

Clearbrook CHANNEL

Fall 2019

Welcome Home

A home provides safety, security, comfort, and above all else, a place where you can be yourself. From independent living to 24-hour nursing care, Clearbrook's Residential Services offer an array of quality, licensed, residential options for adults with intellectual/developmental disabilities to call home. Each individual receives supports that recognize his/her needs and preferences and guides the support he/she receives. Community integration is part of every resident's life. Clearbrook serves nearly 400 individuals with intellectual/developmental in our residential programs.

Clearbrook's four Intermediate Care Facilities for Individuals with Intellectual Disabilities (ICFs) are a residential option for adults who cannot live alone and need 24-hour supervision as well as nursing services. Clearbrook has four ICFs that range in capacity from 16 to 85 residents. There is a nurse on staff for a minimum of 20 hours a week and up to full time. He/she coordinates all the clients' medical needs.

Clearbrook also has CILAs (Community Integrated Living Arrangements) or group homes. These are small community-based residences for eight or fewer people. There are four types of CILAs: Intermittent, Shared Living/Host Family, Family, and 24 Hours. The CILA choice is based on the individual's needs. With more than 136 CILAs scattered throughout 52 different communities, each residential home is integrated in the neighborhood. Our clients are part of their community.



Cathy and fellow Becky CILA resident, Amy, pose for a picture at a recent open house at their home.

Our residents lead a life just as anyone would in the community: working or attending day programs, planning and preparing meals, decorating their bedroom, maintaining their home, and participating in the recreational and cultural activities in their community.

While much of our residential services are government funded, many aspects of the programs are not. The cost of purchasing or leasing the home along with necessary capital improvements

(roof, appliances etc) are not covered by the government. Clearbrook has been very fortunate to receive the generous support of donors to help cover these costs.

We recently had an open house at our new CILA in McHenry County, now called the Becky CILA in honor of Becky Van Eekeren Metzler. The Van Eekeren family have been long-time supporters of Clearbrook, and we're excited to name this home in memory of their beloved Becky who passed away from cancer. The Van Eekeren family was able to meet the women who live in this home and are thriving in their new community. One of the residents there, Cathy, is a 65-year-old woman that has lived with her mother her entire life. When her mother grew ill and was no longer able to care for Cathy, the family became concerned about where she would go and who would take care of her. While the first few weeks in the Becky CILA were emotionally difficult for Cathy, she has thrived in her new home. The Becky CILA has been a blessing to both Cathy and her family.

Another group of women has been living in a CILA in Arlington Heights together for over 20 years. As they age, their two-story home no longer meets their needs. They need a ranch home, and they would like to stay in their same community. They have truly developed into a family and want to continue to grow together. Thanks to the generous support of many families, but especially the Hoeg family, these women moved this fall into their new home. It is named the Fogarty home after the matriarch of the Hoeg family.

A few years ago, the Fogelson family generously funded new flooring at the Lattof Commons, one of the ICFs. It was a huge undertaking and very much needed. The flooring in the resident's bedrooms were inconsistent throughout the facility and many rooms had older carpet. Thanks to the Fogelson's generosity, residents of the Commons are now able to enjoy new flooring in all of their bedrooms.

These are just a few stories of the many who have given so generously to support our residential clients. It's hard to imagine a better gift to give than providing comfort, safety, and haven for those we serve.

Donations given to Clearbrook help support these individuals. If you are interested in making a larger gift in support of a home, there are naming opportunities available. Please contact Andi Wojcik, Director of Development, at awojcik@clearbrook.org or 847-385-5014 for more information on financially supporting our residential clients.

If you know someone who could benefit from Clearbrook's residential services, please

CHANNEL
Clearbrook

Non-profit
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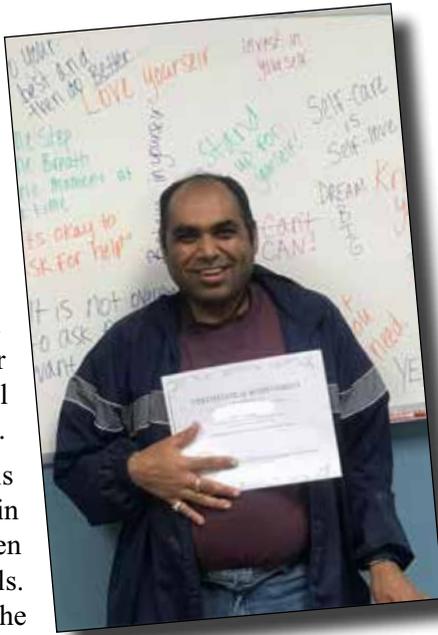
Clearbrook
1835 West Central Road
Arlington Heights, Illinois 60005
847-870-7711



A Naturally Gifted Individual

Every Monday, Clearbrook client, Romi, gets dropped off at work—something that he looks forward to each week. Romi was recently hired at Naturally Gifted, a division of Clearbrook, after completing the 12-week program designed to offer vocational enrichment and hands-on skills training for individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities.

