



CherishAbility
connecting hearts • expanding horizons

(Formerly Rainbow Valley Resource Network)

Hi Friend,

As spring blossoms begin to appear, CherishAbility is grateful to celebrate the continuous growth of programs and support in our community of families. Our programs continue to amplify and cherish the abilities of our participants—programs which would not be possible without support from generous donors. Enjoy reading about the wonderful impact CherishAbility is making!

PROGRAM SPOTLIGHT | Vocational Training Program



CherishAbility's [Vocational Training Program](#) returns this summer to the A/U Ranches in Buena Vista, Colo. Trainees work in an inspired and supportive environment under the direction of CherishAbility's caring job coaches and staff. They learn job-readiness skills while working on lodge or facilities crews, and develop friendships and life-skills during fully chaperoned off-hours. Most importantly, they grow in their understanding of Christian Science and experience the uplift that prayer brings to all areas of their lives. Many participants have taken skills gained during the program to new employment positions in their local communities.

Check out "Loved One's Corner" below to see how one of our trainees, Jeffrey, has been blessing his community since participating in our program.

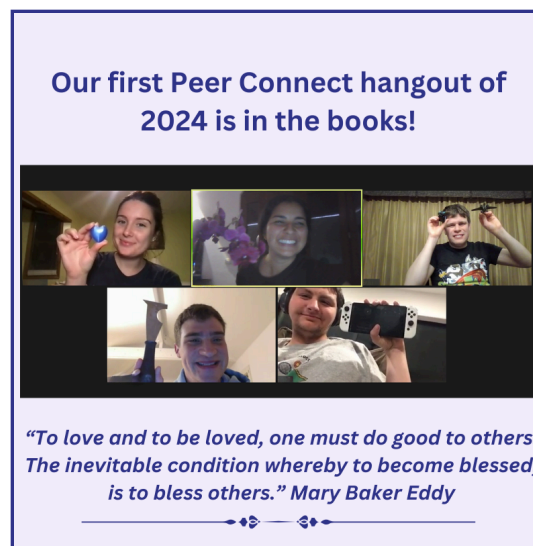
PROGRAM UPDATES



February Loved One Gathering with Crystal Lake Camps

Loved One Gatherings

Session 1 of Loved One Gatherings has launched in partnership with our friends at Crystal Lake Camps (CLC). These monthly online gatherings are full of crafting, singing, and friendship with fellow Christian Scientists. One of our favorite activities was making some fun and colorful shakers with rice-filled bottles. We



Peer Connect this spring sharing some of their favorite items

Peer Connect

Our first [Peer Connect](#) cohort joined together this month for inspiration, show and tell, and yummy dessert-making! Peer Connect brings participants together in group "hangouts" where they can make friends and practice social skills in a safe and supportive setting. Personalized to each person's interests, hangouts allow

successful.

Look out for our Session 2 of [Loved One Gatherings](#) coming this fall in partnership with CedarS Camps!

If you or someone you know is interested in Peer Connect, register [here](#) for our April session!

“Our sweet son is demonstrating so much understanding and perfection. Gaining a clearer and clearer understanding of what's true is gently extinguishing the lies. There has been much more joy and progress. We are excited to see his independence and interest in trying new things. Much gratitude!” ~Parent receiving practitioner assistance

Regional Events

CherishAbility's [Regional Events](#) bring families together for worship, food, games, and inspired friendship.



Our Regional Event at First Church of Christ, Scientist, Hartford, Conn., was full of laughter and joy



Visiting First Church of Christ, Scientist, Glendora, Calif. for Sunday service before enjoying local pizza and games

at First Church of Christ, Scientist for Sunday service, followed by rounds of bingo and yummy local foods. To ring in the New Year, a second Regional Event was held in Glendora, Calif., where new and old friends joined us at First Church of Christ, Scientist for the Sunday service, games, and pizza. The memories made connecting families at Regional Events fill us with joy and we are grateful for everyone who has joined us. We look forward to hosting a Regional Event near you!

Cherishing Collaboration

Over the past five years, CherishAbility has collaborated with these organizations to implement many of our online and in-person programs. We are grateful for their enthusiastic participation. Each of these organizations is contributing to the enhancement of our programs and the inclusion of CherishAbility loved ones and their families in the Christian Science community.



STAFF ANNOUNCEMENT | Sara Greene



Sara Greene with Tom Rogers, an original Rancher, at the 2023 Rancher Christmas Party

We are excited to welcome our new Assistant Program Director, Sara Greene! Sara is no stranger to our group, having worked with our participants in various capacities for almost a decade. With her years of project management experience from Missouri to Hawaii and even the Fiji Islands, and her ability to genuinely connect with our participants, Sara brings skill and joy to CherishAbility's growing programs. To learn more, visit our [website](#). Welcome to the team, Sara!

LOVED ONE'S CORNER | Jeffrey Linehan



Jeffrey working hard in Valerie Lodge

Jeffrey Linehan is a star employee in our Vocational Training Program. Using skills learned as part of CherishAbility's Lodge Crew, Jeffrey is now working at his local elementary school on the kitchen staff. His supervisor said she hired him because of his work experience with CherishAbility, where he learned the ins and outs of a commercial kitchen, dishwashing and cleaning skills, and interpersonal teamwork skills. *To know Jeffrey is to have a friend, eager to help and support with anything and everything.* We are so proud of Jeffrey's huge accomplishments!

Favorite hobby: Riding his bike around the neighborhood and helping people

Favorite food: Lasagna

Favorite show: Spongebob Squarepants

Favorite animal: Giraffe

Favorite food to cook for his family: Quesadillas

Favorite CherishAbility program: Vocational Training. "My favorite part is seeing the team inside the kitchen working together." 😊

Did you know that CherishAbility is referral-based? Please [share our information](#) with those who might benefit from the services we offer. **Thank you for partnering with us in this amazing work!**

May your spring bloom and blossom just like our loved ones!

With joy,



Julie Finnin Day
Executive Director



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