

Thank
you for
your
support!



Contact us at:
office@rainbowomega.org
256.831.0919
Visit our website:
www.rainbowomega.org
Find us on Facebook!

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Eastaboga, AL 36260



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Rainbow Omega, Inc.

Serving Adults with Developmental Disabilities since 1995

Winter 2017



Some of our Residents and Sojourners (that volunteer for two weeks every year to work with the Poinsettias) taking time out for a quick picture while in the greenhouse working on the 5,500 Poinsettias grown this year and getting them ready for delivery.

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year
from everyone here at Rainbow Omega

Board of Directors

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Gail Tillman
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Mission: To glorify God by ensuring that adults with developmental disabilities have a permanent and safe home where their abilities and potentials are respected and nurtured in a Christian environment.

Editorial From the CEO

Rainbow Omega is a living witness to the truth that adults with developmental disabilities can show us the way to God and how to live this life joyfully. They are persons of great trust and accept life with all its limitations as a gift.

You can see in our newsletter that numerous successes are achieved through the generosity, support and prayers of our friends. We respectfully ask you to continue to give people with disabilities what they deserve – the opportunity for a good life, friends, and a loving home. Financial contributions to support Rainbow Omega's exceptional program are always welcome.

As we come to the end of the year, perhaps more than any other season, this becomes a time for reflection, a time when we look back on the year and consider the changes we have experienced in our lives. It is also a time when many review their financial affairs. If you have appreciated assets such as stock, you might want to consider a gift to Rainbow Omega using appreciated stock. Gifting the stocks to Rainbow Omega, no one pays taxes and you will receive a charitable deduction for the full value of the stock.

If you would like more information on gifts or if I can otherwise be of assistance to you in any way, then please contact me at (256) 831-0919 ext. 222 or stentsoncarpenter@rainbowomega.org.

Love from Rainbow Omega

Stentson & Dianne Carpenter
P.S. Have a nice Christmas with your family.



Our 25th Annual Birmingham Fundraising Dinner, featuring Ernie Johnson, Jr was a great success



Tuesday, August 1, 2017, Rainbow Omega hosted its 25th Annual Fundraising Dinner in Birmingham, Alabama, at The Hyatt Winfrey Hotel in the Riverchase Galleria. The evening's guest speaker, was Ernie Johnson, Jr. host of the Emmy award-winning Inside the NBA studio show and author of the book *"Unscripted"*. *"Unscripted"* is an autobiography that provides a candid look at his life both on and off the screen. It tells of his relationship with his sportscaster father to his own rise to the top of sports broadcasting, from battling cancer to raising six children with his wife, Cheryl, including a special needs child adopted from Romania, Ernie has taken the important lessons he learned from his father and passed them on to his own children. All of us at the Birmingham Dinner

enjoyed listening to Ernie and watching the slide show that went along with the stories on how he and his family gracefully handled all of life's surprises.

Our 25th Annual Fundraising Dinner was a success, we raised over \$140,000.00 with our outstanding guest speaker, Ernie Johnson, Governor Ivey, an excellent meal and the opportunity to visit with friends and family of Rainbow Omega. Thank you all for your continued support of Rainbow Omega and our mission *"To glorify God by ensuring that adults with developmental disabilities have a permanent and safe home where their rights, abilities and potentials are respected and nurtured in a Christian environment."*



Giving Honor to Whom Honor is Due...

Governor Kay Ivey as an honored guest attended our August Fundraising Dinner in Birmingham. Governor Ivey is a longtime supporter of Rainbow Omega and was presented with an award in appreciation of her continued support.

Rainbow Omega is forever grateful to our Board Members, staff, family members, friends and all who continually support our fundraising efforts.

Thank You

Rainbow Omega remembers Chris Kyker and Jack Clark



Chris Kyker had a long and impressive career advocating for senior citizens and those with disabilities. Among the many important roles held by Mrs. Kyker was that of the founding President/CEO of Disability Resources in Abliene, TX., an organization much like Rainbow Omega. This how Mr. Carpenter came about meeting Chris, more than 25 years ago . He contacted her to seek advice and assistance about the dream of Rainbow Omega and how to make it become reality. Chris agreed to help Mr. Carpenter and the founding board of directors with all the critical elements necessary to establish the organization. From fund raising, bylaws and articles of incorporation to policy and procedure manuals, job descriptions, budgeting and strategic planning, Chris could do it all. Mrs. Kyker was a wealth of knowledge that she so generously shared with us for many years . She traveled to Alabama on many occasions in her van, loaded down with boxes of files and her computer, ready to assist the staff and the board to further its mission of serving adults with developmental disabilities. Chris was one-of-a-kind and will be sorely missed by all of us here at Rainbow Omega. She was 92 years old when she passed on September 13, 2017, leaving a legacy and an impact on society that her family, friends and colleagues can cherish and hopefully, pass on for generations to come.

