

— December 2023 —

VOLUME 70, ISSUE 332

BOOSTERS

"WE DO SO THEY CAN"

BOOSTER ORGANIZATION MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

New Name, Same Mission

The word is finally out! After years of contemplating a name change and after months of planning and preparation, HDC has officially become **Empowering Abilities**.

The process was a long one, but it was important and necessary. Input was obtained from all constituent groups, including participants, families, supporters, and others in the community. From that information, some common themes emerged. People felt that the services provided are essential, compassionate, and innovative. In addition, the research showed many people were uncomfortable with the word "handicapped".

The new name, tagline, and logo bring renewed energy and a sense of eagerness for the next chapter while also honoring the past. **Empowering Abilities** better reflects the current culture, hope for the participants, and a focus on the future. The commitment to providing an essential service that helps people lead their best life remains unchanged.

WHAT HAS CHANGED

As of November 16, 2023, the website domain name and email addresses were updated to reflect the new name. The old contact information will direct users appropriately for a period of time, but email addresses should be changed to the new format (firstnamelastname@empoweringabilities.org).



ANOTHER CHANGE

Chief Operations Officer Linda Gill is retiring in mid-December after nearly four decades of dedicated service to the participants and programs at Empowering Abilities. After starting her career at the Residential Center, Linda is ending her career with the responsibility of overseeing the Daily Discovery program, as well as both residential programs. Linda's experience and presence will be greatly missed by everyone at Empowering Abilities.

A familiar face has joined the leadership team to step into Linda's role. Having served on the board of directors for one year, Sharon Sarver is now sharing her skills as a member of the Empowering Abilities staff. Sharon comes with experience in leadership positions at other nonprofit organizations, which will be a great benefit as she takes on her new responsibilities.

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ONE MORE CHANGE

The "reimaging" of the Daily Discovery space at the Hickory Grove Road location continues to take shape. As those who attended the Boosters' Halloween Dance experienced, the multipurpose room's jungle theme is complete, and it has been well received by everyone.

Daily Discovery classrooms are next on the schedule, with the "arcade room" well on its way and the "UFO room" slated to begin soon.

The project will continue until all classrooms and hallways have been redone. An open house will be planned in the Spring, so everyone can see the amazing transformation.

Be an Elf This Holiday Season

With the giving season approaching, Endeavor Living has an opportunity to help make the season bright.

"Elves" are needed to provide gifts for 18 Endeavor Living participants. You may choose to be an elf for one or more than one person. Gift ideas will be provided, with a limit of \$25. All gifts will need to be returned to the Endeavor Living office by December 19th.

Call Natalie at 563-344-8688 to participate.



Dates to Note

Day services at Hickory Grove and Brady Street will be closed on:

- **December 12th- Inservice Day**
- **December 25th- Christmas Day Holiday**
- **January 1st- New Year's Day Holiday**

What's Happening

Booster Christmas Dance

The Booster's dance for participants will be Friday, December 15th from 6-8 PM at Hickory Grove Road. Anyone interested in volunteering should arrive at 5 PM.

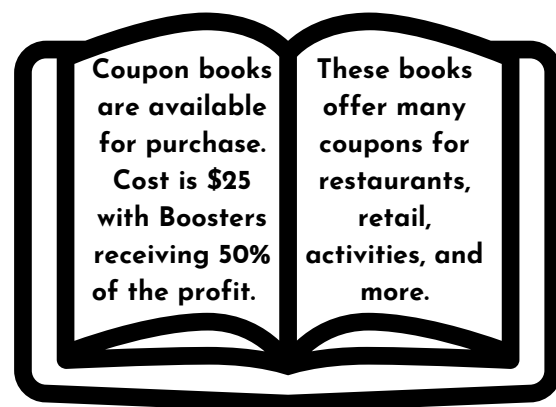
Booster Christmas Dinner

Booster members will celebrate the season on December 5th, 5:30 PM at Mo Brady's.

Guests will order off the menu, with Boosters providing dessert. RSVP to Lexi Keppy at

lexikeppy@empoweringabilities.org or 563-391-4834.

Great Stocking Stuffers



Save the Date HANDS

"Beat the January Blues"

Trivia Night

When? January 12th
Where? Hickory Creek Event Center
3504 Hickory Grove Road,
Davenport
Time? Doors open at 6 PM
Cost? \$10 per person/\$80 per team.
To book a table, contact Lexi Keppy.
lexikeppy@empoweringabilities.org
563-391-4834

30th Annual Boosters Organization/ Bob Ott Memorial Nut & Candy Sale

Some varieties of nuts and candy are running out.

Contact Lexi Keppy to check on your favorite snacks!
Lexi Keppy at lexikeppy@empoweringabilities.org or 563-391-4834.

	Price	Quantity	TOTAL
Whole Pecans	\$15.00		
Mixed Nuts	\$13.00		
Cashews	\$13.00		
English Walnuts	\$12.00		
Roasted Almonds	\$12.00		
Sweet & Salty Trail Mix	\$10.00		
Spicy Party Mix	\$10.00		
Malted Milk Balls	\$10.00		
Chocolate Bridge Mix	\$11.00		
Chocolate Covered Cashews	\$13.00		
Gummi Bears	\$9.00		
	Total		

Total: _____ Name: _____ Phone: _____

Pick Up Request: _____

Please make checks payable to *Empowering Abilities*.

Thank you to our Nut Outlets!

Hair DeVine
Simplicity Salon
A Cut Above
On the Avenue Salon
North Scott Family Hair

Johnnie's Meat Market
K&K Hardware
Evergreen Artworks
Tri-City Equipment

Main at Locust Pharmacy
The Gentry Shop
Northwest Chiro
Dittmer's Service



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Davenport, IA 52806
<http://empoweringabilities.org>

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2024 BOOSTER DUES JOIN/RENEWAL



\$25 for individual, family or corporate membership

Name_____

(Please include both spouses' names, if applicable.)

Business (Associate Members)_____

Address_____

City_____State_____Zip_____

Phone(_____)_____ E-Mail_____

Please make checks payable to: Boosters

Return to: 3402 Hickory Grove Rd., Davenport, IA 52806