

We believe our mission is to support individuals with disabilities by encouraging and assisting them to accomplish health and fitness goals, valued personal goals, and a sense of belonging in their homes and communities. We will provide a supportive atmosphere of love, care, acceptance, dignity, and respect while upholding their right to:

- BE FREE TO MAKE DECISIONS/CHOICES
- BE AN INTEGRAL MEMBER OF THE COMMUNITY IN WHICH THEY LIVE
- BE THE BEST THAT THEY HAVE THE DESIRE TO BECOME



**Giveaways for Caregivers**

Caregivers were provided tickets based on their years of service with Restoring Hope at the r3 conference. Above, Sarah Davis, was drawn to receive a \$50 gift card, handed off by Gina Kuhlmann, r3 Conference Co-Hostess.



**Open House | Ribbon Cutting for Excel**

Willow Springs Chamber of Commerce joyously welcomed our new Excel Day Program, on September 30th. Our team celebrated together, as we welcomed families and townsfolk to tour our new facility and meet our staff.



**Pool Party Connections**

This summer, Program Managers in regions Central Missouri, KC, Springfield, and West Plains hosted regional pool parties for their clients, caregivers, and team. We always encourage new and veteran homes to attend any and all our get-togethers that they're able, as they provide more opportunities to meet clients, connect with other caregivers, and build relationships with not only our team but all attendees. Pictured above, Andrea with Lorlee Mitchell at the Central Missouri Regional Pool Party on, June 28th.



Restoring hope one relationship at a time.



**New Outdoor and New Day Program Adventures**

Pictured above and left, Trent is with a Missouri Department of Conservation agent, being taught how to target shoot at Warsaw Lost Valley Fish Hatchery. Pictured above and right, from left to right Julie Olsen, Willow Springs Excel Program Coordinator, DSPs, Sheena White and Sadie Craig, grouped up at the ribbon cutting event one day before opening.

**It Always Comes Back to Relationships**

BY WHITLEY LEMON

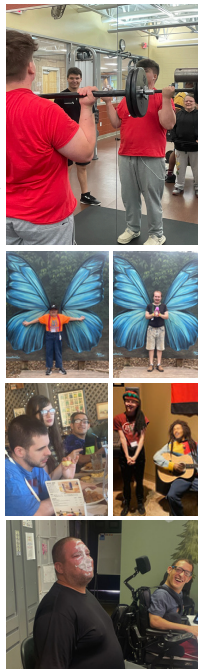
This past September, we embarked on our third r3 Conference at Camp Barnabas in Purdy, MO. And it was our best one yet! If unfamiliar, Camp Barnabas is “a ministry in Southwest Missouri dedicated to providing a unique Christian summer camp experience to individuals with special needs, their siblings, and youth from across the United States. It’s a summer full of fishing, canoeing, archery, ziplining, swimming, mini-golf, and much more.” They’ve served over 90,000 campers since 1994, made possible because of their youth Missionary volunteers. “These men and women ages 13+ come from all over the U.S. to be challenged and grow in their faith. Before leaving, they gain a radically new perspective about themselves and others around them. Throughout their week, they serve, love, and learn from each other in ways they aren’t able to anywhere else.” Although our conference lasted only one day, our event brought forth youth missionary volunteers from Monett Community Church and an entire Wrestling Team that travelled from Spring Dale, Arkansas, to serve our Restoring Hope clients. They and Camp Barnabas staff provided our clients with unforgettable memories! Volunteers excitedly cheered, jumped, and clapped as each client was announced at the start of the day. Clients could fish in the stocked lake, play basketball, mini-golf, shoot an apple canon gun, and splash around in the massive water park. The theme of the r3 Conference was, Our Story, Our Home. So, being able to provide and improve the life story of our clients with new and positive memories is what it’s all about!

