



The Shooting Star

VOLUME 1 / ISSUE 9 / MARCH 2017

Upcoming Events



Fiesta Al Fresco 2017 | Postponed

Fiesta has been postponed to later in the year. Please stay tuned for a new date.



Joey



Dietrich

Joey C. is a young man who accomplished all of his goals in the work center. He was ready for more and STARS was ready to provide him with an enclave opportunity and job coach.

Joey was overjoyed to be moving upward but worried about his new job duties. Joey would be cleaning bathrooms in the hospital and he knew it was an important job.

On his first day in his new job, Joey looked at the bathroom with confusion and doubt. He did not know how to start. Joey was afraid.

He stepped into Joey's job coach, Dietrich. Dietrich knew a thing or two about fear. Dietrich had been deployed to Afghanistan and knew that Joey had to start small and that fear would not win. One foot in front of the other. Dietrich knew that in order for Joey to conquer his fear, he needed confidence. Dietrich gave Joey small tasks—first, you clean the mirror. And Joey did—it was shiny and bright. Other tasks followed.

One thing stood in his way. Joey was really afraid of cleaning a toilet. The task ahead really unsettled him. With Dietrich's encouragement and knowing he had done a good job with the mirror, Joey kept going. Joey gained confidence and pretty quickly became a full-fledged member of the cleaning team.

Joey found his rhythm and confidence. Joey was able to clean an entire hospital bathroom by himself. Joey started to come into work with determination and boldness.

Nothing could stop him from completing his mission. He put on his gloves, smiled and knew he had overcome his apprehension. Dietrich checked his work – the bathrooms were always spotless. One month later, Dietrich and Joey's job coaches were ready to celebrate with Joey. Joey was not quite ready to celebrate. "You can high 5 me when all 5 of the bathrooms are done!"

STARS is proud of the worker that Joey has become and grateful for Dietrich's commitment to our mission.

improving the lives of people with developmental disabilities.

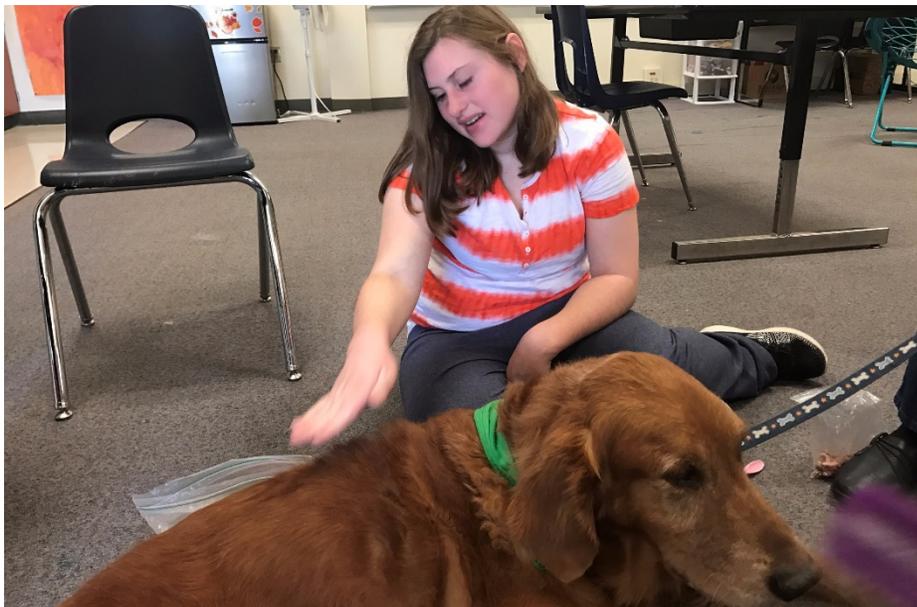
—Adam Wakefield, STARS' St



Valentine's Day Party at STARS

STARS hosted a Valentine's Day Party on Friday February 17th complete with lots of love songs, v hearts, valentine candy and lots of hugs from everyone.

We are grateful to our volunteer community for being part of the festivities and for the Scottsdale Ho Cotillion providing the decorations and making our Cholla Cafeteria look so festive.



Booth Program

STARS is very excited to have Peggy Eischen and her beautiful Golden Retriever, Boone visit the booth on a weekly basis. Peggy and Boone are volunteers at "Pets on Wheels of Scottsdale, Inc." The program serves healthcare workers, hospitals and schools. We love having them at STARS.

From Youth Program Manager Henriette Content-Tavor

On February 21, the Youth Program started a one week volunteer opportunity at The Hunkapi Farr Scottsdale. The Juniors (13-17 years old) will be encouraged to participate as much as they can with horse grooming, light maintenance of the barn and gardening. There are so many benefits for our youth including a greater sense of responsibility and increased self esteem. Our youth will also have great opportunities for social interaction and the ability to be a positive role model to one another.

STARS Parent & Caregiver Group

Pamela Parson, mother of participant Sarah Parson is interested in starting a STARS parent/caregiver group. Pam said that it could be a group that meets to support one another and further STARS' mission. If you are interested, she'd love to hear from you. 847-530-3771 or aromatichymes@mac.com



COX highly values its 20+ year relationship with STARS. The people and organization are top quality, as is the work they do.

COX believes in local community support and looks forward to many more years as a partner with STARS.”

COX Communications
Christopher Jones
Director, Supply Chain – West
AFCs www.cox.com

Donate to STARS and Take the Credit.

Please TAKE THE CREDIT!! You can make a donation up to \$4 (\$800 if filing jointly) to STARS and claim the credit against your State income taxes.

This year, you have until APRIL 15TH TO MAKE THE DONATION!

We need your support. Please tell your friends and family about this opportunity. These funds will help secure critical programming a



STARS.

[Donate Today](#)

Dave's Corner

Greetings STARS supporters,

The first two months of 2017 offer a preview to a challenging year for STARS and other AZ providers for people with developmental disabilities, as the new minimum wage and earned sick pay provisions place additional pressures on an industry already burdened with reimbursement rates lower than those of 2009.

For the 18 months beginning January 1, industry providers estimate the impact of the costs attributed solely to Proposition 206 to be \$72 million.

To provide temporary relief, the Governor's Office provided \$25 million in emergency funds for the remainder of the current fiscal year. That, however, leaves a gap that, hope rests with the Legislature to craft a budget that funds provider services at appropriate reimbursement rates.

Thoughtful ways one can help: Advocate! Contact your State Legislators to express your concerns. Pray! Offer prayers that our lawmakers receive guidance and wisdom.

Take advantage of the opportunity to donate to the tax credit campaign - you have until April 15th this year.

We'll continue to be good stewards of every gift received.

With gratitude,

Dave



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