

# The BABCOCK Bugle

Fall 2015



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Judy Johnson  
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## 2015 Annual Awards Banquet



From left to right: Lathran Randolph-Earle (2014 MLD Recipient), Angela Leon (Foundation Board Chair), Dr. BJ Simons (2015 MLD Recipient) and Dr. Judy Johnson (President/CEO).

On August 20, 2015, Babcock Center held its Annual Awards Banquet at First Presbyterian Church in Columbia. This annual event is a celebration of our amazing staff and volunteers.

We are pleased to announce that the 2015 recipient of the Mary L. Duffie Service to Others Award is Dr. BJ Simons. Dr. Simons works tirelessly everyday to ensure that the health and well being of the people we support remain a top priority. As a result

of her efforts, people are receiving top notch care and are healthier than ever!

We are also pleased to announce the Volunteers of the Year, Phyllis and Sarah Kammerer. Phyllis and Sarah attend every event at the Babcock Center and always stay around not only for the FUN, but for the clean-up! They are wonderful volunteers and we are so appreciative of everything they do!

We also named our Employers of the Year. Linda Vazquez of Burger King was awarded the Small Employer of the Year and Charles Porter of Star Hanger Systems was awarded the Large Employer of the Year. We thank both of these individuals for providing employment opportunities to people with lifelong disabilities.

Finally, Roscoe Collins was awarded the Henry Clark Memorial Award. This award is given to a consumer who has been a role model for their peers in the area of employment. Roscoe is certainly that, having worked at Pizza Hut for over 20 years!

**Congratulations to all our nominees and winners!**



## President's Column

By Judy E. Johnson, Ed.D.  
President and CEO

In recent months two bills have been introduced in the South Carolina Senate that could have far-reaching and potentially negative impacts on people with lifelong disabilities in our state. First is bill S.600, which seeks to place the Department of Disabilities and Special Needs under the umbrella of the Department of Health and Human Services. Service providers are opposed to this because we feel that this would in effect make DDSN just a small cog in a BIG wheel. The result would be a diminished voice within DHHS and with the legislature for self-advocates, their family members and providers.

On the other hand, S.768 seeks to place the Department of Disabilities and Special Needs under the Governor's cabinet. Service providers are also in opposition to this bill because of the fear that the Governor may appoint someone as DDSN State Director who does not possess the knowledge of our industry and the needs of the people we support to ensure that funds are being utilized in an effective manner for the benefit of people with lifelong disabilities.

Both the Babcock Center and Babcock Center Foundation Boards of Directors have voted to officially oppose passage of these bills. In addition, the SC Human Service Providers Association is publically expressing its opposition as well. It is our belief that the passage of either of these bills would result in far-reaching, detrimental effects to our service delivery system and ultimately, those who are dependent upon it.

I strongly encourage self-advocates, family members and anyone who cares about the ability of this state to continue to provide quality supports for people with lifelong disabilities to contact your senators and tell them "No" to S.600 and S.768. You can find a listing of senators by district at [www.scstatehouse.gov/member](http://www.scstatehouse.gov/member).



## Board Of Directors News



Arthur Waters

The Babcock Center Board of Directors is proud to announce the appointment of Arthur Waters as an ex-officio member of the Board.

Arthur has lived at Babcock Center since 1992 and currently resides in a CLOUD home. Arthur enjoys listening to jazz and soul music. Arthur's goals are to continue to become more independent and to get a job.

Arthur is excited about the opportunity to serve on the Board because it is an opportunity for him to make a positive difference in the lives of his peers.

The Board is confident that Arthur will be an excellent member of the Board and advocate for people with lifelong disabilities.

## What's Happening

The BETA Group meets the 3rd Thursday of each month at the Mary L. Duffie Administration Building. Call Dave Kammerer at 799-1970, ext. 144 for more information.



Congratulations to Dr. Judy Johnson, President/CEO of Babcock Center for being appointed by Governor Nikki Haley as a member of the Commission for the Blind.



To volunteer at the Babcock Center contact Endra Curry at 799-1970, ext. 124.

## Babcock Cuts Ribbon at Two Day Programs



Ribbon cutting at Batesburg/Leesville WAC.

