EMPOWERING ABILITIES

BOOSTERS

"WE DO SO THEY CAN"

Where Talent Meets Opportunity: Celebrating National Disability Employment Awareness Month

October is National Disability Employment Awareness Month (NDEAM), a time to celebrate the contributions of workers with disabilities and the importance of inclusive employment. This year's theme, **"Celebrating Value and Talent,"** is something we see every day at Empowering Abilities.

Meaningful employment creates opportunities to build skills, gain independence, make connections and take pride in a job well done. Through Empowering Enterprise, Prevocational Services and employment throughout our community, individuals are putting their talents to work every day.

Prevocational Services help individuals build workplace skills and prepare for future employment through paid work experiences, skill-building activities and personalized support. Participants gain hands-on experience completing jobs both on-site and in the community while developing skills such as creating a resume and preparing for interviews. These experiences help individuals discover their strengths, build confidence and become more independent in the workplace. Participants are also paid for their work, giving them the opportunity to experience the pride and accomplishment that comes with a job well done. Each person works toward the goal of finding employment that matches their individual skills, interests and abilities.

Empowering Enterprise Partners
John Deere • Car Freshener • Springfield Armory • Arconic • Schebler Company • SJ Smith • Eaton • Davenport Optimist Club • Katun • MidAmerican Energy • Parker Hannifin • Moline Forge • Deck Supply • HC Duke/Electro Freeze • LMT–Lewis Machine & Tool • RJS and Associates

Community Employers
Big 10 Mart – N. Brady St. • HomeGoods • Hy-Vee – E. Kimberly Rd. • McDonald's – E. Kimberly Rd. • McDonald's – Middle Rd. • McDonald's – Northwest Blvd. • MercyOne Genesis East • Professional Building Services (PBS) • Professional Building Services (Robert + Half) • Scott Community College – Fairmount St. • Smokin' Butts • Target • The Fountains • Your Pie

Right Here at Empowering Abilities
Individuals also put their talents to work at Empowering Abilities through roles in Laundry at our Residential Center and as part of our contract cleaning crew across multiple locations!

This October, we celebrate the individuals who bring their **value, talent and abilities** to workplaces throughout our community—and the employers and partners who help create opportunities for them to shine.

A Few Thanks & Friendly Reminders:

A huge thank you to everyone who supported our Mum Sale! Whether you purchased a mum, helped with sales, volunteered at pick-up, or simply spread the word, your support helped make this year's sale a success. We appreciate everyone who played a part!

Keep Your Mums Growing Strong!

- Plant early, if possible, to give roots time to establish before the first frost.
- Choose a sunny spot that receives at least six hours of sunlight each day.
- Space mums about 18–24 inches apart to give them room to grow and allow for good airflow.
- As temperatures drop, protect your mums with mulch, burlap, or frost cloth.

A Picnic to Remember!

A big thank you to our Boosters for hosting the Daily Discovery Fall Picnic on October 1! Our participants and staff enjoyed a wonderful afternoon filled with delicious food, time with friends, and plenty of fun.

We're grateful for all our Boosters do to create opportunities for our participants to come together, connect, and make lasting memories. Thank you for making another special day possible!

What's Coming Up:

- **Booster Halloween Dance:** Friday, October 23 from 6–8 PM at **Hickory Grove Road**.
  - Volunteers, please arrive by **5 PM.**
- **Halloween Trick-or-Treat Times — October 31:**
  - Bettendorf: 5–7:30 PM
  - Davenport: 5:30–7:30 PM
  - Eldridge: 6–8 PM
- **Save the Date!**
  - Empowering Abilities Trivia Night is coming up **Friday, January 15**. More details to come!

Booster Bowling Dates:

Reminder: Bowling takes place every other Saturday at Leisure Lanes! Please arrive by 1 PM, or come by 12 PM if you'd like to grab something to eat before bowling begins.

- October 10 & 24
- November 7 & 21
- December 5 & 19
- January 16 & 30
- February 12 & 27
- March 13

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Empowering Abilities
Booster Organization

Less Paper, More Updates!

Want the latest updates, news, and resources delivered straight to your inbox? Sign up for our **digital newsletter!**

It's a quick, convenient way to stay connected while cutting down on paper. Already receive mail from us? Just provide your email, and we'll switch you to digital-only updates.

Scan the QR code to sign up and stay connected with Empowering Abilities!

tinyurl.com/paperless26

Help Shape Your Booster Newsletter!

Your Booster Newsletter will always keep you caught up on Booster news, upcoming events, important dates, and what's happening at Empowering Abilities—but we want to know what else you'd like to see!

What stories, highlights, or behind-the-scenes updates would you enjoy reading? Maybe you'd like to learn more about our programs, hear participant stories, meet staff, or get a closer look at what's happening throughout Empowering Abilities.

This is your newsletter, too—tell us what you'd love to read about!

tinyurl.com/shapethenewsletter

Want to go paperless or have a newsletter idea, but don't want to fill out the form?

Contact our Resource Development Coordinator, Kaylen! She can help switch you to digital updates or bring your newsletter ideas to life!

kaylenabrahamsen@empoweringabilities.org / 563-391-4834, ext. 105

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http://empoweringabilities.org

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Together in 2027: Join or Renew Your Booster Membership

Boosters are family, friends, and community members who help support the individuals we serve through seasonal dances, special events, staff appreciation, and more! Annual membership is just $25 and renews each January.

Paying online? Simply scan the QR code or visit the website listed below to join or renew —no need to send in a membership form!
Prefer to pay by check? Complete this form mail with your check to: Empowering Abilities, 3402 Hickory Grove Road, Davenport, IA 52806

Name _____

Email _____

Phone # _____

Address _____

City/State/Zip _____

tinyurl.com/boosters2027

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