

"...I came that they may have life and have it abundantly." John 10:10

From the Director's Desk

As the song says, "people who need people are some of the luckiest people in the world...." Count us among those folks! We love our people and we thank God for the countless ways you journey with us!

So many people have come out this summer to visit, to help us serve our community, or to enjoy and participate in events and just celebrate the joy of Summer! We are so grateful to have so many people who share themselves and their resources with us. If you turn the page, you will get a snapshot of just some of the fun we got to experience with you and because of you.

Are you a person who needs people? Then we have a role for you! We need volunteers, prayer partners, caregivers and financial supporters. If you are looking for a way to plug-in and be a part of something awesome, please join us at Harbor House as we work together to lift each other up and live life abundantly!

by Peggy Driesenga



A resident volunteers at Sus Manos



HHM's 20th Anniversary is coming up!

Do you have pics to share
from bygone days at HHM?

Will you tell a story of
HHM's impact on your life?

Would you like to volunteer
to help with festivities?

Please send items/stories
or inquiries to
rhoekstra@harborhouseministries.org

Watch for information about
all of the celebrating we'll do
throughout 2024!



Many volunteers came out to assist us on Move-a-Thon day. Because of them, EVERYone who wanted to move in support of HHM had a chance to participate. That meant more funds raised for HHM's general budget (nearly \$5000 was raised that day!). Thank you volunteers and donors!

Celebrating every day!

One HHM goal of 2023 is to RECONNECT with family and friends that we've missed so very much over the past few years. This summer we have been BUSY doing just that! Mission accomplished.

Because of YOU, every day has been a celebration of an enriched, abundant life!



Celebration Dinner - Made to Worship!



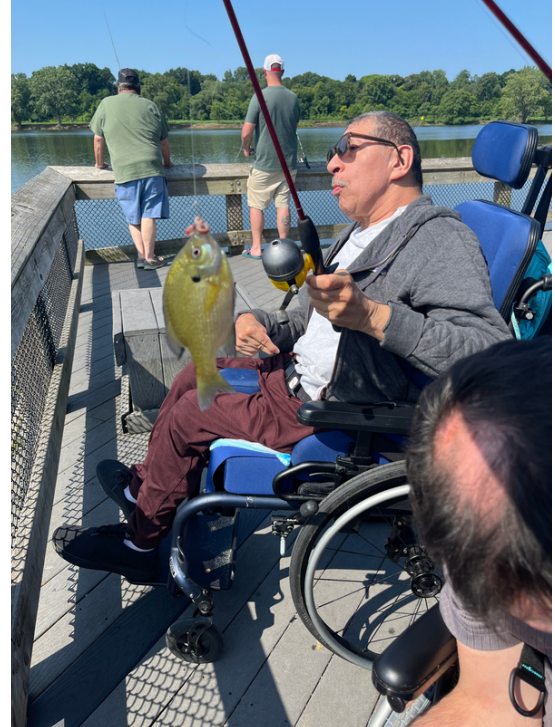
Move-a-Thon - "Ready, Set, Go!"



Beating the Heat - Sprinklers



Volunteering - Hand-to-Hand



Fishing - Maplewood Park



Staff and Family Dinners

"The friendships and relationships that happen here go way beyond a to-do list...HHM is like my second family. We are blessed beyond measure to be here everyday."

(Staff comment)



Christmas in July



Many life enrichment activities are funded outside the scope of insurance coverages.
THANK YOU for contributing to make them possible!

Caregiver Corner



Staff Spotlight

Sprinkler Fun

Saige recounts, "When I first started working at HHM, another staff member set up a sprinkler outside and we brought residents outside and ran through it with them. They all had such big smiles on their faces!

That showed me just how fun work can be and how important it is to the residents to help them to have fun and live life abundantly, which is what Harbor House is all about."

Staff Celebrate Together

She also appreciates the support staff give to one another. For example, to celebrate a team member, "we all brought in stuff for tacos and had a big potluck together. That was super fun."

"Saige comes into work every day striving to make the residents' lives better. She goes above and beyond engaging with the folks we serve - playing games, doing spa days, going for walks and bike rides, and so much more! She brings a smile to everyone's face when she walks into the room. Thank you, Saige, for all you do. Keep up the great work!"



Saige

Lead Resident Aide

We have a place for YOU to work at Harbor House!
 Go to www.harborhouseministries.org/careers/
 for more information.

Good Giving vs GREAT Giving:

August 2023 was Make-a-Will Month. Even though there are no parades to celebrate the issue, having a month dedicated to making a will is certainly a good reminder that, although sobering, we have to face it—we might benefit from some estate planning. At the very least, everyone over 18 should have a Medical Power of Attorney and a Financial Power of Attorney. Without them, if you become sick or injured your family will have to go to probate court to get guardianship (for your medical decisions) and conservatorship (for your finances.) To make things easier for your family, give them the gift of planning.

On a similar note, please remember that if you want to give money to a disabled person to "help them out," please consider whether that gift will inadvertently disqualify them for Medicaid or SSI benefits. Yikes! If the individual is receiving benefits, you may want to consider setting up a 3rd Party Special Needs Trust (SNT) or inquiring whether one has been set up already. With an SNT, the disabled person would not lose their benefits, but would still have access to the money in the trust. When that disabled person dies, YOU get to direct where the remaining money goes, whether to a person or to a charitable organization (perhaps the one that took great care of the disabled person!)

Talk about a win-win!

If you would like to have us sponsor a seminar on SNT's and whether an SNT might work for you, let us know.
 (rhoekstra@harborhouseministries.org)

by Ken Puzycki, HHM Board Member



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