On April 22, 2015, Babcock cut the ribbon to re-open the Batesburg/Leesville Work Activity Center after extensive renovations. The renovations have transformed the facility into a wonderful day program that both staff and the people we support can be proud to call their workplace.

Then on May 28, 2015, we cut the ribbon at our brand new Work Training Center on Lykes Lane in Irmo. This new facility will provide supports to forty-three individuals residing in the Irmo area. The addition of this program will make it possible for Babcock Center to provide day supports to individuals who are currently awaiting supports through the Department of Disabilities and Special Needs.



Representatives Nathan Ballentine, Chip Huggins and Congressman Joe Wilson were on hand for the ribbon cutting at Lykes Lane.

## Volunteers Make a Difference at Babcock

Submitted By: Endra Curry, Community Outreach Coordinator



A group of volunteers from Pepsi helped out at Shop Road WAC during a recent United Way Day of Action.

Over the past year, Babcock Center has benefited from the work of volunteers and interns to the tune of over 8500 hours of service in our residential, vocational and administrative areas! We routinely welcome volunteer groups to help with special projects like organizing, cleaning, yard work and of course fun and games with the people we support.

We've also hosted individual volunteers and interns from varied educational programs of study and academic institutions including, but not limited to: Medical Assisting, Social Work, Special Education, Information Technology, Counseling and Mental Health and Medical Office Administration.

The success of our volunteers and interns program is dependent upon the support of Babcock Center staff who work tirelessly to ensure that the individuals contributing their time and effort are provided the best possible experience. Thank you to all the programs and staff that have hosted volunteers and interns this summer!

## Lexington County Invests in Three Fountains WAC



Many thanks to the Lexington County Community Development Block Grant for providing funding for the installation of metal interior panels to the walls at the Three Fountains Work Activity Center.

Prior to the installation, there were exposed beams and insulation, which resulted in an unfinished look to the interior of the building. The installation of the panels has created a much more aesthetically pleasing environment for the people we support to learn and grow!

**Thanks again to Lexington County for investing in the Three Fountains Work Activity Center!**



Interior panels have created a much more finished look for the Three Fountains Work Activity Center.

## Seniors Take Tour of Texas



Betty Lucas learns how to properly hand feed a horse.

As part of the Tour of Texas theme for the month, The Mary L. Duffie Seniors had the wonderful opportunity to have some large but beautiful visitors at the program. Many thanks to Carl Fleming, Reginald Dixon and Talmadge Dixon of Fleming Farms in Blythewood for bringing out Showtime and Chopper. Everyone enjoyed feeding and petting the horses and it appeared that the feeling was mutual!

Mr. Fleming explained how the horses are trained and demonstrated some of the techniques they use to get them ready to compete in shows.

It was a great experience for everyone and we hope that they will return to visit again soon!



Thomas Cannon is all smiles as he gives Chopper a friendly pat!

## Shop Road Fitness Club



Shawn Wilson enjoys riding the recumbent bike.

The exercise equipment purchased for the Shop Rd. Fitness Club through Richland County has been greatly beneficial to the people we support. Approximately 40 individuals per day are able to utilize the equipment. As a result of their continuous usage, we have noticed a difference in not only their physical health but their emotional well-being. They have become more motivated to make healthy choices with regard to diet and lifestyle. It also has been a great incentive for weigh loss, which has in turn increased their self-esteem. Many thanks to Richland County for supporting this program.

## Everybody Continues to Talk



Babcock Center is proud to announce that we have received a third year of funding from the SC Developmental Disabilities Council for the Everybody Talks program which provides augmentative communication devices and intensive training to participants.

During this grant cycle, we will be able to provide augmentative communication supports for an additional 20 individuals. We are excited about the opportunity and believe that this program is making a big difference in the lives of the people we support that have communication challenges.

Thanks to the SC Developmental Disabilities Council for continuing to fund this program for another year!

## Babcock Gives Back With School Supply Drive



Individuals from Shop Road WAC deliver school supplies to staff at Epworth Children's Home.

The Vocational Department put together a "Back to School Drive" to collect school supplies for the kids at Epworth Children's Home and Nancy K. Perry Children's Shelter.



Three Fountains WAC delivered to Nancy K. Perry Children's Shelter.

The supplies were donated by people we support and staff. It feels good to give back!

