



“Opening doors of opportunity, and windows of hope!”



-The Washington Street Journal-



What's been happening in July?!



First of all, let me start out by saying that I hope everyone had an EXPLOSIVE Fourth of July! What a fitting holiday for ADVO, where we are constantly working towards our clients being more independent. I absolutely love The Fourth of July, and all the festivities that come along with it. We have had yet another busy month at the Workshop and can't wait to share!

I have been trying to schedule lots of different volunteer projects in the community. I love volunteer projects because the more we give, the happier we feel. You are doing something that is good for others and the community, which will in return provide a natural sense of accomplishment, pride, and identity which is some of what our clients need.

This month we have volunteered at the High Plains Food Bank, Faith City Ministries, and I am currently working on setting up dates for us to volunteer with The Ronald McDonald House, The Harrington Cancer Center, and the NWTH pediatric floor. When we volunteered at the High Plains Food Bank, we got down and dirty pulling weeds, bad plants, and once our Buckets were full of Weeds, we got to feed them to the Goats. Esteban sure did give us some laughs while making animal noises at the Turkeys, and Chickens. After this project I am thinking we should get Wade and Todd a job that consists of pulling weeds, it was amazing how focused they were on scoping out Weeds! Elizabeth Campbell was in absolute heaven doing these types of jobs, she keeps her very own Garden at the Vision Group Home. Her Garden consists of Sunflowers, Pumpkins, Morning Glories, and Budding Flowers that look like Bunny ears! Hopefully we will also be looking for future employment out at this facility for Elizabeth.

When we volunteered at Faith City Ministries, it was definitely an eye opening experience for some of our consumers to see homeless individuals who don't have meals automatically provided for them. We took a group of about 10 clients who set the tables for 51 homeless individuals, poured them drinks, served them plates, and cleaned up afterwards. This was one of the best volunteer projects we have been given the opportunity to do. The clients did every task by themselves. There was no verbal prompting from me or Kelsey, and no assistance needed. We were able to take a step back and watch our clients in pure amazement! When we got back to the Van, we asked everyone what they were feeling, some said they felt sad and happy at the same time, some said they felt proud of the help they just provided, and all of them said they wanted to do it again. It was amazing.

Let me just tell ya... after all our work is done, we like to have fun! We had a Workshop water day that consisted of a GIANT Dinosaur Sprinkler, a Slip N Slide, 500 Water Balloons, and of course, Water Guns! Unfortunately I was not able to get pictures of everyone, because no matter how many times you tell our clients that have Water Guns, to not get my Camera wet... they are going to get it wet! We made Edible Paint out of Vanilla Pudding at the Library, let's just say we ate more than we painted. We had our annual Karate Showcase, and thanks to the Canyon Aqua Park, we were able to host a swim night at their amazing facility, and enjoyed some Pizza, Watermelon, and Popsicle's.

Get ready for next month's version of the Washington Street Journal as it is the last month of summer, and we are going to go out with a bang!

Till next month...

-Natalie

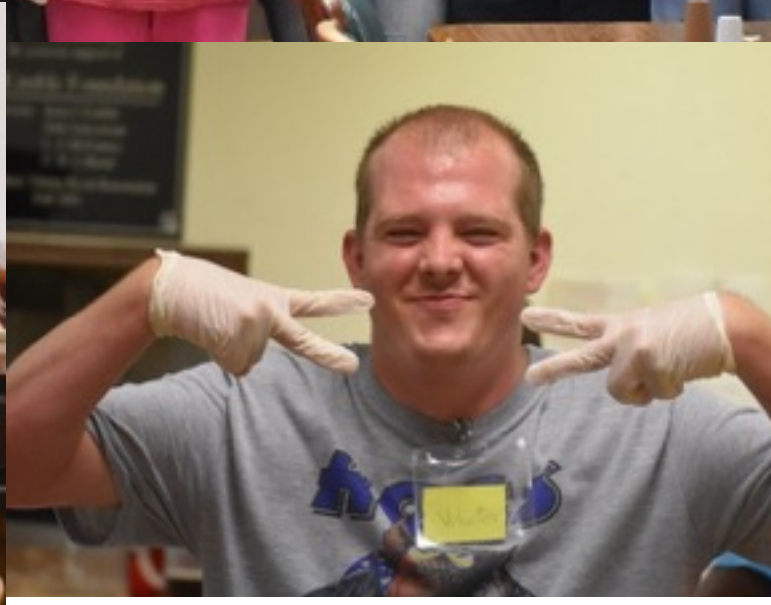
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Volunteering at the High Plains Food Bank Garden



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Volunteering at Faith City Mission



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2018 ADVO Karate



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2018 ADVO Karate Showcase



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We would like to send a HUGE “Thank You” out to Braden Lefevre, for all the years he has come and taught our consumers these awesome Karate skills. We appreciate you so much!



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Bobby and Patrick have a very specific routine that happens every Friday morning at the Workshop. Patrick will dress up in his fanciest pair of black Sweat Pants, a button up Shirt, and a Tie that he brings with him and waits for Bobby to tie it. Bobby and Patrick have had this same routine happen every Friday for the last 5 years. Patrick will always dress up on Fridays, and you may ask why? It's a very simple answer... because DUH! Friday is his favorite day.



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