



Kaleidoscope
FAMILY SOLUTIONS INC.

**Message from our Executive Director:
Dr. TaraColleen Macatee**

As many of you know, September is one of my all-time favorite months. The leaves are starting to change to the most beautiful shades of reds, oranges and yellows. The air becomes crisp with sunsets on the earlier side, yet not too early to be reminiscent of the upcoming winter months. Kaleidoscope winds down its somewhat hectic schedule becoming more relaxed, and for a lack of a better word, "cozy." Since the Kaleidoscope monthly Vision Statement is to celebrate and understand differences, I encourage our team, both internal and external, to look at what makes them special and unique. It is through looking within that we can appreciate, and even accept the beauty that lies in all beings.

To continue with understanding and celebrating differences, I would be remiss if I didn't talk about kindness. Practicing kindness can sound cliché. Let's practice kindness is a common statement in conversations. However, when one puts their mind to it, the world becomes a kinder place. Moreover, our own world gets brighter with a bigger opportunity for happiness and hope. So, with that said, make an effort to be kinder. Additionally, take some time to identify what is important to you. Can you find similarities in others? And, if not in certain instances, can you respect that we all shine in our own ways?

As so perfectly said by Philly's own Nick Castellanos, "Be yourself, smile big, laugh often, because learning to love myself has made a big impact on my life."

Have a wonderful month of solidarity, patience and understanding.

A special day at the Wilmington and Western Railroad!



Our End of Summer Dance was a luau theme!
Hola!





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Mission Monday!

Congratulations to our Providers of the Month! We greatly appreciate all that you do to promote independence and a life of meaning.

LCPA: Kyana Tate-Samiel is very compassionate about her job and it shows in her work. She goes out of her way to support her individuals and families. Her consistency and dedication is what makes her stand out. Thank you Kyana and welcome to KFS!

EPA: Julia Booz has completed her internship with us, while making connections with families and communicating with our internal team the entire way. Julia's timeliness and attentiveness to our individuals has had a positive impact in the Bucks County area. Julia will be continuing with us and we look forward to the positive impact she provides!

NEPA: We would like to nominate Quinn Wentling for going above and beyond for his individuals. He is kind, caring and compassionate with the people he works with. He does a wonderful job providing support for his individuals.

WPA: Barb Smith has been with KFS since 2016. Barb has had the same individual the entire time she has been contracted with our agency. Barb cares deeply about her individual and would do anything to make sure she is safe and healthy. Barb herself had a health scare last year that left her unable to continue her direct support professional role. Barb took a few months to heal, and got right back to work when she felt strong enough. Barb will pick up additional shifts if needed. Additionally, Barb makes sure to take her individual to many fun community activities. We appreciate Barb so much!

CPA: Dakira Jones has worked on some tougher cases. One case that she supports is hearing impaired and has difficulty communicating his wants and needs. However, the residential home has stated she is the best support provider for that individual; and he waits at the door with excitement to get out of the home with her. Thank you for all that you do Dakira!

NEXT: Thank you to Christel Leibenguth for going above and beyond in picking up several shifts over the past month with an individual with the absence of full-time provider. We especially appreciate her willingness to transport him to events in the Reading and Lehigh Valley during this time.



550 piece puzzle for Jennifer! Amazing job!



Getting around in Lehigh Valley with lunch and mini golf!



During September, we celebrate:

- 9/2 - Labor Day
- 9/4 - Eat an Extra Dessert Day
- 9/9 - Teddy Bear Day
- 9/10 - National Ant on a Log Day
- 9/11 - Patriot Day
- 9/13 - National Grandparents Day
- 9/16 - National Guacamole Day
- 9/21 - International Day of Peace
- 9/21 - World Gratitude Day
- 9/25 - National Lobster Day
- 9/29 - National Coffee Day





The SPOTLIGHT is on Michael!

Congratulations to Michael, who is celebrating his two-year anniversary at the local BJ's, where he enjoys the hustle and bustle of his job. Since day one, Michael has embraced every task with enthusiasm, making the store a brighter place for customers and his coworkers. The other day, his job coaching agency, CIS, stopped in to find Michael sporting a huge smile as he worked, tidying the area while customers shopped. They snapped a quick photo of him in action, and then let him get back to his work. He's known around the store for his positivity and hard work, and it shows in everything he does.

A special shoutout to Michael for always having a smile on his face both on and off the job floor.

On another note, Michael is a frequent attender of Kaleidoscope events. We get to experience his smile and friendly demeanor every Wednesday evening in the community. Here is a recent photo at bowling with friends.



