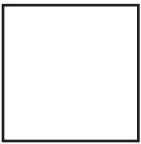


Banchero Disability Partners empowers adults with developmental disabilities so that they may realize their potential, achieve their goals, and be active and contributing members in their communities. Together we promote equitable civil rights.



13732 Midvale Ave N #103, Seattle, WA 98133 | [banchero.org](http://banchero.org)



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

Spring 2022



BANCHERO  
DISABILITY  
PARTNERS

Leaflet

13732 Midvale Ave N #103 | Seattle, WA 98133 | p: 206.367.7795 | f: 206.361.2271

#### Board of Directors

##### Officers

*President*  
Peregrin Sorter  
*Vice President*  
John Schack  
*Secretary*  
Guy Holliday  
*Treasurer*  
Don Bell

##### Directors

Jennifer Fontaine  
Kevin Hastings  
Todd Kelly  
Sarah Korbonits  
Chad McBride  
Tina Nole  
Lamin Samateh  
Lola Taylor

**Banchero Disability Partners thanks our many business donors. Please support the businesses that support us!**

ACT Theatre, Air Reps, LLC, Alliant Insurance Services, Allied Plastering Co., AmazonSmile, Anthony's Restaurants, Bakery Nouveau, Bank of America Charitable Foundation, Benevity Community Impact Fund, Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation Employee Matching Gift Program, Boeing Employees Community Fund, Capital Industries, Inc., Cedar Grove Composting, Dahlia Bakery, Don Chase at Caliber Loans, El Gaucho, Emerald Downs, Fidelity Charitable, Gertrude and Eldon Sallee Foundation, Heavy Restaurant Group, Holliday Masonry, International Belt & Rubber, Ivar's and Kidd Valley, James Alan Salon and Spa, Jet City Improv, Ladro Coffee, Landau Associates, Inc., Macrina Bakery, Morelli Family LLC, Morgan Stanley, Network for Good, One 4All Charitable Fund, Pleas Family Foundation, REW Enterprises, LLC, Redmond General Insurance Agency, Reich and Walner LLP, Reign Sports Management, Salesforce, Schultz Family Foundation, Schwab Charitable, Seattle Property Management, Sepic Family Foundation, Siderius Lonergan & Martin LLP, Sound Experience, Sound Sustainable Farms, Stoneway Concrete, The Cheesecake Factory, The Museum of Flight, The Seattle Foundation, Total Wine & More, Tutta Bella, United Way of King County, Varian Medical Systems, Wild Waves Theme & Waterpark, Wolseley Industrialist Plastics, Woodinville Wine Country Association



#### Meet Our Protagonists: Chris and Owen

A dynamic duo as close to superheroes as anyone could want, Chris and Owen have been teamed up since Owen was hired in late July 2021. Prior to starting with Banchero Disability Partners, Owen worked in the graphic design industry, but was involved in disability advocacy for several years as a student at the University of Oregon and a youth leader. He had been looking to make an impact in the disability community again, and we jumped at the chance to bring him along on our mission.

#### Setting the Scene

Chris' day to day life in one word is poetic. Mornings are spent contemplating "the meaning of it all", with not nearly enough coffee to figure it all out, and using his signature style of ballpoint pen on lined paper to create intricate sci-fi landscape art (which is also discretely tattooed on him nearly head to toe). Owen joins Chris most mornings to bring him back to earth by supporting him with the mundane tasks to keep his household in order: meal-prep, budget planning, scheduling cleaning and laundry sessions, and most importantly planning trips into the community for work and shopping of all kinds.

**Continued Inside >>**

#### Calendar

Cedar Grove Golf Tournament  
(Date and Location TBA)

2023 Heart & Soul Auction  
(Date and Location TBA)

#### Board Meetings

Tuesday, May 24, 2022, 5:00p  
Via Google Meet

Tuesday, July 26, 2022, 5:00p  
Via Google Meet

Written by Caitlin Shoemaker.  
Layout and design by Francisco Ivarra.

Please consider making an online donation at  
[www.banchero.org](http://www.banchero.org)!

p: 206.367.7795  
f: 206.361.2271



### Meet Our Protagonists: Chris and Owen (Continued)



Chris is a lover of analog media, and one of his favorite pastimes is watching Blu-ray horror movies and purchasing used DVDs at the Silver Platters in Lynnwood.

Naturally, one must own top of the line DVD players and TVs to fully enjoy this lifestyle and when possible, Chris likes to upgrade his gear. Leading up to his 55th birthday, Chris planned to upgrade his TV and soundbar to create a home movie viewing experience to rival the IMAX at Seattle Center. Chris worked with Owen on his budget for two months, researched the TV and soundbar he wanted, and arranged a trip to make the purchase. When Chris arrived at the electronics store, with list in hand and items packed and ready at the register, his check was denied.

