

# 2016 @ 2017 Annual Report

YOUR SUPPORT HELPED US SERVE

# 639

INDIVIDUALS WITH DISABILITIES

## OUR WORK IN THE COMMUNITY

WE SUPPORTED

# 227

INDIVIDUALS IN  
EMPLOYMENT IN THE  
COMMUNITY



RESULTING IN

# \$2,237,609

OF ANNUAL EARNINGS



FROM THE

# 258,150

HOURS WORKED

DIFFERENT EMPLOYERS **106** HIRED CLIENTS THIS YEAR

# 98

STAFF

14 ADMINISTRATIVE  
19 CUSTODIAL WORKERS  
65 DIRECT CARE



# 61

SERVICE CONTRACT  
EMPLOYEES

75% OF WHOM  
HAVE A SIGNIFICANT  
DISABILITY

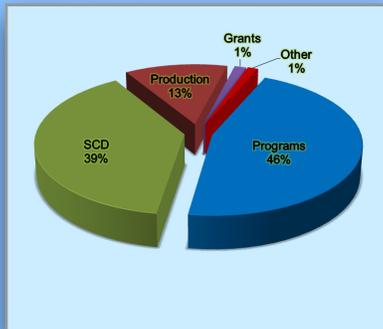
### Board Members

Paul Popish, *Chair*  
Deena Currie, *Treasurer*  
Martha Cleary, *Secretary*  
Judith Guibert  
Lucinda Munger  
Sultan Qureshi

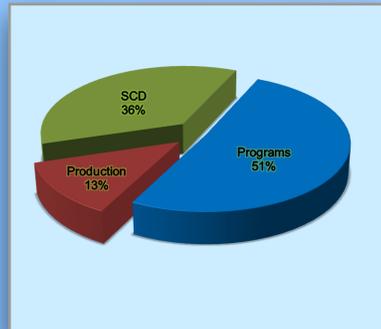
### Senior Staff

Margaret Samuels  
*CEO*  
Audra Kea-Hamilton  
*Finance Director*  
Donna Musson  
*Director of Facilities Services*  
James Flowers  
*Federal Contract Manager*  
Joe Bumgarner, Jr.  
*Director of Business Development and Strategy*  
Kim Teunis  
*Director of Human Resources*  
Denise Puryear  
Thomas Hill  
*Senior Community Employment Leads*  
Amy Miller  
*Manager of T4S, Pre-Employment Transition Services*

### 2016-2017 TOTAL REVENUE



### 2016-2017 TOTAL EXPENSES



Your donations allow OE Enterprises to assist in the personal and professional growth of each individual.

To support the mission, visit [oeenterprises.org](http://oeenterprises.org) and click **DONATE.**

# MISSION BUILT PERSON DRIVEN

## New "Growth"

Over the past year, OE has added vegetable gardens at our Orange and Alamance facilities. With the cold weather, OE's outdoor garden is tucked in for the season, but our clients still have plenty to do! We've planted cold weather crops such as kale, Chinese cabbage, and baby lettuce that are growing in our unheated greenhouse, and we're very excited about a newly created indoor growing space. Several large shelves have been fitted with fluorescent and LED lights that are specifically designed for the growth needs of plants when natural sunlight isn't available. There we are growing succulents and houseplants started as cuttings that will be large enough for sale by early spring. Clients are watching these cuttings take root and grow while they keep them watered and cared for.



## Decades of Gratitude

Long time Board member, Martha Cleary will be retiring from Board service on December 31. The clients, board and staff of OE Enterprises want to thank Martha for her untiring work on behalf of OE and wish her well!

*"Martha has been the heart and soul of the OE Board for many years. I am grateful that I had a chance to work with her. Her untiring work and numerous contributions to OE have helped to set us on a path that makes a difference in the lives of individuals with disabilities. She will be missed on our Board but, we know that her work has helped to make us a strong organization." - Paul Popish, OE Board Chair*



## Determination through Adversity



A welcoming smile. An offer to help. Words of encouragement. A vision of hope. Those are the things you will get when meeting Berthe Mairounga. Berthe traveled a treacherous road to get where she is today.

