

A Year Full of News!

Our Smiles Work!



Annual Report

July 2008 to June 2009



Sneak Preview- (L to R) Lynda Davis, Fred Davis, Darryl Byrd, Bonnie Davis and Kaylea Forsythe tour OBI on their sneak preview.



Jessica works on our Goodwrappers contract. This contract has kept our warehouse busy for over 15 years!



OBI's Opening Day! - Joyce, an OBI job coach walks with Heather into OBI on Opening Day. We are so excited to be home!



OBI's Lawn Care Enclave is kept busy throughout the year particularly in the fall months.



Grand Opening - (L to R) John Lehmann, OBI Board Member, presents an award of appreciation to Executive Director Vicki Callahan, with Ed Baumgardner, past board member looking on.



Kiki works in the Job Development Area on our Coffee News contract. Kiki is counting and separating the newsletters in preparation to be distributed to local shops.

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

Dear Friends,

What a remarkable year FY2009 has been for OBI! The first half of the year we focused on finishing the construction of our new building which was completed by December 6, 2008, on time and under budget. While the final touches were being taken care of, the staff at OBI prepared for the big move which is no easy task when moving 31,000 square feet of warehouse. During this time frame, we held several sneak preview events showing off to our family and friends what the "New OBI" would soon look like.

And then the big day came - **January 21, 2009, Opening Day** at 8855 Veterans Highway! Were there ever smiles abound! It was a day filled with excitement and joy for both staff and clients, where the dream of OBI having its own building became a reality!

Our **Grand Opening on March 9, 2009**, was a day to commemorate a 47-year journey of accomplishments, to honor those who have helped us become the organization we are today and most importantly, to lay the foundation for our future in "our own home." We celebrated with over 250 guests from the community including a long list of dignitaries. In the spirit of the day, Monday, March 9, 2009 was declared "Opportunity Builders, Inc. Day" by the county executive, John Leopold.

We are grateful for the generous financial support we have received from the community towards our New

Foundations for Opportunity Builders \$2 Million Capital Campaign. We have raised over \$810,000 from family, friends, and staff. I want to thank the following corporations and foundation for their generous support and contribution: France-Merrick Foundation, Chesapeake District Foundation of Civitan International, Marion I. and Henry J. Knott Foundation, M&T Bank Charitable Foundation, UPS Foundation, St. John Properties, Glen Burnie Civitan, Nationwide Insurance, United Way of Central Maryland, Enterprise Rent-A-Car and the Annapolis Rotary Club.

Even with all the excitement of the new building, our main emphasis was our **CLIENTS** and their **WORK**. During our 47th year, we served over 310 adults with all levels of capability. Over 170 worked in the warehouse, we fulfilling contracts for 23 local and national businesses. Of the 145 clients that were employed by 67 companies, 75 of them worked in enclaves.

On behalf of OBI, thank you for your part in helping us become the organization we are today. Our future is secure in the new building, allowing the adults we serve to continue to be productive and fulfilled citizens of Anne Arundel County for years to come.

Warmest regards,

Chet Lawrence
 Board President

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Community Activist



Photos courtesy of Purple Cherry Architects, 2009

Vision

To be the preferred provider of diverse employment and recreational opportunities that enhances skills, self-worth and socialization for adults with developmental disabilities.

Mission

OBI, in partnership with the community, provides adults with developmental disabilities a motivational environment offering vocational training, employment services, recreational activities and support services. All services promote personal fulfillment, address individual needs and foster independence.



Steve and Matt prepare to deliver Pizza Huts of Maryland fliers to local neighborhoods.



Richard works in JDA assembling Lock Laces®.

Valued Supporters

Thank you to all those who supported OBI. If it were not for contributions like yours we would not have been able to make our dreams a reality. You are forever a part of OBI and we thank you for where you've brought us. We look forward to your support in the coming years as we continue to grow and bring smiles to OBI.

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