



NOVEMBER/DECEMBER 2020

NEVINS INC.

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Board of Directors

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Tom Gottcent, Vice-Chair
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INTERIM EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S MESSAGE

Art Gallagher

Dear Friends:

I am happy to report to you that The Nevins Center is continuing to deliver services and support for many of the individuals that we have served over the years. While we are all exercising more caution in how we live our lives these days, it is gratifying to know that approximately 60 individuals in the Nevins Family are receiving services through our Innovations programs including supported employment.

Many Abilities and Possibilities individuals are also utilizing virtual classes in yoga and art. We all look forward to the days ahead when we may be able to re-open our campus which could be sometime in the spring of 2021. Until a vaccine is proven effective and the number COVID cases locally is reduced we will continue to exercise caution in all our activities. Please note that if you wish to see a Nevins Staff member in person over the next few months you must make an appointment in advance. Thank you for your continuing understanding and patience.

The Nevins Board of Directors is working hard on the search for a new permanent Executive Director. A small number of highly qualified final candidates are being interviewed this month and it is hoped that an announcement will be made before the end of this month.

2020 has been a very challenging year for all of us. We all look for 2021 to be a kinder year and one in which we all keep striving to reach our potential. Nevins continues to stand with you in creating opportunities!

Blessings to all of the greater Nevins Family for this holiday season and in the days ahead.

Sincerely,
-Art Gallagher

Thank you to our partners at **TOSHIBA** for the printing of this newsletter.

Clinical Services Update

With the arrival of Flu season, Nevins would like to share some healthy habits to help prevent the Flu both at home and in the community.

Experts believe the single best way to prevent seasonal flu is to get vaccinated each year, but good health habits like avoiding people who are sick, covering your cough and washing your hands often can help stop the spread of germs and prevent the influenza as well.

Tips to protect yourself and others from flu and help stop the spread of germs:

- **Avoid close contact.** Avoid close contact with people who are sick. When you are sick, keep your distance from others to protect them from getting sick, too.
- **Stay home when you are sick.** If possible, stay home from work, school, and errands when you are sick. This will help prevent spreading your illness to others.
- **Cover your mouth and nose.** Cover your mouth and nose with a tissue when coughing or sneezing. It may prevent those around you from getting sick. Respiratory illnesses are spread by cough, sneezing, or unclean hands.
- **Clean your hands.** Washing your hands often will help protect you from germs. If soap and water are not available, use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer.
- **Avoid touching your eyes, nose or mouth.** Germs are often spread when a person touches something that is contaminated with germs and then touches his or her eyes, nose, or mouth.
- **Practice other good health habits.** Clean and disinfect frequently touched surfaces at home, work or school, especially when someone is ill. Get plenty of sleep, be physically active, manage your stress, drink plenty of fluids, and eat nutritious food.

UPCOMING EVENTS:

Virtual Programs

Monday-Friday

Chili Cook Off

March 13

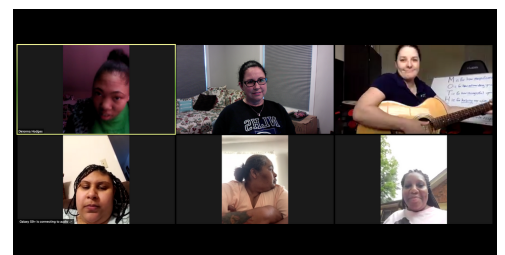
CPCC Classes begin

March 2021



Nevins is continuing to accept donations for our Technology Drive to address the need for access to digital services so that our participants can engage with our weekly virtual sessions.

If you have an iPad, tablet, or laptop that you would like to donate, please reach out to Pamela Glass at pglass@nevinsinc.org. Monetary donations are always appreciated as well. Thank you ahead for your kindness and support in helping our participants stay connected to our virtual programs and to their friends. For many, this is the only time they see their friends.



STAY SAFE AND BE WELL DURING THIS HOLIDAY SEASON

November - Employee and Participants of the Month

Employee of the Month



Tavone has been employed with Nevins for two years and is always caring, joking, and finding ways to keep our participants and staff smiling. During this time, she is working within in-home services.

We thank her for the love, care, and energy she brings to Nevins and the participants she works with.

Innovations Participant of the Month



Rosa has been a Nevins participant and employee at Cloister Honey for over 18 months. She is responsible for making sure that the local honey company's products are properly boxed and ready to ship out.