## Spirit Week Means FUN at Work!



In an effort to have some F-U-N, Babcock Center staff participated in Spirit Week July 13th-17th. Some of the activities included the Directors Car Wash, a scavenger hunt, health fair and other fun themed days. The week ended with all staff proudly wearing a Babcock Center t-shirt!

## Babcock Center's Got Talent



TAPS Sensory Group took home the top prize at the finals of Babcock Center's Got Talent.

During the month of September, Babcock Center held its annual "Babcock Center's Got Talent" competition. There were initial rounds of competition at the various work activity centers, then semi-finals held at the Mary L. Duffie Administration building and all this culminated in the finals being held at Tri-City Leisure Center.

During the finals, the judges had some really tough decisions to make because Babcock Center really is jam-packed with some phenomenal talent! In the end, the winner of the 2015 Babcock Center's Got Talent competition was the TAPS Sensory Group who gave a rousing rendition of the gospel favorite, "Don't Call the Roll".

The Shop Rd. Dancers came away with the President's Award for their performance of the "Nae, Nae". All of the competitors worked hard and should be proud of their accomplishments. Thanks also go out to WIS and WLTX for their coverage of the event.

## Bishop Garden



Residents, visitors and staff at Oakwood CTH II enjoyed this beautiful garden planted in loving memory of Dr. Paul Bishop.

## Lowe's Heroes At Babcock

Many thanks to Lowe's in Harbison for choosing Babcock Center as the site of their Lowe's Heroes program.

Crews worked at two locations to help us spruce things up! One crew was at the newly opened Work Training Center on Lykes Lane to seal the wooden ramp at the back of the building.

Another crew tackled the yard at our Stonehedge CTH II home and what a difference they made!

**Thanks to these true heroes!**



## ***Our Contributors***

*Babcock Center Foundation appreciates the generosity of those who contribute their time, talent and treasure to help us continue to enhance the lives of people with lifelong disabilities supported by the Babcock Center. The following represents donations, memorials, honoraria and in-kind contributions from April 15 thru September 15, 2015.*

### ***Donations***

Kathryn Allen	Cynthia Hallman
Nellie Alston	HealthSouth
Charlotte Berry	Terry Horton
Elizabeth Baynard	Judith E. Johnson
Louie Blaze	Dennis Lambries
Donna Billingsley	Angela Leon
Charlotte Bright	Life HME
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KeenanSuggs	
Knights of Columbus	

### ***In Honor of ...***

***Regina Harris***  
by Catherine Bush

***Cissy Keenan***  
by Frank Keenan, Jr.

## *Our Contributors*

### *In Memory of...*

***Rocky Bartlett***

Rex & Margaret White

***Jean Bartlett Bassar***

Rex & Margaret White

***Ruth Brazell***

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Paul & Linda Wannamaker  
Shandon Baptist Sunday School

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*“Success is finding  
satisfaction in giving a little  
more than you take.”  
~ Christopher Reeve*



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## Preventing Falls



Every 18 seconds an older adult presents to an Emergency Department with injuries from a fall and every 35 minutes someone dies as a result of their injuries. Here are a few tips to stay safe and prevent falls:

- Avoid uneven, wet or slippery walking surfaces.
- Light up your living space.
- Wear sensible shoes.
- Use assistive devices, especially in the bathroom.
- Be aware of the effects of heat and overexertion, particularly in older adults.
- Be aware of balance, inner ear or other health issues that may contribute to falls.
- Keep moving. Exercise builds strength, flexibility and improves balance.
- Work with your doctor to develop an individualized fall prevention plan.

## Why Pay More?



*Discounted tickets for movies, Riverbanks Zoo and Carowinds are available in the Foundation office. Contact Anne Carrig at (803)799-1970, ext. 112 to purchase tickets.*

	<u>Reg. Price</u>	<u>You Pay</u>
AMC Cinemas	\$9.25	\$7.25
Regal Cinemas	\$9.25	\$7.25
Riverbanks Zoo (Adult)	\$13.95	\$11.50
Riverbanks Zoo (Child)	\$11.50	\$9.50
Carowinds (Adult)	\$49.99	\$40.00

*(Carowinds tickets may only be purchased online. Call for details.)*