While clients were busy enjoying themselves, conference-attending caregivers indulged in hot and iced flavored coffees, strawberry freshers, and blue raspberry lemonades, made by our WORKS Employment program participants who are actively learning job skills with Katelyn Hellmer, WORKS Employment Specialist and Heidi Phillips WORKS Employment Coordinator. For another notable treat, caregiver and team member attendees were wafed with the delicious smell of freshly popped buttered and caramel popcorn, displayed with tantalizing candies and snacks to top off their popcorn. To start the day, caregivers had the opportunity to participate in a fun and interactive team building exercise with Scott Stricklin. Then, they broke up into three groups, where field specialist speakers provided beneficial information and resources on behaviors, raising someone with special needs, and self-care. Restoring Hope supplied vendor options ranging from apparel, to finance, statewide and agency resources, the Color Coded Chef, Excel Day Program, and Tracy Francis, made available for purchase, her book, Raising Someone Special. Everyone enjoyed a delicious BBQ pulled pork lunch with baked beans, potato salad, coleslaw, salad, and cookies for dessert. The last activity of the day, Staci Owen, CEO of Restoring Hope, led caregivers in an activity, which provided our agency with helpful information and requests reiterating why we do what we do and highlighting ways our agency can improve. We closed with many giveaways for our caregivers: Restoring Hope t-shirts, plants, leadership and field-specific books, gift cards, multiple large gift baskets, and a beautiful quilt donated by Bob and Laura Lafferty of Olathe, KC, who Brandi Webb-Snyder connected us with. They felt so moved by what we do, it compelled them to contribute.

We love hosting events such as the r3 conference and r3 SUMMITS! We hope it shows our Restoring Hope family how much we care and genuinely want to help them build an even more extensive network of like-minded connections and equip them with more and new resources. We know many of our clients do not have the funds to afford a summer camp either, so hosting our conference at a location they can enjoy is another way we can give back. When asking our caregivers what they love about Restoring Hope during the last activity facilitated by Staci, the responses unanimously came back to relationships—the support, the family feel, the people, teamwork, kindness, etc. Our team strives daily to live our mission of restoring hope one relationship at a time. And we do that by connecting and showing up when others not only need us, but also to support them in their highs, lows, and everything in between!

**SPRINGFIELD EXCEL DAY PROGRAM**

Springfield Excel Day Program orange group loves going to the Doling Family Center to reach their fitness goals. Since he began going, John (pictured right) has made a personal goal to lose weight and get into shape, and has already made amazing progress! At Dickerson's Park Zoo, Sean and Pam enjoyed themselves while posing before butterfly wings. Marty the Magician visited the program and put on such a good show! The pink group went to the wax museum in Branson and had a blast! The blue group enjoyed eating at Cracker Barrel. Staff Matt and participant Matt had fun with a shaving cream craft (pictured bottom, far right). "On a very special day during the Route 66 Festival, talented Destin Snape performed for an audience and judges. He sings like an angel!" shares Rebecca Chilson, Springfield Excel Day Program Coordinator. Participants continue volunteering at Eden Village and the Crosslines diaper bank weekly - they love it! They also continue to work on skills daily through lessons and fun activities. Rebecca shares they have plans to make s'mores in the park and go to the Barnhouse Pumpkin Patch this fall. Springfield, Buffalo, Nixa, and Willow Springs Excel are planning a Thanksgiving get-together with food and crafts for participants to enjoy!



**BUFFALO EXCEL DAY PROGRAM**

Buffalo Excel has had a tremendously busy summer! Participants indulged in Rocco's Pizza, Hurtz Donut, Andy's ice cream, a local coffee shop and even cooked for one another. Ways participants have been able to give back this quarter have been through volunteering at the YMCA and gardening. Nature has definitely been a focus this summer as participants strolled through Dolling Park, Ha Ha Tonka, Rutledge Wilson Park, and Sequita Park. Interim Buffalo Excel Program Coordinator Kayla Shupe states, "Dayton's obsessed with trains, and this was his first time physically touching a real train track!" (Pictured top right.) Other community outings were enjoyed at the mall, swimming pool, public park, walking in the community, and bowling. While at day program, participants enjoy learning new skills, strengthening relationships, playing games, building puzzles, reading, coloring, painting, writing, and simply expressing themselves! Lastly, participants were able to meet and connect with community resources such as law enforcement and the fire department. Building these relationships helps continue to connect the divide between the clients we serve and community rescue, crisis, and safety officials.



