

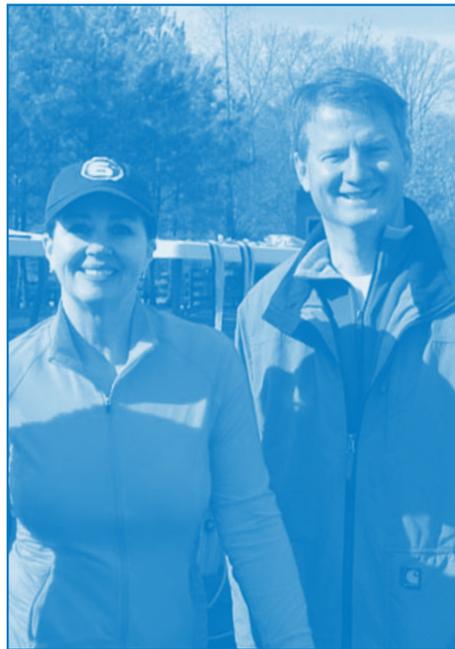


## Another Successful Run/Walk for Autism

Breakthrough was proud to have **525 runners and walkers** who came to the parking lot of the Pinnacle Regal Cinema at Turkey Creek on April 5th for its 8th annual Run/Walk for Autism. Participants were greeted by **Lori Tucker of WATE-TV**, our honorary race chair, and soon the race was on!!

**Dr. John Drezhyner, Commissioner of Health of the State of Tennessee**, spoke with all about the importance of a healthy life style while race results were compiled. **Knox County Mayor Tim Burchett** and Lori presented awards to all winners along with our special group of **Breakthrough Buddies**, individuals with disabilities who, if requested, are given special assistance to participate in the event. Breakthrough appreciates the support of the entire community with this race which raises much needed funds for our programming and especially the individuals (listed later) and the foundations and businesses who sponsor this event without whom it would not be possible:

**UPS Store Farragut, TIS Insurance, The Haslam 3 Foundation, Hartgraphics, Walgreens, Fleet Feet Sports, Regal Entertainment Group, Butler, Vines & Babb, PODS, Chick-Fil-A, Earth Fare, Petro's Chili and Chips, Smartmaps, Total Race Solutions, Best Bagels in Town and John Ryan Lee!**



## Golf Tournament returns September 15, 2014

Breakthrough's golf tournament will be held on **Monday, September 15th at Willow Creek Golf Club**. As in the past, we will have a morning and afternoon round, an excellent goody bag, lunch served between rounds and a fun day of golf!!

We would love to have you and/or your company sponsor our tournament. Please register your foursome early!! For more information, contact **John Thomas** at 865-329-1230 or download a registration form at [www.breakthroughknoxville.com](http://www.breakthroughknoxville.com).



## The Wish List

Breakthrough's Day Services, Supported Employment and Residential programs are ALWAYS in need of items to assist with their activities. Do you have any of these items that you are not using or can you donate new ones?

- Desks/Desk chairs
- Desktops computers with Windows 7 or 8 operating system
- Second generation or above iPads (approximately 15)
- Heavy duty dining room table and chairs (6)
- Scanner/Printers
- Laptop computers with Windows 7 or 8 operating system

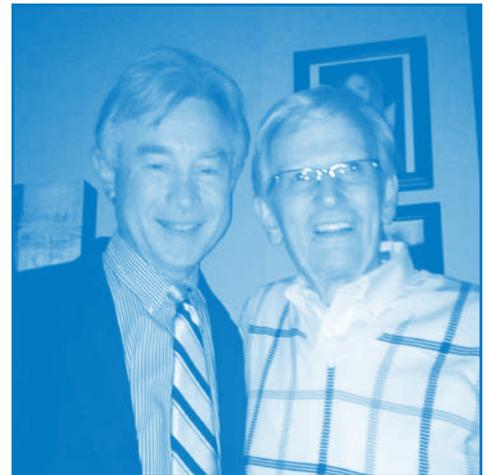
We are also very close to opening our Phase III buildings and will be purchasing appliances and furniture. Any help with the purchase of these items would be greatly appreciated!

We are so grateful for the support of our donors and friends who help us in so many ways.

