

# JUNE 2026 NEWSLETTER

ENHANCING THE LIVES  
OF SPECIAL NEEDS ADULTS

## MEMBER OF THE MONTH



JP has a heart full of love and a naturally affectionate spirit, always ready to share hugs, kindness, and encouragement with the people around him. His warm personality and caring nature make others feel valued, comfortable, and truly appreciated in his presence. JP also enjoys spending quiet moments looking at books, exploring pages filled with interesting stories, beautiful pictures, and new ideas that spark his curiosity and imagination.

## HAPPY BIRTHDAY

**06/15:** Stephen F.

**06/27:** Heath

**06/28:** Shawn M.



## CALENDAR



**06/01:** Bookmobile

**06/05:** Pockets Full of Sunshine event "Fun in the Sun"

**06/15:** "Peppers and Pages" at Bluffton Library, Boomobile

**06/19:** **PEP Closed for Juneteenth**

**06/23:** Sun City Ukuleles @ 12:30 PM

**06/29:** Peppers and Pages at Bluffton Library



## VOLUNTEER SPOTLIGHT



Maria's incredible musical talent and heartfelt love for our members shine through in everything she does. Her passion, kindness, and dedication create such a joyful and uplifting atmosphere, and the impact she has on those around her is truly amazing.

## VOTE FOR PEP

Vote for PEP as the Lowcountry's Best nonprofit! **Voting ends June 19, 2026.**

To vote, visit:  
<https://www.votelowcountry.com/>



## CLOSURES



### Reminder!

PEP will be closed on Friday, June 19 in observation of Juneteenth.

Please mark your calendars.

## GRANTS & GIFTS

PEP is **so grateful** to have the support of so many businesses and individuals in our community. We could not fulfill our mission without them. We have recently received contributions from the following communities and groups:

- **First Presbyterian Church**
- **Riverton**
- **Port Royal Community Fund**
- **Colleton River Charitable Fund**
- **Dollar General**

*thank you!*

# STAFF IN-SERVICE DAY



PEP's instructional staff recently had the opportunity to participate in a valuable training led by A'nya Marshburn, Community Program Manager with Lowcountry Autism Foundation.

We appreciate the chance to continue expanding our knowledge and strengthening the support we provide to our members and families.

In addition, A'nya has graciously offered **one hour of free individualized support for interested PEP families** through the Family Support Services Program, which helps connect families with resources across the Lowcountry.

Those interested in learning more are encouraged to email Nancy.

# BIG THANK YOU TO PORT ROYAL COMMUNITY CHARITABLE FUND

We are incredibly grateful to the Port Royal Community Charitable Fund for their generous grant supporting two meaningful programs at PEP. Because of their support, we have put together a new and improved Serenity Space. This serves as a calm, comforting environment where our members can relax, regulate, and recharge throughout the day. The generosity of the PRCCF also helps continue our music therapy program through the end of 2026, giving members opportunities for creativity, expression, connection, and joy through music.

Thank you, Port Royal Community Charitable Fund, for investing in spaces and experiences that enrich the lives of our PEP members every day.



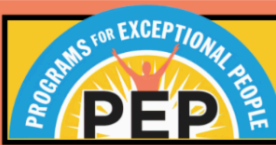
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## NANCY'S NOTE

### A NOTE FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Dear PEP Families,

This past month brought many meaningful moments for our PEP family. Jane-O's Celebration of Life was such a beautiful gathering as we remembered sweet Jane-O, who was part of PEP for so many years. It was heartwarming to see so many members, families, and friends come together to honor her memory and celebrate the joy she brought to those around her.

We also loved welcoming new faces to our recent PEP Open House and sharing the many updates happening throughout our facility. We are especially excited about the new flooring and tables, which have helped brighten and refresh our space for members and staff alike. If you haven't had a chance to see the updates yet, please take a look next time you visit!

On May 22, our instructional staff participated in an excellent training provided by Lowcountry Autism Foundation, Community Program Manager, A'nya Marshburn. We are grateful for the opportunity to continue learning ways to better support our members and families. A'nya has also generously offered to provide one hour of free individual family support through their Family Support Services Program to any interested PEP parents. This program helps families navigate resources available throughout the Lowcountry. If you would like more information, please email me.

