



Friendship Ark
HOMES & COMMUNITY SERVICES

FAITH • FAMILY • FRIENDSHIP

Spring 2020
VOLUME 21, ISSUE 1

We Have Been Chosen

We are thrilled to share that we have been selected to be the Partner Charity for the **Georges Niang 2020 Golf Outing** on Monday, July 27, 2020, at the Ames Golf and Country Club.

Join Georges, Event Emcee and Voice of the Cyclones, John Walters, Event Chairs Lyndsey Fennelly and Betsy Waite, and a host of celebrities for some friendly competition in a round of golf as we raise funds for Friendship Ark. Sign up at http://www.friendshipark.org/niang_golf_outing.aspx to participate:

As a Golfer

Sign up your team of four before we run out of spots (participation is limited to 25 teams). Each golfer will receive golfer prizes, 18 holes and cart, and an autographed picture with Georges Niang as well as complimentary admission to the social hour.



By Attending the Social Hour



Golf will be followed by a program, social hour with heavy hors d'oeuvres, and live and silent auctions. Check our Facebook page and website frequently as we release information about the exciting items that will be available for auction. You may register for the Social Hour only without

participating in the golf portion of the event (limited to 60 participants).

As a Sponsor

Sponsors will receive 2 program tickets, can create an engaging, fun event at each hole, and receive great exposure at the outing.

A Note to Our Regular Fall Benefit Supporters

Due to our partnership with the Golf Outing we will not be holding our annual fall fundraising event this year, please consider participating in or making a contribution to the Golf Outing instead. Watch for updates as we prepare to roll out a brand new event in 2021. We thank you for your continued support.



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The Role of a Board Member in a Charitable Nonprofit

Did you know that the vast majority of board members for charitable nonprofits serve as volunteers without any compensation? Like many other charitable nonprofits, Friendship Ark is served by an all volunteer board of directors.

Just as for any corporation, the board of directors of a nonprofit has three primary legal duties known as the “duty of care,” “duty of loyalty,” and “duty of obedience.”

Duty of Care: Take care of the nonprofit by ensuring prudent use of all assets, including facility, people, and good will.

Duty of Loyalty: Ensure that the nonprofit's activities and transactions are, first and foremost, advancing its mission; recognize and disclose conflicts of interest; make decisions that are in the best interest of the nonprofit corporation; *not in the best interest of the individual board member* (or any other individual or for-profit entity).

Duty of Obedience: Ensure that the nonprofit obeys applicable laws and regulations; follows its own bylaws; and that the nonprofit adheres to its stated corporate purposes/mission.

However, a board of directors does not exist solely to fulfill legal duties and serve as a fiduciary of the organization’s assets. Board members also play very significant roles providing guidance to nonprofits by contributing to the organization’s culture, strategic focus, effectiveness, and financial sustainability, as well as serving as ambassadors and advocates. Beyond fulfilling legal duties, board members can be important resources for the organization in multiple ways.

(Retrieved from <http://www.councilofnonprofits.org/tools-resources/board-roles-and-responsibilities.>)

A Board Member Experience

Friendship Ark has been blessed with a very active and engaged board of directors over the past 20 years who have guided us through growth and industry changes to be a preferred provider of supported community living services for Ames, Story County, and beyond. Our board is comprised of dedicated individuals representing a host of diverse backgrounds, each offering up their expertise and experience in order to serve and advise Friendship Ark in every area of business operations. Learn more about all of our board members by visiting <http://www.friendshipark.org/board-of-directors.aspx>.

We would like you to hear directly from one of our volunteer board members about her experience serving on Friendship Ark’s board of directors. **Nicole Rasmussen - Vice President, Ames National Corporation**, kindly answered some questions for us to help illustrate the board member experience at Friendship Ark for you.

What motivated you to serve on the board?

Sarah Buck (current board member and former board president) invited me to learn more about the opportunity, and I immediately understood the importance of the Friendship Ark mission. I very much appreciate the holistic approach to care through Faith, Family and Friendship.