**KIRKSVILLE EXCEL DAY PROGRAM**

"Kirksville Excel has been busy soaking up the last bit of summer. We have enjoyed ice cream socials at the train lookout, playing basketball at the park, and volunteering at the car wash, where proceeds go to the SB40 Developmental Disability Link to purchase books about disabilities and inclusion for area 1st graders during Developmental Disabilities Awareness Month! Kicking off fall, we have been busy working on kitchen safety and cooking skills. We are focusing on meals that are budget-friendly and do not have a lot of steps. The group has learned to make gravy from scratch and enjoyed biscuits and gravy. We have also started making Halloween and fall crafts to keep Excel decorated! We have several things planned, like painting pumpkins, tie-dyeing shirts, and more crafts!" - Kirksville Excel Program Coordinator Kristin Snyder.



**NIXA EXCEL DAY PROGRAM**

Nixa Excel Program has had one active summer! Participants visited The Rush Water Park, and all had a blast floating in the lazy river and tubing down the waterslides. They started a new dance class with a fantastic teacher named Jen with Groovinabilities. Madison Harlan, Nixa Program Coordinator, shares, "She always gets their bodies moving and building their confidence!" As a reward for their hard work, participants were treated with endless yummy options and treats at Golden Corral. In September, participants attended a Gardening class at Wickman's Gardens, learning how to pot a plant, and were able to pick from a selection of starter plants. One group within the Nixa program also traveled to Branson and explored Branson Landing! "We are looking forward to our Halloween Party in October and our trip to the Campbell's Maze Daze where they'll get to do a corn maze, ride a hayride, and make s'mores! We have some awesome staff who always find fun and interactive things to do with our clients. I want to mention a thank you to them!" exclaims Madison Harlan.



VISIT OUR WORKS PAGE ON THE WEB AT:  
[www.werestorehope.com/works-employment-services](http://www.werestorehope.com/works-employment-services)



During the r3 Conference WORKS coffee bar participants served up drink options to attendees, such as, The EXCEerator (blue raspberry lemonade), Strawberries of Hope (strawberry refresher), The Cool Caregiver (iced coffee), and WORKS Lava (hot coffee) while providing multiple flavoring options for coffee drinks while learning customer service. With the tips they received, as a group they chose to go mini golfing and to get some ice cream. WORKS Coordinator and Employment Specialist are helping participants learn job skills and preparing for interviews. Pictured above, Aaliyah Baker has been gaining experience with pets through volunteering at Eden Animal Village, where she socializes with the cats! Aaliyah Baker and Kayla Kendall were recently taken shopping to purchase their interview outfits.

**WILLOW SPRINGS EXCEL DAY PROGRAM**

**\*New\*** The Willow Springs Excel Day Program has been an energetic place since our grand opening on October 1, 2024, when we welcomed five consumers into the program. Within our first two operating weeks, consumers have made new friends, engaged in various Excel activities, community-based projects, and have begun volunteering at the Mountain View Community Outreach Center. Consumers are learning new skills during their volunteer experience including socialization skills with the staff and volunteers at the outreach center, as well as how to sort, pair, and organize donated shoes for an upcoming clothing giveaway at the outreach center. We are beyond excited to continue serving the Willow Springs and surrounding areas both with Excel Day Program Services and community outreach engagement. We look forward to the opportunities to come and the new friends we will make as the program grows. The outpour of support we have already received has been astounding! All of us here at the Willow Spring Excel Day Program are extremely grateful for your support and friendship! Thank you to everyone who has helped this program become possible and all those who showed up to our Open House, welcoming our program to Willow Springs." - Julie Olsen, Willow Springs Excel Day Program Coordinator.



