

FROM THE CEO

2024 was a year of IMPACT!

Not only did we proudly celebrate a major milestone -50 years of dedicated service - but we also witnessed a historic breakthrough in funding. After 15 years of stagnant rates, a



38% increase in funding for service lines through the Department of Developmental Disabilities was approved by state officials and Governor DeWine.

This unprecedented increase allowed RT to make meaningful wage adjustments for our frontline Direct Support Professionals (DSPs) and their supervisors, significantly enhancing our competitiveness in the workforce. As a direct result, we've seen a substantial reduction in staff turnover, creating more stability and continuity in the care we provide.

RT is preparing for an exciting new chapter as well! We want to make major renovations that will transform our physical space to better support the people we serve—today and for generations to come.

Our plans include:

- Z Exterior renovations to enhance accessibility, visibility, and curb appeal
- Upgrading the HVAC system to improve air quality, energy efficiency, and year-round comfort
- Installing new elevators to increase accessibility and ensure ADA compliance
- A full remodel of the back half of the building, custom-designed to meet the current and future needs of our service lines

To guide this ambitious project, our leadership team has developed a "Blue Sky" vision, a conceptual roadmap that captures our goals, dreams, and functional priorities. This vision will be translated into formal blueprints to launch our upcoming Capital Campaign.

These renovations are more than just structural; they represent our long-term commitment to empower individuals with developmental disabilities through spaces that promote dignity, opportunity, and community integration.

We are excited to share more in the coming year and invite our partners, supporters, and community members to join us in building the future of RT.

50 years in, the future for RT has never been brighter. We continue to innovate, advocate, and evolve—always guided by one mission: to support people in achieving personal success and living lives of meaning, purpose, and inclusion.

Thank you, Ashley Brocious, CEO

ABOUT RT

What does 50 years of service at RT look like? It looks like transformation, dedication, and a bold commitment to serving people. Did you know that RT began with a different name?

Originally called Riverside Adult Training Center (RATC), it was created as a sheltered workshop for adults with developmental disabilities who had graduated from Riverside School.

EXPLORE . EMPOWER . ENGAGE .

50 YEARS OF SERVICE

In 1974, we officially incorporated as a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization under the guidance of the Miami County Board of Developmental Disabilities (MCBDD), with a mission to promote the welfare of adults with developmental disabilities. Back then, services were centered around pre-employment training and paid work through our production facility. But that was just the beginning.

In 1981, RT took a bold step forward, securing contracts to provide janitorial and landscaping services at Ohio Department of Transportation rest areas. This opportunity allowed us to expand job options and led to the creation of our Employment Services Department—marking our shift toward greater community employment.

Over the next four decades, RT built strong partnerships with local businesses, supporting individuals from high school into adulthood, all with the goal of preparing people for employment, independence, and inclusion. But change came again in 2014, when a federal mandate from the Center for Medicaid Services (CMS) required all providers in Ohio to privatize by 2024. The goal: eliminate conflicts of interest between service provision and case management.

RT didn't wait...By January 1, 2018, we had fully privatized—taking over Adult Day Support and Transportation services as well, and operating independently as a direct service provider. This marked a significant financial and operational transition, with RT now funded through a combination of state and local tax dollars, business contracts, and a growing emphasis on grants, donations, and community support.

After privatization, we made a pivotal decision: to return our 14(c) certification, moving away from the traditional sheltered workshop model. In 2017, RT reimagined its services to be community-centered promoting inclusion, connection, and employment opportunities that reflect the goals and dreams of the people we support.

Where We Are Today

Today, RT is proud to be a vibrant, people-first organization that helps individuals build the skills and confidence to work, interact, and thrive in the community.

We've become more than a provider—we're a partner.

A partner to families.

A partner to businesses.

A partner to the community.

Our success is made possible by our phenomenal employees, our committed business and community partners, and the countless individuals and families who trust us to walk alongside them on their journey.