What have you learned by serving on the Friendship Ark board?

Before serving on the board, I had a general idea of the great work that was being accomplished at Friendship Ark. After joining the board, I realize it is so much more. The relationships that are created and nurtured between the core members and staff members are more like a family than an organization. It is a place of peace and hope.



Continued on Page 3

A Board Member Experience, Continued

What is something that has surprised you about Friendship Ark or serving on the board?

Witnessing the joy of the core members is probably what has surprised me the most. It is pretty moving to see the joy and excitement of the core members experiencing life together as a family.

What has been your best experience?

I love volunteering at the 5k on the 4th annual run. I also enjoy following Friendship Ark on Facebook. You really get a sense of the joy the core members experience.

What has been the most difficult?

The most difficult part is knowing that there is more need for care than we can currently accommodate. The addition of the new house will be a wonderful opportunity to serve the community.

What do you wish other people knew about Friendship Ark?

Friendship Ark is a hidden treasure in Ames. There is great work being done every day with an amazing group of people!

What will you take away from the experience of serving on the board when your term expires?

Friendship Ark provides core members with a one-of-a-kind experience that connects them to life-long Faith, Family and Friendship. Serving on the board is meaningful work with an important purpose.

Save the Date

For all of our running and walking friends! Mark your calendars for **Saturday, July 4th, 2020** as we gather for the 16th annual **5k on the Fourth** at scenic Ada Hayden Park in Ames.

We will once again offer an opportunity to get to know some of our core members. You may choose to walk a shorter route with core members and staff giving you the opportunity to visit and make a connection.

Start training now, then join us in July as we raise funds for Friendship Ark.

Watch our website and Facebook page for registration information.



We are Hiring

Do you know someone who would be a perfect fit for becoming a member of the Friendship Ark family as a Direct Support Professional?

We offer a fun, family-style work environment where staff and core members form a close friendship while working together on new experiences and life skills. We currently have mostly evening and weekend hours available, making these positions perfect for a college student.



With Friendship Ark you will find meaningful work and unparalleled teamwork and passion for our cause. Many of our staff who have graduated or otherwise moved on will visit us and our core members whenever they find themselves in town, a testament to the bonds that were created while they were employees.

Find your purpose while earning that extra spending money. Email kimm@friendshipark.org today and request an application form.

Auction Items Needed

If you or someone you know would like to contribute a unique item or experience to our live and silent auctions for the **Georges Niang 2020 Golf Outing** to benefit Friendship Ark and help us in raising funds to continue our mission of meeting the needs of adults with intellectual disabilities, please contact our office at (515) 292-9556 or friendshipark@friendshipark.org. Donors will be recognized on event materials.

Donations to Friendship Ark are tax-deductible under current IRS regulations.

Giving Back to 3 Sisters Non-Profit

In our last newsletter, we shared how our core members were blessed by a donation of ponchos from 3 Sisters Non-Profit. At our annual Christmas party for the Friendship Ark family including core members, employees, board members and other supporters, we decided to give back by collecting donations of fleece for the sisters.

3 Sisters Non-Profit makes and donates ponchos with the goal of providing safety, comfort and warmth. Each item is created and customized for the recipient, adjusting the design so the material doesn't get caught in the wheels of a wheelchair or other equipment.



Core Members Participate in Voter Accessibility Training



In January, Friendship Ark core members participated in a mock caucus training for voters with intellectual and developmental disabilities hosted by The Arc of Story County as a part of The Arc's Voter Accessibility Project. Participants were guided through Republican and Democratic style caucus processes. Linda Hagedorn, president of the League of Women Voters of Ames and Story County, and former state Senator Ralph Rosenberg facilitated the training. The Arc advocates for and serves people with intellectual and developmental disabilities. After the training, several core members chose to attend the caucus.

