

**A Message from our Executive Director:**

This is an exciting month for us as we celebrate the 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Kaleidoscope Family Solutions. When we started Kaleidoscope in 2004, I never imagined how far we would come. This was a team effort. All of our successes and accomplishments are reality because you: the individuals and their families, providers, Kaleidoscope staff, community partners and even local establishments. All of this is possible because we worked together with the similar goal to help those with disabilities move toward greater independence and meaningful lives. Today, we have divisions throughout the states of PA, MA, DE, NJ and RI. Watching the magic unfold has been a true pleasure and honor for me as an Executive Director. Thank you for being the chain that holds us together. We are all pivotal links in each and every role from the inside and out. As we move into a world that, of course, hold unknowns, one thing is for sure. Kaleidoscope will continue its mission to make a colorful difference in as many lives as humanly possible.

The Kaleidoscope Vision this month is to instill positive values. This gives me and our agency an opportunity to look within and evaluate how well we are doing in this area. Values define a person. We have the choice to “do the right thing” in each situation. Similarly, putting a positive twist on how we do them takes effort and focus, yet can be so satisfying. Take a moment to identify those you admire. What values stand out about them to you? Do they inspire you to do something different or with greater vigor? This is a time for reflection. As so poignantly stated by Mahatma Gandhi, “Keep your values positive, because your values become your destiny.”

We will be celebrating 20 years all month long! Again, thank you for being part of our Kaleidoscope Family.

With hearts and colorful balloons,

Dr. TaraColleen Macatee

**Happy Anniversary Kaleidoscope and Dr. Macatee!**  
We are so proud and honored to be service providers for 20 years! We look forward to many more great and productive times together. Thank you from the bottoms (and tops) of our hearts for being a part of this journey. Enjoy some of the photos from our celebration, and meet some of our KFA team.





## SUNFLOWER CAKE

### Ingredients

- 1 box Betty Crocker™ Super Moist™ Yellow Cake Mix
- Water, vegetable oil and eggs called for on cake mix box
- 1/2 cup miniature semisweet chocolate chips
- 3 tablespoons unsweetened baking cocoa
- 2 tubs (12 oz) Betty Crocker™ Whipped Fluffy White Frosting
- 1 tube Betty Crocker™ yellow classic gel food color (from 2.7-oz box)
- 1 bottle (2.25 oz) Betty Crocker™ Decors yellow sugar
- 1 can (6.4 oz) Betty Crocker™ Easy Flow black decorating icing

### Instructions

Heat oven to 350°F. Grease bottoms only of 2 (8-inch) round cake pans with shortening or cooking spray. Make cake batter as directed on box--except stir chocolate chips into batter. Reserve 1 cup batter. Pour remaining batter into pans. Stir cocoa into reserved 1 cup batter. Drop chocolate batter by tablespoonfuls randomly onto batter in pans. Cut through batter with knife for marbled design.

Bake 27 to 32 minutes or until toothpick inserted in center comes out clean. Cool 10 minutes. Run knife around edges to loosen cakes; remove from pans to cooling rack. Cool completely, about 1 hour.

Place 1 cake round on large serving plate. Cut remaining cake into 8 triangles; place around cake pointed sides out to look like sunflower petals.

In medium bowl, stir white frosting and tube of yellow gel food color until well blended. Frost sides and top of cake with yellow frosting. Sprinkle petals with yellow sugar. For sunflower seeds, pipe black decorating icing in center round of cake, using star tip. Make small bee using decorating icing. Store loosely covered at room temperature.

*Submitted by Bette from the KFS Allentown region.*



Eddie joined his work and KFS worlds together by creating an activity to teach friends how to plant!



The Allentown crew visited a rose garden!



We had an awesome day at our new stable location, getting the horses cleaned up and meeting the locals! Way to go Danie and Eddie!

### *Praise for Kaleidoscope*

*"I love Kaleidoscope, I really do. They hire the best staff and they have the best activities. We're always really happy with them."*

*-- Colleen McGuigan (Liana's SC)*

*"We love Kaleidoscope! We really love that Kaleidoscope always thinks of the best things to do."*

*--Liana's Mom*

*Katie Scullion, an SC Supervisor at People First, praised Kaleidoscope for the many social opportunities available to individuals. "So many families want that for their individuals but don't know where to find the activities"*



**Fun Days to Celebrate in May!**

- 1<sup>st</sup>: May Day
- 4<sup>th</sup>: Star Wars Say
- 5<sup>th</sup>: Cinco de Mayo
- 10<sup>th</sup>: Clean Up Your Room Day
- 11<sup>th</sup>: Eat What You Want Day
- 12<sup>th</sup>: Mother's Day
- 15<sup>th</sup>: National Chocolate Chip Day
- 16<sup>th</sup>: National BBQ Day
- 20<sup>th</sup>: Pick Strawberries Day
- 23<sup>rd</sup>: Turtle Day
- 27<sup>th</sup>: Memorial Day
- 28<sup>th</sup>: National Hamburger Day
- 30<sup>th</sup>: Water a Flower Day



Bugs were the theme at a Thursday art class!