Adult Day Supports

GROWTH has been the focus for Adult Day Supports (ADS) this year. It is no coincidence that this is one of our core values. Growth is more than numbers. Beyond numbers, we create value. Positive growth directly impacts our staff; person served and guarantees quality services. Growth facilitates learning, improves capabilities, and enhances both personal and professional well-being and fosters innovation. It's a driving source of success, encourages flexibility, resilience and guarantees hope for the future. A growth mindset understands challenges as opportunities for learning and improvement, and is essential for resilience, lifelong learning,



and individual success. Have you ever asked yourself, what are the benefits of growth? We are glad you asked! Our culture of growth fosters hope, nourishes relationships, and empowers individuals to embrace challenges and welcomes opposition or mistakes. In Adult Day Services, we have adopted the mindset, "Try try again!" A growth mindset also encourages self–awareness and a better understanding of the world around us. Personal growth includes developing individual capabilities, developing new skills, gaining a deeper understanding of oneself and adapting to constant change. It leads to meaningful relationships, increased productivity, and a more positive outlook. For our staff, when growth is encouraged, it leads to career advancement, increased skills, and a greater sense of fulfillment. It also contributes to magnified productivity, efficiency and dedication to and investment in quality services.

GROWTH is the pulse of our future! Currently, RT offers community-based and facility-based Day Services. Our community-based services include opportunities to contribute to the community in ways that are meaningful to each person, such as volunteering at the animal shelter or food bank. Our goal is to always be person driven and community minded. Our Community Engagement Specialists (DSP's) receive thorough ongoing training and have extensive experience in supporting a wide variety of needs. We take pride in treating each person as an individual, with their own goals, dreams and interests. We strive to create opportunities to have fun, build relationships, encourage independence, cultivate community integration and connection.

Our present is AMAZING, and our future is BRIGHT! Through our focus on our core value of growth, we enhance the lives of those we serve and provide opportunities that person served may not experience otherwise. Aside from opportunities, we provide necessary and meaningful services, while focusing on providing opportunities to connect socially, and build skills and strengths. We foster an environment to encourage relationships and play an active role in his/her community. Life is better with connection!





At RT, our community-based groups do more than go out—they dive into real-world experiences, explore new places, and make meaningful connections every day. They are out in the world—not just visiting it, but living in it, learning from it, and giving back to it every single day. Each group is small and intentional, with just one staff member and four individuals so that every person gets the support, connection, and freedom they need to make the most of each day. What really makes these groups special is how the days are



built. The weekly schedule isn't decided for the group, it's created with them. Each person has a voice in where they go, what they do, and what they want to experience. Their likes, dislikes, and curiosity shape everything.

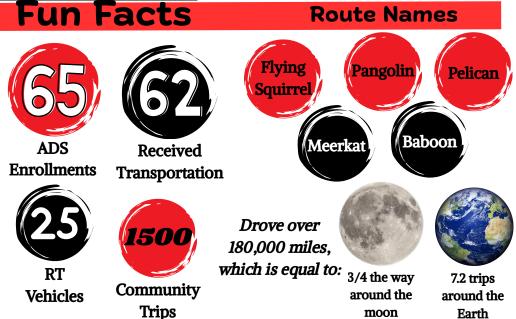
You might find one group volunteering at a food pantry, helping stock shelves and greet community members with a smile. Another might be helping clean and stock books at a local library, or helping care for animals at a nearby shelter. Our participants aren't just in the community, they're contributing to it, and they take pride in that.

There's also plenty of room for adventure. On any given week, our groups could be walking through a museum, laughing at the zoo, smelling the lavender fields, or learning how things work during behind-the-scenes tours of local businesses and organizations. Their outings that are purposeful experiences that build independence, spark new interests, and connect individuals to the world around them.

And when the group needs a space to recharge, reflect, or eat lunch, they can stop by one of our designated Community Hubs—quiet, welcoming spaces that allow for indoor activities or small group gatherings. Of course, when the weather is on our side, you'll usually find our groups outside, soaking up the sunshine and enjoying the fresh air.



Our transportation team is fully staffed with five dedicated drivers who are committed to safety, punctuality, and compassionate service. Non-medical transportation plays a crucial role in the lives of those we support. It offers far more than just a ride — it's a gateway to independence, autonomy, employment and community engagement. By helping individuals travel to and from important destinations, we empower them to live fuller, more connected lives.







