

# **ProAct Post**

**JULY 2025** 

# The ProAct Viewpoint Premiere

It is through the desire to live up to our mission to improve lives that ProAct is constantly working to expand services and find new, creative ways to amplify the needs of the disability community. Most recently, it is why ProAct partnered with <a href="The Viewpoint Project">The Viewpoint Project</a> to produce a TV segment for airing on Public Broadcast Stations in Minnesota, focusing on the work ProAct is doing for our participants and shining a light on the disability community of Minnesota and Western Wisconsin.

The Viewpoint Project is an award-winning film and production team that traveled to ProAct's Eagan location in the Fall of 2024 to meet with, interview, and film ProAct's staff and participants at work, learning, and playing.

"This is a great opportunity not only for our organization, but for our participants to gain a stronger sense of connection with their surrounding community," said Stephanie Osman, Senior Program Manager at ProAct

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VIEWPOINT

Eagan & Hudson. "Getting to turn on the TV and see their friends or even themselves is a thrilling experience."

On June 12, 2025, ProAct opened its doors to our community members and leaders for a first look showing of this new TV segment, along with an open house to meet participants and staff. The entire ProAct organization was thrilled at the turnout and the warm remarks from our guests as they had a chance to watch the video and even see a behind-the-scenes look at ProAct's participants seeing themselves and their friends before they head to TV screens.

"We are incredibly grateful to everyone who joined us for this premiere, including our extended ProAct family, MOHR President - Robin Harkonen, and our legislative guests Representative Altendorf and Representative Reyer," said Judie Foster-Lupkin, President & CEO of ProAct Inc. "Their presence combined with the work from the talented team at Viewpoint Project is vital in bringing much-needed attention to the needs of the disability community and the critical work of service providers."

An extra special shout out to some of our wonderful guests, including Robin Harkonen, President of the Minnesota Organization of Habilitation and Rehabilitation (MOHR), Representative Pam Altendorf, Representative Liz Reyer, as well as Teri McCloughan and John Christiansen representing the ProAct Board.

Participants, staff, community members, advocates, and elected officials all came together to enjoy this production. Everyone from our ProAct family is immensely thankful for your support as we continue to strive towards improving lives and making Minnesota and Wisconsin more inclusive for people of all abilities.

If you can't wait to see it on TV, a shortened version of **ProAct's Viewpoint Production** is available now on ProAct's website next to our mission statement on the front page!









## **ProAct Testimonials**

It was a pleasure to attend the ProAct event and learn more about their organization and future plans.

ProAct has been such an asset to my hometown of Red Wing, as I've heard from many local families who really appreciate the services ProAct provides to their loved ones.

- Representative Pam Altendorf

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### **ProAct Testimonials**

It is exciting to see ProAct Inc. taking initiative by working with the Viewpoint Project to highlight the Minnesota disability community and share their vital story to TV audiences.

This collaboration is a significant step in bringing much-needed attention to the needs and valuable contributions of individuals with disabilities in our state and the dedicated service providers who support them every step of the way.

- Robin Harkonen, President of the Minnesota
Organization for Habilitation and Rehabilitation (MOHR)



### **ProAct Testimonials**

The Viewpoint piece really captured the heart of the mission of ProAct. Person-centered service of our participants.

Viewpoint beautifully captured the joy and sense of community within our sites. As a Board member, it really affirmed the strategic thinking and investment that we are deeply committed to for this organization.

- Teri McCloughan, Board Member of ProAct Inc.

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#### **Traditions & Treats**

This June, ProAct continued its annual tradition and partnership with Sandy's Grill for a fun and delicious picnic lunch in Eagan, Red Wing, and Shakopee via food truck. Participants and staff from Hudson joined in on the fun by taking a trip down to join all their friends in Eagan.

Everyone involved enjoyed the Summer weather, burgers, hot dogs, and more, along with some fun activities with music and games.

A big thanks to <u>Sandy's Grill & Italian Ice</u> for your partnership and delicious food.



This annual picnic is quickly becoming a favorite tradition among participants and staff. We are

already excited for next year.













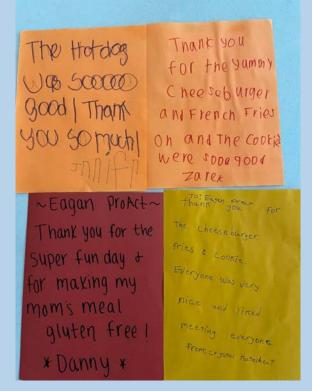














# Enrichment Program Highlights

#### **Jumping Through June**

Everyone at ProAct was busy as could be with all the activities and adventures throughout the month of June.

In Red Wing, participants spent as much time in the nice weather as they could, whether during the food truck picnic, going out to Great Day Farm, going to the park, or exploring the Eagle Center and Zoo.

In Shakopee, participants danced as they often do and enjoyed the Summer days, rain or shine, with Freezies on Friday to beat the heat and art activities on those rainy days.

In Eagan, participants showed off their patriotic pride for Flag Day and their expressions of love during a Pride Month Parade. Outside of the holidays, participants enjoyed getting out to chase more waterfalls and staying in to craft with watermelon paper fans and DIY sensory bottles.

Finally, in Hudson, participants had a blast taking a trip down to Eagan to join their friends for the food truck picnic, going out to see the Road to Oz at the Sidekick Theatre, and working on their own crafts with bouncy balls, bird feeders, and a miniature volcano or two.

Check out more photos below!





**Showing Pride** 



**Chasing Waterfalls** 



Carpenter Nature Center



Volcano Science



Hanging with the Fishes at the Zoo



Out and About at Red Wing Park





Donut Day

Caterpillar Art

## **ProAct Testimonials**

Thank you for all you do for her and all the participants you take care of.

I am so grateful to all of you.

- Guardian of a ProAct Participant



### **June by the Numbers**

Total Hours: 48,261
Participants Served: 758
Independent Hires: 1



# Diversity, Equity & Inclusion Activities

Monthly, ProAct's Diversity, Equity and Inclusion (DEI) Committee focuses on educating staff, participants and stakeholders in areas of culture, diversity, and disability. The committee chooses one diversity related area and a disability as its educational focuses for the month. Bulletin boards, e-mails, class projects and other tools are used to educate staff and participants at each of our four locations.

The committee chose International Day of Friendship and World Population Day for the month of July.



Are you or someone you know looking for a new job? Explore the amazing career opportunities at ProAct and join a team dedicated to enriching the lives of people with disabilities.



ProAct Inc | <u>www.proactinc.org</u>











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