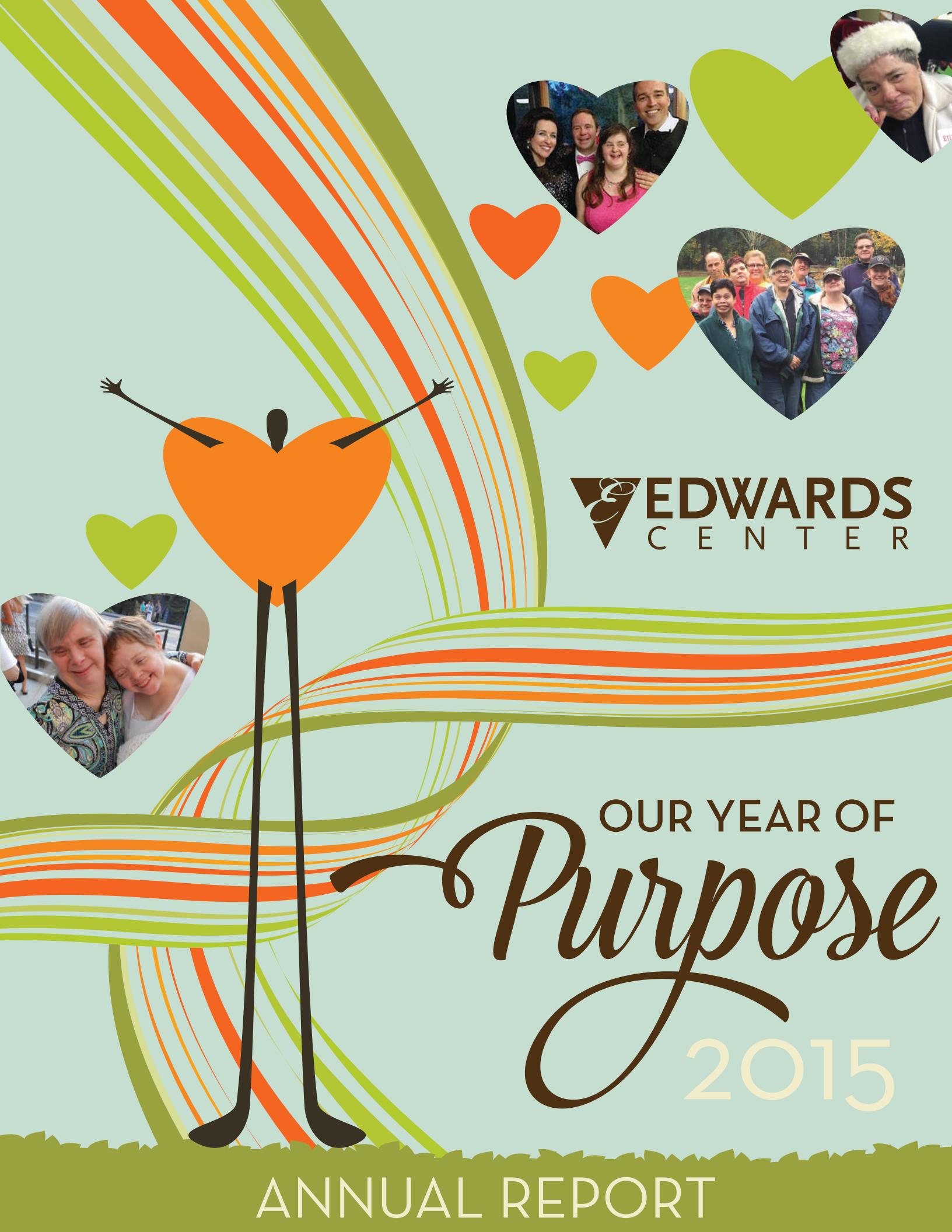




OUR YEAR OF  
*Purpose*  
2015

ANNUAL REPORT





## FROM THE FOUNDER

# *Appreciation and Gratitude*

As 2015 ends, we are thankful for so many accomplishments. Increased client services to young people who previously had been sitting home without meaningful days, increased work and production for our workers at Edwards Enterprises, and purchasing and updating a number of our residential homes are some of the top achievements. With families waiting, fundraising for another home and cottage have been top priorities as well.



