

## **ProAct Post**

SEPTEMBER 2025

### **Award Winning Professionals**

Every year, the Minnesota Organization for Habilitation and Rehabilitation (MOHR) honors direct support professionals (DSPs) across Minnesota for their exceptional service on behalf of people with disabilities. This year, ProAct recognized the passionate service provided by two direct support professionals from our Shakopee site. In recognition of their work Susanne "Lotta" Facente, Mary Kay Woehrle, and Sheryle Boldt were nominated by ProAct for this award.

The entire ProAct organization is so pleased to announce that Susanne "Lotta" Facente was recognized and awarded this honor by MOHR after being chosen from numerous nominations from across Minnesota.



"Lotta in every staff meeting expresses that her mission is to make our enrichment services the best in the state. We are so incredibly proud to have Lotta as a part of our team," said Judie Foster-Lupkin, President & CEO of ProAct Inc. "Her dedication to being a direct support professional is inspiring and this recognition to her compassionate service is well deserved."

Lotta is an inspiration to her fellow ProAct staff and the participants she serves. Every day she strives to improve ProAct's programming and the lives of everyone involved in Shakopee and beyond.

Please join everyone here at ProAct in congratulating Lotta for this recognition as well as Mary Kay and Sheryle for their nominations.

You can see Lotta along with her fellow award winners at <a href="https://mohrmn.org/news-events/awards/dsp-awards">https://mohrmn.org/news-events/awards/dsp-awards</a>

### **ProAct Policy Update**

In response to changes to Minnesota state law during the 2025 legislative session and special session, ProAct has updated our Service Suspension Policy, Service Termination Policy, and Maltreatment of Minors Policy for the 245d services we provide. These policy changes are listed here:



### **Temporary Service Suspension Policy and Service Termination Policy**

 Legislative requirement for license holders (including ProAct) to use forms provided by the DHS Commissioner to notify people in the event of a service suspension or service termination. These forms are now made available to all providers by DHS.

#### **Reporting and Reviewing of Maltreatment of Minors**

- Mandated reporters (such as staff) must report if a child has at least seven unexcused absences in the current school year and is at risk of educational neglect.
- It was clarified that if a child remains in the hospital or emergency department because necessary services are not available and the child cannot be safely discharged to the child's family, that the situation is not viewed as neglect.

# Enrichment Program Highlights

#### **Our Month of Awe-Gust**

With the Summer days winding down, August was a month of getting out and enjoying life to the fullest.

In Red Wing, participants celebrated National Night Out with our friends from the Red Wing Fire Department, got out and about at the Goodhue County Fair and A Great Day Farm, and enjoyed the exciting visits from Mason Kohn of the Universal Music Festival and our friends from ProAct Hudson stopping by.

In Shakopee, participants had a blast on National Night Out with the Scott County Sheriffs Office that included posing with their big truck. While inside, there were plenty of opportunities for artistic expression with paintings of balloons, ice cream cones, turltes, and whales.

In Eagan, participants had a wonderful time visiting with the Eagan Fire Department for National Night Out, exploring parks and ponds, working on paper art

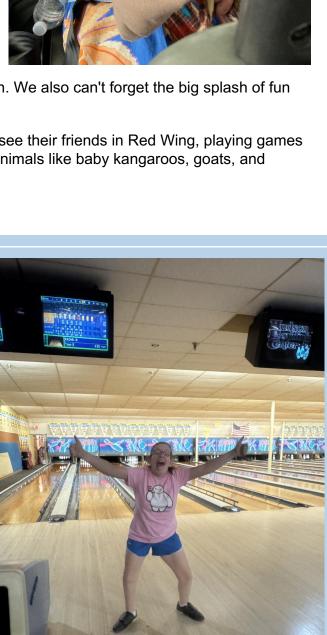
projects, and volunteering at Feed My Starving Children. We also can't forget the big splash of funduring Water Fun Day.

Finally, in Hudson, participants enjoyed taking a trip to see their friends in Red Wing, playing games like Bowling and minigolf, and meeting all sorts of fun animals like baby kangaroos, goats, and tortoises in Baldwin.

Check out more photos below!



Hungry Goats in Baldwin



**Bowling Celebration** 



Water Fun Day



Food Shelf Volunteering



National Night Out



Paper Plate Art



Mushroom Art



Goodhue County Fair

## **ProAct Testimonials**

We feel so lucky to have you taking such great care of her.

Thank you from my heart!

- Guardian of a ProAct Participant

PROACT

### **August by the Numbers**

Total Hours: **47,786**Participants Served: **701**Independent Hires: **3** 



## 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, emails, class projects and other tools are used to educate staff and participants at each of our four locations.

The committee chose Color Blindness Awareness and Hispanic Heritage Month for the month of September.



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.













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