Jack Clark joined Rainbow Omega’s board of directors in 2002 and served as chairman of the finance committee. Mr. Clark resigned his tenure earlier this year due to his failing health. Mr. Clark passed on October 23, 2017 at the age of 85. Mr. Clark was an important asset to Rainbow Omega with his expertise in accounting and hospital administration. His experience gave him the insight of the complexities of operating an organization like Rainbow Omega. Mr. Clark was a native of Munford, AL and a longtime resident of Mobile, AL. He is survived by his wife of 66 years, Mickey and his son, Terry. Mr. Clark was a generous and kind man of God and Rainbow Omega was blessed that he was part of our team.



MEMORIALS (07/01/17 – 11/15/17)

Arnold, James & Joanne
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Barton Sr., Fredrick D.
Mrs. Glorious Barton
Bell, Ford
Kelley & Debbie Mossburg
Blake, Christy
Ms. Beverly Strange
Bradshaw, Ron
Mr. & Mrs. Dwight Hood
Mr. & Mrs. Timothy Bell
Brumley, John, Jamey & Jerry
Billy & Deborah Box
Burrell, William & Grace
Brian & Patsy Adams
Carpenter, Tommy
Ms. Edna Poe
Cash, Aubrey
Ms. Beverly Strange
Cathey, Sue Cathart
Don & Kim Cluck
Chamberlin, Cleo
Ms. Alice Falkner
Chambers, Sherrye
Ms. Shirley Drexler
Clark, Jack
Stephen W. Rice
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Carol Paris
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Mr. & Mrs. D. Blake Worthly
Mr. & Mrs. Joseph Swafford
Mr. & Mrs. David B. Harrelson
Mr. & Mrs. Tim Lackey
Mr. & Mrs. Justin Lackey
Anonymous
Cochran Sr., Billy
Ms. Pam McKenzie
Coleman, Hugh
Dan & Brenda Crump
Coleman, Mike
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Crocker, Mary Nell
Mrs. Betty Shikle
Crump, Mildred
Dan & Brenda Crump
Currey, Russ
Wayne Culver, U.M. Association
Daniel, Bob
Mrs. Betty Daniel
Derrick, Matthew
Ms. Katherine Jones
Deverell, Jr., Don Lavell
Craig & Cinda Hansen
Barbara Deverell
Dillard, Larry
Ann Dillard
Dillard, Tabitha
George & Janet Crawford
Dixon, Lucille
Annabelle Chabert
Dixon, Myra
Lyn & Sally Smith
Doonan, Georgiana
Tim & Kathy Doonan
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Clifford & Elaine Dykes
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Ms. Annabelle Chabert
Finney, “Big” Bob
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Flatt, Julia Anderson
Mr. & Mrs. Dan Kirby

