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IMMEDIATE RELEASE

MOUNTAIN STATE CENTERS FOR INDEPENDENT LIVING SIGNS ON
Community Based Training work site in Lincoln County

HUNTINGTON, WV (July 1, 2009) - - Mountain State Centers for Independent Living signed on their first Community Based Training work site in Lincoln county, *From Trash to Treasures* in Hamlin, WV.

The Employment Services Division at Mountain State Centers for Independent Living recently expanded into Lincoln County and works with people with disabilities to assist them in entering or re-entering the workforce and works with them to help develop an employment goal, receive training, develop a resume and the skills necessary to successfully seek and retain employment.

Nona Conley, the owner of *From Trash to Treasures* tells us that she is pleased to support the work of Mountain State Centers for Independent Living. As the parent of an adult child with a disability, Nona has had many years of experience as an advocate for people with disabilities.

When Nona's children were still young she was visiting nearby Hamlin, fell in love with the area, and moved herself and her children to Lincoln County. Nona grew up in Nebraska and while she was married lived in California and New Jersey where the Associations for Retarded Children (now known as the Arc), had store front operations, especially thrift shops, that provided training opportunities for people with disabilities who had particular skills in some areas and not others.

Nona was encouraged to discover that the Mountain State Centers for Independent Living, Employment Services Division offers very similar services in preparing people for employment in retail and other areas of employment. To learn more about the Employment Services Division and the role of a Community Based Training Site, visit their Web site at www.mtstcil.org/esd.

You may already know Nona from her volunteer work with the Farm Bureau, Fairs and Festivals Organization, Appalachian Women's Leadership and other local organizations. Nona's shop, *From Trash to Treasures*, grew out of her love of yard sales and flea markets, is located at 351 Walnut Avenue in Hamlin and is open Thursday, Friday and Saturday from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. People come to Nona to talk and often walk out with information about the community, available services, community happenings and with treasures from the shop.

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