Please contact Beth Ritchie at 865-247-0065 ext. 25 or earitchie@breakthroughknoxville.com if you can help. Thank you for your generosity!!

## A True Knoxville "Celebrity Bartender"!!!

**Echo Bistro and Wine Bar** was host once again to "Celebrity Bartender" to support Breakthrough during April for Autism Awareness month. This year Beth Ritchie was graciously joined by a Knoxville celebrity behind the bar. . . .**Jake Butcher!** Mr. Butcher helped bring the World's Fair to Knoxville and that evening brought many friends to Echo to bring awareness and support for Breakthrough's mission. He is a delightful gentleman, and we were grateful for his presence (in addition to his lovely wife and devoted family)! Breakthrough is so thankful that he gave his time and energy to help the people we serve. **Thank you Jake Butcher for your kindness and generosity!!**



### Asperger's Support Group

Breakthrough's **Asperger's Support Group** is officially set up on the **Meetup.com** site. If anyone is interested in participating, please visit the following link to RSVP to the support group's events and to learn more about the group: <http://www.meetup.com/Breakthrough-Aspergers-Support-Group-Knoxville-TN/members/146803042/>. There is general information on the site about Breakthrough and the support group and, in the very near future, there will be a discussion/blog for members in order to provide on-going support.

### Parent/Conservator Support Group

Breakthrough will hold its first **Parent/Conservator Support Group** on **Tuesday, July 29th at 6 p.m. at the Brooks House**. Assuming there will be a variety of issues that will be addressed at the first meeting, we will also use this as an organizational meeting to determine the best time, location and structure for future meetings (by program, those receiving services/ separate from those not etc.). Brooks House is located at 2600 Brooks Avenue. **Please RSVP to Beth Ritchie** at [earitchie@breakthroughknoxville.com](mailto:earitchie@breakthroughknoxville.com) or 247-0065 ext. 25 by **July 25th**. We look forward to seeing you and receiving your input!

## Sign up to help Breakthrough by Shopping at Kroger



**WE STILL NEED YOUR HELP!!!** Breakthrough is participating in Kroger's Community Rewards Program AND if you **enroll your Kroger Plus Card** in this program with Breakthrough as the benefiting agency, we can earn up to \$8,000 a quarter. **Although we continue to receive a small check quarterly, for which we are very grateful, we are a LONG way from \$8,000.** There is no cost to you, no impact on your purchases, no personal information traded by

Kroger. . .just a wonderful opportunity for Breakthrough to earn much needed funds while you purchase your groceries!!! **Please go to [www.krogercommunityrewards.com](http://www.krogercommunityrewards.com)** to enroll your Kroger Plus Card at Kroger's secure website (top right corner). All linked Kroger Plus Cards in the household will begin earning funds for Breakthrough. If you already have an account, just **log in and choose Breakthrough as the non-profit of your choice**. If you do not have an account, it will take you a few minutes to set one up. After doing so (by just inputting your name, address, rewards card number), you can then link your reward number to Breakthrough. Setting up an account also gives you the *opportunity* to attach online coupons automatically to your rewards number, schedule prescription refills and other user-friendly Kroger activities IF you choose to do so. There is NO contact from Kroger once this information is submitted. It will take approximately 7-10 business days for the card to be activated. Please consider helping us earn funds when you shop. . .easy for you. . .so necessary for providing services to the people we serve! **If you would like help with this process, please contact Emily Sturgeon at 247-0065 and she will be happy to assist you!** Thank you as always for your support!!!

## Speaking of shopping... do you shop on Amazon?

AmazonSmile is a program where Amazon donates .5% of the purchase price of eligible products to the charitable organizations selected by its customers. Please set this link up on your computers, iPad, cell phones etc. so that the next time you have an urge to shop, you can go directly to **smile.amazon.com** and invest in Breakthrough while you shop to your heart's content!!! <http://smile.amazon.com/ch/62-1834568>. We thank you!!!

