



# NEWSLETTER

FALL 2022

## MESSAGE FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Several months ago, our Board of Directors held a full day strategy session in which we reviewed the strengths of our current operations and discussed our future, both short-term and long-term. The vision for Brother's Keeper (BK) is based on research and tours of several such programs in other states. Similar programs resemble small campuses with educational buildings, recreational facilities, residential buildings, and a dining hall. These campuses also have other features which make them unique and provide revenue, including having a chapel, cafe, gift shop, enterprise facilities, and more. We are grateful to our board for their commitment to our vision and their efforts to ensure that Brother's Keeper continues to move forward in a viable and responsible manner with good stewardship of the support we have received and building on success experienced since our inception in March 2014.

Six years ago, we opened our doors to our initial class of six participants. Since then, we have doubled this number and the interest in our program continues. We give all the glory to God for providing thus far and we know He will continue to do so. We have carefully worked on building the foundation for Brother's Keeper. God blessed us in so many ways that enabled us to open our doors with minimal expenses. Most of our present expenses are wages, insurance, and needed supplies. Boones Creek Christian Church has graciously gifted the space we need to use every day, at no cost.

Our operational space at BCCC is licensed to serve 20 adults; however, we are starting to feel restricted at our current numbers. We currently operate out of 2 rooms with some access to a gym, a garden and one small office shared

by 5-6 staff members. We have just added our 15th participant and believe that it is time to begin looking at next steps for BK - whether this is an intermediate step to another existing building or acquiring land to fulfill our long-term vision of our own campus. It is time for Brother's Keeper to have its own visible presence in the community, create awareness to families in need of our program, continue to build a strong infrastructure, and increase our offerings to the participants at BK.

We have never doubted that God called us to establish Brother's Keeper in this community. He has provided for us EVERY step of the way and in so many ways. We have faith that He will lead us in this next step on our journey. Please pray for Brother's Keeper as we work to provide a future and a safe community for adults with intellectual disabilities. A place where there are opportunities to continue to learn and develop to their fullest potential. A place where families no longer need to worry about who will care for their son or daughter when they no longer can. A place to thrive and call their own!

**I am asking you, as a Friend of Brother's Keeper, for your help!** If you have, or know of someone who has a building they might consider donating or leasing to BK; or land they may like to donate to the future of BK, please contact me at [chuddleston@BrothersKeeperTN.org](mailto:chuddleston@BrothersKeeperTN.org) to discuss the opportunity. Thank you for your support of our mission; your generosity and benevolent legacy will long be remembered and appreciated!



Cecile Huddleston

## We Need More Space for the Following:

- Additional space for growth in number of BK participants
- Additional space to expand our programming and enterprises
- Additional vehicle for growth in number of BK participants
- Additional space for events, fitness classes, and recreation
- Conference/meeting space
- Dedicated space for working on daily living skills
- Dedicated space for sensory modulation/calming room
- Outdoor space for gardening and activities
- Kitchen/dining space for meals and food prep activities
- Office space to accommodate Director, staff, and future hires
- Storage space for equipment and supplies



## BK Happenings

### Amazon Smile

AmazonSmile is a simple and automatic way for you to support Brother's Keeper every time you shop, at no cost to you. When you shop at [smile.amazon.com](https://smile.amazon.com), you'll find the exact same low prices, vast selection, and convenient shopping experience as Amazon.com, with the bonus that Amazon will donate a portion of the purchase price to Brother's Keeper. To shop at AmazonSmile simply go to [smile.amazon.com](https://smile.amazon.com) from the web browser on your computer or mobile device.

AmazonSmile is also available in the Amazon shopping app on iOS and Android mobile phones. Signing up for AmazonSmile is FREE, EASY, and a way you can help support Brother's Keeper! Simply follow these instructions to turn on AmazonSmile and start generating donations on your mobile device.

- Open the Amazon Shopping app on your device
- Go into the main menu of the Amazon Shopping app and tap into 'Settings'
- Tap 'AmazonSmile' and follow the on-screen instructions to complete the process



## Engage With Us

If you or someone you know is able to donate to BK, allowing us to continue to expand, please contact me at [chuddleston@BrothersKeeperTN.org](mailto:chuddleston@BrothersKeeperTN.org). Having our own building and land would grant Brother's Keeper a way to have a physical presence in the community. This would result in further community awareness and a way for more families to hear about our services. Your gift would leave an invaluable legacy to our participants and their families. It would also provide a meaningful and fulfilling life to these adults that otherwise might not be available to them.

Brother's Keeper is a registered non-profit 501(c)3 organization, EIN 37-1757836. All donations are tax deductible. Because we do not accept any government money, Brother's Keeper is privately funded by donations from individuals, corporations, church partners, foundations, grants, tuition income, and the sale of participant crafted products.



#### Become A Donor

Consider becoming a Friend of Brother's Keeper and sign up to become a regular monthly donor.



#### Gifting

Donate Appreciable Assets, Gifts of Stock, Gifts In-Kind, or include Brother's Keeper in your Estate Planning.



#### Gift Matching

See if your employer has a Matching Gift Plan in which they will match employee's contributions to charitable organizations.

To donate by credit card or PayPal, please visit our website at [www.BrothersKeeperTN.org/donate](https://www.BrothersKeeperTN.org/donate).

Or mail donations to:

Brother's Keeper  
P.O. Box 4101  
Johnson City, TN 37602