# Anniversary Dates

Each quarter, we continue to grow and grow! So, for our caregivers, nurses, and staff who started their journey with us between July to September, we want to thank you for your year(s) of serving others!

## Contractors

### 9-10 Years

Christy Bales, Tracey Belk, Charles Belk, Tim Berry, Larisa Ionita, Liviu Ionita, Chase Stratton, Ronald Tackitt, Atlee Wolfard

### 7-8 Years

Laura Bennett, Chris Bennett, Anita Brown, Gary Brown, Rachel Brown, Holden Childress, Eden DeGonia, Joseph DeGonia, Christi Eden, James Eden, Joy Guymon, Brian Guymon, Debra Kleine, Monte Kleine, Mattie Smith

### 5-6 Years

Ashlyn Billington, Letitia Brown, Lucy Daniels, Rachel Eichler, Kyle Eichler, Brandy Fajen, David Fajen, Nick Glitz, Damaris Glitz, Ashley Stark, Violet Meadors, Ann Melton, Tatiana Montalvo, Brian Phillips, Lindsay Phillips, Karen Ryals, Richard Ryals, Christina Webb, Gaye Wixom, John Wixom, James Harris, Rhonda Harris

### 3-4 Years

Angela Brichak, Gordon Carr, David Childs, Sheila Childs, Colton Coffey, John Cook, Angela Cross, Alexia Cross, Kevin Cross, Amy Ebarb, Gary Griffin, Lana Griffin, Leif Griffin, Grace Peak-Grissum, Kristine Hawkins, Jesse Hawkins, Juli Highley, Mike Highley,

Felicity Hodges, Gilbert Hussey, Brock Hussey, Ben Jellison, Virginia Martin, Paula McCurdy, Cherricka Miller, Hosie Miller, Brooke North, Parker North, Katie Poppen, Tyler Poppen, Kimberly Reamsnider, Michael Reamsnider, Dennis Schwartz, Cathy Schwartz, Randy Slavik, Anna Slavik, Dianne Tingley, Mary VanOrden

### 1-2 Years

Mathew Allen, Demetre Alston, Quincy Alston, Casey Bales, Bryce Bales, Katibeth Bales, Devon Bales, Antranece Clark, Ashley Corf, Shirley Grimes, Dylan Messer, Logan Ehlmann, James Higdon, Kinsten Fajen, Trevor Fajen, Brittney Fredricks, Nikolay Gerasimov, Yevdokiya Gerasimova, Susan Gerasimova, Pauline Green, Kim Haney, Derrick Hardy, Kontia Hardy, Madison Harlan, Jo Ann Hartung-Slavik, Gabriel Highley, Laura Lawson, Christina Martin, Mary McComb-Kindred, Amanda O'Neal, Nicholas O'Neal, Julie Ann Gordon, Molly Phelps, Trinity Phelps, Leah Polk, Brianna Porter, Jackson Porter, Andrew Irwin, Madison Irwin, Gonzalo Sanchez-Rodriguez, Johnae Sawyer, Rachel Schrope, Noah Lawson, Alex Dikranian, Jill Strzewski, Laura Tilton, Mary Tilton, Ileana Waldron, Christine Wiseman, Vasilii Zavalin, Lybov Zavalin

## Staff

### 7-8 Years

Kayla Ell, Tara Kempf

### 5-6 Years

Katie Adams, Whitley Lemon

### 3-4 Years

Carmen Culpepper, Denise McNeal, Jeannine Silverberg, Sandra Weekfall, Gina Kuhlmann,

Whittney Drumright, Wendy Callahan

### 1-2 Years

Jared Copeland, Tonya Williams - Easter, Amanda Andrews, Laura Lawson, Kayla Shupe, Heidi Phillips, Joceline Culpepper, Clara Bee, Kristin Snyder, Katelyn Hellmer, Mackensie Gilmore, Jaidyn Lampin, Deanna Garrouette