### An Unexpected (and Unwarranted) Plot Twist

The denial is a phenomenon of the pandemic, completely unrelated to the balance in Chris' checking account. Many large stores have begun using a third party screening company to conduct random credit checks at the point of sale in order to prevent people from passing fraudulent checks. A huge consequence of this practice is that many people, who are required to have financial support services like our clients, do not have credit history and are automatically flagged as bad actors, thus declined from making purchases at these stores. This practice greatly impacts individuals with disabilities, those who are homeless, and others whose circumstances provide legitimate reasons for not having stellar credit reports. It's a disappointing feeling to get so close to something you've been looking forward to for months, just to have it slip out of reach. The disappointment and frustration only grows when you know you have the resources available to you and are unfairly denied because you have a disability. If you're Chris, you have no choice but to leave the store empty-handed and call the company to figure out if there is anything you can do.

Having lived in institutions before coming to Banchemo Disability Partners, Chris is no stranger to discrimination, even extreme forms leading to false accusations and near criminal records. Miraculously, through all these experiences, Chris typically prefers to take the high road and not waste the day being upset with things outside of his control.

This situation did not sit well with Owen. He became increasingly frustrated with the check company after advocating that they mark Chris as a credible customer, just to have Chris get a second denial the following day. Owen encouraged Chris to engage in a customer complaint escalation with the Attorney General's office. They hope to use his experience to change this practice and benefit those who are also at risk of financial discrimination but have yet to face the embarrassment and marginalization that accompany it.

### To Be Continued...

Chris is now scheduled to meet with a representative from the Attorney General's office to advocate for change. It is because of the generous support of donors like you that we are able to attract talented and caring people like Owen, who will go above and beyond to empower clients to address issues like financial discrimination. It takes time and persistence to affect systemic discrimination, and although there have been vast improvements to protect the civil rights of people with disabilities, there are always new obstacles to be overcome.

## Events & Fundraising



### Winter Campaign Update

We were successful in purchasing the Bluestone Apartments! Thanks to your generous gifts, we raised \$296,000 of our \$300,000 goal and are excited to expand and move new clients into this space as vacancies occur. We will be renaming Bluestone Apartments to Nelson, in honor of former client, advocate, and friend, Cory Nelson.

Our spring fundraising letter went out in late April, we are currently seeking support in filling the gap on our Nelson loan as well as funds to supplement the \$125,000 typically raised during



our annual auction. Please consider sending a gift through the included remit envelope or online at [www.banchemo.org/donate](http://www.banchemo.org/donate).

### Coming Soon: Auction 2023!

Due to the uncertainty of the pandemic, we will not be hosting an auction this year. We are dreaming of a golf tournament for late summer/early fall 2022, and are trying to make this a reality! While we are saddened to be missing the opportunity to gather this spring, we are looking forward to future opportunities to come together as a community. We are currently in the planning phase for a spring 2023 auction, so stay tuned for more information in the coming months!

## Board & Organizational News

### Welcome Carol Salter!



In April 2022, Carol took over the Executive Director role from CaraLee, who is moving on to new adventures with her family in Belize after 29 years of exceptional service at BDP.

"I am honored to introduce myself as the new Executive Director of Banchemo Disability Partners! I am very excited to join this marvelous family. My definition of family includes you, as supporters and donors, our exceptional staff, our Board members who lead our mission, and most importantly, our residents.

I have over 30 years' experience supporting individuals with disabilities in the housing and employment sectors, as well as ten years providing independent living services in the State of Washington. For the past three years, I have been the President/CEO of a large nonprofit in Oregon administering employment and housing services to individuals with disabilities that have English as a second language, homeless veterans, and poverty-level seniors. On a personal note, I have two grandsons on the autism spectrum, one of which I am raising, a granddaughter who is currently in treatment for Acute Myeloid Leukemia, and my husband is a veteran with a significant disability.

I feel that my personal ethics, values, and experiences perfectly aligned with Banchemo Disability Partners' mission and vision for our future. I am privileged to be chosen as

the next mission director and to work closely with each of you, as you continue to support our excellent agency."

### Passing the Fundraising Baton

Robin Tinch, our dedicated Fundraising Manager, has recently retired and is enjoying life in Ireland. In early April, the role was passed along to our new staff member, Caitlin Shoemaker. Caitlin comes to us from northern Michigan with a background in social work and disability program management. One of her greatest passions is promoting community inclusion for people with disabilities, and felt the best way to utilize her skills and experiences was to raise money for a nonprofit whose mission aligns with this. We are so excited to welcome Caitlin to the BDP family as our new Fundraising Manager!



### Daniel's Days at Disneyland



Daniel loves music and all Disney characters, and oftentimes is singing along to a Disney song on his tablet. In late September 2021, his family reached out to BDP to help make Daniel's Disney dream

come true. We were so excited to brainstorm and plan this alongside Daniel and his family. After a short postponement due to Covid-19 infection increases and travel restrictions, a date and tickets were booked.

BDP staff, Faiza Farey assisted Daniel with buying all weather necessary clothing, ordered his medications, and coordinated all plans with his family. In early April, Daniel and Faiza left for an unforgettable three-day trip to Disneyland! Thanks to the support Daniel received during the trip, he was able to spend quality time with his family in one of his favorite places and enjoy all the fun that Disney had to offer.

Following the trip, Daniel's family said, "Daniel blew us away at every turn - the airplane ride, waiting at the airport with Faiza, sleeping in a different bed at night, navigating Disneyland, etc. I think he is able to do this because he knows he has all the support from BDP...We are so grateful to get to have shared such a joyous time with our brother!!!"