Praise for Kaleidoscope

"Michael had a great week! I know how hard you work to keep Michael covered and it's been nice lately that he's been going with the group for pizza after Friday bowling. Also, he had his annual physical and his doctor knows Kaleidoscope and thinks highly of it. Since last year, Michael has lost 40 lbs.! His doctor agrees that Kaleidoscope activities have played a big part in his weight loss, as well as lowered blood sugar. Thank you!"

--A Grateful Father

"I wanted to compliment Lashana. She really seems great! You can tell from her smile and infectious laugh that she loves doing what she does. Thank you all for everything that you do!"

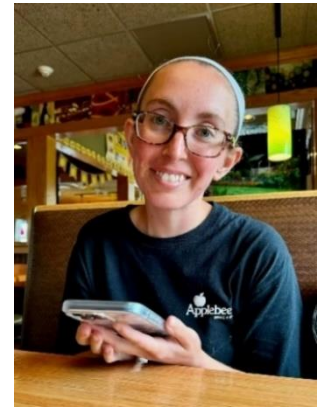
*--Anthony DiLorenzo, Supports Coordinator
Your Choice Supports Coordination*

The SPOTLIGHT is on Bette!

We are super excited to highlight Bette from the Allentown area. She is a consistent contributor to our monthly newsletters with seasonal poems and recipes. If you see her around town, you might get to meet her pride and joy, Pearl, an adorable white dog!

Bette just celebrated her 10th anniversary at Applebee's where she works as a hostess and in the kitchen. On a personal note, Bette enjoys swimming at Rodale Aquatic Center and working out at Steel Fitness. In the summer, she enjoys her local pool. Bette is an avid shopper on Amazon, and just loves shopping overall. Bette practices independence at home by doing laundry and helping her mom around the house.

When we asked Bette about her hopes and dreams, she told us about her role as an apple buddy which was recommended by her LVCIL coach in 2014. That's a long time! Bette also volunteers at Special Olympics swimming in Lehigh County as a swim team coach, Additionally, she is a CCD Assistant at St Thomas. And that's not all, Better also volunteers at Cedarbrook Home to do activities and beauty salon transport for residents to Care and Love.



What an amazing day to get together outside!
We had games, crafts and great conversations!





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Caramel Apple Pops

Ingredients:

- Apples
- Caramel Apple Dip
- Chocolate Candy Melt
- Graham Crackers
- Skewer Sticks
- Water
- Lemon Juice

Instructions:

- Carefully cut and remove the core from your apples, leaving the skin on. The apples should be cut into large slices, each approximately 1/8th of the apple.
- Soak the apple slices in water and lemon juice for 10-15 minutes to prevent them from turning brown.
- Remove the apples from the water and pat completely dry with paper towel or napkins.
- Melt the chocolate candy melt in your microwave according to package instructions.
- Carefully insert a skewer stick into each apple slice. Spread a thin layer of caramel apple dip over the apple slice, covering approximately 2/3 of the apple.
- Cover the caramel with the melted chocolate candy melt and sprinkle the graham cracker crumbs over the still melted chocolate.
- Stand the apple pops in a glass or cup to let the chocolate harden.
- Once chocolate is hard, serve immediately or store in the refrigerator.

[Fun Fall Recipe for Kids: Caramel Apple Pops in Aug 2024 - OurFamilyWorld.com](https://www.ourfamilyworld.com/recipe/caramel-apple-pops)



Congratulations are in Order!

- James helped his mom, who is a teacher, set up her classroom for the new school year!
- Ian scored seven goals – yes 7!!!, for his Special Olympics soccer team!
- Colin is starting a new job as a Breakfast Assistant at Prospect Elementary School!
- India continues to help out at home. Just this week, she cleaned out a kitchen cabinet and weeded out front of her house!
- Zoe has been volunteering at Meals on Wheels on Wednesdays!
- Not only is Clair working at the register area at Giant Supermarkets, she now works in the deli too!
- Sophie received a Certificate of Appreciation to celebrate her 2nd anniversary at ArtsAbility!
- Charron began volunteering at his local animal shelter! He will be taking animal handling courses as well.
- Mike won the Special Olympics Best Long-Distance Driver Golfer Award!
- Maddie started her new job as a classroom assistant!
- Christian is rocking his goals in every way! We are so proud of him.
- Patti helped her workplace service over 600 shoppers that took part in The Mid Atlantic Shop Hop!
- Carolann, Jill, Jackie and Nafis are back at their school jobs after a long summer break!



Charron in action at the animal shelter!



Sara's healthy bran muffins were a hit at our summer dance!



"Orange" you glad you played Headbanz with Chris!

Enjoying the Allentown Fair!



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