

Handi Crafters



Dearest Treasured Friend,

It's eight o'clock in the morning and Handi-Crafters is open for the day. Over the next hour a team of happy faces streams through the doors ready to take on the work day. The workforce of 400 people is greeted by supervisors in their workshops. After extending enthusiastic greetings to co-workers, an air of upbeat and positive energy begins to swirl through the buildings and spills out as busy hands take over to assemble, package, collate, glue and meet production deadlines on work that is contracted for a powerful purpose.

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You, our dear friend, have made Handi-Crafters what it is today and what it has been for decades. You have made meaningful work accessible to thousands of differently-abled individuals through your dedication and have kept our doors open with your generosity. Your giving sustains a marketplace job where an extraordinary workforce thrives in a supported, caring environment, and where special individuals learn and develop new skills, find a purpose and understand personal fulfillment at a job of their choosing.

Handi-Crafters is not a day program for people with special needs. It's a business enterprise and a non-profit organization uniquely blended to enrich and positively impact lives. Having a job to go to is critical. Having a place to develop new skills and being part of an important team equals a purpose-driven quality of life for our workforce. Furthermore, by earning a pay-check, clients understand their worth and value. For many, a job at Handi-Crafters becomes a lifelong career which even offers retirement in our Older Adult Daily Living Program. In this modern age of thinking, persons with **disabilities** are embraced in their communities now more than ever and employers are partnering with Handi-Crafters to employ clients who are ready for competitive employment and jobs outside of Handi-Crafters.

It's three o'clock in the afternoon. Over the next hour the team of happy faces departs from their job. Each client feeling accomplished in their day. They head home using the Rover Bus, public transportation, agency vans or with family members. The comradery and warmness of good spirits from loving people spills out of the doors and follows them home after their day at Handi-Crafters.

Because of you we can overcome obstacles like diminished funding and the challenges of new government legislation. Thanks to your support we have proudly sustained our operations annually in a frugal yet extremely healthy manner. We appreciate your giving and we consider you an investor in the lives of our clients. For a moment consider if Handi-Crafters were not an option. Where would those on our extraordinary workforce go? Where would they be employed? What would their families do and how would they care for their loved one each day? What quality of life would be obtained? These are questions we never want to face and we certainly do not want our clients or their families to ever ponder a thought of life without a job at Handi-Crafters. So, we ask that you continue to help us underwrite our important place in the community. We hope you will again support our programs by making a generous contribution and investment in our mission.

As always, we are grateful and honored by your support.

Karen Ladd Baker
President, Board of Directors

Amy Rice
Executive Director

Executive Director

Amy Rice

