

# NEWSLETTER

www.BrothersKeeperTN.org

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## Celebrating an IMPACTFUL Decade of: PURPOSE • COMMUNITY • GROWTH

Over the past decade, Brother's Keeper has positively impacted its participants in many ways and established a community grounded in faith, dignity, respect, and love. As a Christian, faith-based initiative, BK has offered individuals opportunities to pursue continued learning, realize their God-given potential, and form meaningful friendships rather than living in isolation. Our families have shared numerous stories of the impact BK has had on their loved ones.

When Brother's Keeper opened in 2016, my sons were 23 and 18; they are now 33 and 28. While they have matured in so many ways, their need for supervision, care, community, and more remain unchanged. The thought of them living without Brother's Keeper and all it has to offer is difficult for me to imagine. I am humbled by the compassion, love, and support BK extends to our sons. I appreciate the staff's ongoing dedication to challenging our participants every day in the various activities they pursue.

As weeks and years have passed, culminating in a decade, our mission remains steadfast: serving adults with intellectual disabilities to live purposeful, fulfilling lives and to reach their full potential. Since 2016, the program has expanded from serving 6 participants to 20, with a waiting list and ongoing interest! While progress has been made, additional work remains. The

unexpected purchase of our new building has launched us into phase 2 of our growth – a little sooner than planned. While we welcome this challenge, it did come with several unbudgeted expenses. We ended our fiscal year with a shortfall of \$100,000 and an increase in our monthly budgetary needs for the upcoming year. We want to use our resources wisely while evaluating the renovation project which will allow us to expand our participant community and increase our impact within the region.

We invite you to partner with us in our ongoing service to this community. Your dedication to the success of Brother's Keeper positions us to advance our mission further. To achieve this, we respectfully request your

support today. Your partnership is essential in establishing a strong financial foundation for this new fiscal year. Our fundraising goal is two-fold: first to address a shortfall of \$100,000 to begin the new fiscal year and second, to increase the number of monthly donors to support ongoing operations and potential renovations. Both will allow us to dedicate our focus to the immediate future. **Will you help us reach these important milestones?**



Cecile Huddleston

**'Be devoted to one another in love. Honor one another above yourselves.'**  
**Romans 12:10**

## IMPACTFUL Testimonies:

### Callaway's Joy Filled Life



Callaway is busy at Brother's Keeper (BK) and has made good friends that she talks about often. She enjoys the various activities such as daily devotions, art, skills training, exercise, community service, and lots of social interaction. Callaway loves to read and was thrilled when BK went to the library and checked out books. She has taught us the sign language they are learning. She is more confident, initiating conversations, at church, at home, and out with our family friends. She is singing in the car again. She takes pride in telling family and friends when BK has participated in community service projects. Callaway is very happy and always looks forward to her days at Brother's Keeper!

### Jonah's Living His Best Life

Jonah loves the physical activities at BK, like bowling, basketball, Zumba, adaptive fitness, and clogging. When we went to Ireland he danced on stage and was a "celebrity" at Irish nights. He asked them if they knew his clogging instructor, Ms. Donna from BK. Jonah also really loves the Milligan Occupational therapy students that come to BK. He has become a big Milligan fan and was invited to Milligan basketball games, where he had his picture taken with the ladies' team. He has met so many people outside of the BK family because of the extensive community engagement!



### Charlie's Changing for Good



When we first moved to the area one of the top priorities was to find a place for Charlie to be able to go during the day to have a fuller life than one just spent at home. When we discovered Brother's Keeper, we knew this was tailor made for what Charlie needed. We have noticed several changes for the better with Charlie's behavior, health and all-around life in general. The wide variety of day trips to places in the community as well as activities and support from staff has given Charlie a positive disposition about going to Brother's Keeper. Also, the Christian environment and practices helped mold Charlie with the kind of changes any parent would want to see in the development of their adult children.



# Your Giving Has A Lasting IMPACT On BK!

Brother's Keeper's mission relies on the faithful generosity of our supporters. As mentioned above, we have a two-fold fundraising goal: first to address a shortfall of \$100,000 to begin the new fiscal year with financial stability; second, to increase the number of monthly donors to support ongoing operations and potential renovations.

I would like to challenge you to become a monthly supporter today. Increasing our monthly contributions is vital as it provides a stable foundation that enables us to sustain daily operations, expand programs, and future planning. Consistent community support also strengthens our ability to secure grants as funders look to invest in organizations that demonstrate sustained backing from their donors. Your monthly commitment serves as a powerful endorsement of our mission's importance in this community.

Your financial investment in Brother's Keeper helps ensure that adults with intellectual disabilities have a place to belong, grow, and thrive. **Every gift, no matter the size, makes a lasting IMPACT!** Join us in building a future full of hope, purpose, and possibility. Would you partner with us and make this a reality?

The most direct way to make this happen is to scan here to give online.



Micah Crews

## 10 IMPACTFUL Ways We Educate, Empower, And Engage:

Watch BK in Action



01

Memorizing a guardian's contact information and reciting it

02

Researching a chosen topic and presenting findings to friends

03

Doing math skills, measuring, mixing, baking, and packaging dog treats

04

Praying and supporting one another

05

Creating art and other items to sell

06

Fitness and various sport activities

07

Developing tools for living and dealing with big emotions

08

Serving at Second Harvest and Kids Against Hunger

09

Learning Bibles verses and worshipping together

10

Exploring the outdoors and the area we live in