The goal of the curriculum is to help clients be successful in work settings and strengthen employment-related skills. Clients then complete the program by doing a two-week internship at Naturally Gifted, an essential oil store located in the Crystal Lake Plaza, where



they get to make products, sort and stock inventory, gain customer service experience, and more. When asked about his new job, Romi says “I love my job!” Romi works Mondays from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

All Naturally Gifted products are all-natural, organic, and made from therapeutic-grade essential oils. Be sure to stop in and check out all we have to offer, including candles, roller balls, and so much more.

Naturally Gifted is located at 6500 Northwest Highway, Suite 2B in Crystal Lake and open M-F from

9:00 a.m.–3:00 p.m. Learn more at Clearbrook.org/NatGift.

Golfers Rise to the Challenge for Clearbrook



Over 130 golfers came out to the exclusive Exmoor Country Club in Highland Park on Monday, August 5, to tee up in support of Clearbrook. Attendees enjoyed lunch overlooking the pristine grounds, 18 holes, dinner, and a paddle raise. Proceeds will help support Clearbrook’s programs and services.

Special thank you to the Clearbrook Challenge Committee and Sponsors

Committee

Peter Billmeyer, David Feder, Doug Hugdahl, Carl La Mell, Bill Lussow, Chris Conmy, Ed Fiorentino, Victor Sanmiguel, and Jim Woldenberg.

Sponsors

Arly and Karen Guenther, Assurance, Baker Tilly, Bespoke, Frank ten Brink, Church Street Brewing, Carson Wealth, Berkshire Hathaway–Deborah Greenberg, Heathrow Scientific, Horton, and VALIC.

For more information event, please contact Hillary Mittelman at 847.385.5009 or hmittelman@clearbrook.org

Clearbrook Clients Visited by Comfort Dogs

On August 9, Lutheran Church Charities LCC K-9 Comfort Dog Ministry, visited our community day program at Riley. Myra, Malachi, and Susie spent the afternoon with our individuals—each furry friend has their own business card!



Marty's Story



Marty (second from right) is a long-time Community Living Arrangement (CILA) and Getz client. He has a job at the Army base through Clearbrook’s community employment services and receives behavior services. In short, he has quite a few Clearbrook staff working with him regularly.

Recently, his CILA Qualified Intellectual Disabilities Professional (QIDP), Jody, changed caseloads, his job coach, Ryan, took a new job outside of Clearbrook, and one of his beloved CILA staff is no longer working at his home. In addition, Marty has had to face other personal

challenges in a short amount of time. His QIDP, Jody, initiated an email chain with the key members of Marty’s team in order to get everyone on the same page and to strategize how to best tell Marty about these staff changes while continuing to ensure his success in all environments. It was decided the group would share a soda together. This suited Marty well and he had a blast, laughing and joking with his staff. This is a perfect example of how the Clearbrook staff consistently go above and beyond—always putting the clients first.

STEP IT UP FOR CLEARBROOK
5K RUN/1 MILE WALK

SAVE THE DATE

Sept. 26, 2020 |
Arlington Heights, IL

CLEARBROOK

Remembering Mike Lattof



Per a recent article in the Daily Herald, Mike Lattof loved playing Robin Hood in 2016's Clearbrook on Cue, but he was certainly no outlaw. In fact, those that knew him had nothing but wonderful things to say about the 61-year-old. Mike passed away on Sept. 2 after battling an illness.

“Clearbrook was such a gift to Mike and our family,” said his mother, Charlotte Lattof, who served on the board of Clearbrook and whose husband, Nicholas, started Lattof Chevrolet in Arlington Heights.

Family credits his positive, active lifestyle and his involvement with Clearbrook as the reason he doubled his life expectancy and enriching his life.

The Clearbrook Commons, our 85-resident Intermediate Care Facility (ICF) in Rolling Meadows, is named for the Lattof family. Mike Lattof spent his final two years at Lattof Commons.

Mike, your positivity and light will be missed!

