



Kaleidoscope

FAMILY SOLUTIONS INC.

KaleidoSCOOP Monthly Newsletter December 2023



A Message from our Executive Director:

As we continue to enjoy the holiday seasons, I am struck with how lucky I am to be a part of this amazing Kaleidoscope family of individuals, families, staff and community partners. Holidays can be incredible; however, for some, they bring up other challenging feelings that can come and go. This year, I plan to be mindful of all my surroundings, so that I can gage the mood of others and be supportive. This also gives me the opportunity to stay in the gratitude of my blessings, as well as the beautiful colors, lights and festivities around me. I would be remiss if I didn't mention the festive food and abundant gifts. No matter what, or if you celebrate this season, it's impossible at times not to embrace the joy in others.

This month we are focusing on enabling people to act independently. Becoming more independent is a fundamental goal for our individuals. As we move toward greater independence, It is also our job as providers to guide them toward a life that offers fulfilment in all areas, which might encompass objectives that include education, employment, independent living and even caring for others. Look for individual spotlights throughout the month that show successes in the home and community.

Have a fabulous month of holiday celebrations and bliss. As I always like to remind you, take a moment each day to look for the positive and find gratitude. As usual in December, there may be hustle and bustle. With that in mind, breathe and smile. It never fails.

Warmly yours,
Dr. TaraColleen Macatee



Our first trip to the Sigal Museum was super fun and educational too!

Best
friends
forever



A super fun arts and crafts group at the Middletown Library. We love to be creative, especially together!



And ... lots to learn and explore at the Brandywine Museum of Art! We love to see our close friendships in action.



After a successful day of bowling, Chris won 1000 tickets at the arcade!



Community breakfasts always start the day on a positive note!



Kaleidoscope

FAMILY SOLUTIONS INC.



Kaleidoscope represents!

We rocked the Special Olympics Fall Fest at Villanova University this year. So many accomplishments ...

we are all winners!

Jill and Jackie: Bocci

Eric, Ian and Clair: Soccer

Winnie and Weronika: Volleyball

Laiba: Announcer



Mission Monday

is our space to thank providers who continue to go above and beyond when servicing KFS individuals.

Please help us salute our monthly winners!

Western, PA: Stephen Hetherington has immaculate communication with his team in regards to his KFS individual. Stephen goes above and beyond at all times to ensure his individual's health and safety 100% of the time they are together. Stephen is always ahead of the curve with sending in his credentials and submitting his billing early. Stephen is a fantastic IC, dependable, reliable and has a huge heart in the right place!

Northeastern, PA: NEPA would like to nominate Keelie Kincaid. Keelie is a newer DSP with NEPA and she is doing fantastic work. She is getting her individuals out in the community and getting them engaged! She is helping them become more independent and working on their goals! Good work Keelie!

Central, PA: Helen Sheffar has recently joined the CPA team and we have not been disappointed in her support and care for our individuals. She has filled in last minute on cases, taken an individual somewhere special on Thanksgiving and has even dressed up at Mrs. Claus for an apartment complex to start spreading holiday cheer to those we support. She has a big heart and a kind soul; and we are so excited to see what else she continues to do with her individuals! Thank you!

Eastern, PA: Frank Churn has always gone above and beyond for the individuals he works with. His communication with the families and internal staff is amazing as well. Frank assisted one of his individuals with paperwork this past month so that the individual could retain his waiver. Thanks for making a difference Frank.

Lancaster, PA: Jennifer Binkley has now been working with KFS for a few months. She is always on top of her game. She is fabulous with getting her notes in within regulation, and always communicating with the CC's. We appreciate all that she does!

N Northeastern, PA: Anita Moore is amazing, consistent and communicates with us very well. She has had a positive impact on the services for our individuals and we are grateful for all her hard work.





Kaleidoscope

FAMILY SOLUTIONS INC.



The SPOTLIGHT is on Prince!

We just had to highlight Prince who celebrated his 12 year Anniversary with Kaleidoscope. Each year, Prince always remembers to reach out to us on his anniversary, which shows how much it means to him – and us too!

Prince is truly a success in his life as an independent adult. He lives on his own in a well-kept apartment. As a matter of fact, Prince makes sure to fully clean his home every week. He cooks healthy and well-balanced meals, and even throws in a few treats now and then.

On the work front, Prince works at Advanced Auto Parts in the warehouse. He also volunteers at the Young Ones Record Store in Kutztown where he has won Employee of the Month for 167 weeks in a row.

