



Austin's Place News

April 2018

AUSTIN'S PLACE • 447 DINNERBELL ROAD • BUTLER, PA

SNAPSHOTS

Mission Statement: *To provide specialized, intensive transitionally-focused training for young adults graduating from traditional school systems who are diagnosed with autism spectrum, developmental and intellectual disabilities and who are moderately to significantly impaired.*

VIP Spotlight

Tyler



As we prepare for the inevitable spring showers to arrive in full force, let's take a minute to introduce our newest VIP Spotlight recipient, Tyler.

Tyler has been with us for several months now and is a truly amazing guy. He came to us after graduation from school and we simply can't imagine a day without his singular wit and well-mannered fun. He often has a joke to tell and loves playing little

pranks on people. He loves to "misplace" things for a quick game of hide and seek with the staff and he's a big fan of sneaking up on people and surprising them with a scary "BOO!"

Tyler loves his radio and would listen to tunes all day if he had his way. We can't say we blame him, though, and his taste in music is top notch. He is a very hard working young man and is sure to complete his daily tasks with diligence and attention to detail. When he does one of his favorite tasks (sweeping), we're guaranteed that the floors have never been cleaner.

Tyler is a very social guy and always stops to say good morning and hello to everyone who comes through the door at Austin's Place. He is also very curious and likes to learn new things. There's rarely a day that goes by that he doesn't come by to ask us about something new! He's always learning, but he's also teaching us new things as well! So, the next time you're in the mood for a good chat or to learn something new, stop in at Austin's Place and hang out with Tyler. I'm sure you'll find something amazing to talk about!



Our new friend Ally!



Hunter loves spending time in our sensory rooms!

What's Happening? - Springtime and Sunshine

"If we had no winter, the spring would not be so pleasant" (Anne Bradstreet). While we wait for spring as patiently as possible, we jump right into our April activities. This month we will be working on a new set of skills every day to help us get up and moving in this chilly weather. Each day of the week will have its own theme for the daily activities. The themes of crafting, science, physical activity, music, and culinary. To give you a few ideas, this month we will be planting seeds for the start of our garden, playing Swiffer shuffleboard, making tie dye shirts, and making horse treats (there might even be a real horse coming for a visit)! To learn more about what we're doing you'll have to keep updated on our Facebook page! "Despite the forecast, live like it's spring" (Lilly Pulitzer).



Our United Way contribution code/book number for donations is: **12820486**



A note from the President...

Every Mile Inspires a Journey!

33 Days and counting until the Highmark Walk for A Healthy Community! Please join us for a family friendly (and dog friendly) walk in Pittsburgh on Saturday May 12, 2018. Food, entertainment, prizes and fun activities for children are all part of the festivities. In addition, Austin's Place will be providing a Team T-Shirt for everyone who registers and joins our team for the walk.

The Highmark Walk for a Healthy Community is an annual fundraising walk that benefits local health and human service agencies. The primary goal of the walk is to help participating organizations raise money for their individual missions. The secondary goal of the walk is to energize community members to have a greater hand in their health by becoming or staying physically active. Highmark Inc. coordinates and underwrites the cost of the walk so that 100 percent of the money raised by walkers goes to the participating nonprofits.

We couldn't think of a more appropriate fundraiser than the Highmark Walk to raise funds to pave walking trails on our campus to make the outdoors more accessible not only for our wheelchair clients, but for our clients with ambulatory challenges as well as our staff. Everyone at Austin's Place enjoys spending time outdoors and enjoying the health benefits from fresh air and exercise.

We also have a friendly competition going on amongst our employees for who raises the most money for our team. Please feel free to designate your donation to Austin's Place on behalf of your favorite staff member. You can register online at www.walkforahealthycommunity.org/whc3/pgh/index.shtml.

Don't forget, when you arrive at the walk please check-in at the Austin's Place tent so that we can walk together. If you haven't already registered online you can do so at that time. You can also turn in cash and check donations. Please remember that registration begins at 7:45 a.m. and the 5K Walk begins at 9 a.m. The One-Mile Fun Walk begins at 9:15 am.

Thank-you for your continued support, and don't forget to stay updated on everything happening at Austin's Place through Facebook, Instagram, and our website.

~ Bonnie Wilczynski, President

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If you have any comments or questions regarding Austin's Place News, please contact the Public Relations Director at AKurtz@austinsplace.org.

