PROGRAMS FOR EXCEPTIONAL PEOPLE
PEP
Celebrating 30 Years
ENHANCING THE LIVES OF SPECIAL NEEDS ADULTS

NOVEMBER 2026 NEWSLETTER

MEMBER OF THE MONTH



Tim is the highlight of his friends' day! He brings so much joy to those around him with his kind heart, silly personality, and sweet nature. His ability to make others smile and brighten the room makes him a wonderful friend and a special part of everyone's day. Tim's laugh is infectious, and his dancing has a magical way of turning any frown upside down! His fun-loving spirit, warm heart, and joyful energy make him a true ray of sunshine to everyone lucky enough to know him.

Tim has been with PEP since 2012. Congrats, Tim!

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

- **11/08:** Amanda
- **11/10:** Markese
- **11/10:** Brinsley
- **11/16:** Taylor
- **11/18:** Denise
- **11/18:** Janneke
- **11/19:** Arlene



CALENDAR



- **11/6:** Columbia Zoo trip
- **11/13:** Need a volunteer to help sell Belk Tickets (HHI)
- **11/13 - 11/15:** Belk Charity Day Sales
- **11/14:** Sensory Friendly Nutcracker (See flyer below)
- **11/19:** PEP Thanksgiving Luncheon 11/19 @ 11:30 am
- **11/20:** PEP Bowling
- **11/26 - 11/27:** PEP closed for Thanksgiving

THANKSGIVING LUNCHEON

Save the Date for our
6th Annual PEP Thanksgiving Luncheon

It's almost time for one of our favorite PEP traditions! Our 6th Annual PEP Thanksgiving Luncheon will be held on

Thursday, November 19 at 11:30 AM

We look forward to gathering around the table with our PEP family for good food, great company, and plenty to be thankful for!

Please sign up to bring a dish by clicking the red button below.

SIGN UP



BELK CHARITY DAY

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED & TICKETS AVAILABLE!



We're selling Belk Charity Day tickets for just $5 each, and 100% of every ticket sold through PEP stays right here at PEP!

Your ticket gives you access to special Charity Day shopping savings at Belk from Nov. 13-15!

We Need Volunteers! PEP will have a booth at the HHI Belk on Friday, November 13, and we're looking for a few helping hands to sell tickets :

1:30 - 3:30 PM

3:30 - 5:30 PM

Email Nancy to sign up to volunteer and to purchase your tickets.

ILLNESSES

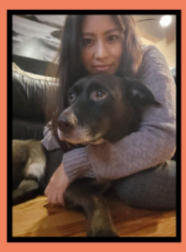
This is a friendly reminder to emphasize the importance of keeping unwell members at home...

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.



WELCOME



We are excited to share that Gloria is now a full time instructor at PEP! Our members are very happy to get to see her every day now!

Gloria came to PEP last month and brings a calm, joyful, and caring spirit, along with a special appreciation for the everyday accomplishments that can sometimes go unnoticed.

As the mother of a child with special needs, she is excited to bring her perspective and passion to PEP while continuing to learn and grow alongside our members.

NEW MEMBERS

Please help us extend a warm welcome to PEP's newest member(s):

- Nicholas
- Ali



WE'LL MISS YOU, SIDNEY!

Sidney is moving to North Carolina the second week of November, and we are sad to see her go! We have loved having her as part of our PEP family & will miss seeing her smiling face. We wish Sidney all the best in her new home!
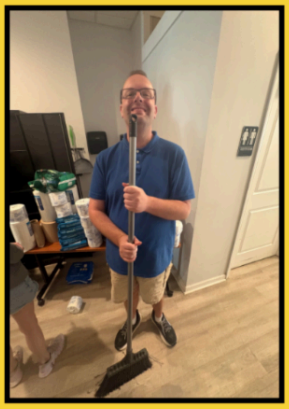








Thank You

for your support of PEP's Boots, Barbecue, & Oysters event.



PEP MEMBER EMPLOYEE SPOTLIGHT



Ryan both enjoys and excels at the career prep activities at Goodwill where he carefully inspects donated items for quality and imperfections. He also learns and practices cleaning at PEP, and enjoys sweeping the floors.

Ryan has become a reliable team leader thanks to his attention to detail and dedication to his responsibilities.

His careful inspections, strong work ethic, and dependability make him a valuable team member and a natural leader. Ryan takes pride in doing his best and ensuring every task is completed with care. His hard work and dedication are truly appreciated!

VOLUNTEER SPOTLIGHT

Roy has been volunteering at PEP for 7 years. Reading with Roy is the members' favorite part of Friday mornings. Roy has a wonderful way of connecting with the members through his kindness and engaging personality. He keeps everyone interested and involved with his thoughtful book selections, creating an enjoyable and welcoming reading experience for all. His ability to capture the members' attention and encourage participation makes reading time a positive and meaningful experience.