She greets everyone she meets with a smile and is willing to help whenever possible. Rosa is a hard worker, thoughtful, and always remembering others during the holidays and their birthday.

Supported Employment Participant of the Month



Marilyn is dedicated to ensuring all environmental service needs are met at Atrium Hospital - Main in the medical equipment unit. She does an excellent job ensuring others that they will have a clean and sanitized work environment. We appreciate Marilyn's dedicated work.

Great job, Marilyn!

Abilities& Possibilities Participant of the Month



Cameron has been a participant at Nevins for over ten years. She is a dancing machine! You will often find Cameron showing off her skills at any Nevins event. During this time, Cameron has been enjoying Nevins' virtual classes with her peers. She looks forward to returning to campus when it is safe.

December - Employee and Participants of the Month

Employee of the Month



Mitch is a model employee who you can always count on to go above and beyond. Mitch does his job exceptionally well and is always willing to help out. His friendly personality makes him enjoyable to have around and he always gets along with clients and staff. Mitch's work ethic, punctuality and reliability make him a valuable member of the Nevins Atrium Team.

Innovations Participant of the Month



Martha (Lizzie) C. is our Innovations Participant of the Month. Lizzie has been with Nevins for a long time. She loves to walk and listen to music.

Lizzie does not speak but will grab your hand when she is very happy. That is how she expresses herself to others. Her family truly enjoys that Lizzie comes to Nevins.

Supported Employment Participant of the Month



We would like to recognize Timothy C. who works at Home depot to make sure stock is unloaded! He is very diligent and always does his best.

We are thankful for all of Timothy's hard work and his strong work ethic.

Thanks Timothy for a job well done!

Abilities& Possibilities Participant of the Month



Jamie T. has been part of the Nevins family for a long time. Jamie started out working in our housekeeping department and is now a lively part of our Abilities and Possibilities Program. On any given day, you will find Jamie being the mother of the program, always interacting with her peers. Jamie has a stern but loving heart.

NEVINS CHANGING LIVES



In July, our supervisor of the Supported Employment Program, Jonathan, opened the doors to his new small business, The Gathering Grounds. Located a few miles away from Nevins' campus in The Plaza, the coffee shop serves a wide selection of treats and refreshments including delicious frappes, cooling smoothies, and their signature item--million dollar pound cake. But there is a deeper inspiration behind the launch of his business than Charlotte's love for coffee. The Gathering Grounds employs two of our beloved individuals who help keep the shop a clean and fun place to work.

Jonathan decided to locate The Gathering Grounds in The Plaza because it would be The Plaza's first franchise coffee shop, so there would be no competition within the complex. During the pandemic, he realized that there are individuals who are in need of work, which inspired him to root his coffee shop to a more meaningful purpose.

The Supported Employment Program is a service that helps individuals with the primary diagnosis of I/DD learn the skills necessary to find, gain and retain meaningful employment. This includes everything from developing a resume or identifying an area of employment interest through working with the individuals one-on-one or group setting on the job. It was through this

program that the two individuals were brought on to the crew.

One of the individuals employed at The Gathering Grounds is Anthony, a student at Central Piedmont who had been seeking an opportunity to make extra cash during the pandemic. Ever since his first day of work, Anthony arrives at every shift with a jovial and can-do attitude. He likes all his duties at the shop, but keeping the space clean is what he enjoys most. Anthony likes greeting customers as well. Each of the individuals work ten hours a week, but Anthony plans on doubling his hours at the coffee shop. When he receives his biweekly paycheck, the first thing he does is buy his favorite cookies from Amazon: Chips Ahoy's Reese's Peanut Butter Cup. In his free time, Anthony loves to ride his bike and play video games.

A long-term goal that Jonathan has for The Gathering Grounds is to employ more individuals and to expand the space. Currently, the two employed individuals specialize in janitorial work and greeting customers. His vision is that the operation will one day be run by the individuals--to be responsible for opening the register, completing inventory, and serving customers. As the crew works everyday toward that goal, Jonathan witnesses firsthand how they learn and grow from their employment.

"Being able to partner with Nevins to create employment opportunities for individuals with I/DD is the inspiration behind the operation."

