

Building a New Path and Strengthening Our Vision

These past several months have been a transitional time for Planting Possibilities.

As with any unexpected loss, there is a new beginning. After the sudden death of our co-founder, Mark Neiner, we have collaborated with our dedicated Board of Directors and loyal volunteers to build a new path continuing our mission and keeping Mark's dream in mind.

Our new training program at the YMCA Camp Triangle Hills in Crown Point has progressed significantly since our last newsletter update.

We have fenced our garden, built a prototype of our 12 raised beds, and moved our tractors and containers to the property.

We will order our hoophouse soon. This will serve to extend our growing season until we get funding for our larger, more permanent greenhouse and classroom building.

Our prevocational training program will begin late summer/early fall. It will be a program that is funded by the BBDS waiver services offered through the State of Indiana for persons with autism and other developmental disabilities. We are currently in search of the perfect person to lead this program.

We are extremely grateful to the Legacy Foundation and Enbridge for their grants that have taken us this far into our vision. We are also grateful to Crossroads YMCA for inviting us to partner with them on this endeavor.

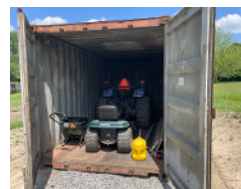
Another step forward for Planting Possibilities is the addition of our new Executive Director, Ms. Kristy Fletcher.



Kristy grew up in Lake County and has built her career with organizations across Indiana and Wisconsin. She has served as Executive Director for organizations similar to ours and has the knowledge and skillset to take us to the next level. She recently moved back to the Region and is ready to help us strengthen our vision. We are very happy to have Kristy guide us on our path of growth!

Please keep us in your thoughts as we forge this new path and continue to serve our adults with autism and other developmental disabilities whose future we continue to improve!

Happy Summer,
Mary Anne Neiner
President, Planting Possibilities



CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR CLIENTS ON THEIR NEW JOBS!

Within the past six months our job coach, Shraddha Parikh, has helped five of our clients find jobs!

Our clients come to us with different job aspirations and different abilities. Keonte and Justin work at local restaurants; Meriel works at a bakery; Michael works at a movie theater; and Edgar, after finishing his degree in Civil Engineering, has the job of his dreams at an engineering firm in downtown Chicago.

Congratulations to all for finding fulfilling employment, and to Shraddha for helping them find their niches in our community!



Planting Possibilities in the Community

HIGHLIGHTS FROM OUR GERANIUM SALE

The weather was ideal for our Spring geranium sale. We had a great day out in the sunshine and saw a lot of our old friends!



Thank you to all of you who came out to support our mission with your purchases of the beautiful geraniums and to PATTY PFISTER for sharing a picture of her flowers!

Our fall mum sale will be on Saturday, September 21. Although your geraniums will probably still be blooming, it'll be time to switch to fall colors. We'll see you again in September.

ROCKOPELLI: AUGUST 24

Rockopelli Music Fest has generously donated to Planting Possibilities for over 10 years. And – they just keep getting bigger and better every year! Join us at Bulldog Park in Crown Point, Indiana on August 24 for this year's festivities.



MEMORIAL DAY AT THE STEEL YARD



Thank you to the Gary South Shore RailCats and Indiana Beach Amusement & Water Park for sponsoring a Memorial Day double header at The Steel Yard. Planting Possibilities was the charity of choice to receive a \$1,000 donation from the players' jersey auction that day. Eric Neiner threw out the first pitch to RailCats infielder Jose' Contreras.



Thank You to Our Donors

- | | | | | |
|----------------------------------|---------------------------------|-----------------------------|-----------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| Tom Alexander | Dona Gerlach | Frank Lowry | Amy Ooms | Tri Kappa Sorority, Zeta Psi Chapter |
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Remembering Mark A. Neiner

- Dr. George Cybulski
- Susan Harmening
- Patrick and Cathy McAndrews
- Dede Morrow
- Nathan Pullen
- Debbie Somerville



Martha Carnes – in honor of Rebecca Bennett's milestone birthday. Happy Birthday, Rebecca!



Brad and Amy Hemingway – in honor of Joe and Cookie Janostak and their ongoing service to their community.