Source: Eileen O. Daday. Sept. 17, 2019. Daily Herald. “Despite challenges, Mike Lattof ‘lived a fuller life.’”



Save the date for the Shining Star Ball on April 24, 2020. Contact Annie at apalubicki@clearbrook.org for more information.

Deloitte Gives Back



Thanks to a team of volunteers from Deloitte, several Clearbrook group homes were the recipients of complimentary landscaping. The team took a day to come out and pull weeds, plant sod, put up fences for vegetable gardens and replant. Their efforts didn't end there! They also power washed decks, and painted railings, and steps that badly needed some TLC! With 53 Community Integrated Living Arrangements (CILA), we couldn't afford to pay someone to do all the work they so kindly donated to us. Thanks, Deloitte, for all you do for Clearbrook!

Clearbrook Hosts 8th Annual Home-Based Services Expo



Clearbrook hosted its 8th Annual Home-Based Services Expo on Thursday, Sept. 12 at Avalon Banquets in Elk Grove Village. The event featured presentations from State Representative Michelle Mussman and Connect to Community's Barb Tobias and Linda Hall, as well as an exhibit hall with over 40 vendors specializing in providing services for individuals with intellectual/development disabilities and their families.

Areas of expertise represented included adaptive equipment, behavioral & clinical services, benefits, durable medical equipment, employment, fiscal employer agents, home and vehicle modifications, housing, legal, family supports, post-secondary education, social services, training and much more. More than 200 people attended to see what it had to offer.



JELLY BELLY DAYS
MAY 8-9, 2020

Support Clearbrook at our largest annual fundraiser.

Contact Hillary Mittelman at (847) 385-5009 or hmittelman@clearbrook.org to learn more!



Fun with Direct Support Professionals

“The direct support staff are the lifeblood of Clearbrook. It is thanks to them that our clients enjoy the quality of life they so richly deserve.” -Carl M. La Mell, President Emeritus. Clearbrook celebrated DSP Week September 9–13 to express gratitude to front line staff, the DSPs who continuously go above and beyond the call of duty for our clients. The leadership teams at each of our programs and facilities pampered their staff with goodies, decorated offices, lunches, ice cream, and more, to show their appreciation for their hard working staff.

CHOICE McHenry enjoyed a decorated staff room,



CHOICE Park Ridge celebrate with treats and gifts.



The DSPs at the PAL program pose with their framed thank you notes from their leadership team.



Fun with selfies! DSPs at DT Riley enjoy taking photos with the office decorations.

an ice cream social, DSPies (a la the office), and customized roller balls from Naturally Gifted, Clearbrook’s store and vocational program in Crystal Lake. DSPs at Getz were treated to a breakfast prepared by management, decorated entryways, a coffee station, framed and signed thank you messages, and more. CHOICE Park Ridge received donuts, coffee, cute candy messages, and an ice cream social. DT Riley had a fun picture station, gifts, and sweet treats while staff of Clearbrook’s Community Employment Services (CES) got a giftcard and ice cream. Staff at ACES also enjoyed gifts and donuts and CILA staff were treated to a homemade pancake breakfast prepared by management.

Thank you, DSPs, for all that you do!

Miss Ohio



Clearbrook celebrity in the house! Andrea, Ohio’s Miss Amazing, came back to visit Clearbrook’s CHILD Program this past August. Having graduated in 1994, Andrea had to leave Clearbrook when her family moved out of state. Back in Illinois to compete in the National Miss Amazing pageant, her and her mom wanted to come back to say thanks to the place that “gave her such a great start in life.”

Clearbrook was so excited to see you, Andrea!

Project SEARCH Annual Conference



Project SEARCH won its second annual award for 100% placement of students in jobs at the Project Search Annual Conference. Taking place July 30–Aug. 2, Annette Doherty, a job developer at Clearbrook, has successfully placed 100% of individuals involved with the program in jobs in the community over the last year.

Project SEARCH, through the Special Education District of Lake County, focuses on providing job training and skill development young adults with intellectual and developmental disabilities. The one-year program is targeted towards students entering their last year of high school. A host business will provide internship opportunities in various departments across the organization.

At this year’s conference, not only was Annette an award recipient, she was also a facilitator! Great work, Annette!

Over 500 people joined Clearbrook at first annual 5K run/1 mile walk in Arlington Heights on September 21



Crossing the finish line! Thanks to everyone that participated!



The first annual run/walk was fun for everyone! Thankfully the rain held off.