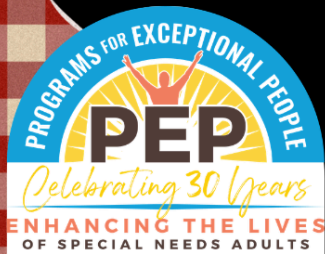
Thank you, as always, for your continued support and for being such an important part of the PEP community.

Warmly,  
Nancy



Save the date for a fundraiser benefitting  
Programs for Exceptional People

# Boots, Barbecue, & Oysters



Saturday, October 17, 2026  
Golf Club at Indigo Run  
Hilton Head Island



# Is your home in need of repairs?



## CRITICAL REPAIR PROGRAM

If you own your home and are in need for minor, exterior repairs, our program might be the right fit for you!

### Types of repairs we do:

Stairs

Ramps and railings, porch repairs

Wood Siding

Fascias

General exterior wood rot



### Who can qualify?

#### To be eligible to apply, you must:

- Own and live in the home (no rentals)
- Show significant repair need
- Meet income guidelines
- Be willing to partner with Habitat (e.g., sweat equity)

#### How to apply:

Call Alicia at (843)681-5864 ext.2000 or email: [alicia@lowcountryhabitat.org](mailto:alicia@lowcountryhabitat.org) for an application.



Remembering our friend,



Jane-O





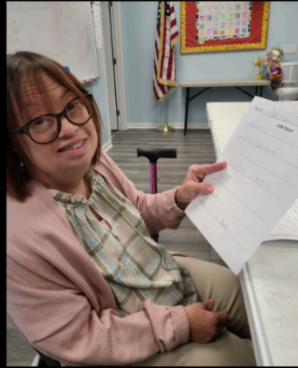
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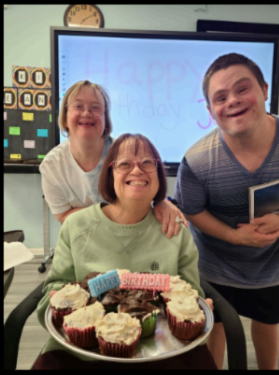


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# Jane-O

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## Local Resources 2026

### *Day Programs*

#### **Pockets Full of Sunshine (Hilton Head)**

Mission: "By providing inclusive opportunities to connect with one another and our community at large, we make it sunnier for adults with disabilities."

- Call 423-760-2103
- Email [spreadthesun@gmail.com](mailto:spreadthesun@gmail.com)
- Fill out a form to apply [About 1 — Pockets Full of Sunshine NEW](#)
- Website [Pockets Full of Sunshine](#)

#### **Visitation Day Program (Hilton Head)**

Mission: "We provide a program respecting the dignity of each person by supporting and developing their unique gifts. We strive to promote cognitive, social, physical, and personal development."

- Call 843-802-0003
- Website [Visitation Day Program | Visitation Home, Inc. | Hamilton, NJ](#)

### *Individual Employment*

#### **Vocational Rehabilitation (Beaufort)**

Mission: "To prepare and assist South Carolinians with disabilities to achieve and maintain competitive employment."

- Call (843) 522-1010 to schedule an appointment with a counselor.
- Website [South Carolina Vocational Rehabilitation Department, SC | Official Website](#)

### *Services*

#### **South Carolina Office of Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities (SC-OIDD)**

Mission: "Assist people with disabilities and their families through choice in meeting needs, pursuing possibilities and achieving life goals; and minimize the occurrence and reduce the severity of disabilities through prevention."

- Waiver [Medicaid Home and Community-Based Waiver Services | Department of Disabilities and Special Needs](#)
- Call 1-800-289-7012 to apply for the waiver
- Contact list for a host of services—Behavioral health (psych testing and counseling), Medicaid services (respite, incontinence supplies, etc.), Audiology, Dental) [Find a Service Provider | Department of Disabilities and Special Needs](#)

#### **SC Thrive**

Mission: "SC Thrive leads South Carolinians to stability by providing innovative and efficient access to quality-of-life resources."

- Connects individuals to Medicaid and SNAP.
- Start here [Need Help? | SC Thrive: Stabilized, Healthy Communities](#)
- Call 1-800-726-8774
- Create an account on Thrive Hub [Good Grid](#)

### **SC Combined Application Project (SCCAP)**

Under SCCAP, if you are eligible for Supplemental Security Income (SSI), you are eligible to receive SNAP benefits without applying at the DSS office.