Brooke and her provider, Tia, took a road trip all the way from Reading to the Philadelphia Outlets!



Earth Day 2024! Our annual tradition to plant flowers continues. Each year, we gather together to make colorful flower pots that we hope will last the whole summer long.



We love to share the adventures of Sophia and Ali! That's fresh grown asparagus that Aly is standing next to. The second picture is Sophia walking a park trail with her DSP and companion doll. The last picture is Ali meeting up with the Lancaster group.





# THANK YOU!

**Mission Monday** is our space to thank providers who have given exceptional service to our individuals this month! We are grateful for you always.

**WPA:** Mark Samuels is currently working with four of KFS's individuals; and they all love him. Their families love him as well. One of our individuals had back surgery four times. As a result, Mark did everything in his power to ensure that the home was ready for a smooth transition upon returning from the hospital. Mark made sure that his individual had food, clean clothing, and was comfortable to be on his own. He did all of this on his own time and from the goodness of his heart. Mark has been with KFS for almost four years, and is an overall remarkable DSP!

**NEPA:** Manali Patel is a BSS that has been working with KFS for almost a year. She does a great job working with our individuals, their families and the entire team. She is compassionate, empathetic, patient and kind. She has a calming demeanor and we are grateful to have her with us.

**CPA:** Destiny Gentry recently went above and beyond to help support an individual during a family crisis. She cancelled her own doctor appointment in order to stay and help this individual process and provide support that was needed. She also is advocating for the family. She is friends with the funeral home director and seeing if there is anything that can be done to help the individual's family.

**EPA:** Micsouka "Sookie" Cadet has gone above and beyond with all the individuals she supports. She is super helpful during social groups by making sure everyone is interacting and participating. One individual in particular has truly blossomed because of her kindness and patience. Thanks, Sookie for your wonderful effort every day!

**Lancaster:** Aginee Robinson has done an amazing job transitioning into her new position. She is very communicative and passionate about working with her individuals. Even other DSP's have passed along words of praise. We are happy to have Aginee a part of KFS.

**NEXT:** Leslie Otero has been the face of consistency with her individuals since hire. Leslie goes out of her way to provide exceptional service to our individuals. She does this without complaint and has provided them with the support that they deserve. Her progress notes are always very thorough and well written.

## CONGRATULATIONS ARE IN ORDER!

- ✓ Chris is doing some writing for a show that will premiere in June!
- ✓ Mike's Special Olympics team won 2<sup>nd</sup> place at the Saint Francis golf tournament!
- ✓ Sophie supported her dad at the Valley Forge Run!
- ✓ Ammar won the Jake's Baristas Volunteer of the Year Award! They presented him the award at their annual fundraiser.
- ✓ Clair and Ian were both unifiers for Unified Soccer with the Villanova University soccer team!
- ✓ Bette was given an award for volunteering over 100 hours in 2023 at Cedarbrook Nursing Home!
- ✓ Prince was awarded a badge for his three years of employment at Advanced Auto Parts Distribution Warehouse!
- ✓ Maurine helped her mom plant flowers and vegetables in their summer garden!
- ✓ Jack's band played at the Maple Festival!
- ✓ Vince has been swimming every week at the YMCA! He is dedicated to his fitness goals.
- ✓ Maddie bowled her highest game ever with a score of 167!
- ✓ Patti helped her workplace, Steve's Sewing and Vacuum, pack up for a move to a new location!
- ✓ Ben is blossoming in social groups! It's wonderful to get to know him.
- ✓ Charley got a job at Wawa! He starts this month.
- ✓ Mikey is up to 25 Golden Stars at Home Depot!
- ✓ Allie went back to her old high school to talk about living a successful life as an adult!

We always have fun painting and doing various crafts at the Exeter Library! Masterpieces!

Maddie after beating her bowling highest score!



Kaleidoscope Family Solutions  
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/kfscares  
www.linkedin.com/company/kaleidoscope-family-solutions-inc-  
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