Residents from the Clearbrook Commons enjoyed participating in the first annual Step It Up for Clearbrook!

With rain threatening, staff setting up for Clearbrook's, a non-profit serving over 8,000 people with intellectual/developmental disabilities, first annual Step It Up for Clearbrook 5K Run/1 Mile Walk, noticed a rainbow streaking across the sky. That seemed to set the tone for the rest of the morning.

The walk/run took place on September 21 at Cronin Park in Arlington Heights. Approximately 500 people registered to get their steps in for a good cause—helping Clearbrook to provide innovative supports, opportunities, and services those with intellectual/developmental disabilities. There was something fun for everyone, from a Fun Zone and Kids Dash for kids, to a “Share Your Story” tent, where individuals could write their “why they walk” on a Clearbrook shoe or share their story on film. One participant wrote in response to the question “what’s your why?” that “Clearbrook gives everyone a chance to live their best life!”

Clearbrook would like to thank their individuals as well as their families, staff, and the community for participating in the event, making for an outstanding turnout in the event's first year. Over \$50,000 was raised, something that could not have been achieved without their support. Clearbrook also sincerely appreciates the event's sponsors, including TerSera Therapeutics, Enterprise Fleet Management, Gallagher, DecisionOne Dental Partners, BakerTilly, BMO Harris Bank, A Better Hope Foundation, Favorite Healthcare Staffing, Mainstay, Dr. AJ Acierno, Superb Janitorial Services, Gerry's Café, Starbucks, Corner Bakery, and Dunkin Donuts (2106 S. Arlington Heights Rd).

Volunteer Dinner

Clearbrook's 27th Annual Volunteer Recognition Dinner took place on June 19 at Avalon Banquets in Elk Grove Village. Each year, Clearbrook supports over 8,000 individuals, as well as their families, in 15 counties, over 160 communities, and 50 locations across Illinois—something that would absolutely not be possible without the help of volunteers. In the last year alone, we had over 1,293 volunteers who contributed more than 10,338 hours of service to Clearbrook—whether in respite care, special events, client activities, programs or everyone's favorite, Jelly Belly Days.

Seven outstanding volunteers were recognized with a special awards, including:

The **Leap of Faith Award** was awarded to Julianne Cicarelli for her dedication to helping Clearbrook achieve its mission. Since April 2012, Julianne, a devoted Clearbrook parent, has volunteered her time helping out at various Clearbrook events. For over seven years, Julianne has worked with clients on arts and crafts at the Getz building.



The Special Recognition Award winner, Justin Parker, and Tony Di Vittorio.

traffic intersection for Jelly Belly Days, Justin wanted to give back in other ways and has been an integral part to organizing all of the site supplies for store fronts and intersections since.

Noel Rosen received the **Spirit of Service Award**. Noel started at Clearbrook in June of 2009 and moved into his current role as a CILA coordinator in July of 2016. Noel can always be counted on by his peers and co-workers to help out in any situation. He truly cares for and is dedicated to Clearbrook's clients. Did you know, that despite it not being in his job description,

The **Krause “Founders” Award** was given to Sherryl Heinz for her long-term commitment to the Respite Program. Sherryl has been a dedicated in-home Respite volunteer since 2009. During this time, she has supported several families, some of whom have had multiple children with special needs. She has also assisted at our site-based programs when we've needed additional supervision.

This year's **Special Recognition Award** went to Justin Parker, who has been volunteering for Clearbrook for over nine years. After first volunteering at a high-

Noel has quietly attended the Clearbrook bowling league consistently for years to help assist and spend time with the clients? He also once went to a family member's home on his caseload to fix her personal computer as she was elderly and didn't have any one else to come help. Noel also takes a client to visit his parents' grave every summer.

Mel Quinn and Michael Thompson were each awarded the **Special Friends of Clearbrook Award** for helping prepare clients' tax returns every year since 2015.

We ended the night with the **Rising Star Award**. Priya Murugasan was the first recipient for her commitment to Clearbrook and our future. Priya has been volunteering for our Rolling Meadows' Take a Break in the Afternoon Program since February 2014. Priya started volunteering for Clearbrook during her sophomore year of high school. Now that she's in college, she continues to participate in our program—commuting once a month from Loyola University in Chicago. The second award went to Zaina Ahmed. Zaina has been volunteering for our Rolling Meadows Take a Break Program for the last four years while attending Bartlett high school. The staff working on the program sing her praises and say she is extremely dedicated and reliable. She always has a positive and gentle attitude and offers to help with clean up, usually being the last volunteer to leave.

