



# FY '14 Annual Report



## *Pathways to Independence*

### Our Mission

Pathways to Independence (PTI) enriches the lives of adults with complex learning disabilities and associated disorders through the development of the social interaction and self-advocacy skills necessary to achieve each individual's goals for independence, community engagement and meaningful relationships.

### Our Vision

Adults with learning disabilities will enjoy a fullness of life through:

- living in a community which is accepting and offers choices,
- attaining self-realization, independent living, health and security,
- engaging in healthy relationships and using good judgment, and
- contributing to the community with a sense of purpose, passion and responsibility.

### Our Operating Principle

Through PTI programming, participants develop skills and apply those skills in areas that translate to greater independence and success in achieving their vocational, personal, social, community and volunteer pursuits. In turn, participants become more comfortable in personal and community-based relationships and involvement. Families experience greater peace of mind and autonomy as our participants experience more fulfilled lives and greater self-reliance. The community is enhanced through the participants' active involvement, economic contributions and improved diversity as they experience greater independence and social success.

## Board of Directors for FY '14

## Resource Board

|                 |                              |   |
|-----------------|------------------------------|---|
| President:      | <b>John Finkenkeller</b>     | Owner, John R. Finkenkeller, CPA                                      |
| Vice President: | <b>Christopher Roberts</b>   | Partner, Butsch Roberts & Associates, LLC                             |
| Secretary:      | <b>Sharon A. Kircher</b>     | Educator, Retired   |
| Treasurer:      | <b>Steve Dedrickson, DDS</b> | Owner, Sevens Dental  |
|                 | <b>Selma L. Balk</b>         | Educator, Retired   |
|                 | <b>Rachel Balbach</b>        | Economist, Retired  |
|                 | <b>Diana Bourisaw</b>        | Chief Academic Officer, Pearson                                       |
|                 | <b>J. Scott Clark</b>        | Vice President of Legal Affairs, Hearthsides Food Solutions           |
|                 | <b>Brooke Foster</b>         | Deputy Campaign Director, Pelopidas, Inc.                             |
|                 | <b>Linda Johnson</b>         | Special Educator/Counselor, Retired                                   |
|                 | <b>Susan S. Newman</b>       | LCSW; Reference Consultant, Association of Community College Trustees |
|                 | <b>Stephen Stanfill</b>      | Chief Operating Officer, St. Louis Management Group, Inc.             |
|                 | <b>Bradford Werner</b>       | President, Pentahui, LLC.   |
|                 | <b>Joseph P. Wilder</b>      | President, Wilder Consulting, LLC                                     |

Richard Boalbey  
Debbie Emmelkamp  
Wendy Finger  
George Fonyo  
Deborah Gordon  
Arthur Hoffman  
Curtis Ittner, Jr.  
R. Troy Kendrick  
Barbara Maille  
Linda Nissenbaum  
Dr. Joan Oliver  
Tere Owens  
Jo Werner  
Gene Zafft

*Board meetings of Pathways to Independence are held at Commerce Bank in Clayton, MO and are open to the public. Please notify the office if you wish to attend or to verify the date and/or location of the upcoming meeting. Call 314-863-0202*



Check us out at our new web address:

[www.ptistl.org](http://www.ptistl.org)

### Primary Diagnoses include:

*Learning Disability, Reading Disorder, Math Disorder, LD-NOS, Written or Expressive Disorders, AD(H)D, Autism, Asperger's Syndrome, Borderline Intellectual Functioning or Traumatic Brain Injury*

### Pathways to Independence (PTI) served those who met the following criteria in FY '14:

- Resident of St. Louis County (for Productive Living Board funded positions), St. Louis City (for Developmental Disability Resources funded positions) or St. Charles County (for the Developmental Disability Resource Board of St. Charles County funded positions).
- Residents of the St. Louis metropolitan area (for those willing to private pay)
- At least 18 years old and diagnosed before age 22

## Program Highlights

- Participants received 6852 hours of face-to-face support across all program areas to 121 individuals.
- 198 Social Growth group opportunities were presented and attended for skill generalization, community participation and progress towards goals.
- 111 Social Focus small groups were initiated with staff support to help participants progress towards goals in planning, building relationships and overcoming anxiety.
- 120 Social Focus individual supports assisted participants in identifying goal areas and receiving focused training toward those goals.
- 42 Social College classes were held covering 11 topic areas. Social College supports participants in better understanding the etiquette of specific social topic areas that are commonly difficult for participants to manage independently.
- Avg. cost to provide service is \$2,344 per person factoring in all expenses.

