



South Central Industries: Bettering the Community of Shawnee

By Payton Moody

South Central Industries, a nonprofit organization that offers various betterment programs for those with developmental disabilities, is dedicated to aiding the community of Shawnee, Oklahoma.

Established in 1981, South Central Industries is dedicated to the purpose of providing vocational training to individuals for competitive jobs in the Shawnee community. Through eleven separate contracts with the State of Oklahoma and private businesses, South Central Industries has been able to diversify its job offerings to construction, product offerings, volunteer opportunities with the Community Market in Shawnee, Legacy Parenting and Meals on Wheels.

South Central Industries provides vocational training and occupational opportunities to over fifty individuals with developmental disabilities. Two group homes are located on the South Central campus that provides housing for twelve of these individuals. South Central Industries strives to meet its clients' needs vocationally, residentially and socially.

This diverse nonprofit organization provides city beautification, janitorial, lawn care, pallet construction and product sales. Volunteer opportunities are also available through the Community Market, SPAR and Meals on Wheels, and self-enrichment programs through the Sr. Center and Blue Zones of Pottawatomie County.

“The heart and mission of South Central Industries revolves around the P.E.E.P.s, People Experiencing Exceptional Purpose,” said Executive Director of South Central Industries Tina Hanna. “The goal is to make sure all of our PEEPs enjoy vocational training, employment opportunities, residential services and social outlets that will help them achieve their maximum potential by integrating independence, self-determination and productivity into all facets of their lives.”

South Central Industries strives to be a family for all its staff and PEEPs. They have monthly birthday celebrations, Halloween dances, Christmas parties, Valentine talent shows, Memorial Day/Labor Day cook-outs, Friday Feats of Strength that include volleyball, ping pong, pool, basketball and softball competitions, and karaoke competitions. 50 PEEPs and 45 regular staff are employed by South Central Industries.

Located on 130 N Louisa Ave in Shawnee, South Central Industries is can be contacted at (405)275-3851. First National Bank & Trust Co. of Shawnee, Oklahoma, and its employees support South Central Industries – shop and aid our local businesses!