Finally, thank you to Kathy Scheuing, Director of Volunteers, for coordinating volunteers for all of Clearbrook's needs.

Around the Block with Clearbrook

Clearbrook hosted its annual food tasting event, Around the Block, on October 15 with a new spin. Formerly known as Around the World, the refreshed approach offered attendees the chance to sample delicious treats from restaurants in downtown Arlington Heights for only \$35 per individual. Participating restaurants included Hey Nonny's, Mago Grill and Cantina, Berry Yo, LaTasca, TTOWA, and Tuscan Market and Wine Shop.

Thanks to all who took a trip with Clearbrook!

Hope for the Holidays

Clearbrook's Child and Family Connections serves children in north and northwest Cook County from birth to three years old with developmental delays and disabilities. Our Hope for the Holidays program was created to help provide for families in need during the holiday season. If you are interested in contributing to their holiday joy, celebrations and/or gifts, please contact Leslie Golde at LGolde@Clearbrook.org or 847-385-5325.

Did You Know...



If you've been following Clearbrook's Facebook page, you might have seen our weekly #funfactfriday posts. Did you know that Clearbrook has a clinic that provides speech, physical, occupational, counseling and behavioral therapy services for all participants in adult day and residential programs?

Therapy services focus primarily on consultations for individualized suggestions for program development, adaptations, goals, and staff training. Individual therapy treatment is provided on a limited basis and funding varies depending on the program. The goal of the Clearbrook clinic is to enhance the functional abilities and creating therapeutic activities and environments for all clients.

Clearbrook's clinical services are yet another reason why our services are unique and exceptional—all with our clients' wellbeing as top priority.



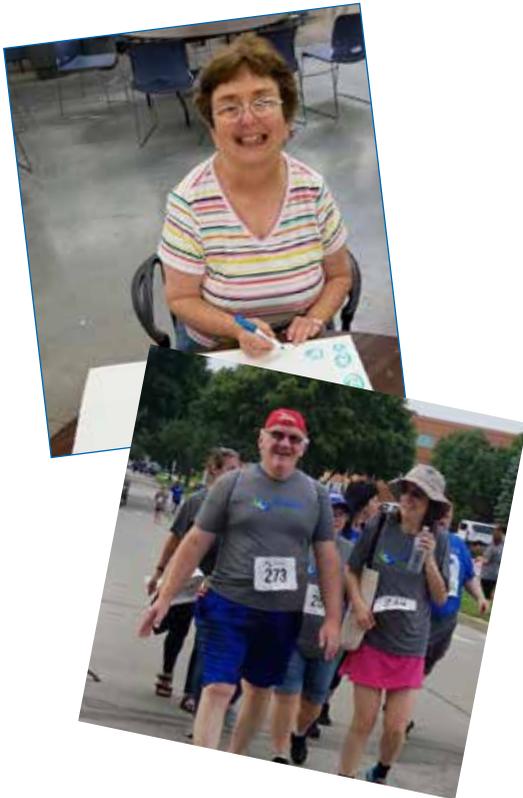
Naturally Gifted offers vocational enrichment and hands-on skills training for individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities. All products are all-natural, organic, and made from therapeutic-grade essential oils.

WHERE TO FIND US

6500 Northwest Highway, Suite 2B
Crystal Lake, IL
M-F, 9:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m.
CLEARBROOK.ORG/NATGIFT



CILA Clients Cheer on Runners at Step It Up for Clearbrook



Clients from our Community Integrated Living Arrangement (CILA) loved the opportunity to create posters to help cheer on the runners and walkers at Clearbrook's first annual Step It Up for Clearbrook 5K Run/1 Mile Walk.

A Peek into the Life of a Wright Home Resident



Andrew was born in 1983 at one pound thirteen ounces at 24 weeks gestation at a hospital in Boise, Idaho. He battled the respirator of his undeveloped lungs, which eventually caused a head bleed. He is legally blind, cannot walk or verbally talk and weighs 80 pounds. He went to Laremont School until he was 21. Some very dedicated and responsible social workers convinced me that it was essential for him to leave our home and get into residential housing acknowledging the challenges of the state when the guardian can suddenly no longer provide the necessary care. After nine years at the Rolling Hills facility, we were blessed when he was asked to move to the Wright Home, only four miles from our residence.

With only sixteen residents, I have been stunned by the friendship and comradery of the residents toward each other that occurs despite impediments in hearing and normal means of communication. I have come to appreciate how much Andrew has bonded with the staff and his fellow residents, who communicate, connect, and care for each other despite the inability to verbally speak.

