

Booster Newsletter

"WE DO SO THEY CAN"

BOOSTER ORGANIZATION MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

ADVOCACY TOOLS FOR 2025

2025 Policy Priorities

The Iowa Developmental Disabilities (DD) Council is committed to making Iowa a better place for individuals living with disabilities. Each year, the Council outlines key priorities in its public policy agenda to guide discussions with legislators and drive meaningful change. These priorities align with our goal to ensure people with special needs have a voice.

Here are the goals the Iowa DD Council is focusing on in 2025:

1. Competitive Employment Opportunities

- Empowering Iowans with disabilities to secure and thrive in competitive jobs that foster financial independence and professional growth.

2. Inclusive Education

- Ensuring students with disabilities have access to the supports they need to learn and succeed in inclusive learning environments chosen by their families.

3. Community Living and Healthcare

- Advocating for the services and healthcare needed for Iowans with disabilities to live independently in the community settings of their choice.

4. Voting Rights for All

- Promoting voter education and accessibility to ensure every Iowan with a disability can exercise their right to vote.

These priorities reflect a vision for a more inclusive and equitable Iowa, where individuals with disabilities have the opportunities and support they need to thrive.

Take Action with the Iowa DD Council's Advocacy Toolkit

The Iowa DD Council's Advocacy Toolkit is an invaluable resource for anyone looking to drive change. It's designed to empower advocates like you with the tools to effectively engage policymakers and amplify the voices of individuals with disabilities.

Access the Toolkit

- Visit the Iowa DD Council's website at www.iowaddcouncil.org to download the Advocacy Toolkit and explore additional resources.

Building a Better Future

To learn more about the 2025 priorities and how you can support advocacy efforts, visit the Iowa DD Council's 2025 Public Policy Agenda: www.iowaddcouncil.org/public-policy-agenda

Join the Movement

As members of the Boosters, we ensure people with special needs have a voice. Here are some ways that you can get involved:

- Sponsor advocacy trips to Des Moines during the Iowa legislative session
- Letter writing campaigns to legislators
- Informing the Booster membership and the broader community about important issues

Let's work together to champion these priorities and create a better future for individuals with special needs.



DATES TO REMEMBER

INSERVICE

Hickory Grove and Brady St. inservice day is Tuesday, January 14th. Daily Discovery Services will be closed for participants that day.

HOLIDAY SWITCH

Services will be **OPEN on Martin Luther King Jr. Day, January 20th.** Following a strong consensus from the employees of Empowering Abilities, it has been decided that they will remain open on this day and close instead for President's Day, February 17th.

NO BOOSTER MEETING

There will be no Booster meeting during the month of January. Stay tuned to Empowering Abilities social media and website for any important updates. The next meeting will be Tuesday, February 18th at 1 PM at the Hickory Grove Road location.

VALENTINE'S DAY DANCE

The Booster's dance for Empowering Abilities participants will be at Hickory Grove Road on Friday, February 14th, from 6-8 PM. Anyone who is able to volunteer should arrive between 5-5:30 PM.



NEW YEAR'S RESOLUTION

Invite a friend to get involved with the Boosters! Here are some ways to get them involved:

Invite them to....

- A Booster meeting
- A Booster Dance
- Serve lunch at the annual picnic and staff lunch
- Volunteer for Booster Bowling

FUNDRAISERS & EVENTS

NUTS AND CANDY SALE

Some nuts and candy remain, but not many, so check out the locations below to get your favorite snacks before they're gone for another year!

Hair DeVine

Simplicity Salon

A Cut Above

On the Avenue Salon

North Scott Family Hair

K&K Hardware

Evergreen Artworks

Tri-City Equipment

Main at Locust Pharmacy

The Gentry Shop

Dittmer's Service

Empowering Abilities

(Hickory Grove Road and Brady Street locations)

A BIG THANK YOU TO ALL THE
OUTLETS AND VOLUNTEERS
WHO HELPED WITH THE NUT
SALE THIS YEAR.

HANDS TRIVIA NIGHT

When? January 17th

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



Raffle baskets & 50/50
Bring your own snacks!

Full bar available for purchase.
No outside beverages.



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.

**NOW IS THE TIME TO START
GETTING A TEAM TOGETHER TO
TAKE ON THE FUN TASKS THAT
WILL BE GIVEN AT THIS YEAR'S
SCAVENGER HUNT.**

Save the Date

August





EMPOWERING ABILITIES

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

PRSR 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