

# The Informer

DRTC Ability at Work

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## Autism Awareness Month: Light It Up Blue



Clients and staff wear blue for Autism Awareness Month

April is Autism Awareness Month. On April 2nd, DRTC “Lit It Up Blue” in support of our individuals on the spectrum. Please join us in advocating for those with Autism by placing a blue light bulb on your porch and wearing blue every Friday for the month of April to show your support and understanding of Autism.

## DRTC Academy



Graduates of the DRTC Academy



Deborah, Grant and Kim

We are excited to announce our next group of graduates from the DRTC Academy. We held a reception on April 9th recognizing their accomplishment. We are so proud of everyone for your hard work! Congratulations!

## CIE Spotlight

Delynne has been employed by DRTC for 3 years and is now in the process of transitioning to Community Integrated Employment. Delynne is a hard worker and hates it when she needs to take days off for any reason. She's here to "make that money" and it shows in everything she does! Delynne says she has loved every minute at DRTC. She loves the variety of work she gets here and all the different contracts she can work on. She enjoys the Bob Moore and ATC enclaves. Her favorite is going to Bethany Children's Health Center where she volunteers in the kitchen helping prepare food and plate dishes for patients. Delynne has a passion for helping people and she is always willing to help others. Delynne said she is excited for this next step in her journey. She is a little nervous, but she knows she will grow even more as she ventures out into the community. Delynne hopes to get a job working in a hospital kitchen because there are so many life skills she can gain from this type of job and at the same time have a job with a purpose, helping others. Good luck with your new endeavors Delynne! We know you are going to do great things!



Delynne

## In Memory of Angela "Angie" Shipley October 21, 1956 - March 7, 2024



Angela "Angie" Shipley

Angie's Celebration of Life was held March 9, 2024. Angie started at DRTC on February 28, 2013, and worked with us for 9 years. She worked in the Production Center for 7 years doing various contracts, with her favorite contract being Scholastic Books. She took a break to go to Daily Living Center for 2 years and returned to DRTC in 2022 where she participated in the Community Learning Engagement Program. If she met you once, she would always remember you. She had a genuine interest in the lives of others. Angie had a passion for arts and crafts and a true love for Dr. Pepper. Angie leaves behind a legacy of love, compassion, and unwavering kindness. While she may no longer be with us in body, her spirit will forever live on in the hearts of those who were fortunate enough to know her.

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## Payday Popcorn and Pickle



ACT Committee continues to sell popcorn and pickles on pay day. Pay day is on the 15th and the last day of the month. We will provide you with order forms prior to the day. Please make sure you have the correct amount of money for your order. Don't forget to put your name on the order form so we know who placed the order. Items will be sold the Friday before pay day when pay day falls on the weekend.

Small Popcorn - \$1

Large Popcorn - \$1.50

Pickle - \$1

### Outdoor Wellness Project Update:

DRTC held internal and external meetings to inform clients, staff and the community of the plans and to gain feedback from everyone. We heard several amazing ideas for the area that will all be taken into consideration. We received 18 letters of support and 49 signatures in support of the project. DRTC has applied for a grant to help with the funding of this project.



### Reminder: Prepare for Warmer Weather

Springtime is here and so is the warmer weather! Here are a couple things to keep in mind: Don't forget to drink plenty of water to keep yourself hydrated. There is a water/ice machine in Happy Trails Café where you can fill your cup as often as needed. Please make sure your water bottle has a leakproof lid to prevent spills that may damage the product.

Personal hygiene is a very important aspect of employment. Please make sure to shower daily with soap and water and use deodorant to prevent body odor. Another important aspect of reducing body odor is wearing clothes that have been washed. Please see your case manager if you have any questions or are having struggles obtaining items needed for proper hygiene so we can assist in finding a solution.

Also, keep the dress code in mind when picking your outfits for the day. Please wear jeans or slacks without holes. Shorts and leggings are not appropriate work attire. Shoes must have a closed toe and heel. Crocs are not considered closed shoes as the heel is open even with the strap on. Tennis shoes or boots work best in the warehouse environment.

You may bring your cell phones to work, but please do not use them while you are working. Save those conversations or games for break or lunch time. Please keep devices in your lunch bag. Also, if wearing your ear buds is not written into your IP, please do not wear them on the work floor. You are welcome to listen to your music at lunch and break. Music is played on the work floor for your listening pleasure.

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## Reminder: Police Encounter Training

DRTC has partnered with IDD Safe for training on staying safe during police encounters. They will be on campus on April 18 and April 19 to have a training on safety during a vehicle stop. There will be police vehicles on campus. If you see the lights flashing or hear the sirens, please know this is part of the training.



Antonio practicing a safe vehicle stop

## Last Months Events in Pictures!



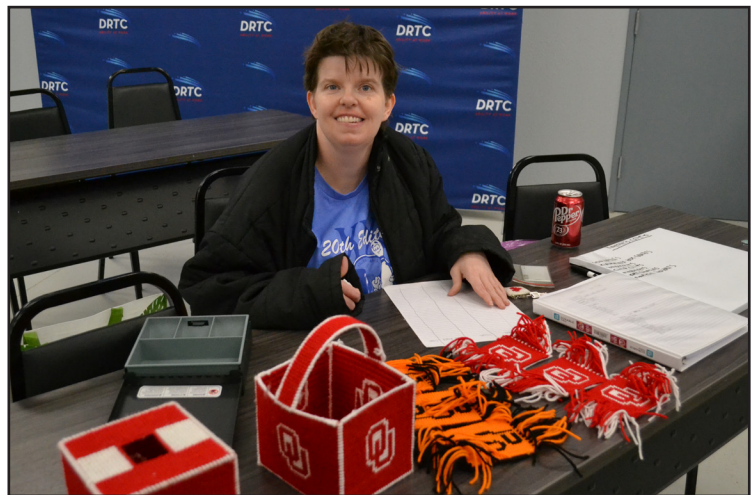
Individuals enjoying hamburgers



Staff checking out Allie's bracelets



Staff helping serve lunch



Kathy with her crafts