

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

- What's new at STARS? 1
- Featured Art 1
- Aktion Club 2
- Get to know our STARS! 2
- How can you help STARS? 3
- Vote for STARS! 3
- Dave's Corner 3

"Remember that the happiest people are not those getting more, but those giving more."

— *H. Jackson Brown Jr.*

What's new at STARS?



This year, STARS has formed not one but two new enclaves! Last month we introduced you to our Chick-fil-A enclave and team, now we would love to introduce you to our newest enclave partner, Animal Grass.

Animal Grass is a local company whose mission is to provide high quality grass for animal consumption. The grass is used to aide in the pets' digestion. You may have seen the fluffy green grass at your local natural foods store. The really neat part is it's safe for humans to eat it too!

Krysti Wijatyk, President of Animal Grass toured STARS' Osborn facility and decide to become an enclave community partner. The new partnership allows an opportunity for STARS' participants Charlie and Bonnie to spend one day a week at Harpers nursery in Scottsdale. Charlie and

Bonnie measure soil amounts, plant seeds and water the seedlings. They are also responsible for placing the growing containers into flats.

Bonnie and Charlie are not only loving their work but enjoy being at work in the community. Before starting at the enclave, Bonnie was concerned about getting dirty but she absolutely loves it now! Her favorite part is sticking her hands into the soil. Animal grass is dedicated to STARS' mission and we are so grateful for this new community partnership. We are confident that our participants will continue to grow and blossom working for Animal Grass.

As always, please stop by Chick-fil-A (14995 N. 87th St.) and Harper's Nursery (2529 N. Hayden Rd.) to see our STARS in action!



Featured Art

Our Drawn Together art program helps our participants to express themselves creatively. Throughout the creative process, the program builds our participants self-esteem and improves motor, cognitive and sensory skills.

Creative Arts Director Taylor Buttery defines the program as completely "participant driven." Taylor supervises the creative process but leaves the major decisions to our participants. Each participant is

given the choice to contribute as much or as little as they would like to the piece. Generally, the class collaboratively decides on the inspiration for the piece as well as the colors to be used. Each participant takes a turn adding to the piece until they are jointly happy with the finished product. We dropped in on one of the Drawn Together classes and were able to watch the creative process in action.

The featured piece was inspired by a

geode. The participants chose a calming blue background to contrast with the warm summer colors of the geode. We think it turned out beautifully!

STARS would love to know what you think of this month's featured art on our social media sites. Please join the conversation! #drawntogether



"Being disabled should not mean being disqualified from having access to every aspect of life."

-Emma Thompson

"Joselle loves all of the bling!"

-Tom

Aktion Club

The Aktion Club is a community service group sponsored by Kiwanis International. The group consists of STARS participants and Fountain Hills Noon Kiwanis members. The purpose of the club is to give adults with disabilities the opportunity to serve their community. Members of the club have the chance to take on leadership roles as elected officers and play a part in making a difference through community volunteer opportunities. Our Aktion club took a recent trip to Feed My Starving Children and were part of a group that put together 18,000 meals

for starving children in Cambodia. This was not only an amazing opportunity for our participants to give back but they were also able to build their job and life skills.

Therapeutic Autism Program Manager, Rick Hopwood heads our STARS Aktion Club and he noted that "The Aktion Club has been a great opportunity for community engagement and inclusion for the participants. Our participants are very interested in helping their community and being a part of volunteerism." Keep up the amazing work Aktion club!



Check out these smiling faces!
#STARSmiles



Get to Know our STARS!

STARS' vocational programs aim to help our participants develop their job skills with the goal of assisting our participants in gaining competitive employment. Our center based employment programs are located at both of our Scottsdale campuses. The program allows our participants to learn new job skills while earning a paycheck.

We sat down with one of our Osborn campus participants to find out how the center based employment program is making a difference in her life. Find out what Joselle had to say!

Q: What do you like most about your program?

A: Working with the pumps (device used in our center based employment), I love to use my hands.

Q: How long have you been with STARS?

A: I am not sure but I know it's been a long time.

Q: What is your favorite thing about STARS?

A: The paycheck. I like to buy nice things like art supplies. I like to do art.

Q: How has STARS helped you?