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Fleischmann, Dale
Kris Fleischmann
Gant, Ray
Annabelle Chabert
Garner, Rob
Ms. Karen Silvers
Gibson, Frank
Elsie Phifer
Gray, Barbara
Ralph Wallin
Griffith, Gary
Dr. Vance & Mrs. Laura Moore
Grobmyer, Megan
Mr. & Mrs. John Brockway
Harper, Gloria (Jean)
Mr. & Mrs. Dwight Hood
Haynes, Joe E.
Beverly Howell
Henley, Lavon
Mr. & Mrs. Lynn Henley
Hicks, JoAnn T.
Glenn Hicks
Ms. Elizabeth Sartain
Hoffman, John ‘Ronny’
Ms. Jean Sims
Joseph & Jody Vickery
Ingram, Meribeth
Linda Rogers
Pamela Duvick
Gary Shrader
Ms. Alicia J. Dycus
Ed & Joyce Tomblin
Tom & Cora Tomblin
Erin Massey
Chip & Athielia Griffin
Keith & Clora Rampy & Family
Ms. Terri F. Potter
Ms. Betty Lamberth
Allen & Debbie Nichols
Mr. & Mrs. Ellis Haguewood
Walker & Ann Kendrick
Donna & Terry Irwin
Dan & Glenda Kirby
Ms. Dottie Travis
Johnson, Jr., Curtis M.
Ms. Nena Graham
Dorothy Maddox Family
Mr. & Mrs. John Bearden
Kelley, Clark
Ms. Annabelle Chabert
Kelly, Paul
Ms. Susan Kelly
Klip, Dorthea Augusta Bueno
Debra L. Melaney
Dianne Barnard
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Kyker, Chris
Dr. Vance & Mrs. Laura Moore
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Land, Martha
Ms. Jo Paschal
Linville, Larae
Dan & Brenda Crump
Long, Mable
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Mrs. Virginia W. Tucker
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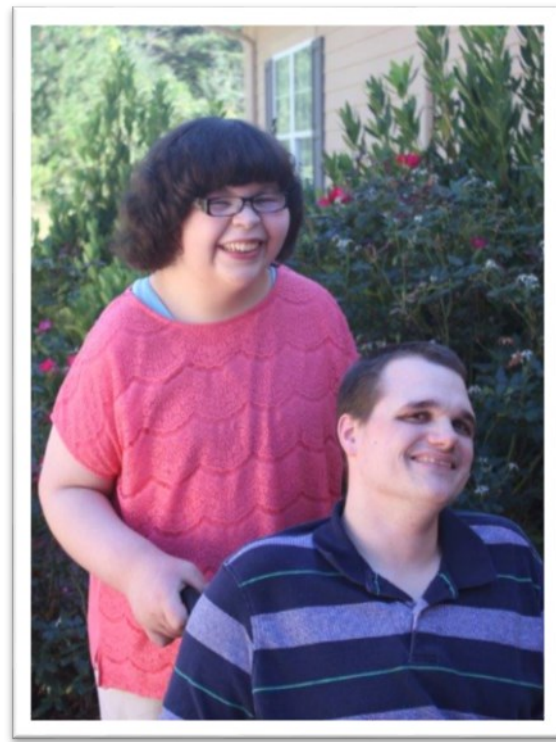
Lovvorn, John D.
Mr. & Mrs. Max W. Barker
Loyd, Vicki
Ms. Annabelle Chabert
Marenic, Holly
Ms. Rebecca P. Holland
Mason, Marty
Bethany Killen
McKnight, Jim
Bobby & Janie Hardy
Morris, William ‘Bill’
Ms. Margaret Gray
Mossburg, Jennifer Perry
Kelley & Debbie Mossburg
Mossburg, Richard Hyatt
Kelley & Debbie Mossburg
Neff, Bill
Ms. Annabelle Chabert
Newsome, Daniel A.
Ms. Judy A. Newsome
Nezat, Marx
Kit & Ann Wren
Nichols, Barbara Jo
David & Jane Dement
O’Shields, Roger
Sybil Hogan
Pannell, Arthur Preston
Ms. June L. Baird
Parrish, Margaret S.
Anonymous
Parsons, Bobbie
Graham & Eileen Bostic
Peete Jr., Ben
Ms. Gail Y. Peete
Ms. Erin Evans
L & C General Contractors
Ms. Carla P. Veronese
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Pool, Gleason
Dale & Marilyn Lamb
Ms. Mary L. Lamb
Pruett, Ty
Thomas & Christy Embach
Elsie Phifer
Phyllis C. Wilson
Qualls, Kenny
Timothy & Janice Bell
Richardson, Wayne
Ms. Annabelle Chabert
Sanders, Sr. Edward
Mr. & Mrs. Rolla E. Beck
Sawhill, Faye H.
Glenn Hicks & Steve Hicks
Sawyer, Edward L.
Ms. Annabelle, Chabert
Shikle, William (Billy) Hubert
Annabelle Chabert
Sue & John Sehon
Ms. Lucynda Smith
Ms. Jan Smith
Mr. Bill J. Baker
Ms. Dorace Guin
Ms. Mary Whitten Smith
Ms. Ruby Hamric
Ms. Marlene Furgerson
Mr. & Mrs. Jerry Lawson