Born in Chad, Berthe and her husband worked the family farm together with their five children. With the raging civil war in Chad, Berthe's husband went into hiding from the rebel armies. Rebels eventually made their way to Berthe's home, and when she refused to tell the rebels her husband's whereabouts, they tortured and beat her, including breaking her fingers and burning her face and hands. The damage was so severe, it left Berthe without hands. Her husband was eventually found and taken by the rebels. To this day she has not seen her husband and does not know if he is still alive.

Berthe suddenly found herself a single mother caring for her five children and no longer able to farm. Berthe says, "when you see me you run away." She eventually made her way to

Northern Cameroon with her infant, leaving her older four children with her mother. She enjoyed the city better, and with the help of her sister, was able to earn money by making and selling clothes.

Berthe was able to secure an apartment and sent for her children. Her father arranged a new relationship for her. She was very hesitant because she loved her husband. She did eventually have a sixth child.

In 2007, Berthe applied for refugee status. Two years later, she and her six children landed in Chicago, IL and made her way to Durham, NC. Now, Berthe had new challenges to face. Because females were not allowed to go to school in Chad, Berthe had no formal education. She found herself in a new country, unable to speak the language, without an education, and with the responsibility of caring for six children.

Berthe was able to find housing in Durham for her family and moved to Chapel Hill three years later. She quickly developed friendships and connections within her community. She became involved with Vocational Rehabilitation and eventually found her way to OE Enterprises for help in finding a job.

Berthe was a tireless job seeker. She spent hours every day looking for work. She was persistent and refused to give up or feel sorry for herself. She once interviewed with a store manager, seated on benches in a common area outside of the store. The benches, however, did not face each other. Without hesitation, Berthe stood up, put her arms through the openings in the arm rest, and assisted in turning the bench around, demonstrating her determination, capabilities, and unwillingness to accept she couldn't do anything she wanted to do.

In January of 2017, with the help of OE, Berthe got a job with the Chapel Hill/Carrboro Schools PTA Thrift Shop as a donation sorter. She did not have a driver's license. Her job coach helped her out with transportation and in learning her new job. Berthe quickly learned her job tasks and said that her job coach **"was very supportive."**

Today, Berthe has her driver's license and a modified steering wheel in her van that allows her to drive. She is taking GED classes and volunteers at the food bank putting together food bags. Berthe simply says that she **"just likes to make friends."**

Berthe greets everyone who visits her home with a big smile and a hug. Her coworkers see her as an inspiration and a vision of true courage. She has a perpetual smile in spite of her experiences. In the face of adversity, she is the definition of bravery, selflessness, and unending optimism.

## A Supportive Community

In early 2017, OE Enterprises partnered with Carol Woods Retirement Community in Chapel Hill. This partnership has been very successful for not only the people with disabilities who gained employment but for the residents and staff of Carol Woods.



Lynda McKinney at Carol Woods has seen the benefits of hiring individuals through OE Enterprises. Ms. McKinney says, "the main benefit is the dependability of OE employees. They are hard-working and dependable, so they are excellent examples to all the [Carol Woods] employees."

The individuals placed in jobs at this top-rated retirement community are working in the magnificent dining facilities at Carol Woods. The residents at Carol Woods can choose from a variety of dining options, including self-service and waited table service. There is buffet-style dining and take-out service for all three meals and also full table service that includes chef's specials at many evening meals.

Employees who have been hired through OE Enterprises have become integral pieces to providing the excellent service that Carol Woods' residents expect and love. The hiring of individuals with disabilities has improved the culture of Carol Woods as Ms. McKinney adds, "each person is so different, so it helps [us all] improve our interaction with various people."



Employees hired through OE Enterprises are working as dining room wait staff, in the dish room washing dishes, and in the kitchen in the food prep area.

**Kaylee**, one of the six new hires in 2017, says "I like all aspects of my job. I really enjoy working with and interacting with my co-workers."

Another OE client, **Pierre** says, "I really like my job, and my favorite duty is serving the residents at Carol Woods."

As we move into 2018, OE Enterprises looks forward to expanding into different departments at Carol Woods.

We hope to see the partnership with Carol Woods continue to grow and benefit everyone involved.

**"Berthe does a magnificent job here at the PTA Thrift shop, and we are glad to have her as a part of our organization. She is a great asset, and her spirit is wonderful. I wish I had three more just like her."**

**— Valecia Jones, PTA Thrift Shop Director of Operations**