



Hands of Heartland
December
2022

**Happy Holidays,
HoH Friends!**

We're excited to share some cheer this month! All of our locations have been enjoying the season with various holiday activities and gatherings. We hope you all have a meaningful holiday season!

COMMUNITY

Holiday Fun at HoH!

Omaha/Bellevue

Our Day Center Omaha/Bellevue locations went Christmas shopping for Secret Santa presents for a fun party, and even got pictures with Santa.

West Maple & Harrison

At West Maple and Harrison, HoH staff and participants had fun with a cookie exchange!

Fremont

The city of Fremont held its Christmas walk on November 26th. Santa and his reindeer make an appearance, there are carriage rides, and fun activities in many of the shops. This year HoH hosted a hot chocolate bar and a make and take ornament station.

Lincoln

Our Lincoln group homes had one big Thanksgiving dinner, in which they had a great time playing games and socializing with everyone. Lincoln's Christmas party will be later in December and will be doing crafts, making ornaments, and having a huge potluck for everyone.

Grand Island/Kearney

Our Grand Island/Kearney area locations are looking forward to their Christmas party later in the month!

West Point/Norfolk

Norfolk HoH enjoyed a fun winter party, full of crafts like ornament making, and delicious holiday treats!





SPOTLIGHT

HoH Team Member Plays Professional Basketball in Mexico

We love seeing our staff do incredible things in the world, and Eli Gibson from our Lincoln location has certainly done that! This Fall, he was asked to play professional basketball for the De Xalisco Coras in Xalisco, Mexico! The experience broadened his perspective on a lot of things, and that the people he encountered were all friendly and dedicated. He did admit that, while the food was delicious, he missed getting to eat burgers and fries!

Eli, it sounds like you had a fantastic experience, and we're so proud of you! Thank you for all you do, and for enriching people's lives here at Hands of Heartland.



SPOTLIGHT

Team Member of The Month

Kristina Williams

It's time to highlight one of our outstanding team members again, and this time we're cheering on Kristina Williams at one of our Bellevue locations! The following is a quote from the team member who nominated her:

“ Kristina impresses me with the way she treats our girls like the people they are. She is always calm, even in stressful situations. Kristina is the best for doing her documentation on time and correctly, and knows policies, safety plans, protocols, etc. She lets me know any situation she feels I need to know about concerning the girls. I have never seen Kristina without a smile on her face. She also is very good at training new staff in the house. ”





SPOTLIGHT

Get to know Hands of Heartland

Rhea M. – Fremont Location

We would like to give a shout-out to Fremont SLP Rhea Metschke. The people she supports were scheduled to come down and help in the shop during the Fremont Christmas walk. Rhea spent the whole day with the group, helped in the shop, gave the tours, and explained what we do here

at HoH. She was able to explain the Shared Living experience and how happy the people she supports are. Rhea is one of a kind, and has been a great help at the Fremont day site. We are proud to have her as part of the HOH family!

ANNOUNCEMENT

Introducing HoH Engage!

We launched HoH Engage last month in an effort to reward our incredible team for their hard work! Using the system Cooleaf, a new recognition, engagement, and rewards platform, the HoH Engage program is a simple way to spread the love.

We'll use this platform to celebrate individual and team achievements, share events and virtual engagement activities, and recognize team members for their contributions to the Heartland mission.



CELEBRATING

December Team Member Birthdays

BELLEVUE

KRIS R (12/1)
LATOYCE H (12/2)
BRANDON J (12/7)
ISMAEL C (12/9)
CHERYL L (12/10)
SONIA O (12/10)
HALLE B (12/12)
ANDREA G (12/12)
REBECCA C (12/14)
SHAWUANA C (16/16)
JAMES K (12/16)

KOUBA P (12/17)
JULIAN M (12/22)
MARCIANO T (12/22)
BETH C (12/22)
ZACHARY A (12/23)
KRISTAL S (12/23)
SHEANNE M (12/24)
SHAWN L (12/27)

GRAND ISLAND

SARA C (12/4)
NICOLE V (12/10)
SARA L (12/11)
ROBIN L (12/31)
TONY AM (12/31)
JAMES R (12/31)

LINCOLN

ANNE M (12/11)
HOLLIE P (12/12)
SAMANTHA H (12/16)

WEST POINT

GRACE M (12/2)
ELIZABETH P (12/12)
RACHEL H (12/14)
LEAH S (12/28)

CELEBRATING

December Anniversaries

BELLEVUE

OYINKANSOLA D (1 YEAR)
ZACHARIA S (1 YEAR)
KATHLEEN S (1 YEAR)
MICKAELA S (2 YEARS)
KRISTIN W (3 YEARS)
MAHAMUD H (5 YEARS)
SHEANNE M (5 YEARS)
PATRICIA U (14 YEARS)

LINCOLN

PATRICIA C (2 YEARS)

GRAND ISLAND

RHYS D (1 YEAR)
TERESA M (1 YEAR)
SHANTEL M (1 YEAR)
JENNA M (2 YEARS)
TONYA C (2 YEARS)
THOMAS T (2 YEARS)

WEST POINT

CINDY T (2 YEARS)

FREMONT

ROBERT R (2 YEARS)
CHERI R (2 YEARS)

FORT WORTH, TX

CUTLER A (1 YEAR)

DALLAS, TX

DAVID R (1 YEAR)

