



Austin's Place News

January 2019

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

COVER PHOTO: VISIT FROM SANTA

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

Daryn



Getting into the heart of winter, we bring our focus to one of our newer members, Daryn! He has been with us since June of 2018 and seems to have enjoyed every minute of that time. He can usually be heard across the property laughing out loud or making music at the outdoor

therapeutic center with his favorite bell and piano simulator. When he isn't making music, he is perfectly satisfied listening to it, especially if it's country.

When Daryn arrived at Austin's Place, the therapy pool had recently been opened and it didn't take long for him to make use of it. From the first time he went in the pool it was easy to see how much Daryn loves the summertime. Some of his favorite things to do in the pool are splashing, shooting basketballs with staff, and lounging in the sun. Aside from swimming, Daryn makes the most of the nice weather accompanying staff and clients on the walking trails and shooting hoops at the outdoor basketball court.

Now that the colder months have rolled in and most of our outdoor activities have been postponed for the time being, Daryn finds ways to

stay active whether it's by moving his basketball skills to the indoor hoops, playing with his favorite spikey ball, or listening to music. Whatever he's up too, he always manages to keep a smile on his and everyone else's face!

That wraps up this month's VIP. We're lucky to have Daryn with us and thrilled to be spending the foreseeable future hanging out and making the most of our days with him here at Austin's Place.





Ways to give back and help Austin's Place:



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

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A note from the President...

Happy New Year! It's been a cold winter so far, but we've been keeping warm and busy at Austin's Place. To celebrate the holidays this year, Santa came to visit our clients and brought gifts for everyone. We celebrated our amazing staff with an Employee Christmas Party on the Gateway Clipper too. We hope all our families, friends, and supporters had a blessed holiday season, and are enjoying the new year so far!

I'd like to say a special thank you to the GFWC Saxonburg District Woman's Club for making beautiful aprons for Austin's Place. They are already being used regularly by our clients for arts & crafts and cooking projects! We sincerely appreciate all donations and support from the community. *Thank you!*

This month, our clients have been busy working on a new, USA project! They are researching states to find unique facts about them and making a craft for that particular state. In addition, we're doing a state cooking activity to go along with it. Continue to check out our Facebook page for this activity, and others we do regularly at Austin's Place.

Lastly, I am excited to announce that registration for the [2019 Highmark Walk for a Healthy Community](#) starts in February 1st! Last year we had a great turnout, and surpassed our fundraising goal. I know this year will be even better! Stay tuned for more information in next month's newsletter. We hope you will walk with the Austin's Place Team this year!

~ Bonnie Wilczynski, President

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