



Community Membership

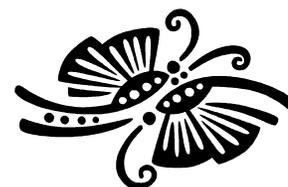
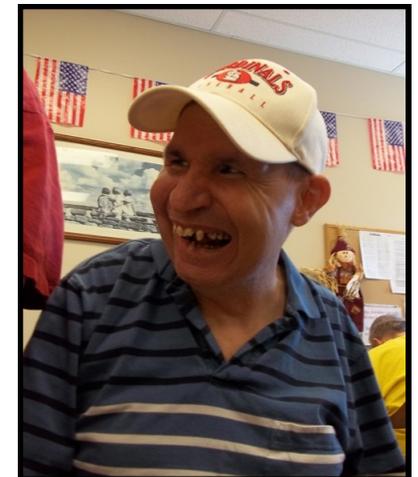
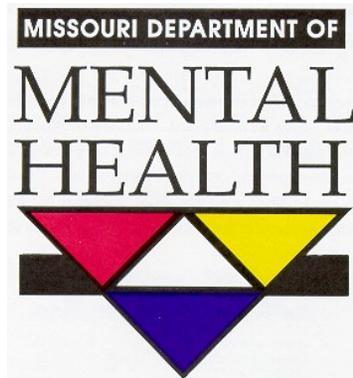
Entrepreneurial Skills

New Friendships

Responsibility

Independence

New Interests



If you would like to learn more about options for community transition, please contact the Marshall Habilitation Center at (660) 886-2201 or Lacie Varner at The Center for Human Services at (660) 886-4261.

Terry's Story...

Terry is a 50 year old man who transitioned to Community Opportunities in March 2011. Before moving to our community, Terry had spent most of his adult life at Marshall Habilitation Center. He was very familiar with his routine after 30 years, so Terry's transition required understanding, learning, and patience by all who were involved.

The team knew Terry would receive a new living environment and changes to his routine but never expected Terry to change so significantly.

When he moved to his new home, staff and housemates were eager to welcome Terry and show him around. Terry lives in a large home with four other housemates. He has his own large bedroom and a comfy recliner in the living room where he enjoys watching TV and his housemates. Terry really likes his housemates and when they are not in the room, he can be found walking around the house looking for them.

Understanding Terry and getting to know him took time and patience since he is unable to communicate verbally. However, once staff were able to understand Terry and his way of communicating his wants and needs, we were able to successfully remove his behavior support plan and some medications.

Terry attends Day Services which is located one block from his home. He walks with his housemates and staff to and from Day Services five days a week. Terry moved using a wheelchair for most distances and outings. But now Terry enjoys walking and even pushing the cart while shopping with staff. With Day Services, Terry is actively involved in his community. He enjoys assisting with delivering Meals on Wheels, helping at the local food pantry and entertaining the pets at Petsmart. Terry also enjoys watching movies either in the theater or outdoor under the stars with his housemates, community friends, and family.

Terry has a sister who lives close by and sees him often. She comes to most of Terry's outdoor movies and house parties. Last year Terry was able to spend time with her and other family members at Christmas and Thanksgiving. This meant a lot to her as well as to Terry.

In the past, Terry had received all of his nutrition, hydration, and medication from a feeding tube. However, within the past year, and with close medical supervision, Terry began eating his meals orally. He now eats all meals orally and enjoys sitting at the dining room table with his housemates and staff. In fact, his sister brought ice cream cake last month for his 50th birthday and Terry enjoyed it so much, he insisted on two helpings!



JohnBoy's Story...

John Boy's transition to Center for Human Services Three Acres' Group Home has been nothing short of a "perfect fit". In April, 2012, JohnBoy and his guardian visited Three Acres during his quest to find a new home that would allow him to live closer to his grandmother while continuing to become more independent. While visiting the home, JohnBoy mentioned that he had lived in the very same home several years ago but made several remarks about how the home had changed. The home had indeed changed, but what was even more obvious was that JohnBoy had changed since he could barely tour the vacant bedroom without hitting his head on the ceiling! Just a few short weeks later, JohnBoy decided to give Three Acres a try and he moved in to the lower level of the house which better accommodated his size!

JohnBoy lives with three other men and has experienced some ups and downs at the house. However, John Boy's easy-going attitude and desire for success has not only led to a very successful transition, but has set the example for his peers to work harder to attain their goals. JohnBoy recognizes the progress he has made, saying that he no longer becomes aggressive as he had in the past and is much calmer than he once was. If JohnBoy experiences problems with his peers he often processes this on his own and initiates an apology in order to work through the issues in a calm, mature manner.

JohnBoy goes shopping on Friday nights which includes trips to Dollar Tree and Wal-Mart and usually a quick stop for a soda before returning home. He also participates in weekend activities, often being the one to initiate activities such as Mid-Missouri Outlaws games, Sedalia Bomber's Baseball games, the Missouri State Fair, and other events. JohnBoy is meeting a goal of physical activity by going for exercise on the State Fair Community College track, fishing with his housemates, playing football and/or basketball with his peers, and by visiting the swimming pool when weather permits. He also goes for weekend visits with his grandmother on a regular basis and she visits him at his home frequently.

JohnBoy assists with chores around his house without complaint and is learning to budget his money. He recently worked through the first season at the CHS Bloomin' Gardens. He not only got to take advantage of sleeping in each morning before leaving for work, he also got to make more money each week. When the Greenhouse season is on hiatus, he attends the Job Preparation program where he has been very successful. JohnBoy's workforce goal in the future is to be a fisherman and therefore, several days a week he learns skills necessary for this goal to be achieved. He also works in the cafeteria periodically assisting with grocery shopping, pricing items, or stocking the shelves and machines. JohnBoy has expressed interest in working for the Recycling Program at CHS as well.

John Boy's success at Three Acres is far from peaking and he is sure to continue rapidly growing into a self-determined, independent individual.

