

ACCESS

A MONTHLY LOOK INSIDE CAREY SERVICES

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Expressions art event is approaching

A long time ago (well, about a year ago), in a land far away (well, it was outside Marion city limits), a group of people got together to slay dragons and ... (well, people got together, but it was to celebrate creativity and not about slaying anything).

If you haven't guessed by now, Carey Services is doing something with a theme that involves lots of make-believe and imagination.

It's time for Expressions, Carey Services' second-annual art gala. And, this year has a theme: Once Upon A Time.

This year's event will be Oct. 21 at Roseburg Event Center. As it was last year, this year's event will be an open house format, with no admission charge. Art will be for sale, and several large pieces will be auctioned midway through the evening.

"The community's support of our first Expressions event last year was tremendous," said Jim Allbaugh, Carey Services' president and CEO. "We were overwhelmed with the positive

Expressions Details

Date: October 21

Time: 6-8 p.m.

Place: Roseburg Event Center

Cost: Free

response to our new art endeavour, and we're excited to do the event again and continue to show the community what talented individuals we serve."

In the year since the Creative Hearts Art Studio opened, it already has expanded into three areas on the Marion campus. The reaction to the art program meant it quickly outgrew the original space, so two

other spaces were opened. One added a second painting and sewing area, and the second features music and movement. All segments of the programming will be showcased during the evening at Expressions.

The event will showcase art produced in the past year. With the theme, this year's event also will have on display special theme-related art.

If you'd like to see the Creative Hearts studio in action, call Yolanda Kincaid, chief operations officer, at (765) 668-8961, ext 136, or send her an email at ykincaid@careyservices.com

Journey's success comes with help along the way

Sometimes all it takes for things to come together is having a few folks believe in you.

He's been through a lot, but Larry Johnson's life is on an upswing in recent months. He credits those folks who have come around him for helping him get to this point.

The employment services staff at Carey Services gets a lot of the credit, along with people in his church. Johnson recently was promoted to full time at the Goodwill store in Marion, about six months after he started working there as a part-time employee.

"Carey Services made me feel important," Johnson said, "and the staff made me feel like family, not that they were just doing their job."

He said it was hard to find and maintain steady employment for about 10 years with his condition and having to care for his mother. After his mother died, he moved to Marion, and he began attending a local church that accepted him and began helping him find ways to deal with his depression and anxiety.

The next step of his journey began in October 2015, when he began working with Carey Services' employment services staff through the state's vocational rehabilitation program. Agency

Caring & Serving

Inspiring stories of Carey Services client success

For the full article, go to: www.careyservices.com/caringand-serving

staff began working with him on job readiness training, interviewing help and job placement.

One of the big keys, though, involved something new at the agency.

"Larry talked during our initial evaluation that he loved art," Employment Specialist Karen Willhite said. When the agency opened the Creative Hearts Art Studio in October 2016, Johnson was an early participant.

When Johnson started working with art, it seemed to help him open up to the people

around him, Willhite said. Soon, others working around him in the studio noticed his talent, and many other studio participants wanted Johnson to do some drawing for their projects. Johnson said that affirmation made him feel important again and helped him open up to so much more in front of him.

Fast forward a while, and Johnson was offered the job at Goodwill. Willhite said Johnson was so excited with the news and the feeling it gave him to be part of society again.

"You can see the smile on his face and the pride he has in telling you his story," Willhite said.

Johnson's journey continues, as does the help from people believing in him.

You have an opportunity to make an impact at Carey

Carey Services has some remaining Neighborhood Assistance Program (NAP) tax credits.

Individuals and businesses who donate to Carey Services through NAP are able to take a tax credit on their Indiana state income tax return for 50

percent of the amount of the donation and reduce their tax liability to the state. Donors also can claim the donation on their federal tax returns.

Carey Services will use this year's NAP donations to help maintain and improve the

Pleasant Woods apartment complex.

For more information, call Carey Services and ask for April Scott, executive officer and event coordinator, at (765) 668-8961, extension 111, or send her an email at ascott@careyservices.com.

ihcda

Indiana Housing & Community Development Authority



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