AUSTIN'S PLACE NEWS Issue 15



# Austin's Place News

November 2017

#### **SNAPSHOTS**

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

Mike Anderson (Manderson)



Mike Anderson our Program Director is this month's VIP of Austin's Place. Mike was the first person to be hired by the Wilczynski's when they were just starting Austin's Place. Mike may recall his nervousness as he sat at the table surrounded by the whole Wilczynski family. Question after question Mike had a very good response for each and every one that we threw at him. His knowledge and experience quickly impressed our family.

Most impressive was Mike's confidence about his abilities to take on this huge challenge. Most people may shy away from a new start up business, especially in this field of work. With all the rules, regulations, and complicated challenges that are associated with becoming a special needs service provider, Mike's confidence helped our family feel more comfortable about the venture we were engaging in. That was a little over two years ago. At that time we had no idea where we would be at this time or how we would get here. Through all the challenges (and there were many) Mike continues to be a key player in the establishment of Austin's Place. Mike's commitment and dedication to this program, its clients, employees and our family has contributed to the success of Austin's Place.

As we journey forward we anticipate an easier road of travel because of the professional attributes that Mr. Michael Anderson expresses each day at Austin's Place. Mike congratulations on your success and contributions to what we consider the BEST 2380 facility in the state of Pennsylvania. You should feel very proud!



We had a surprise visitor for Halloween this year!



Enjoying the Fall weather!

### What's Happening? - Giving Thanks

The holiday season, a time for family, friends, and giving thanks. Here at Austin's Place we've kicked off the month of November by welcoming our friends from the Saxonburg Volunteer Fire Company and the Boy Scouts of America Venture program to learn about fire safety and first aid. Throughout the rest of the month you can find us cooking up delicious fall recipes like pumpkin bread and homemade waffles or in the craft room showing off our creative skills! At the end of the month we will be celebrating Thanksgiving and our second annual Charlie Brown Thanksgiving Party!

## Support us when you shop this holiday season

Issue

Buy your gifts and holiday essentials at smile.amazon.com. You shop. Amazon donates.

amazonsmile

# Happy Holidays, from our place to yours!

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













### A note from the President...

"The more you are in a state of gratitude, the more you will attract things to be grateful for."—Walt Disney

It's hard to believe that it is mid-November already, and Thanksgiving is just around the corner. Thanksgiving is one of my favorite days of the year because it reminds us to give thanks and to count our blessings. Here at Austin's Place we are truly blessed and have much to be thankful for.

Last month we expressed our gratitude for our amazing staff as we celebrated Employee Appreciation Month. Not only did the management have the opportunity to shower our employees with shirts, food, and massages, but we also had an "Appreciation Box" set up in the staff locker room where our employees had the opportunity to give a shout out to their fellow workers who go above and beyond every day for a chance to win prizes.

This month, I would like to take the opportunity to express my gratitude for our clients because they teach us far more than we can teach them. Forgive quickly, love unconditionally, don't judge people by how they look, celebrate your victories, slow down, be kind with your words and just be you!

Lastly, I would like to thank all the family and friends of Austin's Place. I am truly grateful for your support, and I wish you and your family a blessed Thanksgiving.

Bonnie Wilczynski, President

### Austin's Place News

WWW.ddStmaptace.or

www.facebook.com/AustinsPlacePA