~Jonathan Martin, Gathering Grounds

Nevins would like to thank the St. Anthony Foundation of Charlotte for their generous \$10,000 donation and continued support. Our work wouldn't be possible without the support from donors like Dr. Vincent Voci and the St. Anthony Foundation, who go above and beyond to help share Nevins's mission and know the importance of Nevins's work, especially in times like this. Each year the St. Anthony Foundation hosts Festa Italiana Charlotte and donates the money raised to support Nevins's work of creating opportunities for people with Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities.

We are grateful for you!



A Connection to Nevins History



Jerry McQuay
A local Charlotte Artist

Nevins connected with Jerry McQuay who has ties to Nevins from years past. During Jerry's childhood, he has memories of his parents, along with family friend and former Mayor Eddie Knox, volunteering at the Nevins Center. "They would often say, 'We are headed over to Nevins,'" Jerry recalls. It is always exciting to meet new friends who have a connection to Nevins. Jerry did an amazing job "relettering" one of Nevins oldest signs. We hope you notice the difference!



Join a company that empowers intellectually and developmentally disabled adults to achieve their fullest potential through employment and community involvement.

Positions are available. Join our Talent Community today. Send an email to hr@nevinsinc.org. Tell us a little bit about yourself and attach your resume.

Be a part of a powerful community where all adults with intellectual and developmental disabilities reach for their fullest potential.

Campus Visitor Update

Any person needing to visit the Nevins Center for any reason, please contact the respective Management Team staff to schedule an appointment. Regular office hours M-F, 8:00 am – 4:00 pm Thank you!

Art Gallagher	Interim Executive Director	agallagher@nevinsinc.org	704-596-1372 x203
Pamela Glass	Development & Marketing	pglass@nevinsinc.org	704-596-1372 x210
Kimberly Hailey	Clinical Services	khailey@nevinsinc.org	704-659-3429
Tanisha Rorie	Innovations	trorie@nevinsinc.org	704-596-1372 x208
Jonathan Martin	Supported Employment	jmartin@nevinsinc.org	980-505-2388
Rudy Ware	Abilities & Possibilities	mware@nevinsinc.org	704-961-8924
Paisley Hunt	Office Coordinator	phunt@nevinsinc.org	704-596-1372 x206

STAFF BIRTHDAYS:

November

Mitch Sheriff	2
Paisley Hunt	3
Dan-Yel Talley	12
Patricia Johnson	13
Kimberly Hailey	20
Gabriel Green	23
Anthony Glover	30

December

Bianca Horton	5
Vernon Simpson	6
John Francis Strother	13
Philomene Ndelo	17
Shun McRae	21
Delores Miller	23
Prisca Avoki	25

Nevins Atrium Team Receives Praise



We are proud of our Medical Equipment Team members at Atrium Health for being recognized by Atrium's "Praise Patrol" for all their hard work. The "Praise Patrol" is awarded to a department monthly, and the team that wins nominates the next department.

The Nevins Atrium Teams have remained #NevinsStrong during the past nine months at a time when their work is essential. Their dedicated hard work directly supports "quality patient care" at both Atrium Main and Mercy hospitals.

Great job TEAM!

Thank you Elevation Church Outreach



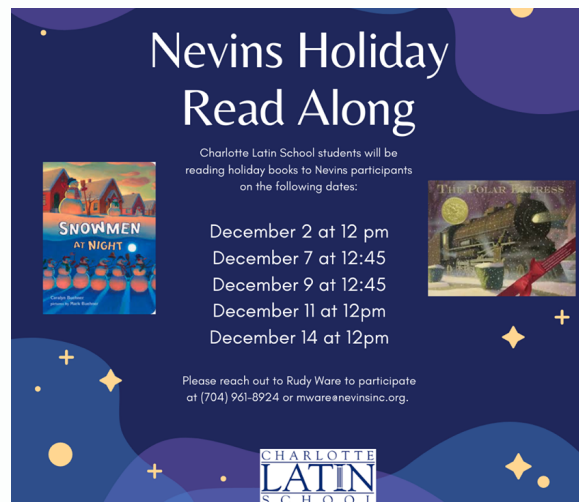
We want to thank Elevation Church's Outreach team for their generosity that helped Nevins host our Holiday Box Gift Away! On December 9th, Nevins staff and participant's guardians drove thru stations at Nevins' campus. Each participant received their holiday box, hygiene kit, and water bottle. Participants who were not able to make it to campus can obtain their Holiday goodies by contacting Rudy Ware at mware@nevinsinc.org. Rudy will be coordinating front-porch drop off now thru December 23rd. Thank you Elevation for helping us spread holiday cheer!

