



First Chance Center Annual Report Fiscal Year 2021

A private not-for-profit, 501-C-3 Corporation. Incorporated in 1969.

Services Provided:

- ◆ Early Intervention Services
- ◆ Adult Vocational Services
 - FCC Industries
 - Community Employment Service
 - Mobile Crews
- ◆ Day Habilitation Services
- ◆ Orange County Transit
 - Facility Transportation
 - Public Transit Service
 - Medicaid Transportation
- ◆ Services are provided in:
 - Orange County
 - Washington County
 - Lawrence County
 - Greene County
 - Crawford County
 - Martin County
 - Dubois County
- ◆ CARF Accredited Programs:
 - Employment Supports
 - Job Development
 - Community Integration
 - Home and Community Services
 - Respite Services
- ◆ AbilityIndiana Partner
- ◆ SourceAmerica Community Rehabilitation Partner
 - AbilityOne Contracts-Crane Naval Surface Warfare Center



Coming Together

A Message from the Executive Director

Although we had hoped that at the end of the fiscal year of 2020-21, we would have left COVID well behind us and resumed our “normal” lives, we have continually had to re-imagine the “new normal”. Despite the pandemic and staff shortages, we have been able to adapt to the “new normal”. Even though it has been a difficult year, First Chance Center has been able to see the silver lining with the help of our amazing staff and clients, who depend upon our resiliency and support. First Chance Center has overcome many obstacles to continue fulfilling its mission as it has for more than 50 years.

As we look towards another year, I know with the continued community, family, volunteers, staff partnerships, we will stay the course and come together to be successful.

Catherine G. Strother

Executive Director

First Chance Center's mission is to promote abilities and provide opportunities for persons with disabilities and other barriers to fully participate in their community.



DAY SERVICES ON SITE

In the **Day Services Program**, persons with intellectual/developmental disabilities participate in a variety of activities throughout the day which include all areas of basic living skills. Activities include individual and group activities and take place in the facility and/or community. Day Services were provided for a total of 61 consumers in the fiscal year 2020-21. Due to Covid-19, we haven't been able to volunteer at our volunteer sites. In the past we have been at our 13 established volunteer sites:

- Orange County Humane Society
- WUME Radio station
- Lost River ReSale store
- Paoli Food Pantry (twice a week)
- Gleaners food bank
- Head Start-classroom assistant
- Springs Valley Meadows
- Throop Elementary School
- IU Health Paoli
- County Auditor's office
- Paoli Health and Living
- Frank's Garage
- Tot-to-Tot

The Day Services program is funded primarily by Medicaid Waiver, ResCare Community Alternatives, and the Bureau of Developmental Disabilities Services State Line Budget. Services have been able to continue at a high level in spite of governmental funding cuts.

First Chance Center Offices are open Monday through Friday 8am until 4pm

Mailing Address:

P.O. Box 267
Paoli, IN 47454

FCC Site Locations:

First Chance Center
986 W. Hospital Road
Paoli, IN 47454
(812) 723-4486; Fax (812) 723-4487

Tot-To-Tot
1337 W. Hospital Road
Paoli, IN 47454
(812) 723-2273

FCC Industries
635 N Greenbriar Drive
Paoli, IN 47454
(812) 723-2950

First Chance Center Board of Directors

Officers

- Larry Blanton.....President**
Diann Mathers.....Vice President
Mike McCracken.....Treasurer
Heather Leone.....Secretary

Directors

- Mary Magner Susan Gilmore**
Eugene Pinnick Ashley Stroud
Kristal Painter Jim O'Connell
Rex Williams
(Directors as of June 30, 2021)

DAY SERVICES-ON SITE

MEET ROBERT.....



Robert Noble

We would like to acknowledge Robert Noble this year. Robert started with First Chance back in 2016. He has demonstrated his capabilities through projects he has completed with the art program, such as woodworking, acrylic painting, ceramics and glass fusing. Robert is a friendly and energetic young man that is very social and enjoys joking around. Thus, he has a lot of friends and is well liked by others. Before Covid-19, Robert would volunteer at several places such as the Lost River Resale Store, Springs Meadows, and Frank's Garage. Robert is always willing to lend a hand at the center. Robert lived in French Lick with his grandparents, but recently moved to Florida with his family. Someday Robert hopes to return to the center on a part-time schedule. Robert has always enjoyed coming to FCC.

