
HEMPFIELD BEHAVIORAL HEALTH

Changing Lives Through Research-Based Practices

RED TOMATO FARM & INN TO HAVE OPEN HOUSE APRIL 9

Newville—Hempfield Behavioral Health will be hosting an Open House on April 9 from 10 am - 4 pm for their adult day program at the Red Tomato Farm & Inn located at 3581 Ritner Highway in Newville. The program is anticipated to open no later than the beginning of May, once the final licensing inspection is completed.

The aim of the farm is to provide adults with intellectual disabilities meaningful work rooted in farm tasks that create opportunities to interact with the general public on the farm and in the community. Farm life is a 365-day a year endeavor so participants will attend to farm tasks on various schedules throughout the seven day week, all year long.

“We have recently completed renovations to the Upper and Lower Nursery Program Area including the addition of a greenhouse. We would like to invite prospective participants, their families, supports coordinators and the community to the farm to see the improvements. Farm tours and intake packets will also be available at the open house.” explained Hana Rosen-Westhafer, Vice President at Hempfield Behavioral Health.

This concept is a new model for adult training facilities. As a farm it may appeal to individuals interested in agricultural activities and working outdoors rather than traditional industrial tasks generally conducted indoors. The model is also at the cutting edge of national goals to provide services in the most integrated setting appropriate to needs.

“The farm design affords frequent interaction between individuals with intellectual disabilities and the general public, as they will be using farm resources and participating in activities at the farm. In particular, the general public can contract with us for care and feeding

of their livestock using both our barn and pastures. Also, the public is welcome to participate in art, cooking and yoga classes, for example.” said Howard Rosen, President and Owner of Hempfield Behavioral Health.

This working hobby farm was originally part of a 200-plus acre dairy farm. The five acre parcel includes the original farmhouse which dates to 1780. The large bank-barn built in the 1800’s is also on the property.

The Red Tomato Farm & Inn is located near the town of Newville in one of central Pennsylvania's scenic farm communities. The location is between two large state natural parks that offer swimming, boating, hiking, mountain biking, and acres of recreational land. “The farm is also close to the bicycle rail-trail connecting Newville to Shippensburg, which is a lovely 20-mile bike and hike path through farm and country-side.” noted Rosen-Westhafer.

Please contact Hana Rosen-Westhafer at 717-221-8004 or visit our web and social media page at www.hempfieldpa.com and facebook.com/hempfieldpa for more information about Red Tomato Farm & Inn and the upcoming Open House. Looking ahead, a grand opening is being planned for the summer once participants have had time to work in the greenhouse, plant gardens, and acclimate livestock.