

Message from CEO

Dear Friends,

Beaverbrook STEP is an organization committed to serving adults with intellectual, developmental and other related disabilities. Using a person centered planning approach, our services are individually designed in partnership with each person served and their family members. As an organization established in 1973, our mission, philosophy and traditions continue to focus on supporting each person to realize their own personal life vision by providing flexible, personalized and quality supports that promote community inclusion and self-actualization.

We provide services to individuals from 18 years and up, including a growing elder population. Many of the individuals served are dually diagnosed. In addition to intellectual and developmental disabilities, STEP serves adults within the autism spectrum, adults in need of mental health and/or behavioral supports and adults with complex and multiple physical and medical disabilities.

Our mission includes providing individuals with the training, support and opportunities they need to fully experience the benefits of community living, as well as educating our community to understand and appreciate the unique gifts and talents of all of its members regardless of ability. As the needs of people with intellectual and developmental disabilities have changed over the years, STEP has actively embraced new technologies, medical advances, educational strategies and housing models designed to enhance services to people with disabilities. In the 21st Century, STEP not only faces many business and regulatory challenges, but also challenges related to serving a more diverse population with multiple needs.

The key ingredient to our outstanding success is found in our person centered planning approach to services that includes a caring, well trained workforce committed to developing each person's full potential and dedicated to respecting each person's choices and preferences. Our staff focuses on strengthening relationships among individuals, families, clinical care providers and community organizations. Our Board of Directors and Management Team provide the leadership and guidance needed to enable effective, quality services, while collaborating with providers and community members relative to the vital and significant contributions that people with disabilities make.

Sincerely,

Virginia A. Connolly, MEd, LMHC
Executive Director