



First Chance Center Annual Report

Fiscal Year 2023

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

Services Provided:

- ◆ Adult Vocational Services
 - FCC Industries
 - Community Employment Service
 - Mobile Crews
- ◆ Day Habilitation Services
- ◆ PAC
- ◆ 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
- ◆ AbilityIndiana Partner
- ◆ SourceAmerica Community Rehabilitation Partner
- AbilityOne Contracts-Crane Naval Surface Warfare Center



A Message from the Executive Director

At the end of the FY of 2023, FCC was finally able to close the door to the “Pandemic Era” and was fully operational.

It is First Chance Center’s priority to provide quality services to the people we serve, and that starts with our employees. With the full support of the FCC board of Directors, we placed our focused on investing in our dedicated employees. We were able to give raises, holiday pay, and bonuses this fiscal year. This was accomplished through securing fund such as the Direct Service Workforce Investment Grant Plan.

Like many employers, recruiting qualified employees is a continual need and challenge. An important part of recruitment is making the community more aware of what we do. First Chance Center was able to accomplish this through activities, such as, the “Conversation Project”. The “Conversation Project” had 20 community leaders engaged in fun and enlightening conversations with individuals served at First Chance Center. As a bonus the participants received a tour of the facility and see first had some of the things we do at First Chance Center. By participating in the Leadership Orange Program, First Chance Center was able to educate community leaders and future leaders about First Chance Center. We also had the privilege to present at the Honda Convention held at the French Lick Resort.

Even though there is still work to be done in these areas, we are off to a great start.

In closing, this will be the last Annual Report I will write. First Chance Center has played an important role in my life for many years. Having parents who were deaf has made the FCC mission something that I have always held dear to my heart. It has been a privilege to be entrusted with the important task of serving individuals with disabilities in achieving their good life. Leaving is bittersweet, but I am confident that Brian Self will continue to serve the First Chance Center mission.

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

Day habilitation services are provided in various locations in the community and at First Chance Center. It supports learning and assistance in the areas of: self-care, sensory/motor development, socialization, daily living skills, communication, community living, and social skills. Example of activities may include volunteering, maintaining contact with family and friends, leisure activities, etc. The program provided for 53 of individuals during the 2022-2023 year. We are currently partnered with 6 community volunteer sites (Lost River Re-Sale Store, Paoli Health and Living, Blessing Box, Head Start, Lost River Market).

The Day Services program is funded primarily by Medicaid Waiver, ResCare Community Alternatives, and the Bureau of Developmental Disabilities Services State Line Budget.

DAY SERVICES-ON SITE

MEET STEVEN



This year, the day service program would like to acknowledge Steven Sease. Steven has been with First Chance since 2008 and is an active participant both in the facility and throughout the community. Steven volunteers at the Lost River Market and Deli and at the Resale Store. He is also very active at our facility. He has participated in the “Conversation Project” which brings locals from the community to be interviewed. He helps maintain multiple of the Blessing Boxes in the area. He helped in our new project Oh the Places We will Go. This project reaches out to facilities like ours all over the country. He is also employed by First Chance on our janitorial crew. He makes sure to keep our facility clean and that all supplies are kept full. Thank you Steven for all of your hard work!

Submitted by: Laura Watson Lindley

Early Intervention Service

The summer of 2022 was filled with lots of children's activities with Tot-to-Tot play group instructor Allison Strother and Amy Tuell assisting the program. The return of Amy to her regular classroom at Springs Valley Community Schools brought a concern for the children's program. Again, we struggled with the lack of workforce following COVID.

With hard decisions in meetings of the board members and management, it was decided to end the WHAS Crusade for Children grant year with a few weeks of Tot to Tot boxes filled with lots of books and activities for the children. Parents were given resources for additional assistance for their children and the program closed Aug. 30, 2022.