-Website and link to application [South Carolina Department of Social Services](#)

### **SC Able (Columbia, Greenville, and state-wide)**

Vision: "A South Carolina that is a national model of equity and inclusion for all people with disabilities."

-Website [Able SC](#)

-Provides a variety of supports and programs, including benefits counseling (WIPA) and access to assistive technology/ adaptive equipment for free

### *Additional Resources*

#### **Lowcountry Autism Foundation**

Mission: "Offering free programming to support Lowcountry Families from initial ASD diagnosis forward."

-Call 843-800-7171

-Email [coordinator@lafinc.org](mailto:coordinator@lafinc.org)

-Register here [Register Your Family Today — Lowcountry Autism Foundation](#)

-Website [Lowcountry Autism Foundation](#)

#### **Mental Health America (Bluffton/ Hilton Head)**

Mission: "We are committed to promoting mental health, preventing mental disorders and offering our clients pathways to continuous improvement that will ultimately enhance their lives."

-Call 843-757-3900

-Email [info@mhalowcountry.com](mailto:info@mhalowcountry.com)

-Reach out through the contact form [Contact Us – Mental Health America](#)

#### [Beaufort-Jasper](#)

-Info about services offered [Our Services – Mental Health America Beaufort-Jasper](#)

#### **Full Spectrum Studio (Hilton Head)**

Mission: "To bring artists with disabilities fully into the art community as peers and colleagues."

-Eligibility requirements [Become an FSS Artist](#)

-Call 786-371-5494

-Email [infor@fullspectrumstudio.org](mailto:infor@fullspectrumstudio.org)

-Website [Full Spectrum Studio - Art Studio, Special Needs, South Carolina](#)

#### **SOAR–Special Olympics Area**

Mission: " Our mission is to enhance the lives of individuals with intellectual disabilities by providing Special Olympics sports and recreational activities."

-Register here [Registration | SOAR Special Recreation](#)

-Call 843-422-5747

-Email Kathy, executive director, [kathycramer.soar@gmail.com](mailto:kathycramer.soar@gmail.com)

-Website [HOME | SOAR Recreation | Special Olympics, 800 Main Street, Hilton Head Island, SC, USA](#)

Updated 4/15/2026

# WHO DO I CONTACT?

Need assistance? We've got you covered!

If you have any questions or concerns, give us a call at **(843) 681-8413** and ask for the appropriate admin. We're here to help and make sure you get the answers you need!

## Administration Contact List

Name	Title	Email
Nancy Sulek	Executive Director	Nancy.Sulek@pepghi.org
Falisha Doublin	Program Director	Falisha.Doublin@pepghi.org
Carey Fortner	Administrative Assistant	Carey.Fortner@pepghi.org
Megan Drew	Compliance and Billing Specialist	Megan.Drew@pepghi.org
Ally Burnett	Program Administrator	Allison.Burnett@pepghi.org
Robert Mueller	Facilities and Transportation Manager	Robert.Mueller@pepghi.org
Akina Benton	Assistant Program Director	Akina.Benton@pepghi.org

### Recurring reminders:

#### Medicaid

In order for PEP members to meet required hours for Medicaid billing, they must be at PEP between the hours of 9:30 am-2:30 pm. If you are able, please consider appointments and drop off/ pick-ups before or after these times.

#### Please label belongings sent to PEP

Please write your member's name(s) on all jackets, hats, lunch boxes, etc. that are sent to PEP.

#### Leave us a review!

We love being part of your journey and would be so grateful if you could take a moment to leave us a review on **Facebook** and/or **Google**! Your feedback helps teach about PEP and the community we've built together.

**Please keep sick members at home.**

This is a friendly reminder to emphasize the importance of keeping unwell members at home. With the prevalence of Covid, RSV, and the flu, it's crucial to be cautious. For our more vulnerable members, the recovery process may take longer if they fall ill. When in doubt, it's best to err on the side of caution and have your member stay home if they're coughing, sneezing and not feeling well.

**Local Resources for PEP Parents**

Click [here](#) for a list of local resources.

Programs for Exceptional People  
39 Sheridan Park Circle Suite # 2  
Bluffton, SC 29910

[\(843\) 681-8413](tel:(843)681-8413)

[www.pepghi.org](http://www.pepghi.org)



PEP | 39 Sheridan Park Circle Suite 2 | Bluffton, SC 29910 US

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