



David Sperry

DavidSperry.LFDCDC@gmail.com

865-851-0087

LIFE FOCUS

To Help People Be CommUnity by modelling and promoting the role of CULCat, (CommUnity Learning Catalyst), within existing organizations, emphasizing person-centered, experiential learning R&D labs, events, camps, activities and communities which lead to the adoption of sustainable, continuous improvement, focused on the well-being and prosperity of individuals, organizations and communities (especially the disadvantaged); measured by happiness, productivity and return on investment (in the Oak Ridge/Knoxville area, the Nashville/Atlanta/Asheville triangle, USA and Korea).

A fundamental strategy is to serve as a Connection Catalyst, connecting people and organizations with the people, knowledge and tools they need to be who they were born to be, and help others be, in ways that build, well-being, prosperity and commUnity.

EXPERIENCE

Direct Support Professional, Emory Valley Center, Oak Ridge, TN – 2009-Present

- Supporting adults with intellectual and developmental disabilities in residential, day facility and community environments, for an agency whose vision is to **Maximize Human Abilities**.
- **Producer of a 2017 TN Disability MegaConference presentation on Experiential CommUnity Building: Showcasing Abilities Through Collaborative Storytelling.**
 - **Part 1 shared the benefits of CommUnity Building** through the collaborative reading of a simple story "The Secret in the Garden." which shared the message that we can have peace and happiness when we learn to appreciate each other's differences and live side by side in harmony, like flowers in a garden. Two of the three readers were people with intellectual disabilities, one of whom was blind and reading Braille. The third reader was a ventriloquist, through her puppet (as a stand-in for the speaking, robotic puppet which was not available at the time, but which would have enabled a third person, with cerebral palsy, who does not speak, tell her story part, by hitting a switch, when it was her turn).
 - **Part 2 engaged participants in a CommUnity Building experience.** Five groups were asked to write down, on blank business cards, up to 10 places in their respective communities which would benefit from collaborative storytelling, then insert the cards in an 8.5"x11" card holder, in priority order, if possible. They were then asked to list their favorite short stories, suitable for collaborative storytelling, using the same method. (The 50 places and 50 stories, gathered in 20 minutes, could have been shared immediately, as images of the cards, shown via HDMI connection to my iPhone, had this worked with the conference provided projector.)
- **Learning Focused Community Development Catalyst opportunity search**
- **CNC Machine Operator/Programmer, CoorsTek, Oak Ridge, TN**
- **Financial Service Representative, MetLife Financial Services, Knoxville, TN**
- **DSL Technical Support Representative, Client Logic call center, Oak Ridge, TN**
- **Sales & Delivery to Schools in TN, Educational Specialties Inc., Athens, TN**
- **Computing Community Development Center, Cleveland, TN,** a personal entrepreneurial failure, for which, I believe, there is an even greater need today. (A parallel focus was being the catalyst for starting and promoting a Community Net, information network, initiative involving a broad cross-section of the community, co-chaired by the Mayor and County Executive.)



EDUCATION & TRAINING

- Person-Centered Planning 2017
- Recent Reading: *Scrum, Deep Work, Bull's-Eye, Fully Alive, Great Peacemakers*
- **Graduate studies at Vanderbilt (HRD) 1998-99, Pepperdine (Business) 1984-85, California American University (Education) 1979-80**
- **Tennessee Wesleyan College, B.S. Interdisciplinary Degree in Biology & Economics, Magna Cum Laude, 1975**