## Chairman's Corner

As 2014 moves through the second quarter, Breakthrough has experienced another change in leadership. After some careful consideration and discussions with our Board, Marco Tomat has decided to resign as Executive Director. While the reasons were private and personal in nature, Marco expressed that during his short tenure, the people we serve had a profound impact on him both professionally and personally. We wish Marco the best in his future pursuits. Fortunately, Beth Ritchie has been working closely with both Marco and our previous Interim Director, and we believe she is up to the task of helping lead us through this transitional period as our Interim Director. The Board is in the process of evaluating our current structure and will determine, in short order, how Breakthrough will proceed with the permanent solution to our management team.

In the meantime, Breakthrough is in good hands and our team is continuing to work towards meeting our goals.

In spite of those changes, Breakthrough has continued to look towards the future and has had a designated committee helping form our plan for creating a stand-alone fundraising board. Our hope is to have a formal kick-off in time for the start of the third quarter.

I would like to express how proud I am of our staff for working through these changes in leadership. While there has been a number of changes, our quality and dedication to the people we serve has continued to improve, and our programs are focused on improving the lives of our adults with autism.

—John Lawrence

## Puzzle Pieces Sales a Great Success at Walgreens Stores

April was **Autism Awareness** month and, in recognition of this, Walgreens agreed to once again sell our paper puzzle pieces in all **40 Walgreens** stores in the greater Knoxville area.

### One hundred percent

of the donations went to Breakthrough to raise important funds and invest in our programming! We raised \$7674!!! Thank you, Doug Hamburger, District Manager, for helping us with this campaign.

Top sellers were Phyllis Pentecost, for three of the four weeks, from the store at 121 N. Northshore Drive in Knoxville and Sarah Federenko, for one of the weeks, from the store at New Riverside Drive in Sevierville. Dustin Wilson, from the same Sevierville store, was the top store manager. Thank **YOU** for your support and thank you **Walgreens** for all you do to employ adults with disabilities!!



## A Big THANK YOU to...

### Second Presbyterian Church of Knoxville:

On May 18th, Breakthrough was included in an outreach program of the church, and they delighted the people we serve with a delicious breakfast! Volunteers from the church prepared and served a "home cooked brunch" to over 35 of our persons served, their staff and parents. Our warehouse was filled with smiling faces and full stomachs. Thank you Second Presbyterian for brightening our Sunday morning!

**Christy Frazier:** On May 21st, we held our first "hair salon day" in our warehouse thanks to hair stylist Christy Frazier!!! Haircuts can be an intimidating process for some of the people we serve AND extremely expensive on their limited budgets. Christy has volunteered to visit our warehouse monthly to cut hair at an extremely reduced rate, in a much less intimidating and more familiar, convenient location. It was a great success, and WOW...do we look GREAT!! Thank you Christy!!!

**Jose Nolin-White and her CDC class at West High School:** We so appreciate their expert and detailed help with the stuffing, labeling, and sealing of all the newsletters we send out! It is a laborious task...and we are so grateful for their assistance!

## Breakthrough Board of Directors:

**John Lawrence**  
Chairman

**Denny Dukes**  
Vice Chairman

**Kathie Dorran**  
Secretary

**Chris Hockman**  
Treasurer

**Lynn Bolton**

**Fred Coe**

**Lance Fisher**

**Kathy Hart**

**Ron Koksall**

**Terry Ray**

**Lisa Ross**

**Carole Schenk**

**Lisa Skinner**

**John Thomas**

**Andrea White**

## Breakthrough Staff:

**Beth Ritchie**  
Interim Executive Director

**Cynthia Buback**  
Supported Employment Director

**Sarah Bufton**  
Accounting Supervisor

**Angie Davidson**  
Director of Staff and Staff Development

**Lola Norbury**  
Quality Assurance Coordinator

**Deana Rutherford**  
Director of Personal Assistance Services and R&R

**Jason Riddle**  
Residential Director

**Emily Sturgeon**  
Executive Administrator

**Arnetrise Tedder**  
Day Services Director

## Waiver renewal

The current state waivers are up for renewal this year and are being submitted for approval. In addition, a new waiver has been proposed. Although the current waivers remains *basically* the same, there are significant changes with the new waiver, if approved. The most significant changes are that the services will be handled by Managed Care Organizations (MCOs), individuals with Developmental Disabilities (DD) will also be eligible, and an emphasis will be placed on employment. A concept paper is available on the Department of Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities (DIDD) website including a summary for “families” receiving services and those waiting to receive services. The information is available at [www.tn.gov/didd](http://www.tn.gov/didd).

