



Fall Benefit

Please note a change to the date and venue for this year’s Fall Benefit from the information published in our Spring Newsletter. Our annual event will take place on Friday, October 19th, 2018 at the Radisson Hotel in Ames (also see Page 4). Look for your invitation in the mail or check our website or Facebook page for further information. We look forward to seeing you there.

Summer is for Exploring

We love to venture out into our community and the surrounding area, including Des Moines, where we enjoy participating in as many experiences as time and weather will allow. Thanks to everyone who has made donations to support our Core Members over the years. You have made our adventures possible.



Living History Farms



Blank Park Zoo



Adventureland

Successful Outcomes

Each core member has person centered goals that they are working on to help them reach their fullest potential. In 2017, the average success rate for core members working to progress on their goals in our programs was 86%.

To view our complete Impact Report, visit our website at www.friendshipark.org/quick-overview.

Published by Friendship Ark Homes & Community Services

Editor Marina Luppen
President Sarah Buck
Vice President Dr. Lou Scallon
Treasurer Kyle Briese
Secretary Amber Deardo

Board of Directors

Kyle Briese
Sarah Buck
Al Carver
Amber Deardo
Lisa Downs
Deb Fennelly
Lee Ann
Dr. Pauline Miller
Nicole Rasmussen
Jon Sargent
Dr. Lou Scallon
Fr. Jim Secora
Rep. Beth Wessel-Kroeschell

In this Issue

Making a Difference in Our Core Members’ Lives	2
Making an Impact on Our Community	3
Shining Star Award	4
14th Annual 5K on the Fourth Fall Benefit	
May Baskets	5
Donuts in the Park	
Water Days	
Art Club	
New Board Members	
Wish List	6

Making a Difference in Our Core Members' Lives

We love to celebrate the milestones with our core members and our staff work tirelessly to encourage them along the way. Here are just a few of the many breakthrough moments and special experiences we have been able to be a part of so far this year.



This core member is typically very cautious when negotiating steps, curbs or gaps but decided that he would give the mushroom steps at the playground a go. He was so proud each time he reached the top and continued to climb the steps independently for a great length of time. Way to go! Our staff was very proud of him.

A group of DayHab core members regularly participates in water walking at the Furman Aquatic Center and they have a wonderful time doing this. Thanks to the patience of our staff and the support from her peers, this group gained a new member this summer.

After an extended time of talking with her, showing her pictures, showing her the pool, and lots of reassurance and encouragement from staff and members of the group, she overcame her fear of swimming and water. She tried water walking with the group and absolutely loved it.



One of the things this core member and FA House Coordinator found they had in common when we started to provide services and they got to know each other was that Jason Aldean was their favorite Country Singer. So when Jason Aldean stopped in Des Moines this May, they couldn't pass up the opportunity to attend the concert. It was an amazing, once-in-a-lifetime kind of experience that will be remembered for a long time to come.

Our staff loves to help make dreams come true! After months of patiently watching Shania Twain in videos on TV (daily) the big day of her concert in Des Moines finally arrived. Our staff and core member started their evening with a delicious dinner at Olive Garden before venturing to Wells Fargo Arena for the concert. In the words of the core member: "It was the best day ever!"



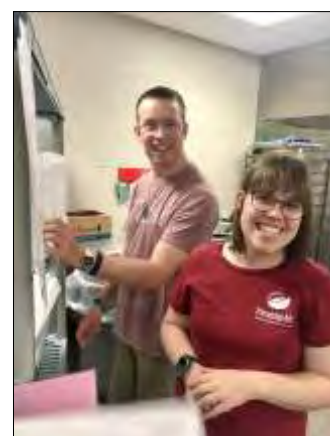
Making an Impact on Our Community

Aquatic Wheelchair Donation - Our Advocacy Taskforce works diligently to identify and eliminate barriers for our core members to fully be able to participate in their community. On Friday, June 29th, they were able to present the Furman Aquatic Center in Ames with a water wheelchair. The wheelchair will benefit our core members as well as anyone in the community that is wheelchair bound and would need to use it in order to enjoy the pool. The purchase of the wheelchair was funded by a donation from the proceeds from Altrusa's 29th Annual Holiday Home Tour. We would like to thank Altrusa International of Ames, Inc. for supporting us in enhancing the lives of individuals with disabilities.

Pictured here are Jill Burt, Ames Parks and Recreation Aquatics and Pools Manager, as well as Friendship Ark Supervisors and Advocacy Taskforce members Tadd Kingsbury and Natalie Seibold (left to right).



Volunteering at the Summer Food and Enrichment Program - This summer, the core members and staff of our Day Habilitation program spent time volunteering with the Summer Food and Enrichment Program through United Way of Story County. Twice a week we helped with the preparation and serving of meals to children in Ames and Nevada. It was a wonderful volunteer opportunity for our core members which they truly enjoyed and looked forward to each week.