Smith, Leon Mayor
Dr. Vance & Mrs. Laura Moore
Spivey, Ann
Mr. & Mrs. Roy Jernigan
Mr. & Mrs. Rex W. Anderson
Mr. & Mrs. Butch Jones
Mr. & Mrs. Gary Pemberton
Stewart, Myrtice Helms
Ms. Glenda Logue
Strum, Martha
Ms. Annabelle Chabert
Taylor, Anna Corrine
Ms. Annabelle Chabert
Mr. & Mrs. Roy Jernigan
Mr. Beverly Strange
Thorn, Francis
Prattville Church of Christ
Townsend, Carl Weir
Kelley & Debbie Mossburg
Travis, Rob
Charles & Judy Miller
Dan & Glenda Kirby
Ms. Dottie Travis
Vickery, Norris
Ms. Pam McKenzie
Mr. Samuel L. Parnell
Ms. Cynthia H. Puckett
Mr. Johnathon Nichols
Family & Vigas Propane
Pete & Cyndy Weber
Atlanta International Real Estate Brokers,
Mr. Jackie Bradford &
Ms. Renee Preston
Mr. Randall Jackson
Ms. Vickie M. Belk
Clarence & Penelope Forester
The Adams Family, Mack, Diana,
Christopher, Todd &
Families
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Tom & Robin Tabor
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Don & Norma Canerday
Mr. Tom Pate
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Joe & Kathy Thomas
Steve & Sheri Cigger
Mr. Bruce A. Harmon
Mr. & Mrs. Walker Kendrick
Ms. Rebecca Griggs
Mr. & Mrs. Randall Arnold
Ms. Greta Y. Inglis
Watson, Don
Ms. Annabelle Chabert
Webb, Esther
Bill & Nell Turner
Wesley, Homer
Dr. & Mrs. Harold Cannon
Wright, Bill
Ms. Annabelle Chabert

HONORARIUMS (07/01/17—11/15/17)

Alexander, Sue
Ayers, Jason & Crista
Bell, Tim & Janice
Burnett, Dennis & Diane
Guy, Dr. Ronnie & Gayle
Hairston, Randy & Lynda
Ingles, Greta
Jones, Ray & Libby
Kessell, Carline
King, Gene & Julia
Lowrey, Dr. Russell & Sherry
O'Dell, Dennis & Jackie
Qualls, Ken & Jamie
Pizitz, Norman & Velda
Smith, Linda
Smith, Paul & Margie
Smith, Lyn & Sally
Thomas, Joe & Kathy
Underwood, Dr. Mack & Mary
Dr. Michael & Nina Payer
Branson, Sandy
Ms. Mary Hester Hale
Brooks, Barbara
Ms. Ann Stroud
Coalson, Lucinda's Birthday
Mrs. Marcie Allen
Crona, Ted
Jeff Helms, ALFA Farmers
Crump, Mary Ann's Birthday
Anonymous
Ms. Carolyn Markham
Justin & Arielle Hughes
Davis, Remelle's Birthday
Ms. Mavis Estes
DeRoberts, Phillip
Ms. Velma Hawkins
Dillard, Tabitha
Ann Dillard
Dolan, Bruce
Mr. & Mrs. John Holmes
Evans, Onex
Gilligan, Eileen
Johnson, Tom & Donna
Nakato, Hiroe & Kiyoshi
Sommers, David & Ruthie
Young, Jenny Lee
Julie Altenbach
Flurry, Shea
Mr. & Mrs. John A. Shalloop
French, Joy
James & Phyllis Taylor
Goray, Katherine's Birthday
Virginia Maddox
Harvell, Jared
Charles Harvell
Helms, Annie Lauren & Jeff Helms
Ted & JoAnn Grantland
Ben Shurett
Hicks, Glenn & Linda Marriage
Ms. Linda Foster
Ms. Elizabeth Sartain
Mr. & Mrs. Earl R. Davis
Jernigan, Roy's 90th Birthday
Lucynda Smith
Kilpatrick, J. Wayne Dr.
Mr. & Mrs. Frank D. Sutton
King, Jarred
Phyllis C. Wilson
Leader, Jerome & Shirley
Leader, Olivia
Mr. Charles A. Collat, Sr

