

Ben's Place Services, Inc.

4530-15 St Johns Ave
Unit 325
Jacksonville, FL 32210
904-418-2299



www.bensplacecof.org

Ben's Place News

Our Mission is to provide social experiences and support the independence of individuals with disabilities.

We provide unique opportunities for individuals with developmental, physical, or acquired disabilities to interact and learn life and vocational skills with their peers in a social environment.

Our vision is based on the premise that individuals with disabilities will be respected and appreciated for their own individual capabilities as they strive toward their own personal dreams.

*Created different. Treated equal.
A community of friends.*



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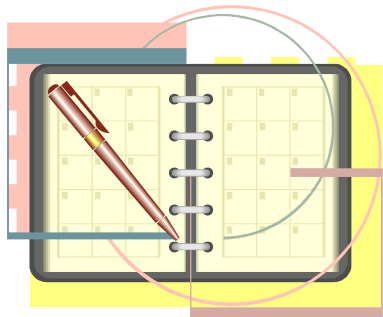
Getting to know our Community Partner...JU

Ben's Place is a community day program for adults with developmental and acquired disabilities that provides a place for social interaction and works to increase the independence of its members. Ben's Place partners with Jacksonville University's Doctor of Occupational Therapy program to assist in student development through a week-long fieldwork experience. Students attend Ben's Place to gain experience in a community program for

adults with disabilities which aids in their learning and propels advancement in the understanding of the populations occupational therapy can serve. Students are asked to develop and implement an activity which utilizes their skills as future occupational therapists, as well as enhances the experience of the individuals who attend. Ben's Place & JU are happy to partner together to further our community of friends - all created different & treated equal.

"Community Partner"





Executive Director, Annie

Hi everyone,

Hope the coming of spring this year gives everyone a sigh of relief. We are here and now moving forward. The past has been a challenge for us, our family, and especially our community. The members have proven how strong they are and are so happy to be meeting in person again. So are we!

As most of you know we have begun to meet at Murray Hill Baptist Church 4300 Post Street. It is a small space, but the church was kind enough to allow us to use it. Now comes the real work in rebuilding our member attendance and acquiring a new and forever location.

Even through the pandemic, we have continued to provide service to our Community of Friends with fundraising events to help sustain us and pay our bills. Now the BIG ask. As we move forward with a new

From the President

Since our last communication with you we've found a temporary location that meets our needs and allowed us to safely reopen. We are very thankful to Murray Hill Baptist Church for their willingness to help, as we continue making progress toward finding a more permanent location. We've remained agile, adjusting along the way, due to COVID. My hope and expectation are that our next location will be permanent, providing those we serve with the stability they so deserve. I'd like to thank Stephanie Schuler, our

Program Director, for her leadership during very challenging times as she plans creative activities and programs that suit a wide range of abilities. We are grateful to both Stephanie and Annie for the adjustments they made that enabled Ben's Place to survive and thrive against the many challenges thrown our way. Thank you for your continued support and we'll keep you updated on our progress.

- Jay Abraham, President
Ben's Place Board of Directors

"Spring is the time of plans and projects"

- Leo Tolstoy

cont. from Executive Director Annie

sense of renewal, I would hope that you would step up and help rebuild our programs. I would really appreciate if you would join a committee; fundraising, volunteers, or help with the building committee. These are essential to our success. Give me a call at (904)418-2299 or email me at annec@bensplacecof.org to lend a helping hand.

Can't wait to see you all!

~ Annie



See all of our
Upcoming Events
for 2022 on page 3. We would love your help with these events and greatly appreciate you attending and sharing everything about us.

Upcoming Events for 2022

www.bensplacecof.org/upcoming-events

2022 Friday



Grab n' Go



1. May 6th

(Because we love Mom. Kick off her weekend just right!)

2. June 10th

(Grab food for our Eat, Drink & Be Giving Virtual event)

3. August 19th

(Back-to-school)

4. November 4th

(Last real break before the end of year holiday festivities)

Monthly Monday Splash of Paint

www.bensplacecof.org/splash-of-paint-more



3rd Monday of each month at 6:30 pm
Riverside Liquors 1251 King St.

Eat, Drink & Be Giving Virtual Auction

June 1-11, 2022

www.bensplacecof.org/auction

Kick-off meeting will be held on Tuesday, March 22nd at 7:00 p.m. via Zoom

Annual Golf Tournament Friday October 7th

www.bensplacecof.org/golf-tournament

Flock-a-Friend

What a great way to say hi or thank someone with a flocking of flamingos. Now, you can send a flock of birthday candles with a lawn size birthday cake with candles or a baby announcement. Make someone smile while supporting our programs.

www.bensplacecof.org/flockingafriend



Wills, Trusts and ABLE

Leaving Assets to Your Loved One

With certain assets such as life insurance policies, retirement plans, and annuities and wills, you must designate beneficiaries and contingent beneficiaries. Although your first inclination might be to name your loved one with special needs outright as your beneficiary, such a designation could jeopardize his or her entitlement to government benefits. Leaving assets in your will to a loved one that is receiving benefits like Medicaid or SSI could disqualify them from continuing to receive those benefits. An inheritance, a gift from a relative, or a personal injury award may also push your loved one's assets over the \$2000 limit mandate. One of the ways to avoid this and still ensure that your loved one still receives what you want to leave them is to open a special needs trust for your loved one and designating the trust as your beneficiary. This makes the assets available to your loved one as a beneficiary of the trust but the assets are not counted against them, slowing them to stay under the asset threshold and maintain benefits.

Lawrence Thompson, MBA
Lt6742@gmail.com



Thanks to our **Friends of Ben's** with your continued donations. We appreciate your kindness and support.

Fun at the Reopened Center. Yay karaoke!

FUN

Volunteering with Mount Herman's Special Olympics

**Ben's Place
NEW Board of Directors
Coming Soon! Thank YOU!
We appreciate YOUR Board
Service!**



1. Jay Abraham – President
2. Jason Gibson – Treasurer
3. Ebony Davis – Director
4. Denise Hunt - Director
5. Emily Pate - Director
6. Lawrence Thompson – Director
7. Debra Waye – Director

Contact us at 904-418-2299

or

info@bensplacecof.org



Anne Yarbrough – Executive Director
Stephanie Schuler - Program Director

Flocking's available.
Birthday cakes!
NOW available.

<http://bensplacecof.org/flockinga-friend/>



Visit us online at
www.bensplacecof.org