A: They have helped me to learn how to listen and follow directions

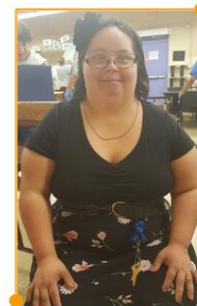
Q: What are your hobbies?

A: I love fashion. I love to dress up. I like to go to the movies and to go out to eat. Denny's is my favorite.

Our Osborn Work center instructor, Tom noted that "Joselle loves to go to the

thrift store and pick out all kinds of fun outfits and accessories." Tom also mentioned that "Joselle is always dressed up and loves to mix all kinds of funky patterns and colors. Joselle loves all of the bling!"

STARS is so proud of Joselle and of how hard she works. We can't wait to see what wonderful things are in store for her future.



How Can You Help STARS?

Did you know one the most impactful ways that you can help STARS is with in-kind donations? Not sure what an in-kind donation is? Don't worry, we will explain!

What is it?

In-kind donations allow for an individual to give needed goods or services to an organization in lieu of a cash donation.

Why is it helpful?

Every donation is incredibly meaningful & impactful to our organization. We appreciate every donor that supports our mission. We understand that many individuals wish to donate to our organization

but are not always financially able to. In-kind donations give donors an opportunity to donate tangible items or services that will support the organization.

How does an In-kind Donation help you?

Just as a cash donation can be used on your taxes the fair market value of the in-kind donation can also be used as a deduction.

So, how can you help?

Currently STARS is in need of the following items to help support our programs. You can purchase any of these items and have them shipped to our Osborn office or you may

drop them off.

If you love Amazon as much as we do please considering using the AmazonSmile program. Amazon will donate 0.5% to our organization of your purchase amount.

To shop at AmazonSmile simply go to smile.amazon.com and select Scottsdale Training & Rehabilitation Services (STARS) as your preferred charity. Once your purchase is complete STARS will receive .05% of the total purchase.

This Month's Needs

1. Nail brushes for cleaning
2. DVDs focusing on job interview skills, job development, stranger danger & public transportation
3. Anvil Gator grip anti-slip coating (1 gallon)
4. Educational & Trivia Games
5. Art Supplies (paint brushes, acrylic paint and canvases)



Vote for STARS!

STARS is so proud to have a featured story about one of our participants in the Phoenix Business journal! We are so grateful for this opportunity to spread awareness about STARS and for the chance to win a \$10,000 grant!

We need your help to snag the \$10,000 grand prize! Please read our story and vote for STARS.

Official Voting Rules

1. Voting period 07/15/16-08/31/16
2. You must be a legal resident of AZ and 18 years of age or older.
3. To vote go to the Phoenix Business Journal's website and select STARS (Scottsdale Training & Rehabilitation Services)
4. One vote per person and one vote per email address.

Thank you so much & happy voting!

<http://www.bizjournals.com/phoenix/feature/stars-offering-independence-self-confidence.html>



From Dave's Corner

Greetings STARS supporters,

A month has passed since we launched our refreshed newsletter - *The Shooting Star*. We hope you enjoy the stories of our participants, along with the news about the good work being done at STARS. We welcome your feedback and invite your comments.

The newsletter isn't the only thing being refreshed at STARS. You may have noticed our new logo, borrowing from the past with brighter colors and a cleaner look! If you follow us on Facebook, Twitter or other forms of

social media, you may have noticed it there as well!

On the business front, the State Legislature approved a 1% increase in DDD funding to providers of individuals with developmental disabilities. Unfortunately, agencies such as STARS continue to receive program reimbursement at rates less than those received in 2008, despite increases in programming costs. Thankfully, generous contributions from our supporters help us to continue providing much-loved programming such as music therapy, cooking classes and art instruction.

Finally, we are happy to be chosen as a finalists in the Phoenix Business Journal's effort to promote and support the work of local nonprofits. A team of five judges reviewed "stories" submitted by 70 agencies, now giving you an opportunity to vote for STARS! Your vote could help us win \$10,000 to further the work of our mission. We thank you in advance for casting your vote!

Let me hear from you—my corner office is always open.

President & CEO
Dave Henderson



STARS' Story

Vote Here



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