

Dear Friends Members:

We are very happy to announce that we are hard at work in the planning and implementation of our staple fundraiser, the 3rd Annual Friends Golf Tournament, in collaboration with Development Services at CCPL.

Most importantly, proceeds from this year's annual golf tournament fundraiser will open doors and opportunities for the disability community in Chesterfield County.



### **Why focus on individuals with disabilities?**

Do you know that 11% of the population in Chesterfield County has one or more disabilities? Disabilities cause many personal challenges. In addition, many people with disabilities face economic inequity, illiteracy, cultural isolation and discrimination in education, employment and the broad range of societal activities.

CCPL's funding will provide **assisted and adaptive technology**. Assistive (also called adaptive) technologies are electronic solutions that enable people with disabilities to live independently.

### **What will the proceeds provide?**

For individuals who are visually impaired, some of the most common hardware and software solutions are:

- ZoomText Xtra screen-magnification software—allows patrons with low vision to access computer information by enlarging the screen display or tailoring the display to accommodate their disability.
- JAWS screen reader—enables individuals who are blind or visually impaired to access the information on a computer screen through voice output.
- Open Book text reader—helps those with low or no vision by scanning printed text and verbalizing the text via synthetic speech.
- Duxbury Braille Translating Software—a word processing-like program that allows users to type text, then translates it into Braille. A Braille embosser produces hardcopy.
- Braille embosser—similar to a printer, an embosser will print Grade II Braille on paper, enabling users to create a hardcopy of a document. It also enables users to save documents to a USB flash drive.
- Talking Typer software—Talking Typer, from American Printing House (APH), is a specially designed typing-teacher program for those who are blind, have low vision, or learn at a different pace. The program provides audio instruction and tutorials.

- Handheld magnifiers, signature guides, felt-tip pens, and large magnification devices such as closed-circuit television magnifiers (CCTV) will also be made available. CCTV employs a video camera lens to enlarge text from three to thirty times normal text size.

Many computer users who are deaf or have hearing impairments will not have problems using the computer itself. Problems arise from programs and websites which have audio cues. Other issues might ensue from the patron simply wanting to take computer classes and needing an interpreter. Both Microsoft and Apple install programs which will overcome some of the problems presented by audio prompts.

- Sound Sentry—found in all Microsoft Windows and Vista programs as well as in Apple computers, this program enables the user who cannot hear the embedded warning chimes see them as flashes.
- Instant Messaging—this mainstream technology allows staff and patrons who cannot hear to “talk” with one another.

### **How can you help make this happen?**

The Friends of Chesterfield County Public Library are eager to contribute time and effort towards this fundraiser. It is key and critical for us:

- to use our connections to gather sponsors for the event.
- to identify items to use in the raffle and silent auction.

As members of the Friends, you are well connected to business partners who are known to be supportive of causes like the ones that support the disability community. Please call them and ask them to donate a raffle or silent auction item, purchase a sponsorship that includes golf teams (see the sponsorship packet for more details) or to register to play on May 30.

This is our event, and we need you to volunteer before and during the event. We have resources to aid you in your volunteer tasks. Recruiting sponsors and items to raise money with the raffle and silent auction starts now.

To sign up today as a 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Friends Golf Tournament volunteer, please contact Mary Beth Cox ([president@chesterfieldfriends.org](mailto:president@chesterfieldfriends.org)) and Angela Roisten ([Angela.Roisten@VACU.org](mailto:Angela.Roisten@VACU.org)).

### **Event Information:**

The event will take place on Thursday, May 30, 2024, at The Golf Club at The Highlands, located at 8136 Highland Glen Drive, Chesterfield, VA 23838. The schedule for the event starts with your arrival at 10 a.m. for the Volunteer registration; player registration will begin at 11:30 a.m., the Shotgun Start at 1 p.m., and the event will end at 7 p.m.

We are looking forward to a great tournament this year, and we cannot do so without your help!