Thank you, Roy, for all that you do for PEP!



WHAT'S GROWING ON?

At the beginning of October, we started removing the summer plants to make room for our fall/winter garden and worked hard amending soil in the garden beds and grow bags. Then, we sowed radishes, sugar snap peas, and nasturtium seeds, and transplanted broccoli and cauliflower starts. At the end of the month, we planted strawberry crowns, onion sets, and lettuce supplied by Farmer B, the gardening program director at May River Montessori.







NANCY'S NOTE

A NOTE FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Dear PEP Families,

Thank you to all who came out and supported our annual fundraiser: Boots, BBQ & Oysters last month. Every auction item as well as every bid was appreciated. Our members who came out had so much fun line dancing with the Margaritaville Finsball Nanas as well as all of our guests!

November is here, and with it comes one of our favorite PEP traditions—**our annual Thanksgiving Luncheon!** Our members look forward to this gathering every year, and without a doubt, what makes it so wonderful is having our families join us. There is nothing quite like seeing our PEP family gathered around the table, enjoying a delicious meal, sharing laughter, and celebrating the friendships that have grown over the years. I sincerely hope you will be able to join us. Your presence makes the day even more meaningful for our members and staff. **Please click here to sign up for the meal!**

I also want to share an important development at PEP. We are in the process of establishing our own **Human Rights Committee**. Previously, PEP participated in 6 meetings a year with Beaufort County DSN, but we are now transitioning to a committee that will include broader representation from the greater Bluffton community. This committee will play an important role in helping ensure that the rights, dignity, and well-being of individuals receiving services remain at the forefront of everything we do. We are seeking **at least five committee members,** including an individual receiving OIDD services or a self-advocate, a family member of an individual with a disability, a community representative with an interest in disability services, a professional with medical or behavioral expertise, and other interested community members such as educators or clergy. **If you know someone who might be interested in serving or helping us establish this important committee, please let me know!** We would greatly appreciate your recommendations.

As we approach Thanksgiving, I want to personally thank you for the trust you place in PEP and for your continued involvement in our programs. Our commitment to providing a safe, supportive, and enriching environment for every member remains our highest priority. I look forward to celebrating with many of you at our luncheon and wish you and your families a wonderful Thanksgiving!

Warmly,

Nancy




NOVEMBER 13-15 • IN STORE ONLY
CHARITY
SHOP•SAVE•GIVE
SALE
All ticket proceeds go to charity!
See an associate to purchase a ticket
GIVE $5
TO CHARITY
GET $5 OFF
YOUR FIRST PURCHASE,
NO BRAND EXCLUSIONS
+
EXTRA 25% OFF*
YOUR FAVORITE
DESIGNER BRANDS


Save the Date
Night to Shine™
TIM TEBOW FOUNDATION
FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 12, 2027 | 6:00PM
LOWCOUNTRY COMMUNITY CHURCH
For more information, visit: lowcountrycc.org/nighttoshine

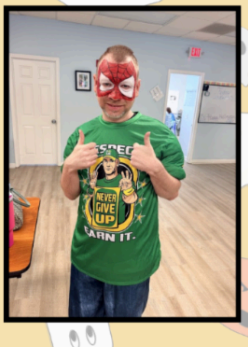

In partnership with
Seahawk Theatre - Hilton Head HS
Hilton Head Island, SC
LAF presents
Autism and The Arts
Sensory Friendly
Nutcracker Suite
Saturday, November 14th 2-4pm
Registration Required
www.lafinc.org

MEMBER MEMORIES











PEP provides programs that promote independence, social interaction, education, and employment opportunities for adults who live with unique intellectual, physical, and developmental disabilities.

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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@pephhi.org
Falisha Doublin	Program Director	Falisha.Doublin@pephhi.org
Carey Fortner	Administrative Assistant	Carey.Fortner@pephhi.org
Megan Drew	Compliance and Billing Specialist	Megan.Drew@pephhi.org
Ally Burnett	Program Administrator	Allison.Burnett@pephhi.org
Robert Mueller	Facilities and Transportation Manager	Robert.Mueller@pephhi.org
Akina Benton	Assistant Program Director	Akina.Benton@pephhi.org

Recurring reminders:

Medicaid
In order for PEP to bill for services, members must be present for the entire morning unit (9:30 AM – 12:30 PM) or afternoon unit (12:30 PM – 2:30 PM). Late arrivals or early pickups prevent PEP from billing for the affected unit.

Continued difficulty meeting these attendance requirements may result in a review of the member's ability to continue receiving services at PEP. Our goal is to work with families to maintain consistent attendance while ensuring compliance with billing requirements.

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

www.pephhi.org

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

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