## Survey Results

### The following reflects information gained from 48 participant respondents to our 2014 survey.

Across six major skill areas, over 65% of participants agree or strongly agree that they have improved in:

6 of 8 measures of **Social Connectedness**

5 of 6 measures of **Conversation Skills**

4 of 5 measures of **Social Understanding**

2 of 4 measures of **Advocacy**

5 of 9 measures of **Community Participation**

6 of 9 areas of other performance-based **Soft Skills**

Areas identified to refine skill training included:

Maintaining friendships  
Inviting others to get together  
Expressing wants and needs  
Budgeting  
Route finding  
Using resources to select activities of interest  
Anger management

*“Pathways is a one of a kind organization. They not only offer opportunities for participants to socialize and take part in fun activities; but to learn how to engage and interact with others. These kinds of activities are always educational as well as enjoyable. Through these social experiences, many participants are connecting with others and overcoming fears which have held them back for years. PTI is definitely life-changing for many persons who would otherwise be isolated and lonely.”*

- Betty Beckmann (parent)

## Strategic Plan

A review of the strategic plan adopted in February 2013 reveals progress on all four goal areas.

- 33% of all tasks were completed in FY '14 and will continue to be monitored.
- 53% of all tasks showed progress or significant progress in line with expectations.
- Of remaining 16%, 8% of tasks are priority items for FY '14 while continuing to progress in other areas.

For a more complete summary of the Strategic Plan, visit our website at [www.ptistl.org](http://www.ptistl.org).

## Foundation/Corporate Support

### In addition to public funding through local Senate Bill 40 Boards and individual giving, the following foundations, businesses and organizations contributed financially during FY '14:

Ameren  
Autism Speaks  
Bland Family Foundation  
Bowersox Insurance Agency  
Bright Futures in Focus  
Enterprise Holdings Foundation  
Favazza's  
Galanis Cataract & Laser Eye Center  
John Finkenkiller, CPA  
First Unitarian Church of St. Louis  
Hillside Animal Hospital  
LMI Aerospace

Lodging Hospitality Management  
Mildred, Herbert and Julian Simon Foundation  
Millstone Foundation  
Neighbor's Credit Union  
Pettus Foundation  
PVH—Madison  
Rotary Club of Clayton Ladue  
Schnucks Markets  
Sevens Dental  
Spirit of St. Louis Women's Fund  
St. Louis Philanthropic Organization  
Stinson Morrison Hecker, LLC  
The Emporium  
The Trio Foundation of St. Louis  
Transitional Life Solutions  
Various private family trusts



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Partially funded by:




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## Statements of Activities for years ended June 30, 2014 and 2013

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|   | <b>2014</b>           | <b>2013</b>           |
|---|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| <b>Unrestricted Support and Revenue</b>                         |                       |                       |
| Contributions   | \$201,986             | \$176,577             |
| Grants  |                       |                       |
| -Productive Living Board of St. Louis County                    |                       |                       |
| Citizens with Developmental Disabilities                        | 13,759                | 109,127               |
| -St. Louis Office for Developmental Disability Resources        | 8,296                 | 10,004                |
| -Developmental Disability Resource Board for St. Charles County | 18,665                | 6,942                 |
| Special Events  | 27,147                | 31,215                |
| Investment Income   | 1,037                 | 859                   |
| Participant Fees  | 44,667                | 8,535                 |
| Miscellaneous   | <u>3,742</u>          | <u>9,819</u>          |
| <b>Total Unrestricted Support and Revenue</b>                   | <b>319,299</b>        | <b>353,078</b>        |
| <br><b>Expenses</b>   |                       |                       |
| Programs  | 204,596               | 189,951               |
| Supporting Services   |                       |                       |
| Management and general  | 47,346                | 55,585                |
| Fundraising   | <u>31,765</u>         | <u>30,645</u>         |
| <b>Total Expenses and Losses</b>                                | <b>283,707</b>        | <b>276,181</b>        |
| <br><b>Increase in Unrestricted Net Assets</b>                  | <b>35,592</b>         | <b>76,897</b>         |
| <b>Net Assets at Beginning of Year</b>                          | <b><u>351,759</u></b> | <b><u>274,862</u></b> |
| <b>Net Assets at End of Year</b>                                | <b>\$387,351</b>      | <b>\$351,759</b>      |