# Traditional | Medical ISL - West Plains

"West Plains ISL girls, Ashley and Michelle, have been staying busy this summer. Michelle continues to work at Sheltered Workshop daily and Ashley has been anxiously waiting to start at the Excel Day Program in Willow Springs. Michelle enjoys working, attending church, going bowling, going to the movies, getting manicures, doing crafts, playing board games, and watching the Kansas City Chiefs and St. Louis Cardinals play. Ashley enjoys volunteering at the animal shelter, going to church, going to the movies, doing crafts, cooking/baking, and talking on the phone to friends. The girls have gone on many outings over the past couple months attending plays, the movies, visiting Mammoth Spring State Park, going to the river, attending the RH summer party, HCNS Bingo and Carnival, r3 Conference, Monster Truck Show, volunteering, and shopping frequently in the community. The girls have become active members in their community, found their sense of independence, continue working hard to achieve their goals, and are living life to the fullest every day. Restoring Hope is blessed to be a part of the lives of such wonderful girls!" - PM, Kyli Plowman



# Medical ISLs - Lincoln

**The Camille House** - "We have welcomed a new addition to the home, and he is nothing short of amazing. His laugh is so contagious! Our wonderful team of caregivers continue to reflect the RH culture and truly embody our WHY. We were able to attend a pool party and enjoy the sunshine. School has started back up and with it comes a lot of excitement and new opportunities to grow." **The Shawn House** - "Shawn is always full of adventures and parties. We have celebrated birthdays, gone to camp with the RH conference, swam with our RH friends at the pool party, and visited an exotic petting zoo. The caring and adventurous nature of our Shawn team keep us motivated and busy. School has started but we are planning even more adventures." - PM, Aaron Harms



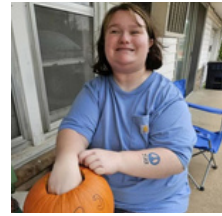
# Medical ISL - St. Louis

"Wild about St. Louis, the ISL St. Louis kiddos got in touch with their wild side this summer from visiting the many Nature Conservation Parks here in St. Louis The Lone Elk Park The Wild Bird Sanctuary, and Little Creek Nature Park to name a few. Enjoying The Science Center and the Art Museum. The kiddos got to enjoy wheelchair-accessible rides at playgrounds, and attending parades before going back to school. Let's not forget to celebrate their favorite people, their staff during DSP week." - PM, Tonya Williams-Easter



# Buffalo ISL

**The Buffalo House** - "Our Buffalo team has been doing exceedingly well. Our Buffalo girls are busy and enjoy everything from sports to fishing and everything in between. We are currently looking into classes to build skills and have some fun in the community." - PM, Aaron Harms



All three homes; Camille, Shawn, and Buffalo were able to enjoy regional pool parties this summer as well as the r3 Conference. The MDC helped sponsor an outdoor event where our folks from the ISLs and Excel Day Programs enjoyed fishing, target shooting, and were educated on many things Missouri Outdoors related, this passed September.

## Business Office

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@restoringhopellc

"Just be. Be the worker you'd want to lead. Be the leader you'd want to be led by. Be the teacher you'd want to teach you. Be the co-worker you'd want to work with. Be to others the person you admire. - Gloria Plaisted

# SFLD | CMO | WP - Community Events

Host Homes, Kevin Styles of the Springfield Region and Brandy Fajen of the Central Missouri Region were kind enough to provide some great community events with us, in order to share with you. Additional events have as well, been provided through the Springfield Community Park Board and West Plains community public event sharing.

## Unlimited Ministry - Chesterfield Life 360

**Oct 29, 2024 | 5:30pm - 7:00pm**  
Old Dollar Theaters in Springfield, MO  
Church service, dinner, lesson, and game provided.

