

As we reflect on another year at Dawn of Hope, what stands out are the great times we shared with our service recipients and our supporters. For us, it is an absolute joy to serve the wonderful individuals at Dawn of Hope but also to share their stories with you. We get the privilege of seeing our service recipients overcome obstacles every day and for that, we have you to thank. The support you have given to Dawn of Hope has created many opportunities for those we serve.

We could tell you many stories of service recipients that have truly blossomed during their time at Dawn of Hope. In this letter, we are excited to tell you about David – a greatly loved gentleman at our agency and in our community.

It is very likely that you have seen David working at Texas Roadhouse filling peanut buckets. He is a very committed employee and a joy to his boss. In fact, David used to work at Grady's American Grill and when it closed his manager requested David move with him to Texas Roadhouse. He was always a reliable and consistent worker so his manager had great faith he would also work well there.

Through the opportunities you have provided at Dawn of Hope, David has received great training to prepare him for his job in the community. It has been our privilege to serve David for 10 years. In that time, he has proven to learn quickly. When he first came to our agency, he was in the Developmental Program learning life and independence skills. Eventually he transferred to the Dawn of Hope Vocational Center where he excelled doing contract work for businesses throughout the country. It was here, working in the Vocational Center, that staff realized that David would be an excellent candidate for a job in the community and began to train him for his next great adventure.

Today, David splits his time between Texas Roadhouse and the Dawn of Hope Vocational Center. When not working, he is entertaining his staff and roommates in our Residential Program. Some of David's favorite activities with his roommate Karen are playing the Wii and going to the movies. With his roommate Jeff, he looks forward every year to attending Buffalo Mountain Camp. David moved into a Dawn of Hope Residential home in April of 2010, after the passing of his Dad the previous year. He has transitioned very well into his new home and is very happy there. Honestly, he will always be successful and happy in any situation because of his great attitude. He is extremely bubbly, energetic and fun. Two beats of a song will send David into a dancing frenzy – he really is a good dancer! If you have never met David, I hope you will have the pleasure one day.

David is one of the many lives that have been impacted through your giving. We now care for more than 220 adults with intellectual and developmental disabilities – each with their own story and wonderful characteristics. As our friend, you are welcome to visit us any time to meet the service recipients whose lives you change on a daily basis. We thank you for your love of and dedication to Dawn of Hope. Your heart to help people and gifts of support have allowed Dawn of Hope to stand for over 40 years!

Please consider making a donation and continuing to change lives.

With great thanks,

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Lee Chase Executive Director Dawn of Hope, Inc.

