



A Message from our Executive Director:

August brings out the joy in life with a bitter-sweet gratitude for all warm and beautiful. I say bitter-sweet because I am already in the planning stages for the fall season which, as we know, brings cooler weather, the return of school, falling leaves and shorter days, just to name a few. Not that I don't love a crisp September day; it's just that change can be difficult at times. I will remind myself to embrace this moment of summer and all the beauty still in progress.

The Kaleidoscope vision for August is Self-Respect. I just engaged in a personal challenge with others to think of something I can do now that I could not do a year ago. At first, I pondered just what could that be? And then, a lightbulb went off, and I couldn't stop listing new accomplishments. A recent podcast called "The Love Your Life Show," talked about personal growth in regards to self-respect. It suggests that there are three pillars of growth in achieving success. They are mindset, nutrition and movement. Mindset encompasses meditation, practicing gratitude and journaling. Nutrition is the concept of looking at what we put into our bodies for nourishment, not just for physical health, but for emotional health as well, hence, self-respect. One example was the idea of "treating oneself" by eating highly processed foods. How about treating ourselves to a clearer mind and the gift of more energy that a healthy choice can make. Lastly, movement. Any and all movement is great, however, yoga was specifically mentioned as a powerful tool to build core strength, combat anxiety, enhance focus, and even deepen your mindset practice. I hope you take the opportunity to think about your growth in the past year. And, while you are at it, add some goals that might heighten your self-respect. Finally, enjoy our final month of summer. On that super-hot day, have a little chuckle and remind yourself that winter is coming.

Warmly,
Dr. TaraColleen Macatee



Look at these luau colors with fun and even bubbles! Our KFS summer theme parties are never-ending!



Water balloons and ice-cream – the perfect pair on a hot day!

SAVE THE DATE!
Parent Support Group with Jennifer Simons, Associate Attorney
 Tuesday, September 17th at 6:30pm
 Jen will provide a webinar on estate planning for families with loved ones with disabilities. This will offer the ability for discussion, as well as Q&A. Stay tuned for more information in the near future.

SO MANY 4TH OF JULY CELEBRATIONS ACROSS THE STATE!



Mission Monday

is our space to thank providers who have given exceptional service to our individuals this month! We are grateful for you always.

WPA: Jasmine Jackson had come through the system back in November of 2023. Unfortunately, at that time we did not have any available open cases. Jasmine was very kind and understanding. We have since received a new case, and had two cases open in her area. Jasmine jumped at the opportunity to help support all three open cases. Jasmine has been incredibly communicative, as well as reliable. Her individuals and families have nothing but great things to say about her. We are so happy to have Jasmine!

NEPA: NEPA would like to nominate Janet Weinhofer. She goes out of her way to support her individuals. She is so caring, compassionate and always makes her individuals smile. The support she provides continuously exemplifies the KFS mission and vision on a daily basis. We are so grateful to have such a stellar provider on our team!

CPA: Tuesday Passmore referred a provider to come on board and she has been a good fit for our individual. She helped with a first couple of her shifts and has been an additional support for her since. She always goes above and beyond for her individual.

EPA: Rachael Weierbach for going above and beyond supporting an individual in the EPA area. Her constant communication with the family and support coordinator has assisted her individual with using words to ask questions at doctor's appointments. With her help, he is creating fun healthy eating/recipes. Rachel took her individual to see his first horse race in person and he hasn't stopped talking about how beautiful the horses were. Thank you for your effort, Rachel.

Lancaster: Cheanalee Rosa has gone above and beyond with all the individuals she supports, making sure everyone is interacting, participating, and smiling when she is present. She is a joy to be around. Thanks, Rosa for your wonderful effort every day!

Praise for Kaleidoscope

Praise from Bobby's mom, Jen

"We absolutely love his services, Bobby loves Jordy. He loves all of his staff, but he is so excited for Thursdays with Jordy. He is up early and ready to be out the door. We've seen such a difference in him since he started with Kaleidoscope, especially his socializing. Everyone has said how much more conversational he is, it's great."

Zach and his fire safety game!



This dynamic duo has been together for almost two years. They made the trek all the way from Wilkes Barre to meet us at Dorney Park.



Chris playing Pac-Man at Dave and Busters!

CONGRATULATIONS ARE IN ORDER!