## Harvest Fest @ Rutledge Wilson Farm

**Oct 19-20, 26-27 | 11am - 6pm (Sat) | 12pm - 6pm (Sun)**  
Corn Maze, hayride, cow train, barnyard race, etc.  
(\$4/Adult, \$3/Ages 5-11, Free/4yrs or under with adult.)

## Halloween Fest @ Springfield Botanical Gardens

**Oct 26, 2024 | 1:00pm - 3:00pm (Register by Oct 24)**  
2400 S Scenic Ave., Springfield, MO  
Wear a costume, join in a scavenger hunt, games & crafts.

## Annual Bowling @ Enterprise Park Lanes - Enabled

**Nov 19, 2024 | 6:00pm**  
1625 S Enterprise Ave, Springfield, MO  
Bowling is provided, bring money for snacks.

## Christmas Celebration @ Life 360 All Nations Church

**Dec 17, 2024 | 7:00pm**  
Celebrate Jesus with music, story, and fellowship.

## PPDR's 3rd Annual Haunted Forest Hayride @ Lincoln

**Oct 4-5, 2024 | 7:00pm - 10:45pm** (both nights)  
24516 Kelly Lane, Lincoln, MO  
(\$10/Adults, \$7/5-17yrs, Free/4yrs or younger)

## Heritage Days @ Warsaw

**Oct 19, 2024 | 9am - 5pm & Oct 20, 2024 | 9am - 4pm**  
181 W. Harrison St., Warsaw, MO  
250+ Vendors: Food Trucks, Arts/Crafts, Direct Sales

## Halloween Hoopla @ Warsaw - Drake Harbor

**Oct 31, 2024 | 6:00pm - 8:00pm**  
181 W. Harrison St., Warsaw, MO  
Costume Contest, Trick or Treating, all ages welcome.

## Country Craft and Collectables Fall Show @ Warsaw

**Nov 2, 2024 | 8:30am - 4:00pm**  
181 West Harrison St., Warsaw, MO  
40+ Local Vendors: Candies, clothing, baked goods, etc.

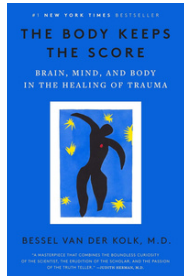
## Halloween Drive Thru @ West Plains Fire Station

**Oct 31, 2024 | 5:00 pm - 8:00 pm**  
1949 E State Route K, West Plains, MO 65775

## Book Recommendation:

**The Body Keeps the Score: Brain, Mind, and Body in the Healing of Trauma**

Written by Bessel van der Kolk M.D., one of the world's foremost experts on trauma. Kolk uses recent scientific advances to show how trauma literally reshapes both body and brain, compromising sufferers' capacities for pleasure, engagement, self-control, and trust. He exposes the tremendous power of our relationships both to hurt and to heal - and offers new hope for reclaiming lives ... one in five Americans has been molested; one in four grew up with alcoholics; one in three couples have engaged in physical violence. Trauma is a fact of life. Kolk offers new paths to recovery by activating the brain's natural neuroplasticity.



**The Body Keeps the Score**

# RH Agency Events

**Christmas Party @ Sedalia | South 65 Event Barn**  
**December 3, 2024 | 5:30pm - 7:30pm**  
22980 Mather Rd. Sedalia, MO 65301

**Winter Ball @ Kirksville**  
**December 12, 2024 | 5pm - 8:30pm**  
2405 E. Illinois St. Kirksville, MO 63501

**Christmas Party @ Springfield**  
**December 12, 2024 | Time: TBD**  
Location: TBD

Kevin Styles, Host Home Provider in Springfield, MO is hosting a Men's Mentor Group. For any men who may be interested in participating and would like more details, you can reach him at 417-693-6886. Additionally, if you are aware of any impactful upcoming events that you feel others could benefit from, please contact Whitley Lemon at [whitleylemon@werestorehope.com](mailto:whitleylemon@werestorehope.com) with the details.