The following weeks and months were used to clean and store items. Meetings were held with board members and community leaders about the future of the facility. It was decided to sell the building in hopes of securing a possible day care for the community. Board members and management were pleased when realtor Arla Frazier was able to locate a buyer with a similar mission of assisting families with children. The building was sold to ASI-Community Wellness of Ohio on May 19, 2023.

Submitted by: Valerie Moon, Director of Development



PAC SERVICES

Participant Assistance and Care (PAC) Services helps individuals to remain and live successfully in their own homes and participate in their communities. PAC services support and enable the individual in activities of daily living, self-care, and mobility with the hands-on assistance, prompting, reminders, supervision and monitoring needed to ensure the health, safety and welfare of the individual. Through our PAC program, we were able to serve 3 individuals during the fiscal year 2022-2023.

Meet

....Charles Johnson



PAC services would like to recognize Charles Johnson who started services in the fall of 2019. One of his goals was to seek employment and he was able to secure a job at Hardees. In 2020. He has been able to also use the Orange County Transit Services a couple of days a week. Charles is an individual who needs to stay busy as he enjoys volunteering for the Hoosier Hills Food Bank twice a month as well as at his church.

Besides working and volunteering, Charles has been working on two other goals, being healthy and losing weight as well as saving money to someday explore Disney's Epcot Center. He has been walking in the community and visiting state parks as part of his Hoosier Quest Program. He has earned patches for his service projects at the parks.

PAC services also allow Charles to run errands such as shopping for family gifts and selecting his own personal hygiene items. He has been able to explore his community and make new friends along the way.

Submitted by:

Missi Weeks Jones, Program Coordinator

Community Employment Services

Community Employment Services (CES) assists individuals with disabilities in obtaining competitive employment within an integrated community work setting and to ensure successful employment. The individuals served in the program are those that expressed a desire to be competitively employed and who have been unable to secure employment through their own efforts as a result of their disability.

Community Employment Services were able to provide services to 34 individuals during the fiscal year 2022-23. Due to the increase in referrals, First Chance Center employed two new employment specialists Deborah Giles and Carly Griffith. We received 19 referrals for the fiscal year.

CES SPOTLIGHT....*MEET SHAWNDA*

The CES department would like to recognize Shawnda DeWeese who has been in the Extended Services program. Shawnda has been employed as one of the FCC janitorial staff. One of her goals has been to find employment in the community.

In the fall of 2022, Shawnda decided she wanted to apply for employment outside of First Chance.. She applied to vocational rehabilitation (VR) and referred to First Chance in late August. After reviewing various vocations, Shawnda applied for a position at the French Lick Resort. In February she started working as a steward.

Within the first month, Shawnda was able to complete her first two milestone goals. She moved on to being stabilized in early spring and achieved her final milestone in June. Shawnda works primarily at the West Baden Dome and Hagen's during the golf season. Shawnda continues to be supported through extended services, but is able to work independently three days a week.

Shawnda is gaining new friendships while increasing her confidence. CES and FCC look forward to watching her succeed with her endeavors in the future.



Submitted by: Missi Weeks Jones, Support Specialist

FCC Industries

For the FY 2022-23 staff at FCCI focused on building a greater customer service. Staff was able to provide improved services to our diverse customer portfolio on the service crew side. Mark Samsil stepped up as service crew supervisor, allowing more growth in the Crane Task order side as well as rebuilding the law services. FCCI also welcomed back Greg Manship and Chad Hammond was employed for lawn.

Crane janitorial crew continued working on the buildings on the base. Deirdre Wyman and Vickie Brown continue to lead the crews. Team members also include Chris Kelly, Tracie Strong and Victoria Heck with back-up assistance from Eva Dunn and Harley Lynd.

Envision Design saw an influx of bus tours which were part of West Baden/French Lick area tourism. The Visit French Lick West Baden Visitors Center is very influential with the bus tours. Individuals were serve were able to participate in the bus tours by sharing their stories and assisting in the check-out process. A short-video of the Envision Designs process is shared during the tours. There has also been an uptick in walk-ins for the shop. Improvement to the website and additional social media content, even Tik Tok videos from staff Bailey Purkhiser, have enhanced our online presence.