Submitted by: Edie Begley, On-site Supervisor

Our Dedicated Staff

(as of June 30, 2021)

Congratulations to those staff members who have reached these milestones in their tenure at First Chance Center.

25+ Years of Service

Catherine Strother

20+ Years of Service

Donna Bledsoe
Amanda Bush
Calvin Curry
Barbara Land

15+ Years of Service

Carol Black
Angela Chisham
Eva Dunn
Valerie Moon
Deirdre Wyman

10+ Years of Service

Deborah Brand
Edward Bush
Shawnda Deweese
Rebecca Kemple
Crystal Mattingly
Tricia Strong
Melissa Webb

5+ Years of Service

John DeRobertis, Tamelin Free,
Christian Kelley, Jeff Kendall,
Shanna McKitrick, Nathan Mills,
Barbara Penn, Olivia Strother

Program Generated Revenue

Day Services	20%
Early Intervention Services	2%
Community Employment Services	2%
Janitorial Services	9%
Lawn	2%
Orange County Transit Service	25%
Crane/AbilityOne	35%
FCC Industries	3%
Envision Designs	2%

Revenues and Support

Government grants/contracts	\$ 621,969
Non-government grants/contracts	\$ 23,737
Sub-contract income	\$ 32,267
County Support	\$ 45,000
Service Crews	\$ 702,233
Donations	\$ 45,774
Interest & Dividends	\$ 30,535
Unrealized gains	\$ 403,148
Miscellaneous	\$ 43,800
Total Revenue and Support	<u>\$ 2,185,263</u>

Expenses-Program Services

Orange County Transit	\$ 320,815
Habilitation	\$ 445,625
Early intervention	\$ 63,488
Community employment	\$ 41,053
Service Crew-Janitorial	\$ 63,374
Service Crew-Lawn	\$ 94,884
Crane	\$ 279,687
First Chance Industries	\$ 187,988
Total Expenses	<u>\$ 1,496,914</u>

Increase in unrestricted Net Assets \$ 688,349

Early Intervention Services

The Tot-to-Tot Early Childhood Program provides a toddler playgroup for children with special needs ages 2-4. It is funded primarily by WHAS Crusade for Children and is housed at 1337 West Hospital Road, Paoli. The playgroup is offered three mornings per week with 4-6 children enrolled in each session. Activities are designed to increase skills in all developmental areas with an emphasis on socialization. A total of 13 children participated this fiscal year.

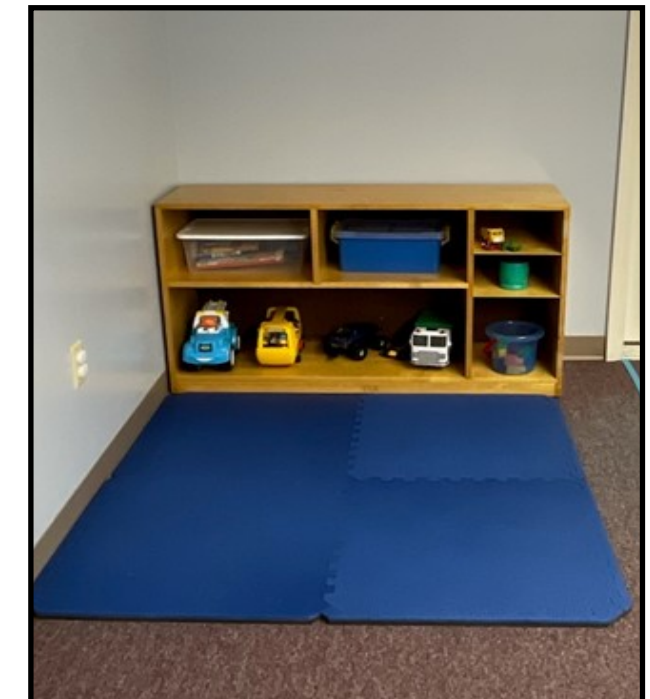
After a classroom shut-down due to the pandemic, Allison, Carol, Catherine and Valerie went into action to development a plan to safely re-open the classroom. Additional cleaning supplies were purchased and several toys and supplies were removed from the classroom, kitchen and indoor playroom. Angie Chisham was asked to join Tot-to-Tot to assist in the transition,