Creating Valentines for Our Community Partners



Love was in the air as the core members gathered to create Valentines for our friends at Northridge Village Retirement Community and others we frequently interact with around the Ames community and then delivered them to our friends. We also had our own little Valentine's Day party with cookies, rice crispy treats, veggies, cuties, root beer floats and bingo, where the winner got to take home a big heart filled with treats.



Friendship Ark Fun Fact

Did you know that we operate 16 vehicles traveling 16,739 miles a month for a total of 200,868 miles per year to help our core members access their community?

St. Cecilia Paper Goods Drive



St. Cecilia Parish in Ames surprised us with this wonderful stack of supplies from their paper goods drive for local non-profits this winter. The supplies we received will take care of our core members for quite some time. It's heart-warming to see what a community can accomplish with the contributions from many. Thanks to the members of St. Cecilia church. We feel blessed by your generosity.

HyVee Resuable Bag Program



When buying a red reusable bag at your local HyVee, follow the instructions on the attached tag to send a donation to Friendship Ark.

Join us in "Lighting up Blue" in April for World Autism Month.



A Reading Igloo for the Library

Friendship Ark core members and staff collaborated with the Ames Public Library on the construction of a Reading Igloo made from milk jugs in the Children's Section of the library. We spent about 5 weeks partnering with Childserve of Ames and Northridge Village Retirement Community in our efforts to collect empty milk jugs and received a carpet remnant donation from Carpet One in Ames for the floor of the igloo. With the help of the Lily Pad Learning Center of Ames, Eagle's Loft Early Learning Center, Ames Community Preschool as well as local community patrons, we completed a final push to collect our goal of 450 milk jugs! The igloo took 384 milk jugs and a team of 21 core members and 12 staff working a total of 18 hours over three days to build. Our core members and staff truly enjoy and appreciate all that the Ames Public Library has to offer for our programs and the community. It is a place where our core members feel safe, supported and loved through the bonds they build with staff and the community members they meet during their visits. This collaboration has brought us even closer, and we look forward to continuing to see our relationship grow. After completion of the construction, the library invited us to help host a ribbon cutting for the igloo during which our core members had the opportunity to play "Don't Break the Ice" and "Thin Ice" and also help the children in attendance read books and work on winter coloring and drawing activities. Creating opportunities such as this in Ames makes us truly feel a part of the community! We are so very thankful for all of the love and support. Visit our Facebook page to see more pictures of the construction process.





Friendship Ark

HOMES & COMMUNITY SERVICES

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Stay Informed by E-Mail

Contact us at friendshipark@friendshipark.org to request our newsletter by e-mail. We will not share your email information with any outside entity.

Make a Donation

____ Yes, I/we would like to help Friendship Ark continue to serve persons with intellectual disabilities in a faith-based family home environment! Amount donated: _____

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone _____

E-Mail _____

Please apply my/our donation to the following:

- General Operations Endowment Fund New House
- Core Member Outings Transportation Fund
- Rose/Lois Johanns Educational Fund (Staff Training and Education)
- I would like to learn more about making a planned gift.
- Friendship Ark is a part of my estate planning.

You may use your credit card to make a one time or recurring monthly gift by going to our website and clicking the "Donate" button.



Like us on Facebook! This newsletter provides limited space for us to share all of the exciting things happening at Friendship Ark. Visit and like our Facebook page for more stories, news and pictures.

Wish List

- Games (Scene It, Skip-Bo, Yahtzee Score Cards, Bingo, Connect 4, Matching Games)
- Construction Paper, Beads and Strings, Finger Paints, Bingo Markers, Paint and Sponge Brushes, Ink Pads and Rubber Stamps
- Exercise Trampoline with Handles
- New Vacuum, Bath Towels, Wash Cloths and Twin Bedding
- Beach Towels, Pool Toys, Water Balloons, Fishing Poles and Bobbers
- Vehicle Garbage Cans and Pen Holders
- Sunscreen, Bug Spray, After Bite Sticks
- Travel Grill, Grilling Utensils, Serving and Punch Bowls
- 6+ Dining Room Chairs and someone to refinish a Dining Room Table
- New pots and pans