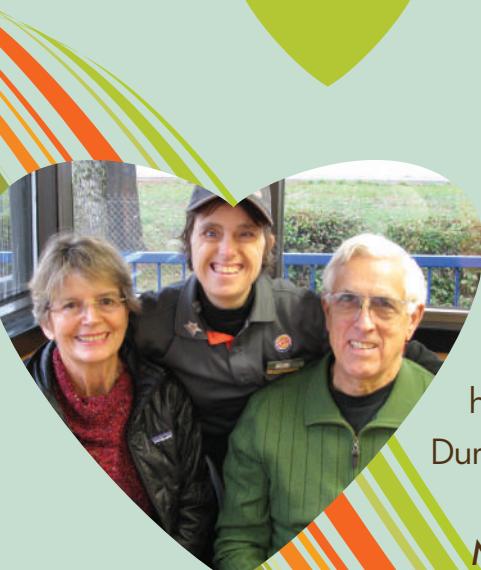
Recent mandates from the State and Federal Government have put some tight restraints on how we provide services and have slanted services towards higher functioning workers. Edwards Center's Board is committed to providing a continuum of services across the life span of our clients, and is fighting hard to maintain all our services. These changes put the burden for employment totally on local business people regardless of the functioning level of the client. We know that "one size doesn't fit all workers" and to remove private non-profit employment programs would leave many of our clients without meaningful work with pay.

Families need to rise up and fight these changes that will in time cut many folks out of meaningful work, recreation, and education. For more information about these changes, go to: [http://www.oregon.gov/gov/Documents/executive\\_orders/eo\\_15\\_01.pdf](http://www.oregon.gov/gov/Documents/executive_orders/eo_15_01.pdf)

As you read the rest of this Annual Report, I hope it will inspire you to continue your support of our programs that are considered the "Gold Standard" here in Oregon.

*Jean Edwards*

Jean Edwards



## 2016 *Match Opportunity*

Long-time parents and supporters,

Craig & Linda Hannum

have provided a generous challenge gift this year.

During 2016 every gift, pledge, and in-kind contribution  
will be matched up to \$500,000!

**Make 2016 your year to give to Edwards Center!**



## A LETTER FROM AN ADVOCATE

I first met Jean Edwards when I was very young when we first moved to Portland. When I was in the fourth grade at William Walker School in Beaverton, and while I had been included in the regular classroom all four years, the tide was starting to turn for me. School officials were deciding that I had learned all there was to learn and that going forward I should be taking more "life skills" courses.

My parents turned to Jean for help. At that time, she was the head of the Special Education Department at Portland State University as well as devoting a great deal of her time to the Edwards Center, but she still found time for us.

Jean's life mission, through her work at Portland State and her vision for the Edwards Center, is to help individuals with intellectual disabilities reach their fullest potential whatever that may be and Jean, like my parents, certainly didn't think I had reached my potential by the end of fourth grade!

With Jean's help and guidance we found our way to St Pius Grade School where one of her special education graduate students was teaching in general education, and I continued on my path to learning in a regular classroom setting.

Because of the education I got at St Pius, I was able to go on to St Mary's Academy and earn a regular high school diploma and after that, I earned a regular two year associates of science degree from Portland Community College.

Jean helped me start a non profit organization where I advocate for inclusion in the schools, the community and the workplace for people like me with intellectual and other disabilities. I try to use my experiences to help others understand what can be accomplished when we focus on building potential, and eliminating barriers that others put in our way.

Jean helped me to create a "Life with Purpose" just as she and the Edwards Center team do for many other people just like me.

Can you imagine for just a minute what your life would be like if you went to bed every night, having done nothing with your day--only to wake up in the morning without a purpose to the day in front of you? I would call that a life without Purpose - a life without HOPE!

Well, that is too often the case for someone living with an intellectual disability...  
But the Edwards Center strives to change that picture for the clients they support.

When you choose to contribute to Edwards Center, and I hope you will  
• either through a financial donation,  
• offering job opportunities,  
• or being a volunteer in one of their classes, training programs or work sites

YOU are helping people just like me learn, live  
and thrive in our community  
with HOPE... with DIGNITY... and with PURPOSE...  
WE can't do it without YOU.

*Karen Gaffney*  
Karen Gaffney





FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2015

## FROM THE BOARD TREASURER

Dear Friends,

One of the joys of preparing an annual report is that it gives us the opportunity to look back and be thankful for all that has been accomplished. The past fiscal year was filled with wonderful opportunities and many challenges.

Some of the highlights were:

- We ended calendar year 2015 with an increase of 92 Clients who previously received no services.
- Created additional programs for skill building, creative outlets and community outings.
- Opened Alternative to Employment (ATE) program to include additional clients.
- Continuation of our successful fundraising to build an additional home and cottage in 2016.