These residents have great spirits from within. It is touching for me to see some of the female residents take the initiative to hold Andrew's hand while watching a TV program that he does not comprehend, simply because he revels in the companionship. In fact, I dislike the idea of him being hospitalized, as that environment does not replicate the Wright Home where he so bonded to the staff who knows his personality, limitations and quirks. The companionship with the residents is very evident and void filled after some time away. Andrew has always had a happy spirit despite his many health challenges and is treated as a human being who has the same needs and appetites as those who have been blessed with good physical and mental health.

Thank you to the Clearbrook Wright Home for its care and service to these special spirits.

Submitted by Mark Whiting, father of Andrew who resides at the Wright Home in Gurnee.

You Shop. Amazon Gives.

Shop smile.amazon.com and the AmazonSmile Foundation will donate 0.5% of the purchase price of eligible products to Clearbrook. Simply choose us as your selected charity.



FIRST LOOK FOR CHARITY
CHICAGO AUTO SHOW

Feb. 7, 2020
McCormick Place
7:00 p.m.

Contact Sheryl Letwat at sletwat@clearbrook.org for more information.



CLEARBROOK

THE ASSOCIATE BOARD PRESENTS

THE GREAT GATSBY

FRIDAY, NOV. 15, 2019
7:00-11:00 P.M.
THE LIBRARY (190 S. LASALLE)

OPEN BAR | HEAVY HORS D'OEUVRES |
SIGNATURE COCKTAIL | DJ & DANCING |
SILENT AUCTION & RAFFLES

TICKETS ARE \$125 EACH

RSVP AT WWW.CLEARBROOK.ORG/EVENT/THE-GREAT-GATSBY/

President's Message

We recently hosted our first annual Step It Up for Clearbrook on September 21. Over 500 participants registered to show their support for our mission. But one thing that really stuck out to me, was our "Share Your Story" tent, where individuals got to write their "why" for running or walking that morning. One read, "Clearbrook gives everyone a chance to live their best life." I share this because I feel it's accurately reflected in all of the articles you just read in this edition of *The Clearbrook Channel*.



Clearbrook is home to over 8,000 individuals with intellectual/developmental disabilities, as well as their families. Just like what your home means to you, Clearbrook provides a sense of comfort, compassion, and support to our community—the Clearbrook family—tailored to each individual's unique needs, from those that utilize our home-based services, to

the residents of the Clearbrook Commons, our largest ICF, that require 24/7 nursing support.

The ability to provide a safe place for our clients to call home are only possible thanks to the generous support of our donors and volunteers, as well as the tireless dedication of our more than 900 staff.

As we enter the holiday season, I urge you to consider making a donation, lending your time to volunteer, or attend one of our upcoming events to ensure the stability, opportunity and support so deserved by those we serve.

Anthony DiVittorio

President

Upcoming Events

Associate Board Presents: The Great Gatsby

Nov. 15

First Look for Charity

Feb. 7, 2020

Friends Wine Tasting

Feb. 22, 2020

Shining Star Ball

April 24, 2020

Jelly Belly Days

May 8-9, 2020

Mark your calendars! Learn more by visiting www.clearbrook.org/events

DOCUMENT DESTRUCTION FOR YOUR HOME OR OFFICE

WHY CLEARBROOK IS UNIQUE

Clearbrook's Document Destruction provides a valuable service to the community while providing jobs to individuals with intellectual/developmental disabilities. What started in 2008, Document Destruction has since created jobs for Clearbrook clients and built relationships within the community. Our individuals are involved in all aspects, including pick up, preparation, sorting, and destruction of the documents.



SAFEGUARDING YOUR SECURITY AND YOUR BUSINESS

- Secure Document Destruction
- Convenient Drop-Off Location
- Competitive Rates
- Monthly Container Rental/Change Out Service Available
- Certificate of Destruction Provided
- Security of Documents Ensured at All Times
- Trained Staff



25% OFF COUPON FOR FIRST-TIME CUSTOMERS

CLEARBROOK

FEEL GOOD ABOUT DONATING TO CLEARBROOK

Say YES to ratios that consistently beat the recommended standards used by watchdog agencies, such as Better Business Bureau, CharityWatch and GuideStar, to evaluate the financial performance of a non-profit organization. Clearbrook leads the pack **with only 8%** applied to administrative overhead.

THE CLEARBROOK CHANNEL

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