

Hands of Heartland

MAY

2020



Hands of Heartland

Hello, friends!

We hope the new month finds you healthy and well! Here at Hands of Heartland, we've been working hard to get creative with ways to continue service for those who need it most!

Take-home DIY Craft Kits

One of the ways we've adapted to the current situation is through **DIY craft kits!** The response has been fantastic so far (we even got a shout-out in the Omaha World Herald!), and we're excited to keep this service going to spread a little joy. Check out our Facebook page for a peek at the Mother's Day kit!

A Big THANK YOU to Direct Support Professionals!

Hands of Heartland leaders thought it would be appropriate to recognize all Direct Support Professionals throughout May. The work being done by our entire team — with our DSPs at the forefront — has been remarkable over the last two months. The COVID-19 crisis has created new challenges, but the team has risen to the occasion to assure our homes and day programs remain safe. Everyone has been flexible and compassionate during this unprecedented time. While we have all had to adapt to a new way of doing things, our DSPs have provided a

safe and stable environment for the people served by Hands of Heartland. Absences have been limited, and our DSPs have been willing to pitch in where needed to assure shifts are covered. Thank you all for the incredible work you are doing! We look forward to celebrating our DSPs during the month of May!

Warmer Days Ahead

As the months progress and information changes constantly about social distancing regulations, there are naturally questions about community inclusion activities for the summer. We are carefully monitoring guidelines and recommendations, and will make more decisions as we get closer, but there's one thing we're completely sure of right now: it's a good idea to get outside and get moving! Physical activity can have many benefits for the individuals we work with, including improved gross motor function and aerobic capacity.

Remembering April Dunn

Our community lost a shining star this year, and we wanted to share [this wonderful article](#) outlining her many incredible achievements. April was bold, kind, and a fierce advocate for the rights of students with disabilities. She will be greatly missed.

Celebrating May Birthdays!

KOJO A. (5/16) OPEYEMI L. (5/12)
KAYLA H. (5/8) SKYE R. (5/3)
LAVAE H. (5/15) NIKHEA S. (5/6)
MAHAMUD H. (5/26) THERESA S. (5/16)
HEATHER J. (5/9)

Honoring April & May Anniversaries

COREY M. (1 YEAR) LATOYCE H. (1 YEAR)
DERRICK B. (1 YEAR) CARLOS A. (5 YEARS)
ERIC H. (1 YEAR) MARK S. (5 YEARS)
GANNY P. (1 YEAR) MELANIE M. (5 YEARS)
LINDELL R. (1 YEAR) SEAN B. (15 YEARS)
ASHLEY R. (1 YEAR)

We'd love to hear from you

Share your content ideas with Jessica Lode at jlode@handsofheartland.com

HandsofHeartland.com

Follow us on Facebook