Outstanding DSP of the Year

The Ohio Provider Resource Association (OPRA) holds a Direct Support Professional Award each year at the Annual Fall Conference where seven (7) DSPs across Ohio are selected. This award is devoted to recognizing the outstanding performance and dedication of those who are on the front lines every day, helping to make a real difference in the lives of real people. Their hard work, devotion, and high-quality direct support keeps the system running smoothly when all else may be in chaos. Their value is immeasurable. Past winners have reconnected people to long-lost relatives, helped people achieve life-

long dreams, and performed life-saving emergency care. The District 2 winner was none other than our very own, Wendy Vonderhuevel, Community Engagement Specialist. (Pictured left to right - Pete Moore, CEO of OPRA, Wendy Vonderhuevel, RT DSP, and Adam Guinther, OPRA Board President)

Wendy is a pillar of our organization. She embodies all our core values including safety, collaboration, camaraderie, growth, integrity, excellence and innovation. Wendy is a model employee that you don't come across often! She is meticulous in her planning and execution of activities for the people we serve. Her performance is exemplary. Wendy's adaptability and willingness to take on new challenges have significantly contributed to our team's overall performance and success. Her exceptional performance not only shows results but also inspires others to strive for excellence.

Recently in an email received from a caregiver, they shared positive feedback with us about Wendy and the intentional person-centered approach she takes with their loved one. They focused on her detailed care, compassion and attention she gives to their loved one and all others that she works with. They ended the email with #TeamWendy.

This is a perfect illustration of the amazing and humble person that Wendy is. Her drive for constant improvement is contagious. No matter the situation, she rises to the occasion! Thank you for your unwavering dedication and inspiring the team to be the best they can. It doesn't go unnoticed.

Music Therapy

ADS participates in Music Therapy bi-weekly with Senior Music Connections. Music therapy offers numerous benefits, including improving mood, reducing stress and anxiety, enhancing communication skills, and promoting self-expression. It can also aid in pain management, cognitive function, and physical rehabilitation.

"The staff at RT Industries are truly exceptional and genuinely caring. Every time



I am in the building leading music sessions with the individuals they serve, I am struck by the warmth and dedication of their team. Our time together is deeply

rewarding, as music is a powerful tool for expressing feelings, fostering selfawareness, and building meaningful connections with others. RT Industries is a true gem in our community, and Senior Music Connection is both grateful and blessed to be a part of their incredible programming. The impact they make is inspiring, and it is an honor to collaborate with such a compassionate organization."



"Nathan really enjoys his time at Adult Day Services. The outings he is involved in are ones that he will enjoy. The staff has taken the time to understand and respect Nathan as an individual with certain needs and they are more than willing to accommodate those needs. The staff always seems happy to see Nathan and glad he is there. Nathan likes spending time with his peers too."

Parents of Nathan Salm

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"Isaac has attended RTI for over one year. It was a bit difficult for him at the beginning. Patience is never easy for Isaac. However, the wonderful staff at RTI are very understanding of his unique nature and developed many activities for him that keep him busy throughout the day. He now seems very comfortable and happy at RTI and often calls us during the day on

his Apple watch to inform us of the numerous activities he has completed. It always warms our heart to hear him so happy. Thanks for all you do for Isaac.

It really is a blessing." Mike and Missy Puthoff

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"RT serves a vital role in our son's life and provides him with valuable opportunities to interact with peers, community and staff. Alec looks forward to attending his adult day program and working with the wonderful staff supporting him throughout his time with them. As his parents/guardians, we have found RT to be responsive to Alec's needs, easy to work with and genuinely caring about him."

Parents of Alec Farmer



Stepping Stones on the Path to Employment

RT provides various levels of supports to school aged students through aging adults on their individualized paths to employment, meeting their needs.

Pre-ETS: Students of transition age (14 to 21) are offered the opportunity to receive Pre-Employment Transition Services (Pre-ETS) through Opportunities for Ohioans with Disabilities (OOD) funding. Employment Discovery Specialists travel to schools and libraries to meet with students and teach Pre-ETS curriculum. The service has grown from only

providing the service in Miami and Shelby counties to expanding into Champaign, Montgomery, Preble and Darke counties. In 2024, 33

students received the service.



Summer Youth: A way for transition age youth to experience real-world hands-on employment is through the Summer Youth Work Experience program funded by OOD. Eighteen (18) students participated in 2024 at the Sidney-Shelby County YMCA, Troy YMCA – Robinson Branch, Miami East Local Schools, and the Piqua

Parks Department. The Troy YMCA and Piqua Parks were two newly established sites for the summer. Participants learned job skills and earned minimum wage for three (3) to five (5) weeks depending upon the site they chose.

