



“Our Mission is to create and support relationships between community volunteers and individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities so that all are heard, empowered and fully included in the community. We strive to engage all members in opportunities that enhance quality of life.”

December 27, 2021

Dear Charleston Voters,

Orleans County Citizen Advocacy (OCCA) was founded in 1988 to promote friendships between individuals with developmental disabilities and community volunteers. Through one to one matches, OCCA helps our members build relationships where each person is respected, included, heard and empowered. We support enduring, positive connections that have enhanced our Orleans County communities for over thirty years.

In 2021 we changed our approach in response to Covid. Our goal was to safely bring people together, reduce isolation and increase meaningful connections. We held a variety of online support groups and workshops for members and volunteers as well as providing some healthy outdoor activities. We limited in person activities due to the continuing pandemic. We continue to face difficulties in finding volunteers.

During the next year we plan to rely less on volunteers and therefore increase our ability to offer more in-person programs and support for people with developmental challenges in our communities. In order to do this, we must secure increased funding to pay people to lead workshops, activities, and support groups throughout Orleans county. We are in the process of conducting surveys and doing outreach in order to find out what the needs and interests are in the disability community. We encourage referrals to our organization and welcome anyone who may be interested in volunteering their time and talents.

Since its inception, OCCA has operated without any federal or state funding. We have a small budget and low overhead. Our activities are funded through town appropriations, donations and small grants. All appropriations stay in Orleans County and directly impact and benefit our neighbors. We thank Charleston voters for your past support, and once again are asking for your help.

Best Wishes,

Rich Ossias Ann Stannard
Co-Chairs, OCCA Board of Directors

**Orleans County Citizen Advocacy
Profit & Loss October 2020 to September 2021**

Income

Corporate Contributions	900.00
Individual Contributions	5,403.29
Town Appropriations	12,500.00
Grants	3,000.00
Interest Income	25.69
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TOTAL INCOME	21,803.29

Expenses

Contract Services:	
Accounting Fees	210.00
Outside Contract Services	16,975.00
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Total	17,185.00

Operations:

Advertising Expenses	90.07
Bank Charges	41.30
Insurance	2,370.00
Match Expense	250.00
Postage	225.15
Printing and Copying	41.34
SOS registration fees	20.00
Supplies	76.73
Telephone	314.50
Events/Activities	190.68
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Total **3,619.68**

TOTAL EXPENSES **20,804.77**

NET INCOME **1,024.21**