



From the CEO

As 2023 comes to a close, there is much to reflect on both in terms of what ECHO accomplished and what is still in front of us. We're halfway through fiscal year 2024, our first year of Vision 2026. Progress has been made in all our key focus areas. In the new year, we plan to serve more people in the LIFE program, add additional GSE worksites and continue to grow the Barkery, Blue Elegance and Inclusive Solutions. None of our accomplishments would be possible without the dedicated ECHO staff that bring our mission to life every day.

Additionally, our work would be very limited without the strong support we receive from the community: our worksite partners that hire ECHO participants, our community partners that welcome LIFE visitors, our donors, our volunteers, our partners at Loudoun and Fairfax counties, and our Barkery, Blue Elegance and Inclusive Solutions customers. It is heartening to be surrounded by so many staff members, citizens and organizations that care about ECHO!

I hope your Christmas and Holiday season is a joyful one.

Sincerely,

Paul Donohue, Jr.
CEO, ECHO

THE BARKERY



We are excited to announce that our Winter Wonder Biscuits are made with sweet potatoes that were grown and donated to us by our friends at View of Heaven Farm! These are now available for sale on our website, you can pick up a bag or three for your favorite furry friend HERE. Thank you View of Heaven Farm!



THE BARKERY



We are excited to announce that our Winter Wonder Biscuits are made with sweet potatoes that were grown and donated to us by our friends at [View of Heaven Farm!](#) These are now available for sale on our website, you can pick up a bag or three for your favorite furry friend [HERE](#). Thank you View of Heaven Farm!



Blue Elegance



As we bid farewell to November and welcome the festive spirit of December, we're excited to share the latest happenings at Blue Elegance. This month is brimming with warmth, joy, and a dash of holiday magic! Blue Elegance invites you to experience the magic of our artisans' creations with carefully curated collections sure to bring joy and elegance to your festive celebrations. Whether you choose from our exquisitely handcrafted ornaments, our jewelry made just for the season, our snug, double-knitted hats, or a custom soap sampler, whatever your holiday adventures entail, we have the perfect gift waiting for you.



Inclusive Solutions



New work alert! Check out these amazing gift boxes that we put together for our friends over at Highlight. The best part is, they are filled with products that we and our partners made! This partnership created work for all 3 of our enterprises and provided a great holiday gift for the employees of Highlight. Thank you for your support!



Annual Appeal

Helping People with Disabilities Find Success in the Workplace



We are thankful that our 3 businesses have grown as much as they have, but to make them sustainable we still have a lot of work to do. This year we are asking for your support to help us grow these 3 businesses. Donations will be used for equipment purchases, meeting payroll, production supplies, and the promotion of these businesses. Our goal is profitability so that they can help support our mission and all of our other programs at ECHO, this will ensure that we will be able to continue to support our community for many years to come. If you would like to help us Empower Individuals For Life, you can make a donation [HERE](#).

Ambassador Of The Month



.....

This month our Ambassador is Blossom and Bloom Thrift Shop!

This shop represents one of our oldest relationships at ECHO and it's one that we are very proud to be a part of. In February of 1976, the ECHO Board of Directors purchased "The Thrift Shop" for \$10.

They named it Blossom and Bloom and then turned it over to another team to run and manage. Since then, we have been fortunate enough to receive a portion of the proceeds raised at Blossom and Bloom, their most recent donation was \$8,000! We are very grateful to our friends at Blossom and Bloom and we encourage you to visit and donate to their storefront at 110 W.

Market St. in downtown Leesburg.