Figuring out transportation was difficult as only one child was allowed in the vehicle at a time. Children would also be required to wear masks in the vehicles as well as common group areas, such as the foyer and the playground.

The classroom re-opened on Wednesdays only on Oct. 14, 2020. Fridays were added in April 2021. We continued on Mondays with the Tot-to-Tot boxes for those children who were uncomfortable with the classroom setting. Children were given their own quad area which is complete with a cubie of toys for each child and their own classroom supplies.



Allison assists in craft time with Kip



An individual play corner used to safely re-open the classroom

Submitted by: Allison Strother/ Valerie Moon

Day Services-Off Site

This year has been a challenge for Off Site Services as we have not been able work with our clients until the last few months due to COVID. This has been stressful for the clients, parents and staff. Day Services (Off Site) were provided for a total of 5 consumers in the fiscal year 2020-21.

Meet Cameron...



The Off Site Service staff would like to recognize Cameron Crecelius. Cameron is a fun, creative, loving, thoughtful and caring young man! His family and friends are very important to Cam. Cam started services in June 2019 and is a senior at Vincennes University. He is majoring in Graphic Design, as he is very talented in drawing.

Additionally, through the summer and holidays, Cam works at the French Lick Resort in EVR. This past summer, Cam got to drive the Trolley every Wednesday between the two hotels. This was a big confidence booster as he had to learn to open up and talk with the guests. Cam really enjoyed this new addition to his job as he loves trains.

Cam's dream job is to become an animator, character voice and director of cartoons with Disney or Cartoon Network. This program has given Cam the opportunity to build his self-confidence, be independent out in the community, and be involved in things he enjoys.

Music is a great source of comfort for Cam. He loves to take rides through the country and listen to music. Through Off-Site Services, Cam was able to achieve a goal of his— gaining his learner's permit so he could drive with his parents. Cam is now a licensed driver and able to get out more. He likes to shop at Game Stop, Game Knight, and Titians to explore Anime (a Japanese style of animation).

First Chance Center is excited that Cameron is more confident about himself, and has opened up and has had conversations with his staff. We look forward to seeing what Cam achieves in the future.

Submitted by:
Missi Weeks Jones, Support Specialist

Orange County Transit

With Covid-19 it has changed our numbers significantly. We have worked hard to keep things moving along. Drivers still continue to sanitize the vans and wear masks to keep the environment safe. Big shout out to our drivers who have stuck through this: Calvin Curry, John De-Robertis, Nancy Wolfe, DeWayne Gofourth, Diana Daugherty and Crystal Mattingly.

Some new changes have happened in transit. Nancy Wolfe is the new Dispatcher/back up driver and DeWayne Gofourth is the Early Dispatcher/Driver. I, myself, became the new Transportation Director/Back up dispatcher and/or driver. I have immersed myself in the files pertaining to the vehicles and the entire operations and learned a lot about the Routh-Match and Blackcat systems.

We also added a new driver Lisa Beasley. She has been a good addition to transit and we are happy to have her.

Thankfully, we never had to shut down transportation operations. Only one driver had to go into quarantine as a precaution and, thankfully, none of the drivers were infected with Covid-19.

Submitted by: Crystal Mattingly, Transit Director



July 1st 2020 to June 30th 2021

Passenger boardings: 5,518

Miles driven: 99,655



FCC Industries

Fiscal year 2020-2021 has been a year of learning what the new normal is for our industry. We are always striving to meet and exceed our customers' demands across the board using a very skeletal crew. This proves challenging but our crews are some of the hardest working people that I know. Somehow we always manage to pull it off. We have been trying to hire help for several months to meet the demands but struggle to get quality applicants. We continue to look for individuals that can be versatile and help in whichever department needs the help, but who will also be a good fit for our crews.