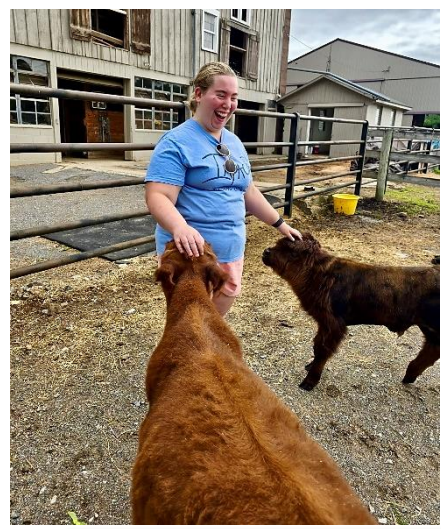
- Chris went to his first KFS event! He even won a stuffed dog in the claw machine. Welcome Chris! (See photo)
- Zach has been busy creating a fire safety game! (See photo)
- Ethan went to scout camp at the Hawk Mountain Scout Reservation!
- Winnie already signed up for volleyball, bowling and bocce Special Olympic fall sports!
- Clair rocked the Soccer State Special Olympics Championship! Both she and Eric will start the summer/fall soccer season this month.
- John used the ATM machine with his debit card for the first time!
- James bowled his highest all-time score of 120!
- India was able to make spaghetti with just a little help from her mom!
- Maddie is rocking her new job working with kindergarten-aged children!
- Crystal just got a job at The Meadows Casino!
- Caleb has been incredibly active with volunteering at The Light of Life Foundation. He preps food, cooks, washes dishes, and assists with any task that needs completed. He really enjoys interacting with his community and giving back in any way that he can! (See photo)
- Mikey just celebrated eight years of employment at Home Depot!



Got to love a game day! Look at Torin's smile!



Caleb cooking for the Tree of Life Foundation!



Hot weather calls for some indoor creativity! Ariana chose to paint pottery.



Adorable farm animals were on Maria's agenda today!

Fun Days to Celebrate in August!

- National Water Balloon Day - 8/2
 - National Watermelon Day - 8/3
 - National Happiness Happens Day - 8/8
 - Play in the Sand Day - 8/11
 - National Creamsicle Day - 8/14
 - National Relaxation Day - 8/15
 - National Tell a Joke Day - 8/16
 - National Fajita Day - 8/18
 - World Honeybee Day - 8/20
 - National Trail-Mix Day - 8/31
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Watermelon Cake

Ingredients

- Watermelon Cake
- 1 box white cake mix
- 1 (3 oz.) box of watermelon
Jell-O powder
(reserve 2 teaspoons for frosting)
- 1/2 cup watermelon puree
- 1/2 cup water
- 1/2 cup oil
- 4 eggs
- 1/2 cup mini semi-sweet
Chocolate chips (optional)
- red food coloring
- Watermelon Cream Cheese Frosting
- 8 oz. cream cheese (softened)
- 1/2 cup unsalted butter (softened)
- 5 cups confectioners' sugar
- 2 teaspoons watermelon puree
- 2 teaspoons watermelon Jell-O powder
- red and green food coloring



Instructions

Preheat oven to 350 degrees. Line the bottom of 2 eight-inch round pans with wax paper, and spray the sides with cooking oil.

In a large bowl, combine cake mix and Jell-O. Add water and oil; mix on medium speed. Add eggs, one at a time, beating well. Add watermelon puree and beat until blended. Add red food coloring a little at a time, until you reach desired color. Place chocolate chips and a teaspoon of flour in a zip-top bag; shake to coat. Fold the chocolate chips into the batter. Pour into pans and bake for 30-35 minutes.

In a large bowl, beat cream cheese and butter together. Beat in watermelon puree. Gradually add sugar and Jell-O, beating until smooth. Color 1/3 of the frosting green, color the remaining 2/3 the same color as the cake.

Submitted by Bette from Allentown

The SPOTLIGHT is on Patti!

We are so excited to highlight Patti this month! She has accomplished so many wonderful things with her life. We are honored to share some of them with you.

Most recently, Patti had to accept a major change in her career at Steve's Sewing and Vacuum in King of Prussia. She started there in high school and has remained a valuable employee for the last 12 years. As we all know, life isn't always consistent. Going with the flow can be hard for Patti, but her growth is exceptional in this area as evidenced by her acceptance that Steve's Sewing was moving to Bridgeport in July. Patti not only championed this epic change; she helped them pack, organize the new store, and reassured customers when they in fact expressed trepidation about the move.

On another note, Patti loves her routine at home. Last month, Patti was asked to represent the Greater Philadelphia Autism Society at a local carnival, not just one night but five in a row!!! She kept a smile, manned the table and shared about the Autism Society with families throughout.

A little about Patti ... she lives with her family in King of Prussia. Patti loves TV shows, especially ones with colorful and interesting characters. Patti also is a bird watcher, an avid list maker – you can often find her making lists of movies that correlate with swag to bring back Blockbuster Video. Patti likes board games, puzzles, cooking and spending time with family and friends. Keep up the good work Patti. We are proud of you.



CJ got to meet and pose with our FBI Director!

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