Prince loves music, social events, cooking, working out and playing video games. He is also an avid sports fan of both Philadelphia and Baltimore teams. In addition, Prince competes with Special Olympics on their bowling and basketball teams. Prince works out at the Three Strands Community Center on a regular basis. His commitment to staying fit and healthy is second to none. We just love having Prince as part of our Kaleidoscope family and look forward to many more years together. Happy Anniversary Prince!



We know that summer is over when we venture inside for some jumping and fun at Urban Air! We also celebrated the November birthdays.



Praise for Kaleidoscope

"I love all of the events that Kaleidoscope does. It feels like family and for that I am grateful this holiday season."

--A Kaleidoscope Mom

"In talking with Catherine at her ISP meeting, she gave the biggest smile when asked if she enjoyed working with her DSP, Rachel. In return, I had the biggest smile!"

--Colleen Arroyo, Clinical Coordinator

"Things are going well with our Kaleidoscope services. Keelie seems to have a natural ability in interacting with and reading Peter, which helps as she continues getting to know him and us. He enjoys going out and about with her!"

--Peter's Guardian

Here we are at another trampoline place with the Allentown crew. At KFS, we know how to jump!





Kaleidoscope
FAMILY SOLUTIONS INC.



CONGRATULATIONS ARE IN ORDER!

- Dee is starting at Meals on wheels as a volunteer!
- Sophia got promoted to lead bagger at the food pantry where she volunteers!
- After a much needed break, Aidan re-started his piano lessons!
- Mikey reached 14 stars at his job for Home Depot!
- Stephanie and Sara made ornaments for a craft show that will donate the proceeds to charity!
- At bowling, Christian got a Turkey (three strikes in a row), six overall strikes and his highest score of 150!
- Sara was able to do mindfulness after a stressful day at work!
- Catherine is working on healthier eating by trying to include fruit as a health snack option!
- Patti made cards for our troops overseas and delivered them to Mission BBQ for distribution!
- Chris has been reading to preschoolers as part of the Kiwanis Club! Chris said, "I love to read to children and be entertaining. It is tons of fun."
- Shaun recently started volunteering with a local historical organization (see him with the leaf blower on the right)!



Hannah advocated for herself when her washer broke by talking to her rental office and working with maintenance. She actually got them to give her a new washer and dryer!



We are always proud to share Nico's accomplishments!



Hooray for Shaun!
Look at him in action!



Lori made mini pumpkin pies to share with her neighbors and friends for Thanksgiving. Don't we always match our outfits to the recipe!

No-Bake Christmas Tree Cookies

Ingredients

- ☐ 1/2 cup butter or margarine
- ☐ 2 cups powdered icing sugar
- ☐ 2 tbsp milk
- ☐ 3 cups shredded coconut
- ☐ 1/2 tsp vanilla or mint extract
- ☐ green food coloring
- ☐ 3/4 cup white chocolate chips
- ☐ 1 tsp butter or margarine
- ☐ 1 tbsp milk
- ☐ mini M&M's



Instructions

In a large pot, melt butter. Remove from heat. Stir in icing sugar and milk. Stir in coconut, vanilla/mint and enough food coloring to make the mixture green. Shape into small balls, and using the tips of your fingers gently squeeze one side of the ball until it takes on a cone shape. It might take a few tries to get them how you like them, but if the mixture gets too cool to work with you can always heat on low a minute or 2.

If you see any later you want to reshape, they are easily reshaped at room temperature.

Put uncovered on a baking sheet to set either in the fridge for 2-3 hours or the freezer for 45 minutes to 1 hour.

In a small pot, melt chocolate, 1 tsp butter and 1 tbsp milk over low heat, stirring, until smooth. Dip the tops of the cookies in the white chocolate to look like snow. Add mini M&M's if desired. Set in the fridge or freezer to set before storing in an air tight container.

<https://www.thereciperebel.com/bake-christmas-tree-cookies/>

Grace and her DSP, Cheanalee worked to needle felt together to create this beautiful piece of art!



Home Office
950 East Haverford Road
Suite 100A
Bryn Mawr, PA 19010
P: 877-384-1729 F: 610-527-8672



www.kfamilysolutions.org
www.facebook.com/kfscare
www.linkedin.com/company/kaleidoscope-family-solutions-inc-
www.twitter.com/kfscare
www.instagram.com/kfscare