We have seen cleaning trends from the prior year continue. We are still providing extra janitorial services to some of our valued customers. For some that means restrooms get cleaned twice a day and for others who require daily cleaning where they were two times a week before. Our crews work diligently to make sure that high touch areas are disinfected and clean. Our janitors take extreme pride in making sure that we are keeping people safe during these uncertain times.

Envision Designs has been able to go back out and do shows and events. It was really good to see all of our old and new customers again. We had several spring shows that did really well. We branched out and did a show in Terre Haute and a show in Greenville. We also went back to the beautiful Lambrecht Farm in Bedford for a spring show that they started this year. This allowed us to expand our market area, and reach a broader audience. My favorite part of working shows is to hear customers say I came here just for your stuff, or you have the best booth here. Our sewers hold quality at the highest standard, and want the product to look professional and high end. We want our customers to fall in love with their bag and come back again and again.

Our lawn crew and Crane service crew has teamed up to get everything done. By sending two crews out together we can accomplish more and keep all of our customers happy. We have added a new job site this year and we have even tackled a few moving jobs that are not related to our Crane jobs. It is promising for the future to see growth during such unprecedented times.

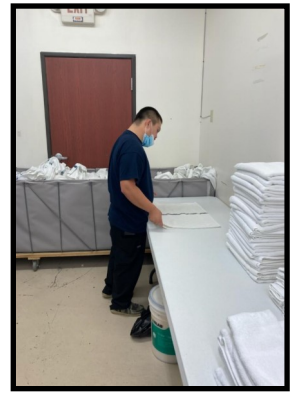
Our subcontract work has started to become steady again. FCCI has been very busy with Stone City Products and CM Conveyor. We hope that this trend continues to provide steady work to our staff.

I feel very blessed to have an amazing group of people that work beside me. FCCI could not operate without our dedicated staff that work long hours, in the extreme heat, extreme cold, weekends etc. to help fulfill the mission of First Chance Center.

Submitted by: Amanda Bush, Industrial Director

Community Employment Services

Covid-19 made our program a challenge this year with Zoom, GoToMeeting, and FaceTime becoming tools of the trade. But our staff remained in contact with our clients working on Job Readiness until it was safe to go back into the community. Community Employment Services were provided to 22 clients in the fiscal year 2020-21. We had placed three clients in the community and had two working very hard towards employment. Like so many, one client had been laid off from French Lick Resort and CES was here to provide supported employment service to assist this individual to get back in the groove of their job.



CES SPOTLIGHT

The CES department would like to recognize Grason Brewer. Grason was referred to the CES program the middle of July 2020. It was a different year with COVID-19. The Employment Specialist and Grason had to social distance, have meetings outside, learn how to do virtual meetings, wear masks, carry hand sanitizer, and the list goes on.

In line with his goals of meeting people and finding employment, Grason visited and explored different vocations before he decided to apply at the Big Lots in Bedford. He was able to complete the online application independently, interviewed and was offered a job Dec. 7 as a store associate. His job description entailed being a cashier, stocker, unloading the truck and completing recovery. During every visit, the Employment Specialist found him working hard and catching on to new tasks. The Employment Specialist was told by three different associates that Grason was doing amazing. Both the Managers told the Employment Specialist that they wished they had two or three more like him. They praised Grason for his work ethic and accountability.

He works independently and will ask for other duties to do when needed. The Big Lots employees are very supportive of Grason! It is great to see Grason gaining new friendships and confidence in himself and having a positive outlook. Grason started running the cash register like a pro and assisting customers, which made him nervous at first. Management has also given him the opportunity to train new associates in different job tasks. By February of 2021, he was considered stable and in May he achieved his final goal. His next goals include gaining his license and living on his own. FCC looks forward to watching him succeed with his endeavors in the future!

Submitted by: Missi Weeks Jones, Support Specialist