“Pumpkin Patch Fundraiser and Autumn Fair”

“Once again, we want to thank the Susnow family for allowing us to use their land to harvest the pumpkins. They spent countless hours watering and weeding the garden to deliver the best results. Their dedication to the autumn fair is outstanding. In addition to the pumpkins, several Moving Forward clients sold their personal art work and crafts. From handmade soap, jewelry, and purses to pottery, sketches and paintings, our clients’ creativity shined through this event. We would also like to thank the many parents who baked sweets to increase our fundraising. All in all, we raised 4,000 dollars towards our recreation fund! We continue to be blown away by the generosity of our community!”

Pictured: Our Moving Forward residents, working during the fundraiser, showcasing their art and baked goods for “sale”
“Night of Wonder” - Jill P.

Every year at the Moving Forward Halloween party, the staff and residents dress up in costumes. At this year’s party, I chose to dress as Wonder Woman. I decided to wear this costume because I saw the movie this year and thought it was really great. I loved it!

At the party, we had punch, cupcakes and pizza! We ate dinner together and then we started to dance. After dancing, the staff voted on the best resident costumes. I won first place and won a gift card!

I won best Costume at the party for three reasons.

1) I had a really good costume!
2) I had a great attitude all night!
3) I brought a lot of energy to the party when I danced all night. I lead many dances and showed other people my moves.

When I won 1st place:
“I was very happy” !!!

The evening was:
“Magical” !!!

-Jill

“Costume Idea, From Thought to Action (Inside Out)” - Ellen S.

This year for the Moving Forward Halloween Party, I decided to dress up with my friends in a group costume. The movie, “Inside Out” has five characters that are emotions: Joy, Fear, Anger, Disgust, and Sadness. I thought a group costume with these five characters would be perfect for us. I asked my friends to participate and they agreed.

I think our costumes turned out really well! I think our group costume was very creative! It was fun to dress up as a group this Halloween!

I not sure if we will do a group costume again next year.

Halloween is not my favorite holiday, but It was really fun to spend Halloween with my friends!
“Moving Forward - Annual HALLOWEEN Party”

Moving Forward had its Annual Halloween Party this year on Halloween night. Many residents and staff participated in the evening by wearing creative and awesome costumes. Everyone present was treated to spooky snacks, a devilish dinner, and demon-like desserts. Aside from the food, we held a dance party with good participation. A few of our residents are quite the dancers, and dance teachers, and they were able to get even the most timid on to the floor with their confidence and leadership! Next, there was a costume contest. All of our residents received an honorary mention, and three creative and hard working residents won a prize for winning first, second, and third place for their costumes. This was a fun night, as always, at Moving Forward. We capped off the night by watching scary movies and handing out candy to the neighborhood kids.
“On Safari” By: Jill P.

In September, I went to Safari West with my Moving Forward friends. We drove around the large property in a big safari jeep. Some of the animals I saw were flamingos, zebras, birds, and rhinos! They came so close to our jeep! We got to stay in a hotel and I had one roommate. That night, a group of girls got to go to a casino. I enjoyed this a lot. Every moment of this trip was magical and I truly loved it!

“Photographer of the Month” Anna S.

A photography class regular, Anna S, took her photography skills with her on this trip to Safari West in Santa Rosa Ca. Pictured below are a couple of her shots during the extremely fun weekend activity that Moving Forward went to:

- Tall Giraffes close to the Safari Jeep!
- A herd of long-horn cows in the shade.
- Great Photos!!!
“Get to Know Your Staff”  
By: Sara W.

This month I interviewed Ali. She is a newer staff at Moving Forward. She is a Support Staff. She is really nice. She helps residents at Moving Forward with whatever they need. She takes us to fun places on our weekend outings and is very helpful to everyone! She even helps us cook dinner in the front house for our dinner groups!

Here is the interview I had with Ali:
Why do you like working at Moving Forward?
Many things. Watching the residents grow! I love to help the residents step outside of their shell and do something they wouldn’t normally. I enjoy helping the residents learn to live more independent lives!

If you weren’t working at Moving Forward, what would be your dream job?
To own my own preschool. I was a preschool teacher for a while.

What one of your favorite moments from your life?
When I got married!!!

If you could be any type of animal, what type would you be, and why?
A bird. I could fly anywhere, to wherever I would like to go.

If you could have a superpower, which would you choose, and why?
To teleport. I could go wherever I wanted to go instantly.

Ali’s Favorites:

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<tr>
<th>Color</th>
<th>Green</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Meal</td>
<td>Pizza or sushi</td>
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<tr>
<td>Pizza</td>
<td>Hawaiian</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ice Cream</td>
<td>Cookies and Cream</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TV Show</td>
<td>Survivor! (I still watch)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Movie</td>
<td>Disney movies (I can’t pick just one)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Place you have been to</td>
<td>Israel</td>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Animal</th>
<th>Dog or Giraffe</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Actor/Actress</td>
<td>Mila Kunis</td>
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<tr>
<td>Hobby</td>
<td>Hiking</td>
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<tr>
<td>Weekend Activity</td>
<td>Also Hiking</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sport to play</td>
<td>Soccer</td>
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<td>Sport to watch/ Favorite team?</td>
<td>Baseball San Francisco Giants</td>
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<tr>
<td>Place you would like to travel to</td>
<td>Italy</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

What would you say are your three best qualities?
- Patience
- Easy going
- Outgoing

How would you describe your fashion?
Jeans, a T-shirt, and sneakers.

What is your perfect day?

“Weekend Activities”  
By: Drew D.

On weekends, Drew goes with other Moving Forward residents and friends to exciting Weekend Activities. Here is an interview with Drew about them:

What do you think of the Weekend Activities at Moving Forward?
They are FUN!

You went to the Jelly Belly Factory. What did you think of the trip?
It was fun! I liked eating some Jelly Belly candy.

What was one of your favorite activities so far?
I liked Safari West! It was a good trip!
This trip with Moving Forward, Anna and other residents went to the Petaluma KOA. This is a Campground of America. The campground provided cabins for sleeping and our residents got to experience camping in the great outdoors, while also remaining relatively comfortable. We named this trip: “Glamping” (Glamorous Camping).

Below are pictures of staff and residents enjoying some Glamping (and S’mores!)

"Gemma’s Joke Corner" by: Gemma S.

What do turkeys sound like on Thanksgiving?
Like alarm clucks!

What kind of face does a pilgrim make when he is in pain?
Pil-grimace!

What food fills you up the most on Thanksgiving?
Stuffing!

Why did the turkey join the band?
Because of it’s drumsticks!

Since we just celebrated Thanksgiving, here are some Thanksgiving jokes!

The newsletter, MOMENTUM, is written and created by the residents of Moving Forward Towards Independence. Newsletter Writing support: Ali G. Newsletter Editor: Ryan W.

More information about Moving Forward Towards Independence can be found on our website: moving-forward.org