Vocational Habilitation (Voc Hab): Voc Hab has grown considerably since 2022. It began with four persons served and one volunteer site. In 2024, Voc Hab grew to eleven (II) persons served participating in the service and six (6) volunteer sites. Groups had the opportunity to volunteer at Laurelwood Assisted Living, Sidney–Shelby County YMCA, Have a Gay Day, Troy Main Street, Troy Miami County Public Library, and General Films. When persons served aren't volunteering they are trained in employability skills. Topics vary but communication, teamwork, and following direction are a few.



Board, Freudenberg, SEW, General Films, and Ohio Aggregates & Industrial Minerals Association. Stull Woodworks was established as a new GES site in October 2024. A total of twenty (20) persons served participated in the service.

Opportunities for Ohioans with Disabilities (OOD): OOD helps connect people looking to gain and maintain competitive integrated employment to RT. Our Employment Specialists assisted with helping fifty (50) people gain employment. Fourty (40) of these individuals had successful case closures, meaning they maintained

their job through the closure of services. OOD services can be utilized to trial jobs, assist with building resumes, gaining employment and more.

Individual Employment Support (IES): IES is provided with the expectation that people will gain employment in competitive integrated employment through a job well–matched to the person's interests, strengths, priorities, and abilities that meets their personal and career goals.











The RT group has been extremely beneficial to Have a Gay Day's weekly preparedness. We go through around 250 bags of food every week and having that extra day of prep can make a huge difference. The group always comes in with high spirits and are eager to get to work. It's been an absolute pleasure to have them volunteer with us. At Have a Gay Day, a large part of our mission is to give food to people in need. People who may have no other place to turn for help. Every bag that RT Industries makes gets us one step closer to that goal. We also believe that everyone should have a seat at the table and can do something to make this world a better place. RT Industries is a shining example of this. The group consistently gives us their best effort and happily puts in the

work to help people in the community. It's easy for some people to look at a Voc Hab group and only see limitations, but if you actually walk beside them and work with them you will see limitless potential. You will see the heart behind every action. The RT group has earned my respect and appreciation every step of the way.

Dominic "Turtle" Mellotte with Have a Gay Day

SERVICES PROVIDED

















What is Competitive Integrated Employment?

The actual definition of Competitive Integrated Employment means work, which includes self-employment, that is performed on a full-time or part-time basis. The individual must be compensated at minimum wage or above and is not paid less

than the customary rate paid by the employer for the same or similar work performed by other employees who do not have disabilities and who have similar training, experience, and skills. Individuals should be eligible for the same benefits as other employees working full-time and/or part-time. Also, the individual should be in a location where they can interact with persons without disabilities to the same extent as employees who are not receiving supports

through RT.

Through the many business partnerships we have within our community, our Employment Specialists and Employment Discovery Specialists are able to support people with intellectual and developmental disabilities gain the skills and experience to work in the community. With a person centered approach, we match people to a job that not only meets their interests but is a well match with the employer as well!

Our Employment Specialists work with the employer and individual through orientation and on the job supports. Our goal is to ensure the individual and the employer are both confident in the scope of work being completed before the Employment Specialist would phase back from

services.

BUSINESS PARTNERSHIPS

3 Joe's Pizzeria and Trattoria

*Apex

*Ayden Healthcare

AM Leonard

Arby's (Sidney)

Bake House

Bethany Village (Centerville)

Bless LLC (Troy)

Brukner Nature Center

BSF

Cassano's (Dayton)

Cassano's (Piqua)

Cassano's Pizza King (Tipp City)

Cassano's Pizza King (Troy)

*Circle K

*Cracker Barrel

Creative Labels

*Dayton Coating Technologies

*Dekkers Flowers of Sidney LLC

Department of Natural Resources

ODNR Division of Wildlife

District Five

Donato's

Elwood Staffing

F&P MANUFACTURING

Fazoli's

Freudenberg

Frisch's Big Boy (Tipp City)

Future for Families

General Films

Goodwill (Piqua)

Harmony Systems & Services

Hartzell Propeller

Have a Gay Day

Hospice of Miami County

IGA (West Milton)



*New Partnership

Jayna

JJ Lunch Box

Kleptz Early Learning Center (Englewood)