Golf for Possibilities

August 3, 2024

Scherwood Golf Course
600 East Joliet Street, Schererville, IN

All proceeds benefit Planting Possibilities.

No fee - ONLINE registration at:

www.plantingpossibilities.org/golf

Scan the QR code or mail registration with payment to:



Planting Possibilities

Attn: Golf for Possibilities

P.O. Box 1805 | Highland, IN 46322

Registration: 7:00 am | Shotgun Start: 8:00 am
\$125 per golfer - Sponsorships Available
includes 18 holes of golf with cart, lunch, beer, prizes and more!

Name: _____

Phone: (Cell) _____ (Home) _____

Email: _____

If you are registering as part of a twosome/foursome, please provide both/all names. Include name, phone number and email address for each golfer.

	<u>Name</u>	<u>Cell Phone</u>	<u>Email</u>
1)	_____	_____	_____
2)	_____	_____	_____
3)	_____	_____	_____
4)	_____	_____	_____

WANT TO REDUCE YOUR INDIANA STATE TAX BILL?

THIS IS A WIN-WIN FOR YOU AS AN INDIANA TAX PAYER AND FOR PLANTING POSSIBILITIES.

Planting Possibilities participates in the Indiana Housing and Community Development Authority's Neighborhood Assistance Program (NAP). Every donation of \$100 or more (maximum limit of \$2,000) made between July 1 and December 31, 2024, is eligible for a 50% Indiana State tax credit. Planting Possibilities realizes the entire amount of your donation! If you donate \$100, you receive \$50 tax credit;

a donation of \$500 receives \$250, \$1000 donation realizes a \$500 credit. Those tax credits are directly subtracted from your Indiana state taxes on your tax form.

Planting Possibilities is limited to \$6000 in tax credits to sell. Donations made before December 31, 2024 will be credited to your 2024 taxes, while those made between January 1, 2025 and March 31, 2025 will be credited to your 2025 taxes.

Credits are "sold" on a **first-come, first-served basis**. Individuals and businesses are eligible.

More information about this program can be found online on our website: plantingpossibilities.org/nap-donation.

Email maryanne@plantingpossibilities.org with any questions.



PLANTING POSSIBILITIES IS A VOCATIONAL REHAB PROVIDER

CARF CERTIFIED - SERVING LAKE COUNTY, INDIANA

- Over 150 clients served since 2012 *
- Life skills training on task completion, soft skills, and project planning
- 80% success rate for job-seeking or academic track clients (initial placement/subsequent employment or college/trade school enrollment) **
- Certified one-on-one direct service professional job coaches
- Special needs client staffed lawn service micro-business
- On-site vocational garden and greenhouse
- Certified staff horticulturalist/twice weekly client education sessions
- Opportunities for social interaction through Special Olympics and other sponsored events

* 128 Campagna clients, 25 VR employment services ** 10% switched providers 90% satisfaction from Quality Assurance survey



Planting Possibilities
PO Box 1805
Highland, IN 46322

Visit PlantingPossibilities.org



Learn More About:

- >> Building a New Path
- >> Prevocational Program at YMCA Crossroads
- >> Golf Outing and more

Planting Possibilities is a registered 501(c)3 with the mission to provide job-skills training, employment, and volunteer opportunities for adults with autism and other developmental disabilities in Lake County, Indiana.

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admin@plantingpossibilities.org | 219-237-9353

WWW.PLANTINGPOSSIBILITIES.ORG |

Planting Possibilities is a 501(c)3 nonprofit eligible for company matching programs. Your contribution is tax-deductable in accordance with applicable law.

PO Box 1805 Highland, IN

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Phone Number: _____

Email Address: _____

Credit Card No. _____ Exp. Date: _____ Security Code: _____


Circle one of the following: MasterCard _____ Visa _____ Discover _____

I would like to volunteer, please contact me: Yes _____ No _____

Please make checks payable to: Planting Possibilities

Planting Possibilities Gardeners Circle Levels

\$25	_____
\$50	_____
\$75	_____
\$100	_____
\$250	_____
\$500	_____
\$750	_____
\$1000	_____
other - \$	_____



If you would like to support Planting Possibilities with a financial gift, please donate online at www.plantingpossibilities.org or complete the form below. We thank you sincerely for your support.

