Overview of HVO

Founded in 1972, HVO (Haywood Vocational Opportunities, Inc.) is a non-profit, mission-driven social enterprise located in Western North Carolina that produce medical drapes and other medical devices for domestic and international surgical needs. HVO has more than 40 years of experience in manufacturing disposable healthcare products and has created partnerships with some of the key players in the international medical industry. HVO provides vocational training and employment opportunities to adults with disadvantages and disabilities in Haywood County.

Our Mission

HVO, Inc. believes that individuals have the right to be respected, to have equal opportunities, to work, to earn a fair wage and participate in activities that enrich their lives. The Board of Directors and staff support the concept that through meaningful, satisfying work and leisure, people are able to live more independently, successfully and productively. HVO offers qualifying individuals in Haywood County opportunities to train and make informed choices as they strive to achieve their vocational goals.

Our Vision Statement

HVO will be a nationally recognized social enterprise business with an integrated workforce development program creating opportunities and empowerment for our people through successful strategic partnerships.

Quality Policy:

Haywood Vocational Opportunities, Inc. is People Centered; Quality Driven; with 100% Customer Satisfaction as our goal.

Yearbook Publishing Committee:

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“We Bring People and Jobs Together”
Board of Directors

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Brandi Stephenson
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Norm Yearick
Raychen Corporation, Director of Operations, Retired

Debra Wright
Exceptional Children’s Teacher, Haywood County Schools

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In Memorium

2017 was a difficult year as we lost two members of our HVO family. They each exemplified our mission and will be deeply missed.

Billie West
~August 10, 1950 – March 31, 2017~

Those we love remain with us for love itself lives on, and cherished memories never fade because a loved one’s gone. Those we love can never be more than a thought apart, for as long as there is memory, they’ll live on in our heart.

Judy Palmer
~December 9, 1959 – November 17, 2017~
Reflections of Change

On July 31, 2017, longtime President George Marshall retired after 39 years of service. He was hired in 1978 as a woodworking instructor then became the president in 1982. During his Presidency, he lead HVO to an expansion of three facilities in Haywood County, a workforce of 400+, and to a $35 million social enterprise. Thank you, George, for your 39 years of dedicated service to HVO!

Welcome President Audrey Gaddis

On August 1, 2017, HVO welcomed a new leader, Audrey Gaddis, as President. Audrey worked in the Finance Department at HVO since 1997. She is very active in her church, in the community, and is very dedicated to her family. HVO is pleased to have Audrey as the new President.
45th Anniversary
1972-2017
Facilities Through the Years....

Patton School, Canton, NC
June 20, 1972

Haywood Community College Campus, Clyde, NC
October, 1973

Riverbend Facility, Waynesville, NC
September 2005

Scates Street Facility, Waynesville, NC
February 20, 1990

Westwood Facility, Waynesville, NC
October 2010

A Look Back....

One of the first products:
A corn shuck doll
1972

Trainee cutting drapery material
1979

Bobby Wright working in the Woodworking Operations
1977

Happy Halloween
All dressed up
Bewitched
Creature feature
Fright night
Mischief & mayhem
We will go
THANK YOU
Community Partners for welcoming those with disabilities to the workplace and partnering with HVO!
Lake Junaluska Assembly
Tractor Supply Co.
Sunburst Trout Company
K-Mart of Waynesville
Town of Waynesville - Recreation Department
Ingles of Hazelwood
Ingles of Waynesville
Autumn Care
Giles Chemical
McDonalds of Waynesville
Burger King of Waynesville
Local Market (Bryson City)
Haywood Regional Medical Center

Jobs Club
Jobs Club is a group of job seekers receiving guidance from HVO Employment Specialist(s) that aims to expand awareness and to help them understand how the application of simple techniques can greatly enhance their job seeking skills.

VOCUS Class
Vocational Opportunities Centered Upon Skills (VOCUS) is a vocationally-focused class of choice for DD clients. VOCUS centers on basic job skills which may include filing, sequencing, filling out forms, workplace dress and hygiene, appropriate communication (verbal and non-verbal) and phone use.

Working at HVO
I make a difference.
Cheryl Tyler received the MARC Personal Achievement Award.

Time to Shine

MARC Award Winners
The Marketing Association for Rehabilitation Centers (*MARC) presented awards to HVO associates in October.

- Cheryl Tyler received the MARC Personal Achievement Award.
- William Gray received a *MARC Creatabilities Award.
- Benny Cogdill, HVO employee, received the Spirit of MARC Award.
- George Marshall, retired HVO President, received the Chairman's Award.
- Polly Stiles received the MARC Personal Achievement Award.
- Jimmy Arrington received 16 years of service.
- Betty Boger received 16 years of service.
- Polly Stiles received 12 years of service.

