



Dean and Roger

**Dean Atwood
and Roger Goble**



With a knock on the President's door, a Damar staff member said, "Excuse me, Mr. Johnson, two clients living in our Clay Street Group Home in Mooresville have asked to speak with you. Do you have a moment?"

The year was 1997 and the two adult clients — Dean Atwood and Roger Goble — began to share their thoughts on their current living situation.

"We don't want to live in a group home anymore! We don't want to live with six other people. We don't want to have to get in a van together when one of us has to go to the doctor. Why can't I just live with him?" Dean said, pointing to Roger.

Heeding the call, Damar established CLASS (Community Living and Support Services) and launched a fully functioning community program by the end of 1998.

Both in their 30s today, Dean and Roger have each found success, having successfully lived in the community and held their current jobs for over ten years.

"These two young men certainly rank up there with some of the most influential people in Damar's history," said Damar President & CEO Greg Johnson.