Robert Moody, CPA

## INCOME & EXPENSES

Total Income:	\$10,835,497
Program Expenses:	
Employment Services:	\$3,032,652
Residential Services:	\$5,211,928
Transportation Services:	\$63,194
Fundraising Expenses:	\$156,344
Administrative Expenses:	\$999,947
Total Expenses:	\$9,461,065
Ending Net Assets:	\$7,099,008

## BOARD OF DIRECTORS



**Jean Edwards**  
Founder  
PRESIDENT EMERITA



**Ken Karalus**  
President  
GENERAL MANAGER – BONITA PIONEER



**Sara Marchus**  
Vice President  
OFFICE MANAGER – USBANK



**Robert Moody**  
Treasurer  
CPA – TALBOT, KORVOLA & WARWICK



**Kas Anderson**  
Secretary & VOX Member



**Elizabeth Bergman**  
FAMILY COUNSELOR, LCSW



**Joseph Black, M.D.**  
OHSU



**Dick Hands**  
VP/PRINTING SALES



**Sue Kornahrens**  
VOX MEMBER



**Pat Maginnis**  
OWNER – CHUCK-E-CHEESE



**Christine Monty-Snodgrass**  
REALTOR – RE/MAX EQUITY



**Joe West**  
Non-voting Board advisor  
OWNER – GARVEY, SCHUBERT, BARER LAW

### *Special Thanks*

FOR A COMPLETE LISTING  
OF DONORS PLEASE VISIT  
OUR WEBSITE AT  
[EDWARDSCENTER.ORG](http://EDWARDSCENTER.ORG)



## FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

# *Edwards Center Purpose*

What does it mean to have a purposeful life? I know for me that coming to Edwards Center brought meaning to my professional life that I did not even know I was missing. Working with Jean side by side has had a profound impact on this organization and on me. After all, what could be more purposeful than to make sacrifices for the love of a child?

Back in the 1970's when Edwards Center was founded, parents were encouraged to place their children into large state run institutions and in many cases told never to visit or keep contact with their child. But Edwards's founders had purpose. They wanted a life that was better than that. They knew the contribution their beloved children would make to the world and to their own families. And so at a time when simply "no one" did what they were able to do, they opened the first day program for those with developmental disabilities in a donated house out on TV Hwy. With purpose and intent they grew that program into the organization we are today. With 18 locations and over 200 staff, Edwards Center serves close to 400 families in Washington and Clackamas Counties.

But we didn't stop there. Our founders saw what a sense of purpose had done for them and for their own families. And so they created Edwards Enterprises believing that a sense of purpose was just as important for their children with disabilities as it had been for them. Work. A place to be every day. A paycheck. Think about your own working life. What did those jobs you've held mean to you throughout the years?

In addition to supporting a healthy work life, 2 of our locations are dedicated to recreation and social pursuits. Another key piece of a sense of purpose: Passion, diverse interests, a place to have new experiences and make friends. At our community center in Aloha we offer a huge range of classes and activities for people of all abilities. Open 7 days a week our newly renovated facility serves as the hub of our Aloha Project.

If you can imagine the exact opposite of what those 1970 families were told to do (to send your child away) then you would have the Aloha Project. Flexible, gorgeous, fully accessible homes with attached cottages, this project allows families to remain living WITH their adult children so that they can age in place together. Parents, whose main purpose in life has been the care of those very children, are feeling the burden ease.

Family. Friendship. Work. Passion. This is Edwards Center's purpose. To vigorously erase the lines between the abled and the disabled. Because Family, Friendship, Work & Passion, matter to us all.



Jessica Leitner



## OUR SERVICES



**At Edwards Center we believe in family. Our goal is to help each individual reach their highest potential through training, support and education. We believe everyone has the right to lead a full and productive life in their community. This can be achieved by promoting choice and independence in healthy environments.**

**Residential:** We offer a range of living options that includes independent living in the setting of your choice where supports are delivered to you as you need them, supervised semi-independent living in apartments and duplexes, 24 hour care in a traditional home setting, and 24 hour nursing services at our medical facility. Our newest service option, the Aloha Project, offers family living where adults with disabilities and their parents can live and age together in a supportive community.

**Employment & ATE:** Our largest single program, Edwards Enterprises, employs 150 adults with disabilities who live at home with family or in group and foster homes across the metro area. We offer enclaves in the community, job coaching and placement for those seeking competitive employment, and structured work at our plant in Beaverton. For those who retire or are unable to work, we offer an Alternative to Work program that provides therapy, recreation and social opportunities during traditional work hours. These programs are delivered off site in Aloha and Milwaukie.

**Aloha Community Center:** Our newest facility, the Aloha Community Center provides continuing education and training. Classes are offered 6 days a week and include skill building (such as cooking, sewing and literacy), exercise, and self expression (art, music and dance). We also offer socialization and recreational activities in the evening and on weekends. New and seasonal classes are offered quarterly. The center boasts partnerships with several other non profits including Meals on Wheels who provide a hot meal on site daily.

**Vox:** Latin for voice our Vox organization advocates for everyone at Edwards Center. Comprised of the family members of those we serve, Vox acts as the voice for those who cannot speak for themselves. Each location and program at the Edwards Center has an elected Vox representative who monitors the program, advocates for the program's needs, and alerts Edwards administration to issues or concerns. Vox leaders also serve as voting members on the Board of Directors. This unique group assures that families and individuals with disabilities remain at the center of our work.