For our shows, checkout stands were crafted by Edward Bush. A new check-out counter was also made for the showroom. Barbara Penn, along with Tammy Free and Victoria Heck, have worked to streamline the products and worked on producing items created with genuine leather.

Subcontract work continues for C &M Conveyor as well as Stone City Products. Brian Self joined management in June as the upcoming executive director. He took some time to look into possible job prospects for FCCI. He also spent time learning the industrial contacts for the FCC Industries.

Submitted by: Amanda Bush, Industrial Director



Orange County Transit

July 1st 2022 to June 30th 2023

Passenger boardings: 9,854

Miles driven: 95,242

The FY 2022-23 found Orange County Transit still trying to recover from the pandemic. We continued to struggle to fill part and full time positions and had to rely on the dispatcher and the transit director to provide back-up assistance. We were able to hire two drivers in the fall of 2022, giving transit a total of four full-time drivers and two part-time drivers.

OCTS completed its 5311/5339 compliance audit in August 2022. Multiple uploads were submitted to the Blackcat portal prior to the review and there were five recommendations and four deficiencies were have all been corrected. Overall INDOT was pleased with the management of the transit system.

In October 2022, OCTS was subject to a drug and alcohol compliance site review. There were six findings which were corrected by the Drug and Alcohol Program Manager.

OCTS is also looking into the possibility of securing another broker for the Medicaid transportation.

Submitted by: Crystal Mattingly, Transit Director



Your ride is
here

Our Dedicated Staff

(as of June 30, 2023)

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

Amanda Bush
Angela Chisham
Calvin Curry
Deirdre Wyman

15+ Years of Service

Deborah Brand
Eva Dunn
Valerie Moon

10+ Years of Service

Edward Bush
John DeRobertis
Christian Kelley
Crystal Mattingly
Tricia Strong
Melissa Webb

5+ Years of Service

Tamelin Free
Jeff Kendall
Shanna McKitrick
Barbara Penn
Bailey Purkhiser
Steven Sease
Valrie Sturgeon,
Melissa Weeks-Jones,
Nancy Wolfe

Program Generated Revenue

Day Services	23%
Early Intervention Services	less than 1 %
Community Employment Services	5 %
Janitorial Services	7%
Lawn	3 %
Orange County Transit Service	30%
Crane/AbilityOne	28%
FCC Industries	2%
Envision Designs	2%

Revenues and Support

Government grants/contracts	\$ 791,322
Non-government grants/contracts	\$ 165,767
Sub-contract income	\$ 36,654
County Support	\$ 45,000
Service Crews	\$ 614,913
Donations of cash and financial assets	\$ 19,802
Donation-non financial assets	\$ -
Interest & Dividends	\$ 32,171
Unrealized gains	\$ 240,027
Gain on sale of Assets	\$ 195,328
Miscellaneous	\$ 72,011
Total Revenue and Support	<u>\$2,212,994</u>

Expenses-Program Services

Orange County Transit	\$ 458,482
Habilitation	\$ 585,365
Early intervention	\$ 37,471
Community employment	\$ 84,894
Service Crew-Janitorial	\$ 124,406
Service Crew-Lawn	\$ 79,290
Crane	\$ 306,398
First Chance Industries	\$ 96,436
Envision	\$ 138,852
Total Expenses	<u>\$1,912,574</u>

Increase in unrestricted Net Assets \$ 300,420

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

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

First Chance Center Board of Directors

Officers

Larry Blanton.....President
Vacant.....Vice President
Vacant.....Treasurer
Heather Leone.....Secretary

Directors

Mary Magner	Susan Gilmore
Stacey Burton	Kyle Neukam
Kristal Painter	Jim O’Connell

(Directors as of June 30, 2023)