



## Victory Living Programs – 2016/2017 Year-at-a-Glance

Year 43 has come to a close for Victory Living Programs. Below is a summary of services provided.

### Service and Programs:

- **Supported Living and Personal Supports** – a program where individuals live in their own apartments. We provide staff to assist and train them in the various skills that are necessary to live independently, such as: budgeting, cooking, shopping, cleaning, laundry, taking care of health needs, working with landlords and service providers ( FPL, Comcast, etc.) and locating and utilizing community resources, etc. Individuals receive training in their homes and in the community. Staff is available 24 hours a day for emergencies. – **26 individuals received these services**
  
- **Employment Programs** – a suite of services designed to assist individuals to secure and maintain jobs in the community. Staff assists the individuals in job searches, developing a resume, completing applications, interview skills and setting up and taking them to interviews, providing one-on-one on-the- job training, on-going long term follow-up, re-training (if needed) and support. Services are provided in their own homes, at the office and on their job sites. Staff is available during each client's work hours, including evenings and weekends
  - **VR Employment Services**- short- term program available to persons with a wide-range of disabilities which assists them to secure jobs in the community, transition and stabilize in the job – **53 persons received these services.**
  
  - **VR Supported Employment** – placement, training and follow-along services to individuals with disabilities to assist them in securing community employment. Services continue through an individual's 150<sup>th</sup> day of employment. **7 individuals received these services.**

**Our Mission:** Victory Living Programs provides individualized services and opportunities to persons with disabilities so that they may experience life to its fullest and reach their highest level of independence.

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- **Supported Employment**- long-term service which assist individuals with intellectual/developmental disabilities to secure and maintain community employment, including on-going support and re-training as needed- **Over the past year, 30 individuals received this service.**

**\*\*\*\*We are always in need of job leads \*\*\*\***

- **Be Ready** – a pre-placement training program which utilizes both lecture and interactive activities to provide jobseekers with the pre-employment skills, work habits and work attitudes necessary to begin their search for community employment. **12 individuals have completed the program.**
- **Vocational Evaluation**- provides comprehensive work oriented assessments and evaluations to determine an individual's strengths, weakness, learning mode, vocational expectations/choices and capabilities. Services are provided on a one-to-one basis at an individual's home, school or our office- **Vocational evaluations were provided to 69 individuals last year.**
- **Adult Day Training** – a program that provides daily opportunities to individuals with intellectual/developmental disabilities to learn new and improve existing daily living and community skills and to utilize those skills through volunteering in the community. Cooking, gardening and craft classes are also provided. Over the past year, individuals provided volunteer services to Margate Elementary School (3x week), Saint Lawrence's Soup Kitchen, Cokesbury United Methodist Church's Food Bank, Margate/Coconut Creek Kiwanis Club, Margate

Rehabilitation Center, Community Gardens, the Arc of Florida and many more. Services are provided daily Monday through Friday. – **44 individuals received services through the ADT last year**

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- **Social/Recreational:** a program which provides an array of activities to individuals. Weekly outings and activities are offered, including; dinners, movies, game nights, karaoke nights, picnics, rodeos, wrestling matches, shopping excursions, self indulgence days(hair, nails, etc.), museums, concerts, bowling, pool, dances, etc. We also have provide sports training and competition through the Special Olympics in a wide variety of sports, including basketball, volleyball, softball, bowling and more. **Currently there are 209 individuals taking advantage of these activities.**

**\*\*\* We are always in need of volunteers to help with these activities, so if you know of anyone who would be interested, please give them the office number. It's a great way for students to earn their community service hours. \*\*\***

The Board of Directors, in keeping with the strategic plan, welcomed two new board members, Tori Bolding and John Sullivan.

Our Special Olympics Sports teams had a very successful year, with teams and individuals attending county, area and state competitions in the following sports: basketball, volleyball, bowling, tennis, track, swimming and bocce. We have 2 individuals who will be attending National Games in Seattle in July.

In October of this year we had 37 folks attend the Arc of Florida's self-advocate conference in Saint Augustine, Florida. Individuals participated in a variety of instructional sessions and fun events.

This year our Angels Auxiliary hosted several fundraisers, including: Cheeseburger in Paradise, Black & Blue, Queen for the Day, Give Back Night at Bokampers, Happy Hours at QBar and Stache.

We continue to have the great fortune of having support from the community including: The Taft Foundation, Pinion, the Greater St. Louis Foundation, the Amaturio Foundation, the Rubin /Obstgarten Family Foundation and many other kind and generous donors. Our volunteer base continues to be strong with many

folks donating hours of their time each week to ensure that our clients are able to: "live, work and play" in their communities. A huge THANK YOU goes out to all our donors and volunteers!

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Our marketing efforts continue in full force. We have gotten great coverage for our events and we continue to send out our monthly email newsletter. If you aren't already on our mail list for the newsletter, please send us your email address so we can add you. This is also a great way to stay aware of special events or needs. If you haven't visited our website lately please do so, the address is: [www.victoryliving.org](http://www.victoryliving.org). **If you haven't "liked" us on Facebook, please do so**, and also like our Angels page, Angels@angelsofVLP. These are all great ways to stay abreast of all the wonderful things going on at Victory Living Programs.

THANK YOU TO EVERYONE WHO HAS BEEN A PART OF VICTORY LIVING PROGRAMS THIS PAST YEAR AND BEST WISHES FOR A HAPPY AND HEALTHY NEW YEAR.

Sincerely,

Bobbi Wigand, Executive Director

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