY CODE

State Employees
Combined Campaign
Partners in Giving

1572

Mission

Founded in 1990, the O'Berry Center Foundation is a 501c3 non-profit foundation improves the quality of life for persons with developmental disabilities at O'Berry Neuro Medical Treatment Center and in the 67 NC counties it serves through family support, community services, quality of life initiatives, education and scholarships. Foundation funds are only eligible to be used when there is no other source of funding through state and federal assistance programs or when these programs do not provide enough funding to provide the support that is needed.

Programs We Offer in Your Community

Family Support: The Foundation provides loaned assistive technology equipment and/or devices to individuals living throughout our service area who are developmentally disabled. This loaned equipment allows families to use equipment as long as the need exists and when there are no other funding sources available. We provide this equipment so families can stay together and the individual can live more independently at home, work, school, recreational activities, or while volunteering in the community.

Knights of Columbus/LAMB Foundation Scholarships: Designed to encourage individuals to pursue careers related to serving persons with developmental disabilities in the areas of health and human services. The goal of the scholarship program is to increase the number of Recreational Therapists, Speech Pathologists, Psychologist, Nurses, Occupational Therapists, Special Education Teachers, and Physical Therapist, etc., who are serving persons with developmental disabilities. Annually, the foundation awards \$1,000 scholarships to undergraduate and graduate students enrolled in either a two or four-year degree program.

Educational Seminars: One of our main goals is to educate the public about developmental disabilities. Routinely, we offer educational seminars on a variety of topics related to developmental disabilities. More information will be posted on the website as seminars are scheduled. If you have ideas on certain topics you would like to see covered in an Educational Seminar, please email [Monnie Lunsford](mailto:Monnie.Lunsford@oberrycenterfoundation.org) or call at 919-581-4187.

Research: To date, the Foundation has funded \$11,000 towards research projects designed to increase our knowledge and understanding of persons living with developmental disabilities. One program funded in Red Springs, NC was designed to develop reading skills in children with learning disabilities. Two grants were awarded to O'Berry Center physicians. One project measured the effectiveness of Chinese herbal medications on menstrual pain and discomfort for women with severe and profound mental retardation. The other investigated the effects of acupuncture on a group of individuals who were self-injurious.

Programs We Offer for O’Berry Center

Scholarships: Through our permanent endowment, we provide scholarships to O’Berry Center Employees or immediate family members who are increasing their educational skills to better serve individuals living with developmental disabilities.

Quality of Life Grants: The Foundation offers grants for creative and innovative projects at O’Berry Center to improve the quality of life for those who live there.

Leadership

The Foundation operates with a volunteer Board of Directors made up of family members of persons with developmental disabilities, O’Berry Center staff, mental health professionals, corporations and community representatives throughout our service area. In 2004, the Foundation brought on board its first ever full-time staff person to take the Foundation TO THE NEXT LEVEL.

Fund Development

To support all of the projects listed above, the Foundation raises funds each year through donations made by civic groups, churches, corporations and individuals. The Foundation does not receive federal or state funding. The Foundation’s biggest fundraiser is our annual golf tournament. Our next golf tournament will be held on Thursday, October 1, 2009 at the Lane Tree Golf Club in Goldsboro. For more information, please visit our website, www.oberrycenterfoundation.org or Monnie Lunsford at 919-581-4187.

What is the relationship between O’Berry Center and O’Berry Center Foundation?

O’Berry Neuro Medical Treatment Center is a state-operated residential program for approximately 350 persons with developmental disabilities. Most of these adults are severely and profoundly developmentally disabled and need 24 hour support.

O’Berry Center Foundation was started in 1990 by O’Berry Center staff, and families of persons living at O’Berry Center because they saw a need to help impact the lives of individuals with developmental disabilities in communities across North Carolina. Although part the Foundation’s mission is to help individuals living at O’Berry Center, the Foundation is a completely separate entity as a 501c3 nonprofit. O’Berry Center is a state operated facility under the NC Department of Health and Human Services.

O’Berry Center Foundation’s 67 County Service Areas



A Letter from a Family Who Received our Family Support Funds.....

Please convey our sincerest thanks to all the members of the O’Berry Center Foundation for the funds to purchase the bike trailer we needed for Martha to join her family on our precious family outings. The trailer has arrived, been assembled, and already been put to good use out on our local greenway around the lake. One of the neatest things is that I can hear Martha laughing as the wind brushes her face as she sees other people go by while she’s riding in the trailer. She truly enjoys it, as do all of us. Again, we thank the Foundation for recognizing how much we wanted to “include” Martha, and for MAKING IT HAPPEN!

Jennifer R.