



Gem State News




We Make A Difference

I recently read an article by Steve Tobak, “Can One Person Really Make a Difference?” In his article, he asks one question, “Do you really think you can make a difference in the world?” He goes on to state that “since we’re like most people, our answer is no. Well, guess what? We’re wrong. Not only can we make a difference, we probably had a far greater impact on more people than we realize.” We, at Gem State Developmental Center, both employees and Medicaid participants, wholeheartedly agree!

We can. We have. We’ll continue to make a difference!

- First check out our website @www.gsdcdda.com. We are involved in our community and proud to be an integral part of the whole.
- Second, ask those that received services. They have made amazing strides towards bettering their lives while exercising the same rights and privileges as afforded to all citizens with the respect and dignity inherent to all.
- Third, ask those within the developmental disability industry. We have worked hard to model our services on a multidisciplinary and holistic approach which involves drawing appropriately from multiple disciplines to redefine problems and reach solutions based on a new understanding of complex situations.

Making a dent in our community is not based on “how smart we are”, “what we know” or “who we know”. It’s solely based on “wanting to do it and doing it.” We can do great things and most importantly, our actions will have an impact. We continue to do our part and we’re excited about what the future holds for us. Thank you in advance for joining us.



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Upcoming Events:

- GSDC Art Festival—
October 14th
- Festival of Trees-
Nov.22th-28th
- Winter Lights Parade—
Dec. 2

Traveled The World!!!!

Most people would like to travel the world and learn about different cultures. This summer our Children's Program got to experience “traveling” to different countries. The kids had a blast visiting the different countries with their passports and learning about them through food, crafts and holidays. During our visit to Mexico, we had a “Cinco De Mayo” party with a homemade piñata and the kids cooked tacos and rice.



Pinata



Pong Neng

We experienced new tastes by trying different foods from the different countries. A few of the foods the kids cooked and ate were Ice Candy (Philippines), Pong Neng—deep fried balls of flavored flour (Thailand), homemade fortune cookies (China), and Boortsog—donut dessert served with honey and sugar (Mongolia). Most all were very tasty.

They learned some new games that other children play around the world. During our visit to Spain, we had the joy of going to the Basque Museum where the kids got to play Pala (similar to racquetball). Some of the other games that we played were Battendi —distance and accuracy throwing games (Australia), Sepak Takraw—kick volleyball (Thailand), Bull Round up (Spain), Chili Pepper Races (Mexico), and Pong Hau K’L—a board game (China).



Pala

Romanian Fish



Chinese

This summer was a great success with the passports and activities. We really enjoyed opening the children eyes to new cultures and places. We can't wait to do it again next summer.

By Jamie White

Can You Match the Flag , Food, or Activity to the Country?



A.

1. Australia

2. Fiji

G.

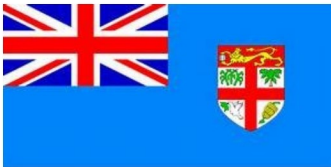


B.

3. France

4. Mexico

H.



C.

5. Mongolia

6. Philippines

I.



D.

7. Romania

8. Spain

J.



E.

9. Switzerland

10. Thailand

K.



F.

11. United States

(Hawaii)

L.



12. China

2016 Western Idaho Fair

Every year, we have a tradition at Gem State Developmental Center, the participants showcase their amazing artistic talents with submitting projects into the annual Western Idaho Fair. This year we had 16 participants from both Meridian & Nampa Adults program enter projects into the Hobby Craft category, with...DRUMROLL PLEASE!...

*4 **1ST** place awards (\$10 cash prize!);

*3 **2ND** place awards (\$5 cash prize!);

*3 **3RD** place awards (\$3 cash prize!);

*1 **4TH** place award;

*8 **HONORABLE MENTION** awards.



**1ST PLACE
WINNERS**



Congratulations to all the Entries & Winners!

2ND PLACE AWARDS



3RD PLACE PRIZES

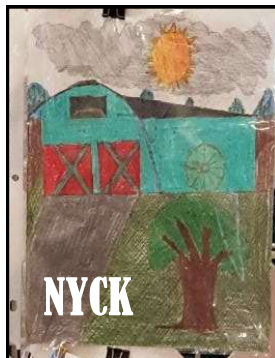
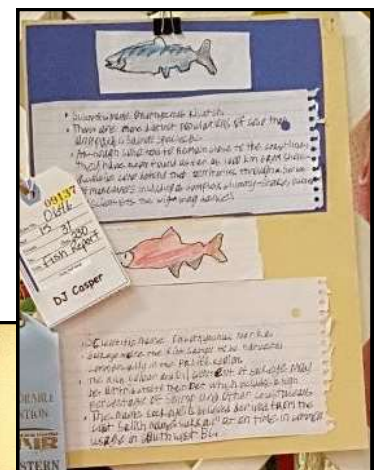




Participant Entries & Awards!



HONORABLE MENTIONS



"I am only one, but still I am one.
I cannot do everything, but still I can do something;
and because I cannot do everything,
I will not refuse to do something that I can do"
—Helen Keller

By Jessica Lowry

Meridian Community Block Party



GSDC joined the fun at the Meridian Community Block Party at Kleiner Park on Saturday 9/17. It was a wonderful turn out and stayed busy the whole day, from 10-5. We had a great time and met a lot of families. Not only were there lots of booths to visit but also fun activities for the children and yummy food vendors. We've added a new flag and table runner to our booth, which will hopefully make it easier to find us at these great events. Thanks to all the staff that volunteered their time and helped make it a success. We look forward to seeing you there next year.

By Susan Hill



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