Koester

Kroger (Piqua)

Kroger (Sidney)

Kroger (Troy)

KTH

Laurelwood Assisted Living

Lowe's (Troy)

McDonald's (Tipp City)

McDonald's (Troy)

Meijer (Englewood)

Meijer (Troy)

Miami County Animal Shelter

*Miami County Public Library

Miami County Sanitation Department

Miami County YMCA - Robinson Branch

Miami East Local Schools

Miami East School Board

Miami Valley Child Development (Trotwood)

Minster Bank (Troy)

Montgomery County Board Of Developmental

Disabilities

Nitto

Ollie's

Outback Steakhouse

Pearson House Restaurant Penn Station East Coast Subs Piqua Catholic School *Piqua Parks District *Piqua Pizza Supply *Pizza Hut (Sidney)

Rapid Fire Pizza (Troy) Resident Home Association

*SES

Project Life

SEW-Eurodrive

Sidney-Shelby County YMCA

Skyline Chili (Englewood)

*The Spot

Spread Meade Health Center

*Steak 'n Shake (Troy)

*Story Point

*Stull Woodworks

Superior Environmental Solutions

Taco Bell (Troy)

Taco Bell (Sidney)

Tropical Smoothie Café (Troy)

*Troy Health and Rehab

Troy Main Street

UTC Aerospace Systems

UVCC LAUNCH

O VCC LAUNCII

UVMC

Vandalia Recreation Center Versailles Healthcare

Waffle House (Vandalia)

Wal-Mart (Troy)

Wendy's (Sidney)

Wendys Anna

Winan's (Piqua)

YMCA (Piqua)

*YMCA - Robinson Branch











OHIO DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION CONTRACTS

RT has proudly maintained two (2) Rest Area Contracts with the Ohio Department of Transportation since 1981. These contracts consists of the northbound & southbound rest areas on I–75 between Troy and Piqua as well as the westbound & eastbound rest areas on Rt. 33 outside of St. Marys. Our team provides janitorial services, groundskeeping, and supply restocking across three shifts per day, 365 days a year at all four sites, ensuring travelers experience clean, safe, and welcoming facilities.



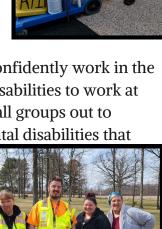
A fun fact about these contracts: 64.8% of hours worked at the locations must be completed by a person with a disability. RT utilizes these required hours to assist with

part of our mission of helping people develop the skills to confidently work in the community. Not only do we directly employ people with disabilities to work at the sites but we also utilize our GES service line to bring small groups out to complete duties required. The individuals with developmental disabilities that

utilize this support gain new work experiences and are paid for hours worked.







I-75 Rest Areas

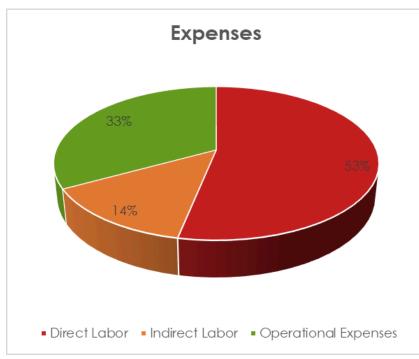
7 Supervisors
5 persons served
240,000+ gallons of water a month
64,000 ft of toilet paper used monthly
Changing around 800 bags of trash a month
Filling over 100+ gallons of hand soap a year
100 bags of salt over the winter season
Mowing 15+ acres of land
Using 20+ gallons of gas weekly for mowing

Rt.33 Rest Areas

10 supervisors
4 persons served through GES
20,000+ gallons of water a month
20+ acres of land mowed
30 gallons of gas weekly for mowing
Features Ohio native plants and
the Storybook Trail
Two Employees w/over 40 years at RT

FINANCIAL OVERVIEW





2024 was a year of tremendous financial growth for RT allowing us to increase our starting wages AND raise our front-line DSP wages by over 20%! With the increase to wages, our turnover rate has decreased significantly.

