

Booster Monthly Newsletter

"WE DO SO THEY CAN"

Why Advocacy Matters

Advocacy isn't just for professionals or policymakers—it starts with family members, friends, and community supporters like you. By sharing stories, raising awareness, and engaging with local leaders, you can help create meaningful change for your loved ones.

We believe that everyone deserves the opportunity to live, work, and thrive in their community. But for many individuals with disabilities in Scott County, challenges like access to services, workforce shortages, and employment barriers make it harder to reach their full potential. ***That's where you come in!***

Key Issues Impacting Our Community

- **Access to Services:** Many individuals rely on home- and community-based services (HCBS) to live independently. Increased funding is needed to ensure more people receive the care and support they deserve.
- **Workforce Challenges:** Direct Support Professionals (DSPs) play a critical role in assisting individuals with disabilities. Advocating for fair wages and benefits can help strengthen this essential workforce.
- **Accessibility:** From transportation to housing, investing in accessibility improvements can make a big difference in daily life.
- **Employment Opportunities:** Everyone deserves meaningful employment. Encouraging businesses to adopt inclusive hiring practices will expand job opportunities for individuals with disabilities.

How You Can Take Action

Advocacy doesn't have to be complicated! Here are a few ways to make an impact:

- ✓ Share your personal experiences with local legislators.
- ✓ Write a letter or email in support of policies that promote accessibility and inclusion.
- ✓ Attend community meetings or advocacy events. The Quad Cities Chamber is hosting an Iowa Mid-Session Forum on Friday, March 28. You can learn more or register at quadcitieschamber.com.
- ✓ Encourage others to join the conversation!

Together, we can ensure that Scott County is a place where all individuals, regardless of ability, can thrive. Let's raise our voices and make a difference—one step at a time!

Not sure who your legislators are?

Scan the QR code to the right to visit the Empowering Abilities website for contact information for the governor or legislators.

www.empoweringabilities.org/giving-back/legislative-information/



Important Dates

February

FEBRUARY 11

DAILY DISCOVERY SERVICES CLOSED FOR PARTICIPANTS

FEBRUARY 14

BOOSTER VALENTINE'S DANCE! 6-8 PM
VOLUNTEERS SHOULD ARRIVE BETWEEN 5-5:30 PM. CELEBRATE VALENTINE'S DAY WITH THE EMPOWERING ABILITIES PARTICIPANTS! IT'S GOING TO BE A NIGHT OF FUN, MUSIC, AND DANCING. WE'D LOVE TO SEE YOU THERE!

FEBRUARY 17

PRESIDENTS' DAY: DAILY DISCOVERY SERVICES CLOSED

FEBRUARY 18

BOOSTER MEETING
1 PM
HICKORY GROVE ROAD

March

MARCH 5

SPREAD THE WORD

MARCH 9

DAYLIGHT SAVINGS

MARCH 20

FIRST DAY OF SPRING



Spread Some Love During Random Acts of Kindness Week!



February 14th-20th

Join us in making the Booster Valentine's Dance a night to remember! Whether you're helping set up, greeting guests, or just making sure everyone has a great time, your support makes all the difference. Check out the **Important Dates** section for details!



Ready to get cozy?

Empowering Abilities pajama pants have now been added to the Apparel Shop!

It's super easy—just pick your favorite way to order:

1. Shoot an email to Ryan Hoadley at ryanhoadley@empoweringabilities.org
2. Give us a ring at (563) 391-4834 ☎
3. Scan the QR code to visit www.empoweringabilities.org/apparel-shop to visit the Empowering Abilities' Apparel Shop!



Don't wait—grab your cozy **PJ Pants** today and show off your Empowering Abilities pride!



Score Big with Nuts & Candy for Your Super Bowl Snacks!

Get your game-day snacks sorted with our delicious nuts and candy! Whether you're hosting a party or just watching the game at home, these treats are a winning choice. Stock up now and make your Super Bowl spread one to remember!

Contact Lexi Keppy, 563-391-4834 to check the inventory!



Join us in supporting the Spread the Word campaign to promote inclusion and acceptance for all abilities. This movement is all about breaking down barriers, fostering connections, and building a world where everyone belongs.

TAKE THE PLEDGE ON MARCH 5, 2025!

SAVE THE DATE

HANDS Auxiliary Golf Outing

New Location



**DAVENPORT
COUNTRY CLUB**

02 JUNE 2024

CONTACT LEXI KEPPY FOR
SPONSORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES.

LEXIKEPPY@EMPOWERINGABILITIES.ORG
563-391-4834

**\$250 PER GOLFER/
\$1,000 PER FOURSOME**

Registration Includes

**GREEN FEES &
CART**

GOLFER GIFT

**ON-COURSE
BEVERAGES**

**COCKTAIL PARTY WITH
HEAVY APPETIZERS
AFTER GOLF**

LUNCH

PIN EVENTS

SCORING PRIZES

REGISTRATION
OPENING SOON.
STAY TUNED.

Trivia Time!

Scan the QR Code or type in the link to answer the
trivia question about Empowering Abilities.

If you get the answer correct, you will be entered in a
chance to win a prize!

The answer and winner will be announced on social
media and in the March Booster Newsletter!



<https://forms.office.com/r/MFau2ywavp>

Question

***How many businesses did Empowering Abilities' Enterprise work with in
2024?***

It's okay if you are not sure! Give your best shot, you have nothing to lose.





EMPOWERING ABILITIES

Empowering Abilities
3402 Hickory Grove Road
Davenport, IA 52806
<http://empoweringabilities.org>

PRSR T STD
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
Rock Island IL
PERMIT 15

2025 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