NCARF Award Winners
The NC Association of Rehabilitation Facilities (NCARF) presented awards to HVO associates in September. Award winners pictured here from left to right: George Marshall, Chris O'Brien Award; Sabrina Ammons, Vocational Achievement in the Facility Award; Marlene Gibson, Frontline in the Field Award; Tim Kelley, Behind the Scenes Award. HVO received a 45th Anniversary Award. Not pictured: Sunburst Trout Farm, Community Employer Award; Alyssa Evans, Vocational Achievement in the Community Award.

Benny Cogdill, HVO employee, received the Spirit of MARC Award.

*MARC (Marketing Association for Rehabilitation Centers) is a 501 (c) (3) organization formed in 1978 that supports 16 non-profit Community Rehabilitation Programs in a 23-county region of western North Carolina. MARC's mission is to support vocational rehabilitation and developmental training in this region for adults with physical or mental disabilities or both.
HVO hosted a Folkmoot performance on July 27 for over 150 individuals. An entertaining group of 32 from Israel performed at the event. Clients enjoyed dancing and interacting with the dancers.

Service Awards:
In July, HVO recognized these individuals for their dedicated years of service to HVO. Danny Wingate, HVO Board Chair, had the privilege to present the awards. HVO is very proud of them for achieving a most well-deserved accomplishment.

Judy Palmer
30 years

Rick Cira
25 years

Christina Thomasson
20 years

Brain Zulla
15 years

Mary Sue Palmer
15 years

Sheri Lee
15 years

Gary Small
10 years

Morgan Bielick
10 years

Loretta Ewart
10 years

Rene Wallace
10 years

William Gray
5 years

Not pictured:

Billy McNeely
15 years

Amy Thrower
10 years

**One client not pictured was recognized for 25 years of service.**
Giving Back

HVO clients and a local church provide gift bags to REACH

Sunny Point Baptist Church donated 24 hand sewn gift bags filled with personal care items for children and HVO clients volunteered by delivering these bags to REACH of Haywood County.

Donation to Special Olympics

Tim Petrea (right), Waynesville Rec. Center Program Supervisor, accepts a donation on behalf of the Haywood County Special Olympics from HVO in the amount of $2,144.39. The money was raised by selling biscuits and pizza throughout the year to the workforce.

Women’s Heart Health Fundraiser

In February, L & E held a fundraiser to support Women’s Heart Health by the sale of various hand-made items. Profits of $218.48 were donated to Haywood Healthcare Foundation for chronic illness.

Quilts for Heroes

L&E coordinated a donation drive for the Quilts for Heroes Program, a program that provides hand-made quilts to wounded service men and women who served in the Iraq and Afghanistan wars.

Day of Caring

HVO participated in the United Way of Haywood County Day of Caring event on September 7 by marking out barcodes on health and beauty aids for MANNA Food Bank.

Party Time!

Birthday Party

The ladies of the United Methodist Women’s Group hosted quarterly birthday parties for clients.

Tea Party with Audrey

Pisgah vs. Tuscola

L & E hosted a spirited cheer contest. Pisgah defeated Tuscola 31-10.

Pizza Day!

Client Retirement Party for George
Giving Back

Holiday Gift for Meals on Wheels Recipients
Meals on Wheels recipients were surprised and happy to have a holiday gift on their tray along with their meal. Staff assisted Innovation clients with assembling these personal care packages for six Meals on Wheels recipients.

Annual Thanksgiving Meal Donation
HVO donated food to The Open Door during Thanksgiving. Mary Sue Kindred, Open Door Kitchen Manager, accepted the donation. Approximately 84 people were served dinner on Thanksgiving day.

Christmas Giving Tree

Trash to Treasures

Christmas Story with Breakfast

UNO Tournament Winner
Donald Lamb

Hayfield Drive Bluegrass Jam Session

Client-lead Cooking Class

Gardening

Salvation Army Bell Ringing

Therapy Dogs in L & E

Christmas Giving Tree

Holiday Gift for Meals on Wheels Recipients

Learning Today...Soaring Tomorrow
Christmas Ornament Sales at Waynesville Pizza Company
Clients made Christmas ornaments to sell at Waynesville Pizza Company. Many customers left a donation in return for the hand-crafted ornament. Monies made from the sale were given to support DD client activities.

Maggie Valley Carpet Golf

Model Train Show at the Ag Center

Barber Orchards Fruitstand

Ole Smokey Antique Tractor Show at the Fairgrounds

Maggie Valley Swap Meet and Car Show

Country Side Bowling Lanes

Exploring Maggie Valley