## The Circus was back!

The first weekend in May saw the return of the **Dragonfly Aerial Arts Circus**. This year’s performances were held at the Tennessee School for the Deaf. The people Breakthrough serves attended the performance on Saturday afternoon and were once again entertained by jugglers, performers on stilts and unicycles, ladies hanging from silks and many more entertaining acts! Thank you to Breakthrough’s past director **Mary Johnson** for all her work with this event and for the help of Breakthrough board members (and spouses!) and staff who volunteered at the performances: **Judi Brookshire, Fred and Priscilla Coe, Kathie Dorran, Jason Riddle and Carole Schenk**.

## Speaking of employment...

Do you or someone you know own a business that can help one of the people we serve in pursuing the following jobs??? The individuals we support have expressed an interest in the following community employment. If you have information that can help us place those we support in a job or if you know of an available opening, please contact Cynthia Buback our Supported Employment Director at: 865-525-9010 (office), 731-394-1349 (cell), [cbuback@breakthroughknoxville.com](mailto:cbuback@breakthroughknoxville.com)

- Stocking and/or organizing duties (repetition preferred)..... Part time
- Movie theater greeter/ticket taker .....Part time or full time
- Customer service at FYE or American Eagle.....Part time or full time
- Food service custodian/bus boy ..... Part time
- Landscaping/gardener/lawn care .....Part time or full time
- Caring for animals ..... Part time
- Vacuuming carpets (contracted services) ..... Part time
- Bakery or pizza restaurant (baker/cook).....Part time or full time
- Library or bookstore (stocking/organizing) ..... Part time
- Kroger customer service clerk/stocking ..... Part time
- Dry Cleaning clerk ..... Part time

*Everyone knows someone who owns a business, has a friend who knows the president of a company, or has built a rapport with a waitress or salesperson. Hopefully, our networking can help the people Breakthrough serves fulfill their dreams! **Thanks in advance for your help.***

## Thank you to our Donors!

*We are extremely grateful to those who continue to invest in the future of Breakthrough and those we serve. In addition to those mentioned previously, Breakthrough has received donations from the following since our last newsletter:*

Mr. and Mrs. Alexander Aiken  
Akima Club Inc.  
Mr. and Mrs. Richard Alexander  
Mr. Gregory Baker  
Ms. Amy Bradshaw  
Mr. Jake Butcher  
Mr. and Mrs. Alan Brizzolara  
Ms. Barbara Chandler  
Dragonfly Aerial Arts Studio  
Mr. and Mrs. Robert Dorran  
Ms. JoAnn Doty  
Mr. John Fairstein

Dr. Virginia Frye  
Mr. Gideon Fryer  
Guyton & Frère Elder Law  
Mr. Kenneth Haley and Friends at UPS  
Ms. Katherine Hart  
Mr. Cole Harris  
Mr. William Hotz  
Ms. Kimberly Kear  
Mr. and Mrs. Richard Komistek  
Mr. and Mrs. Matt LaGrand  
Mr. and Mrs. John Lawrence  
Ms. Josephine Lay

Ms. Susan Lawlor  
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Dr. and Mrs. Robert Russell  
Mr. James Saulsbury  
Ms. Missy Strickland

Ms. Janette Strickland  
Mr. Ronald Veno  
Mr. William Vines, III  
Ms. Holly Warlick  
Mr. and Mrs. Joe Ben Wilson  
Mr. Craig Wisberg

### ***In-Kind donations:***

Hart Graphics  
Mr. and Mrs. Paul Schmalz

The accuracy of our donor database is extremely important to the Board of Directors of Breakthrough. If you believe the information pertaining to your donation, at any time, is inaccurate, misrepresented or omitted, **PLEASE** contact Beth Ritchie at [earitchie@breakthroughknoxville.com](mailto:earitchie@breakthroughknoxville.com) or 247-0065 ext.25 so we can update our records. We appreciate your assistance!