

# Rowan Vocational Opportunities Cabarrus Vocational Opportunities Fall-Winter 2018 Newsletter

## RVO Aktion Club Supports Back to School Efforts within Rowan-Salisbury Schools

Aktion Club members at Rowan Vocational Opportunities have continued to make a major effort to accomplish the club's mission. The Aktion Club is the only service club designed specifically for adults with disabilities. Focusing on their motto, "Where development has no disability," the RVO club collected school supplies for students within the Rowan-Salisbury School System. Kim Walton, the Classroom Instructor and Qualified Professional at RVO, delivered the supplies to the Exceptional Children's Program classrooms at the following schools: Koontz Elementary, Hurley Elementary, North Rowan Middle School, and West Rowan Middle School.



*The Aktion Club is sponsored by Kiwanis Clubs worldwide. Tammy Lemmons and Steve Gaither serve as advisors for the club at RVO.*

### Rowan Vocational Opportunities, Inc.

#### Board Members / Officers

Chairman—Gary Elmore  
Vice Chairman—Suzette Pritchard  
Secretary—Ann Hatchett  
Treasurer—Lisa George

Taylor Blackman  
Nancy Collins  
Vernice Gallon \*  
Jeff Joyce  
Chelsea Nazal  
Laura Osborne  
Karen Owen  
Brian Rucker  
Shela Sapp\*  
Jill Smith  
Kelly Smith  
Jay Taylor  
Carrie Walters  
Kenisha Wood

\*Ex-Officio

#### RVO Leadership Team

Gary Yelton -Executive Director/QP  
Tamara Chisholm-CVO Innovations Mgr.  
Akeila Drye-RVO Innovations Mgr.  
Heather Erwin-RVO ADVP/Innovations QP  
Skip Kraft-CVO Director of Operations/QP  
Tammy Lemmons-Finance/HR/Admin.  
Joy Martenstyn-ADVP Program Mgr.  
Glenn McDonald-Sales & Marketing Director  
Carol Miller-CVO ADVP/Innovations QP  
Robbi Russell-RVO Production Mgr.  
Steve Russell-CVO Production Mgr.  
Kim Walton-RVO Classroom Instructor/QP

#### Thanksgiving / Christmas Lunch Changes

We have changed the dates /days of our Thanksgiving and Christmas lunches.

November 20, 2018—Thanksgiving lunch at RVO

November 21, 2018—Thanksgiving lunch at CVO

December 20, 2018—Christmas lunch at RVO

December 21, 2018—Christmas lunch at CVO

# United Way Campaign a Major Success

By: Wilson Cherry



A special thanks goes out to the 58 staff members at CVO/RVO who contributed a record total of \$7,136.50 for the 2019 Rowan County United Way Campaign. The auction featured homemade desserts, Carolina Panthers tickets, numerous arts/crafts, as well as gift baskets and gift certificates. The annual auction generated \$1,359.59, which was included in the overall total.

“The campaign is about more than raising funds for worthy causes, it also enhances the quality of life for all of the citizens in Rowan County,” said Gary Yelton, Executive Director of RVO. “I want

to acknowledge and thank our staff, donor, Board of Directors, and all of the businesses that contributed items for the auction,” he concluded.

The local United Way also sponsored the annual “Day of Caring” event in Rowan County, which enables numerous non-profit agencies, schools, and community organizations to receive volunteer help for improvements on the grounds and facility needs. This year RVO had volunteers to construct landscaping around the existing flag pole. A previous Day of Caring project included building raised flower beds, which allowed individuals with wheelchairs to be able to participate in gardening.



# Akeila Drye Earns Degree

By: Wilson Cherry



Congratulations to Akeila Drye, Innovations Program Manager at RVO. Akeila has earned her Bachelor of Science Degree in Human Services and Psychology from Walden University. When she is not working, she enjoys cooking, hair-styling, traveling, and spending time with her husband and three children. We are very proud of Akeila and her educational accomplishments.

## Wilson Cherry Speaks at National Conference



Wilson R. Cherry, Director of Community affairs at Rowan Vocational Opportunities, Inc., was a presenter and panelist at a National Conference in Kannapolis, N.C., which focused on Police and other public servants who are charged with interviewing persons with Intellectual Disabilities . Cherry also had a presentation on working with people with Traumatic Brain Injuries. Cherry is a former award-winner and has been a Vocational Rehabilitation Counselor and Job Placement Specialist. He has also been an active presenter and board member for Crisis Intervention Training, sponsored by Cardinal Innovations and Rowan-Cabarrus Community College.

## Stephanie Lemmons, RVO Student Intern, Tours China

By: Wilson Cherry

Stephanie Lemmons, student Intern at Rowan Vocational Opportunities, recently traveled to China as part of the International Scholar Laureate Program (ISLP). Stephanie has recently earned her Associate's Degree in Liberal Arts, from Rowan-Cabarrus Community College and plans to pursue her Bachelor's Degree in Creative Writing and Literature. While at RCCC, Stephanie was a member of the Phi Theta Kappa Honor Society.



## Rickey's Ingenuity

By Glenn McDonald

In recent months, RVO's largest customer, GE, has redesigned some of their product and changed usage of some sub assemblies. One of the items that have seen an increase in volume, is a neutral assembly with a wide metal plate. We were trying to set up a second work station to meet the increased demand, but a new expensive fixture would be needed. Rickey F. understood what was needed and made an excellent recommendation. He suggested we modify one of the fixtures that had become obsolete by milling areas to accept the wider metal plate. It was such an easy modification, that GE machine fixture it in one day and at no cost to RVO. This is the type of teamwork that helps RVO exceed customer expectations.



Way to go Rickey!



## CALENDAR OF EVENTS/CLOSINGS

### November 2018

November 12, 2018—Veteran's Day  
Holiday/Facilities closed

November 20, 2018—Thanksgiving  
lunch at RVO

November 21, 2018—Thanksgiving  
lunch at CVO

November 22-23, 2018—Thanksgiving  
Day Holidays/Facilities closed

### December 2018

December 20, 2018—Christmas  
lunch at RVO

December 21, 2018—Christmas  
lunch at CVO

December 24-26, 2018—Christmas  
Day Holidays/Facilities closed

### January 2019

January 1, 2019—New Year's Day  
Holiday/Facilities closed

January 21, 2019—Martin Luther King  
Jr. Day—Holiday/Facilities closed

### April 2019

April 19, 2019—Good Friday Holiday/

### Donate

Thank you for your support of Rowan Vocational Opportunities, Inc.  
Your contributions will help us fulfill dreams for both RVO and CVO consumers.  
You can decide where you want your gift to be used to make a difference.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Name

\_\_\_\_\_  
Address

\_\_\_\_\_  
Phone

Check Amount: \_\_\_\_\_ Cash Amount: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_



### Mission Statement

Rowan Vocational Opportunities, Inc. provides opportunity and training for adults with disabilities to develop work habits and skills leading to employment. Rowan Vocational Opportunities, Inc. also provides these consumers with daily living skills to increase independent functioning at home and in the community and in a diverse and inclusive environment.

Rowan Vocational Opportunities, Inc.

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