Rummage Rampage

We happily supported Rummage Rampage in Ames for the third consecutive year. The event offers us a chance to raise funds for Core Member services as the proceeds are divided up between all of the organizations volunteering to help.



Spring Collection for Food Pantries

This spring, we encouraged residents in several Ames neighborhoods to donate food items for local food pantries. Our core members and staff distributed flyers in the neighborhoods, then returned at a later date to collect the donations. Thank you to all who participated in helping our neighbors in need. One of our collection events coincided with a United Way food drive so we were able to contribute the donated items to this effort.



Shining Star Award



In 2017 we implemented the Star Award for staff to recognize each other for doing good deeds and creating a positive work environment. Nominated staff have their name entered into a quarterly drawing for a bigger item and the nominations are shared with all staff at the meetings following the end of the quarter.

Areas recognized by the Star Award are Friendship, Sincerity, Preparation, Honesty, Faith, Enthusiasm, Excellence, Compassion, Integrity, Tolerance, Respect, Honor, and Love & Trust.

Our second quarter winner, Shelby Gibson, was able to select a bicycle of her choice. Shelby is looking forward to exploring the local bike trails with it this fall.

There have been many nominations and we are proud of and thankful for all of our wonderful staff.

14th Annual 5K on the Fourth

Thanks to everyone who came out to support us at the 14th Annual 5K on the Fourth this year. It was a hot and humid morning, but time spent with the greater Friendship Ark family always proves to be a really good time.



Friendship Ark's run/walk is a family friendly event and many of the kids enjoyed participating in their own race before the main one.



Our core members love to celebrate with the winner of the most patriotic award, a part of the race we always have a lot of fun with.

Fall Benefit

Change in Date and Venue

Life gets busy, so correct the date in your calendar now, then watch for your invitation in the mail or check our Facebook page or website for updates. We will be gathering in support of Friendship Ark on Friday, October 19th, 2018 at the Radisson Hotel in Ames.

Become a Sponsor

Consider becoming a business or private sponsor of our events. Several levels of sponsorship are available and sponsors will be recognized on event promotional materials. Contact our office at (515) 292-9556 or friendshipark@friendshipark.org for more information.

Donate a Live or Silent Auction Item

If you or someone you know would like to contribute a unique item or experience for our live and silent auctions 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 listed on event materials.

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



May Baskets

Our core members and staff enjoyed decorating and assembling May Baskets and delivering them to various community locations this spring. Our hope was to spread a little joy to those we were able to include in our May Day visits.



Donuts in the Park

In June, our DayHab core members attended Donuts in the Park with the Ames Police Department. We had a fantastic time getting to know the officers and finding out how they can help us in a time of need, and exploring and learning about the equipment they brought. We would like to thank the Ames Police Department for hosting this fun event.



Water Days



It's been a long hot summer and we took advantage of some of the really hot days by having some water fun. We had a large stash of water balloons and quite the selection of water toys to keep us cooled off. Our water days were a hit with both



the core members and the staff alike.

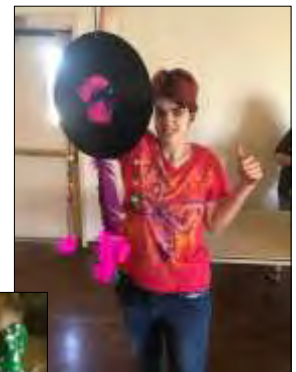
New Board Members

Three new members joined the Friendship Ark Homes and Community Services Board of Directors this summer. We extend a warm welcome to Dr. Pauline Miller, Jon Sargent and Fr. Jim Secora and thank them for volunteering their time to serve.

You may learn more about them and their backgrounds by visiting www.friendshipark.org/board-of-directors.

Art Club

Our Art Club continues to tap into the core members' creative side. We have offered a number of projects so far this year, including rock cactus pots and record dream catchers.





Friendship Ark

HOMES & COMMUNITY SERVICES

130 S Sheldon Ave, Suite 203
Ames, Iowa 50014
P 515.292.9556
friendshipark@friendshipark.org

Address Service Requested

Non-Profit Org
U.S. Postage
PAID
Ames, IA
50010
Permit 293



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 entities.



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

- Steam Mop for Bare Floors (need two)
- Shop Vac
- 6-8 Dining Room Chairs
- 6-8 Patio Chairs
- Sound Bar, Blue Ray Player
- Grill (for our new house), Hot Plate
- Acoustic Guitar, Introductory Music Books
- Styrofoam Cups, KCups (for core member activities)
- Batteries (AA/AAA)
- Clear Tubs and Totes
- Children's Books, Puzzle Books, Work Books