Mattox, April's Birthday
Faye Brown
McElroy, Diane
McElroy, Shirley Jane
Moody, Shelly's Birthday
Ms. Carolyn Osborn
Ms. Faye M. Brown
Moore, Matthew
Patricia M. King
Mr. Timothy Slaton
Mossburg, Kelley & Debbie
Mossburg, Kel
Thomas & Laura Cauthen
Paris, Carol
Ron & Patsy Hubbard
Payer, Mickey's Birthday
Mr. & Mrs. Norman Pizitz
Powell, Ray & Beth
Mrs. Virginia C. Henley
Renaud, Jennifer
Drs. James & Robin Mar-
bourg
Riser, Julie
Jim & Betsy Riser
Rooney, Theresa
James & Donna Rooney
Sehon, John & Sue 50th
Anniversary
Mrs. Betty Shikle
Shikle, Betty
Palisades COC Ladies Class
Shurett, Ben
Jeff Helms, ALFA Farmers
Stewart, John
Gene Cunningham
Tarnow, Jeffrey
First United Methodist
Church/Piedmont—Frank
Wofford Sunday School Class
Torrontor, Alan's Birthday
William & Sara Adams
Travis, Dottie
Dan & Glenda Kirby
Wells, Donny
Timothy Slaton
Williams, Darren
Tommy & Carol Laney
Vinsant, Lindsay
Beverly Howell



Our residents, Justin and Olivia reside at Strickland/ Stringfellow one of our Intermediate Care houses here in our community. Both of these residents work at the Vocational Center in the mornings and attend the Wellness Center in the Afternoon for activities and exercise. Once back at the house in the afternoons, Justin enjoys sitting on the front porch watching the birds eat from a bird feeder that he made and Olivia loves to read magazines sitting in the swing.



The residents of A House can be found sitting or rocking on the front porch. The residents enjoy this front porch fellowship with each other, as well as with their families and visitors. The front porch offers a place for relaxation among the residents

Rainbow Recognizes Bill Glass for 20 Years of Service



riage and Family Therapy in 1989.

During his undergraduate and graduate years, Bill worked in the oil fields of Texas, he worked at an abuse shelter and volunteered at a crisis center. After earning his Master's Degree, Bill went to work for Smoky Mountain Mental Health in North Carolina until he came to work at Rainbow Omega in 1997.

When Bill and his wife, Rene, moved here they had two small children, Matthew and Brandi. By raising their family here and by sharing in the lives of those we serve, they have become part of the Rainbow Omega tapestry

When Bill and his wife, Rene, moved here they had two small children, Matthew and Brandi. By raising their family here and by sharing in the lives of those we serve, they have become part of the Rainbow Omega tapestry.

Rainbow Omega congratulates Bill Glass, our ICF/IID Program Director, for his 20 years of service at Rainbow Omega. Bill brought with him a wealth of knowledge and experience. He has many interesting and funny stories about all of his adventures. One fascinating tidbit about Bill is that he has been in every state in the United States except for Alaska and Hawaii.

After graduating high school, Bill served 4 years in the Navy with the rank of Second Class Petty Officer. When Bill completed his service in the Navy, he decided to attend the Sunset School of Preaching in Lubbock, TX. where he met Stentson and Dianne. Bill joined the Carpenter's in 1981 in St. Croix where they were doing mission work. During his time there, one of the most significant contributions was providing sign language. Bill and two others taught bible class for deaf individuals and provided sign language during worship service.

After spending six months on St. Croix, Bill moved back home to Wisconsin to assist with the family farm because of his father's failing health due to ALS. In 1987 Bill earned his bachelor's degree from Texas Tech in Family studies and then earned his Master's degree from Abilene Christian University in Mar-

In-Kind Donations received July 1, 2017—November 15, 2017

Carpenter, Ronnie – Parts for 'E' House Van
Goodson, Eddy – Cakes for 4th of July Picnic
Grundhoefer, Beverly - Disposable Undergarments & Bed liners and a Gait Belt
Hanvey, Margie – Clothing
Hearn, Jean – Micro Wave & Mixer
Humphries, Amy – Large Puzzles for Davis Orman Residents
Longerbeam, Thomas – Ice Cream Maker For 'R' House
McElroy, Jane – Washcloths & Body Wash for D/O ICF
Sims, Jean – Towels
Talladega Super Speedway – Saturday & Sunday Race Tickets

Rainbow Omega welcomes your In-kind donations!

