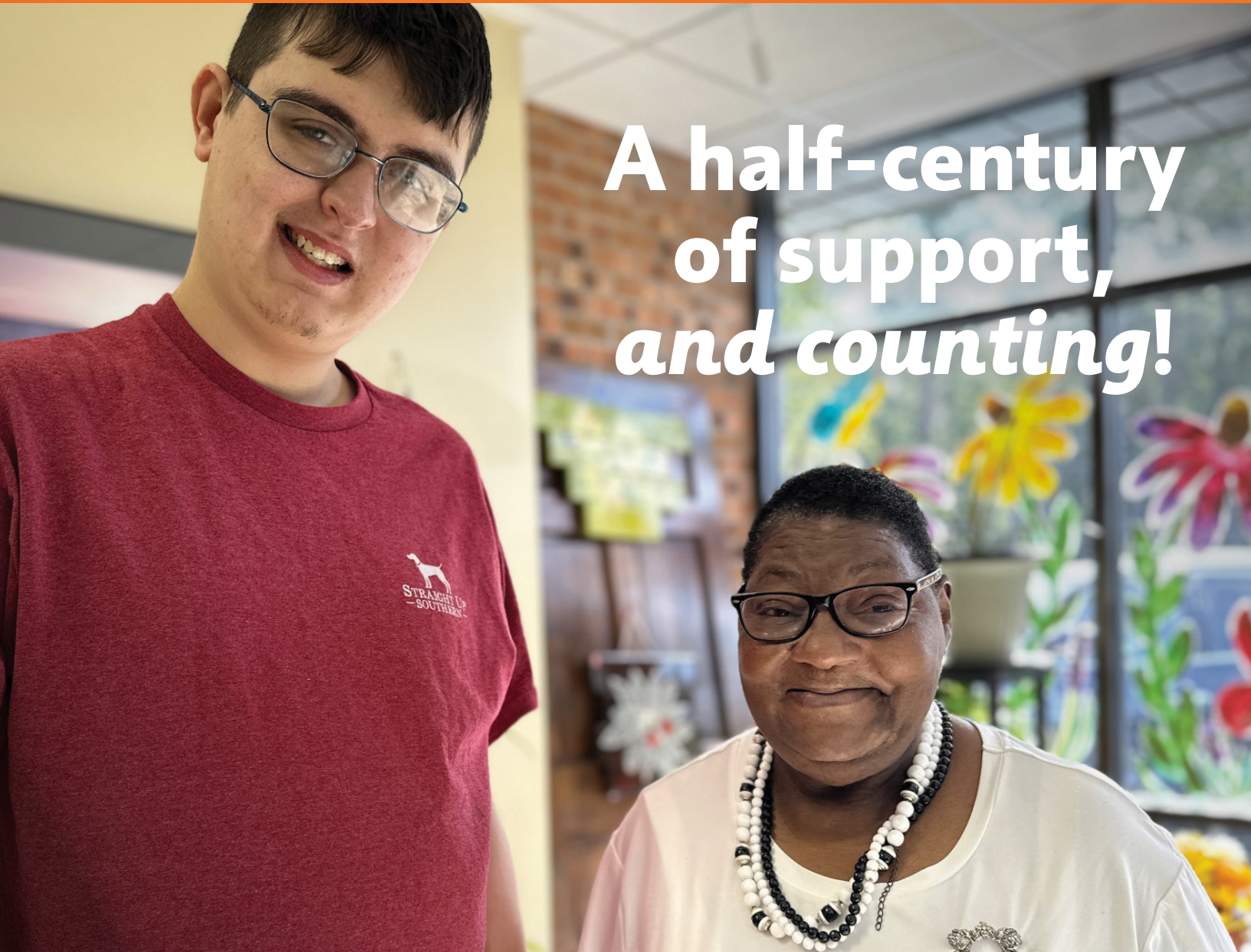


# Momentum



A half-century  
of support,  
*and counting!*



**Cody Sammons and Alice Frink represent five decades of service at Monarch's Columbus Industries day program.** *Alice joined the program 48 years ago and Cody has been attending for five months. The program recently celebrated its 50th anniversary.*





**A MESSAGE FROM PEGGY TERHUNE,  
PH.D., MBA, OTR/L, PRESIDENT & CEO**

**I know I speak for our entire team in saying our thoughts are with everyone impacted by the devastation of Hurricane Helene.**

As a statewide provider, Monarch supports families in Western North Carolina through group homes, outpatient behavioral health offices and community-based services. Because we have emergency response procedures in place, we were able to ensure the people we support were kept as safe as possible during the storm. We relocated group home residents from the Asheville area to Charlotte. Several of our programs and offices were closed due to power outages, but everyone is safe and all staff and people supported were quickly accounted for.

**What can you do to help?** Work through established channels to ensure your contributions and support are directed most effectively. If you want to support Monarch, please do so through our Employee Care Fund which provides emergency assistance to staff in the wake of unforeseen events like Hurricane Helene.

**Thanks as always for your thoughtfulness and support during this difficult time for our state.**



**Give today at [MonarchNC.org/donate](https://MonarchNC.org/donate)**

**ADVOCACY**



**Brian Dooley** (front) and **Allison Jordan**, Supported Living Manager for Monarch; **Alison Barkoff**, Principal Deputy Administrator for Administration for Community Living; **Joseph Macbeth**, Chief Executive Officer & President for National Alliance for Direct Support Professionals; **Hendrest McKenzie**, Community Specialist for Monarch.

**Bryan Dooley goes to Washington, D.C.**

Self-advocate **Bryan Dooley** recently took his message directly to the White House! Dooley and Monarch team members were part of a Disability Pride Month celebration hosted by the President and other lawmakers.