Helping developmentally disabled adults reach their fullest potential for over 60 years.

What's Happening in Abilities & Possibilities

Nevins participants and staff have continued to enjoy our virtual programs during this time. On Tuesdays, participants enjoy the exercises and activities with our wonderful yoga instructor Sarah. Wednesday's session is an open forum style where participants take time to interact and share with each other. On Thursdays, everyone has fun singing and dancing to Holiday music with Miss Ashley. Participants will be performing a virtual Holiday program that will be shared on social media platforms soon. Thank you Sarah and Ashley for being a part of our Nevins family and bringing joy to our participants weekly.

We also want to thank Lucy Smith, Stuart Bonner, and Charlotte Latin School students for reading to participants as part of our virtual programs. Participants have enjoyed the Holiday book readings and meeting each of you!



Nevins Board Leadership



Jade Boling,
Nevins Board Member



Let us introduce you to the longest-serving Nevins board member, Jade Boling! He has been with Nevins through so many "dramatic changes" and many accomplishments over his 17 years on the board.

He was first introduced to Nevins in 2000 when he was invited to a Nevins fundraiser. Jade visited the campus, began getting to know the staff, and volunteered at a golf fundraising event for many years. "Needless to say, I quickly fell in love with the participants and the staff." Jade officially joined the board in late 2003.

Jade reflects on the challenges Nevins has faced & pivotal moments like when Nevins was struggling financially. He mentions how this is no longer the case, thanks to a lot of hard work from the Nevins staff to turn it around. Events like the first St. Anthony's Foundation Festa Italiana fundraiser took place in 2006 and has continued to generate roughly \$20 -\$25K a year in donations for Nevins. He was present when the Abilities and Possibilities program was added around 2008 and allowed Nevins to offer the opportunity for participants to pay to come to Nevins (if they did not qualify otherwise). He also talks about the significant changes made to the buildings at Nevins, with complete restorations done to a lot of its physical structures.

He says that the participants are the reason he has stayed on the board for so long. "When you go to Nevins, they are the first ones to hug you and ask how you are doing (and always with a smile). These are adults who will make you feel good, no matter what you are going through in life." Jade is motivated to help spread awareness about Nevins and its participants. He asks that everyone who could help Nevins to please do so in any way possible. "We owe that to our fellow citizens of Charlotte, who need our help."



Management Staff:

Art Gallagher,
Interim Executive Director

Pamela Glass,
Director of Development &
Strategic Partnerships

Kimberly Hailey,
Program Manager of Clinical Services

Tanisha Rorie,
Program Supervisor

Jonathan Martin,
Program Supervisor of
Supported Employment

Deon Chism,
Program Coordinator

Patrice Baldwin,
Innovations Team Lead

Rudy Ware,
Abilities & Possibilities Team Lead

Linda Moore,
Atrium Mercy Team Lead

Darryl Starks,
Atrium Main Team Lead



KEEP IN TOUCH WITH NEVINS

Here at Nevins, we are a large "family", a family that consists of participants who utilize our programs, the parents or caregivers of our participants, our talented staff, dedicated volunteers and our generous donors and community partners. Our monthly newsletter is also available in digital format via e-mail. If you would like to receive a copy of the newsletter electronically, please e-mail your contact information to development@nevinsinc.org or subscribe to the newsletter on our website at www.nevinsinc.org.

Follow us on social media:



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www.instagram.com/nevinsinc

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The Amazon Smile program lets you help Nevins with each of your Amazon purchases! All you have to do is go to smile.amazon.com and select Nevins as your cause, then every time you shop on smile amazon 1/2 of a percent is donated to Nevins!

MISSION STATEMENT

Nevins Inc. provides developmentally disabled people over the age of 16 with opportunities to achieve their fullest potential through employment and community involvement.



ACCREDITED
CHARITY

charlotte.bbb.org

NEVINS INC. IS A 501(C)(3) ORGANIZATION SUPPORTED BY PUBLIC CONTRIBUTIONS AND AIDED BY VOLUNTEERS.

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