We currently have need of these items:

- Large Crock Pot
- Coffee pot (12 cup)
- Bag less Vacuum
- White Corel le Dishes
- Mattress pads Full or Queen)

If you have questions about donating items, please contact Dianne Carpenter at 256.831.0919 ext. 227



We have a wish list on Amazon.com! Items bought from their website can be sent directly to us! You choose if you want your name on the donation or make it anonymous. Click on "Gift and Wish Lists" at the top of their home page, on the right side of next page you will see "Find Wish Lists and Registries"-type in Rainbow Omega!

Carpenter Work Center



A typical day brings our individuals to work at 8:15-8:30 each morning. They use time cards and clock in for work just like millions of other Americans. They enjoy working with their friends and are often competitive, trying to out produce one another. Recently a resident was asked in his PCP meeting if he would like to learn a new contract recently added to the work center and his response, "Oh Yeah!" When walking through the work center you will often hear residents discussing what they plan on buying with their earnings or where they are going to eat out and you will often hear laughter. Earning a paycheck, feeling productive and enjoying the comradery of co-workers who are friends, isn't this what we all strive for?



Our exercise room located at the Carpenter Work Center is a fun enjoyable place for the residents to maintain their health while enjoying one another's company. We are able to utilize the exercise room to help ensure the health and wellness of each resident is optimal. The residents always find ways to laugh and have fun.



Outings

Our residents enjoy their outings. They have gone to football games, the races at Talladega and here they are at the Oxford Library working on some crafts.

ROI & JSU Gamecocks



Our residents enjoy spending time building relationships with the Jacksonville State University football team. From the time spent with the players here on our campus to the moments we spend in the stands cheering them on, we have come to love our JSU Gamecocks!! Thank you to the entire program at Jacksonville State University for investing in the lives of the people here at Rainbow Omega!





Gaining New Ground

The greenhouses of Rainbow Omega have always been an integral part of our vocational program by providing jobs for our residents throughout the year. In growing our services to provide meaningful work and an opportunity to grow as a community Rainbow Omega has broken ground on a new retail garden center that will be located in front of the property along peaceful valley road. With the help of the USDA rural development and Alfa Insurance this dream is now becoming a reality. This project will create new jobs as well as open the door for new products to be grown and sold. An official opening date will be announced as we move along with the project. We want to create an atmosphere where the customer can get the best product available, and at the same time help the developmentally disabled live out their dreams. As one of our board members so eloquently put it *“on every plant, on every stem, hope grows.”*

RMD Strategy

Required Minimum Distribution: An RMD is what the IRS mandates that all IRA holders over the age of 70 ½ years old has to take out a minimum amount from their IRA's and pay taxes on it at their Income Tax Bracket before December 31st. For most, this is nothing more than a taxable event that they are not wanting to incur. Keep in mind that all dollars in an IRA have never been taxed by Uncle Sam. When the money comes out it is added to the IRA holder's taxable income and in some cases causes them to go into an even higher tax bracket. (A situation that no one wants to happen) But, there is a loophole within the IRS Guidelines. If the IRA holder takes their RMD directly from the IRA to a 501-C3 it is not reported as taxable income on their taxes.

Family Meeting



On the morning of Saturday, August 12, parents and family members drove from near and far to attend ROI's Annual Family Meeting. This once a year gathering is held so that the Rainbow Omega family as a whole (parents/family members, residents, administration and staff) can spend constructive, quality time together discussing concerns and or issues that need to be addressed. This meeting is a great way to involve everyone. Our residents take the floor and express their thoughts, feelings and desires for everything from a personal TV that needs to be repaired to wanting a new van because of chipped paint, a swing for the front porch, or new picnic tables for the patio.

Parents/family members, provide input, make suggestions for improvement, share their thoughts, or just say thank you to the administration and staff for a job well done.

Weeks prior to the meeting, parents and family members are sent surveys. Residents receive surveys as well. Surveys are designed to define and measure the quality of life here at ROI. The survey results allows ROI to assess the quality of life services and help develop services that better meet the needs of our residents. In order to improve services, ROI needs everybody's help to identify the areas that need improvement.



Allen was mentioning what was needed for his house in the way of repairs or request of additions. All of our residents were given a chance to speak at the meeting if they wanted to.



Some of the residents along with Stephanie prepared some songs for everyone at the Family Meeting. They did an outstanding job!!