**"To be included in that audience was absolutely amazing,"** said Dooley, who also serves on the North Carolina Council for Developmental Disabilities.

**LONG-TERM SERVICES AND SUPPORTS**



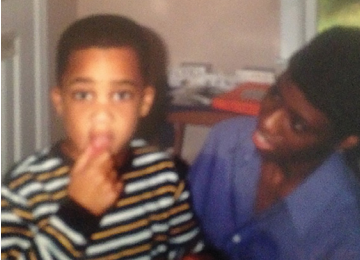
**Evelyn & Steven: 27 years of growth, friendship and support**

In September, Monarch celebrated **Direct Support Professionals Recognition Week**, honoring the nearly 800 staff who provide direct care to the people we serve, like **Evelyn Chavous**, community specialist, who has supported **Steven Jones** since he was three. Evelyn has been helping Steven develop essential life skills for 27 years!

Over the years, Evelyn and Steven have shared countless milestones. Most recently, Steven earned his ServSafe certificate and now bakes muffins to sell to local bakeries.

**"He's next level," says Evelyn.  
"He really is a phenomenal human being!"**

**To read more of Evelyn and Steven's story, scan this QR code >**





## LONG-TERM SERVICES & SUPPORTS



Alice Frink, pictured with Dr. Peggy Terhune, Monarch's president and CEO, found a community of friends at the Columbus Industries day program when she arrived 48 years ago.

## Columbus Industries day program celebrates 50 years of service

Monarch's Columbus Industries day program in Whiteville, NC, recently celebrated its 50th anniversary of serving individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities (I/DD). Established in 1974 as the Columbus County Sheltered Workshop, the day program has long served as a community hub, fostering skills, social connections and empowerment. **"We are immensely grateful for the continued support that has allowed this program to thrive,"** said **Susie Nathan**, the program's community engagement team leader.

For participants like **Alice Frink** and **Cody Sammons**, who have been attending the program for 48 years and five months, respectively, the program is a place of friendship and opportunity.

**"I look forward to coming here every day,"** said Alice.

During a special anniversary celebration held in September, founding program director **Steve Smith** reflected on the program's impact. **"The program I helped launch in 1974 has shaped my value system for the remainder of my career, and for life."**

To view photos of the celebration event and to learn more about the day program, scan this QR code >



## BEHAVIORAL HEALTH SERVICES

## Support and encouragement help Daphne land a job and hope for the future

Three years ago, **Daphne Hutchinson** was struggling with profound grief and homelessness. Today, she's employed as a server at Cracker Barrel in Lumberton, NC, thanks to Monarch's Individual Placement and Support (IPS) program and her relationship with Employment Support Specialist (ESP) **Alexis Prunczik**.

The IPS program focuses on building a partnership; together, Alexis and Daphne tackled job applications, interview skills and workplace etiquette. Alexis provided constant encouragement, helping Daphne gain confidence. **"She needed to know that every effort was a step forward,"** Alexis explains.

**"Starting at Cracker Barrel was both exciting and scary,"** Daphne says. **"But Alexis helped me get ready, and that made a big difference."**

Today, Daphne continues to work towards her goals, meeting regularly with Alexis to discuss her progress. She dreams of advancing her career and eventually returning to school. **"This job is just the starting point,"** Daphne shares, hopeful for a brighter future.

For more information about Monarch's IPS services, scan this QR code >





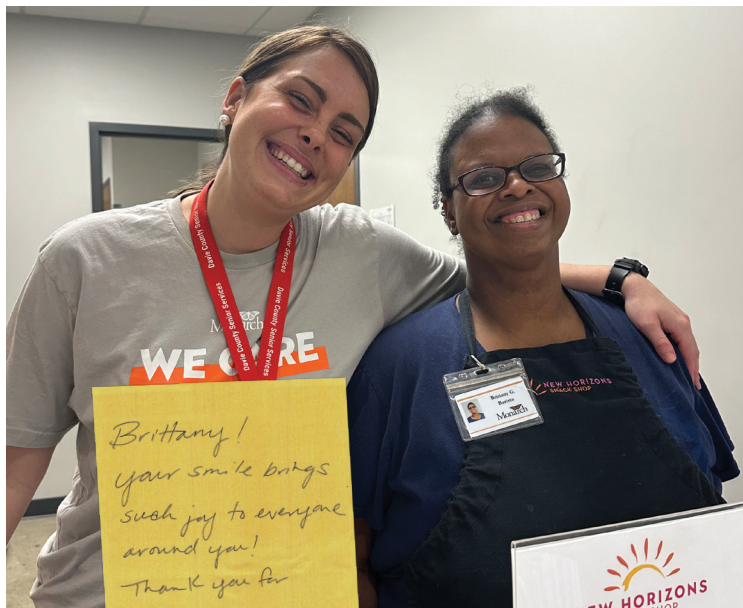
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**Want to  
find out more  
about our programs  
and services?**

**Visit [MonarchNC.org](http://MonarchNC.org).**

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*Brittany!  
Your smile brings  
such joy to everyone  
around you!  
Thank you for  
shining your  
beautiful light!*

**Because of you, Brittany has  
a job she loves — and customers  
who love her!**

**Give today at [MonarchNC.org/donate](http://MonarchNC.org/donate)**

SAVE THE DATE

## Childress Klein Classic Golf Tournament

benefiting UMAR, a Division of Monarch

**Monday, November 18**  
Longview Country Club in Waxhaw, NC

UMAR, a division of Monarch, provides programs  
and services in Western North Carolina.

Visit [UMARNC.org/events](http://UMARNC.org/events) for details.

