



## From your Chief Executive Officer:

I like words. Words are the means through which most of us communicate our thoughts, needs, and ideas. I am so fascinated by words and language that, sometimes, I'll sit down with a dictionary or a thesaurus and look up the synonyms or definitions of some of my favorite phrases or expressions. I realize this is sort of a strange hobby, and not very exciting (especially when compared to some of the other things I do for fun and recreation) but it's important to me.

We have just completed updating our brochure and program descriptions, which gave me numerous opportunities to re-read our mission statement—to *empower citizens with developmental challenges through service alternatives which promote: self-advocacy, self-reliance, self-direction, self-sufficiency, and self-actualization.*

When I read the words in our mission statement, I get this “mind’s eye” vision of capable people who are not afraid to speak up for themselves—or on behalf of someone else. I see people who have confidence and trust in their own abilities. I envision people who can guide themselves down a chosen path, making good choices and decisions as they meet life’s challenges. I see people who have enough of everything they need in life to be successful—as much as is needed or desired. Finally, I see people who are able to recognize and take advantage of that important moment in time—the one when they have a rare opportunity to make changes that will greatly improve their future.

Ok, ok—you figured it out: You’re saying to yourself “Chris sat down with a dictionary and a thesaurus and looked up every word in BCDC’s mission statement.” That’s exactly what I did—and the impact of the words was so powerful that I had to share them with you. For me—and I bet for you, too—these are bright images of hope and promise. The ‘dis’ is removed from the word *ability!*

But just when I thought I had finished, I realized that—by accident—I had skipped over the word ‘self’—little did I know that I had saved the best for last. Roget’s II Desk Thesaurus says that the word ‘self’ refers to “an individual’s awareness of what constitutes his or her essential nature and distinguishes him or her from all others.” Mr. Webster’s dictionary says that the word ‘self’ means “the essential being of one person as distinct from any other”. Pretty close—and they both work for me!

Suddenly, my vision comes into clear focus: the person we serve—each unique individual—facing countless challenges throughout life. I see BCDC promoting those wonderful outcomes, and I see the faces of the many individuals who have benefited from our programs and services. I see that they are able to exert more control and influence over their own lives—partly because we did our jobs well.

*Chris*  
Chris Kiricoples

Chief Executive Officer

### MISSION:

TO EMPOWER CITIZENS  
WITH DEVELOPMENTAL  
CHALLENGES THROUGH  
SERVICE ALTERNATIVES  
WHICH PROMOTE:  
SELF-ADVOCACY  
SELF-RELIANCE  
SELF-DIRECTION  
SELF-SUFFICIENCY  
SELF-ACTUALIZATION

Spring 2007

## **BCDC IS LEAN!**

The Beaufort County Developmental Center Inc. recently completed Lean Manufacturing training. Funding for the training was provided through an Incumbent Workforce Development Grant, which allowed BCDC's ISO 9001-2000 certified Subcontract and Production Department to receive the training. Lean Manufacturing efforts are focused on teaching employees the importance of continuous operational and process improvement. It emphasizes, from the customer's perspective, those activities that add value to the product or business relationship, and the ways in which a manufacturer can eliminate, reduce, or control those



situations that are counter productive. Receiving the grant allowed BCDC to hire staff from North Carolina State's Industrial Extension Services to provide the training.

Through this training, BCDC perfected their material handling, inventory, quality, scheduling, personnel and customer satisfaction skills.

Elizabeth Leggett, Adult Day Program Services Manager, knows how positive this training was for BCDC and the services it provides. "We achieved a great accomplishment in becoming ISO 9001-2000 certified. Receiving this most recent grant

allows us to continue our training and to optimize our skills. This was the next logical step to ensure that we provide the best service and quality to our customers."

Through the funding provided by the grant, BCDC hired Jim Kurian with NC State's Industrial Extension Services to provide Lean Manufacturing training to over 70 employees. Kurian was focused on improving BCDC's ISO certified program by evaluating the processes used in the packaging and assembly of various products that BCDC completes for area industries. Through the production of this contracted work, BCDC is able to teach the work skills, habits, and attitudes people need to be successful.

"We trained BCDC's supervision team in the principles of lean manufacturing, which will enable them to make improvements as they go forward. Also, we applied the training to improve the organization and flow of materials in the facility to make it easier for all to operate and to manage."

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### **WAY TO GO BCDC PRODUCTION TEAM!**

BCDC recently had an annual ISO 9001-2001 surveillance audit. During the recent audit, BCDC received no non-conformances, which means it is working its quality system. BCDC's VOICE Production Department provides assembly, sorting of parts, inspection and testing, and collaboration of materials for the manufacturing industry including the government and automotive industry to comply with the ISO 9001-2000 standard.

## Welcome to our Board of Directors 2007



Austin Thomas, Peggy Simpson, Lynn Lewis (Chair), Carol Boyd West, Pam Pippin (back row) Allen Pittman, Walter Rentschler, Judy Jennette and Pam Shadle)

## Shoot for Empowerment



Congratulations to the winners of our 2nd Annual HORSE Basketball Shoot-out. Pictured left to right are Gary Baldwin (3rd), Austin Thomas (2nd), Mark Hendrix (1st), and Kelly Collier (4th). The event was a huge success and helped raise money for BCDC. See you next year on the courts!

## *CDC Celebrates the Week of the Young Child with a parade*



The Child Development Center celebrated the Week of the Young Child during April 23rd-27th. Parents were asked to spend 5 minutes with their child upon arrival doing various activities like coloring or reading. Each day brought excitement as the children celebrated crazy hat day, silly hair day, silly sock day, pajama day and inside-out day. On April 26th, along with other young children in the community, the 3 & 4 year old classrooms took a field trip to participate in the parade in downtown Washington celebrating the week. After the parade they watched several short skits performed by ECU School of Arts.

## Thanks to all our sponsors!



*The ability to speak up for yourself, or  
to speak up on behalf of another.*

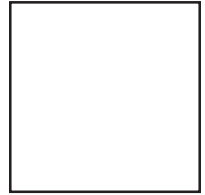
# Advocacy

**Thank you to everyone that has supported BCDC in the past and to our donors in the future. We couldn't continue to provide services and programs to over 300 children and adults with developmental disabilities daily if it wasn't for your support. All contributions to BCDC are tax-deductible and memorials are a great way to celebrate the life of someone special.**

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 www.bcdcsolutions.org



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Since starting BCDC's  
 Endowment Fund in 2001

we have raised

**\$41,315.00**

Thanks for your donations!