Our team saw an overall growth of sales exceeding 32% and overall revenue by 42%. This financial growth was primarily driven by the Ohio Budget increasing the rates for services through the Ohio Department of Developmental Disabilities on 1/1/24 and again on 7/1/24 but Community Engagement and Employment Services also had growth within enrollment numbers as

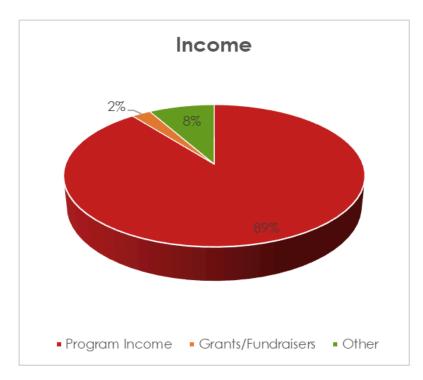
well, assisting with the massive increase in revenue year over year.

This has been RT's strongest year yet and every source of revenue is continuing to grow year over year. Our I-75 Rest Area Contract with Northbound and Southbound have been temporarily shut down for

the final three months of the year and will continue through 2025, creating significant loss within our budget. While there will be some burden within our 2025 budget, the team will rise to the occasion by focusing on growth in other areas to assist with offsetting this short-term setback.

We are optimistic that the I-75 Rest Areas will reopen by late 2025. RT is fully prepared to resume operations and continue our legacy of delivering high-quality, inclusive employment services through the contract.

Our commitment to the community remains strong! Every service we provide reflects the core values, dedication, and excellence that define the RT family.



David Galpin, Business Director

GRANTS, DONATIONS & FUNDRAISERS

The 2024 Give2Give Where You Live Fundraising Event was successful again thanks to the RT committee members: Ashley Anthony, Ashley Brocious, Chandra Thompson and Erin Scott. The event was bigger than ever, raising

approximately \$15,000.00 while also supporting others within the community. The Give2Give Event is a fundraiser for RT while also giving to others as well. The event consisted of a vendor fair event, an online silent auction, back2school supply drive, free hair cuts for kids, a kids play area, and food trucks! The majority of the funds raised were through the business sponsorships,

followed by the silent auction and vendor booth rentals.

A huge thank you to all community businesses that supported RT through silent auction donations, the school supply drive, sponsorships and vendor booths. An even bigger thank you to Level MB for being our Event Sponsor!





Each year, RT applies for grants with our local foundations for future projects. The Piqua Community Foundation and The Troy Foundation both supported our Transportation Routing Software project through their approval of our grant

The Troy Foundation - \$30,000.00

The Piqua Community Foundation - \$7,500.00Thank you to both of the foundations for supporting RT's mission and assisting us with not only streamlining our transportation but allowing us to find cost savings in our routes as well!



Chevrolet of Troy invited RT to participate in their monthly fundraiser, Test *Drive for a Cause.* For each person that would test drive a vehicle, RT would receive a donation of \$50. Over the course of the two day event, RT was able to raise \$1000.00.

RT was selected for both the ADS & Employment Pilot Programs through the Department of Developmental Disabilities. The purpose of the pilots were to see if investing in quality and

Pilot Programs offering incentives could help improve the services and outcomes for people who need them, especially those with complex needs.

RT purchased transportation software, smart tvs, laptops and tablets through the technology grants provided through these pilots. **Strawberry Festival**

Did you know the mission of the annual Troy Strawberry Festival is to create a vibrant and welcoming festival experience which results in positive recognition and economic impact for the Troy Community and for local non-profit organizations? Each food vendor is directly partnered with a local non-profit, providing a portion of the proceeds to that partner to aid in fundraising. Some vendors ask that the non-profit volunteers at their booth and others do not.

RT has been partnered with Schmidt's Sausage Haus out of Columbus since 2022. We provide five (5) volunteers to work each shift during the festival. This assists Schmidt's in getting RT the most out of the proceeds.

The 2024 Strawberry Festival theme was, "Blooming Berries". The festival was well

attended and RT was able to raise over \$3000.00 during the two day festival!



Meet the Leadership Team





















RT Board Members

President: Kirby Warren, Parent/Advocate

Vice President: Joe Hoskins, Parent/Liberty Savings Bank

Treasurer: Carol Jackson, Retired Partners in Hope

Secretary: Cynamyn Clem Harmony Systems & Services, Inc.

Trustee: Janet Dalton, Parent/Advocate **Trustee:** John Reynolds, Denizen, Inc. **Trustee:** Lisa Heid, Miami County ESC



