



From the CEO

We have been working hard to move forward with Vision 2026, our three-year strategic plan. One of our projects focuses on our Intake process. We wanted to make it more streamlined, less confusing, and more transparent and I'm impressed with what the Intake work group has developed. I anticipate a full rollout of the new process later in October. Along with the Intake redesign there is the need to better formulate a private funding mechanism. For families that are waiting for county or Medicaid public funding, ECHO is setting up a private funding path into our services. This too will roll out in October. Also part of Vision 2026 is our decision to combine the LIFE and LIFE+ programs into one day support program. While this decision was not made lightly, neither program has fully recovered from the impact of the pandemic shutdowns and ECHO has concluded that we can no longer offer and support two separate programs. The combined program will have a 1:7 staff to participant ratio, will not include on-site nursing services and will focus on skill-building, maintenance of skills, peer interactions, community integration and enhancement of social networks in a structured setting.

On October 18th our 2nd Annual ECHO Sip and Swing fundraiser at Topgolf takes place. Thank you all who have sponsored this event.

Have a great October and thank you for your support of ECHO,

Paul Donohue, Jr.
CEO, ECHO

Blue Elegance Grand Opening



Join us in celebrating a new chapter for Blue Elegance! We're thrilled about our brand-new retail space. This dedicated space allows us to showcase our artisans' incredible work and provide even more opportunities for individuals with disabilities. In our new store, the public can discover the beautiful, handcrafted items our artists create, our empowering programs, and discover how they can be a part of our mission. Together, we're crafting a brighter future. If you haven't visited us yet, now's the perfect time to get a jump on your holiday gift shopping!



The Barkery



ECHO Barkery is thrilled to announce the availability of our delicious dog biscuits in every Whole Foods Market throughout the Mid-Atlantic region. Starting in October, from New Jersey to Virginia and the states in between, you will find ECHO Barkery on the grocery shelves in your local Whole Foods Market Store. This is a significant milestone for ECHO Barkery as it will greatly increase the reach of our mission and allow for us to speak to a much broader audience with our products. Congratulations to Pete Yuska and the entire ECHO Barkery team!

Inclusive Solutions



It's been a very busy month in Inclusive Solutions! We have formed a new partnership with Thousand Oaks Barrel Co. in Manassas who has hired us to apply stickers to several of their products. Thank you to Bryan Weisberg and the team for hiring us!

Adam Mahmud, General Manager of Inclusive Solutions was featured in the Town of Leesburg's Locally Leesburg segment which promotes local small businesses and nonprofit organizations, you can watch the video below. Well done Adam!



The Opportunities Open!



On September 18th The Rotary Club of Dulles International Airport hosted the 27th annual Opportunities Open. ECHO has been a benefactor of this tournament for many years and we are grateful for the support. We appreciate the efforts of the Rotary in making this tournament happen year after year, the tournament ran flawlessly and we had a blast participating!

Ambassador Of The Month



This month's ECHO Ambassador is Janelia Research Campus! Janelia has been a strong partner and supporter of ECHO's for many years and we couldn't be more grateful.

We currently have 3 Group Supported Employment teams that work on Janelia's beautiful campus and every single ECHO participant that is on those teams absolutely loves their job. We are always included as members of the Janelia team, our participants are even invited on team outings to The Nationals baseball games every year! On top of this, Janelia Research Campus is also a very generous financial supporter of ECHO's through event sponsorships.

Thank you for treating our participants so well, for creating an inclusive workplace, and for helping us to pursue our mission. Janelia Research Campus is a pillar in this community and continually exemplifies what partnership and true leadership look like.

Sip & Swing



YOU'RE INVITED!

Sponsorships Available!

SIP & SWING

Join us for food, drinks,
networking & fundraising!



October 18, 2023 | 5:30pm - 8:30pm
Topgolf Loudoun

Raffle Prizes
Complimentary food & 2 drink tickets

We are excited for our upcoming Sip n Swing at Topgolf on the 18th! If you'd like to have a great night of networking, fun, and learning a little about what we've been up to at ECHO this is the perfect event for you! Tickets can be purchased [HERE](#), We hope to see you there!