



## HOLIDAY SEASON FUN

The winter months brought a lot of opportunities for people to get out and enjoy the weather and the local festivities.

After so much time apart, it was wonderful to be able to get together and make new memories this holiday season with new and old friends.

From Bentleyville to crafting, there was no shortage of exciting things going on. Here are a few snapshots of some of the moments that were captured during those outdoor adventures!



The Nature Rocks Crew during their gift exchange



Participants in the Nature Rocks sleigh ride



Hank Batjes and Katie Hanson at Bentleyville



Ken Raabe and Jenny Nemeth at Bentleyville



Left: Tim Anderson, Sean Stevenson, and Jesse Miller volunteering at Bentleyville



Above: Nicole Beaupre, Carrie Ferguson, Tracy Olson, Liz Deerman, Megan Helmer, and Kate Wallin celebrating Friendsgiving!



Above: Tanis Halverson showing off her homemade ornament



Right: Jack Morin-Swanson with his homemade ornament



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# INTRODUCTIONS

## Carol Makowsky

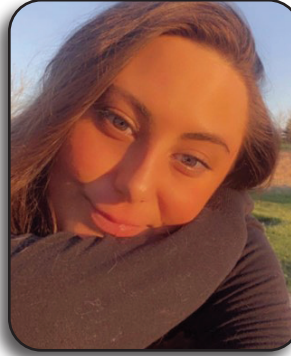


Hello, my name is Carol!

I am working at Miller Dwan as an EVS Tech and I really like my boss and co-workers. I like to take the bus shopping and work on puzzles.

I look forward to my days in Works! and meeting lots more people!

## Mariaha Boldan



Hola! My name is Mariaha and I started with Trillium Works! as a Program Manager in August of 2022. I am a mother to the smartest and coolest 12-year-old boy in the world and 2 perfectly unique cats.

I love working with our service recipients and helping them achieve their goals of employment. Works! also allows me to feed into my love of people and exploring the area.

I truly have the most fun job in the world! I am excited to grow with Trillium and the community.

## Joe McCourtney



Hello, my name is Joe and I am excited to join the Trillium Director team.

I have a passion for helping and supporting folks and have been doing it for over 20 years. Outside of work, I have my little family unit I love to spend every waking minute with (daughter and son, 6 and 3 years old). I am an avid volleyball and basketball player, as well as a connoisseur of live music!

I look forward to continuing to build relationships with the people we support!

## Solomon Olson



My name is Solly and I joined Works! in October. I moved into a new home and enjoy my new roommates so far. When I'm not there, I enjoy spending time with my family and playing board games. I love games and like to play one called Civilization with my brother.

I enjoy going out to eat at restaurants and spending time outside: skiing, sledding, walking, and running.

## Crystal Bailey



Hello my name is Crystal!

I have been with the Trillium VRS program since June of 2022 and recently joined Trillium Works! in December.

I am working at Myers-Wilkins Elementary School doing dishes. I love music and working with yarn, especially to make cozies and bracelets.

## John McKeon



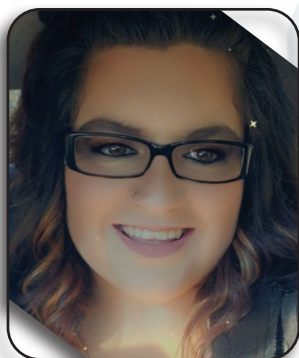
Hello! I'm John and I joined Trillium as a Supervisor last October. I have been in the field for 12 years, but I took a short hiatus up until recently. I am happy to be back in the field and working with such a fun group of people!

I grew up on the Iron Range, but I've lived in Duluth for the last 17 years. It would take quite a bit to make me move from the area! The most important things in my world are my family, friends, and music.



# INTRODUCTIONS

## Jaida Kovach



Hi, my name is Jaida! I have been with Trillium Services for over two and a half years now. I was promoted to Supervisor in Community Living in October.

I have always had a passion for helping people. Being a part of the Trillium family has been absolutely amazing. I have learned so much about myself by becoming a part of this wonderful team.

I am the mother of one incredible almost five-year-old boy, and I have a Rottweiler named Twitch. I look forward to continuing to meet everyone!



## Chelsey Weirschem

Hello! My name is Chelsey and I am a new Supervisor with Works! I graduated from UW-Superior with an Exercise Science degree. After graduating college, I fell in the love with the area and never left!

When I am not working I am hanging out with friends, fishing, or looking for an outdoor rink to play some hockey! I have a red lab named Jersey and she keeps me very busy going on walks or swimming at the beach in the summer time.

I am very excited to be a part of the Trillium family!

## DSP Appreciation Day

During the week of September 11th through the 17th we celebrated DSP Appreciation Week!

Employees names were drawn randomly throughout the week to win one of our many prizes or a chance to win a Grand Prize. Some of the prizes that winners could choose from were different themed baskets - oil changes/car wash, date night, self-care, spa day, movie night, workout gear and many more!

On September 12th we hosted our annual DSP Appreciation Party. Those who attended enjoyed food provided by The Rambler, massages by The Well, and sound bathing and yoga by Heaven on Earth Wellness Spa. Attendees also were able to win fun prizes like gift cards, goodie bags, or entries to win one of our raffle prizes!

A huge thank you goes out to our wonderful direct support professionals. We cannot do what we do without you and we are so thankful for you all!

- Melissa Weber



*the Rambler*  
room. eat. repeat.

Thank you to the local businesses who donated to our event!

**Congratulations to our Grand Prize Winners!**



Brittany Smith was the winner of the Kayak package!



Right: Emily Peterson with Brian Annis and her Mystery Money Box Winnings of \$222!

Left: Jaida Kovach was the winner of the Smart TV!



## Volunteering Spotlight



Jennifer Steger

### Salvation Army Gift Wrapping

In December, several people volunteered on behalf of Trillium Services & Trillium Works! with gift wrapping at the mall for the Salvation Army!



Kim Rowe and Autumn Towle



Jenny Nemeth



Left: Nick Hesselgrave and Skip Mortenson



Left: Tana and Brennon Hansen



Left: We received a lot of donations for babies!



### Life House Donation Drive

In December we gathered items to donate to Life House, an organization helping displaced and homeless youth and their families in the Duluth area. The turnout was great, and we were able to donate a large amount to this important organization!

Thank you to all who donated!

Right: A view of our donation to Life House!



## Trillium Works! in Action

Mike Johnson has been an important part of the team at Foster's Bar & Grill for 12 years now! He really loves his job and has built long-lasting relationships with the people that he works with. They all greet him with smiles and hellos every time he goes in to work.

Mike performs a variety of tasks such as cleaning the bar mats, running the dishwasher, sweeping, mopping, breaking down boxes, and anything else they need help with. As a result of his hard work and dedication, he was recently asked if he wanted to add another day to his work week! Mike was so excited that he was talking about it for weeks! He now works three days each week ensuring that Foster's is clean and ready for customers to enjoy their experience.

Everyone at Foster's loves having him as a valued member of their team. Keep up the great work, Mike!

*"We love having Mike here, he does a great job."* - Pete (owner)



*"I love my job."* - Mike



Pete and Mike

Check out Foster's Bar & Grill at:  
4767 W Arrowhead Rd  
Hermantown, MN 55811  
218-727-7002





## The Collective

The Collective started during the summer of 2022. A few friends from Trillium got together one day and decided to create a group where anyone could come and be a part of a growing community.

The group then decided to choose some fun things to do while they were together. The Collective has grown from three participants to twelve! The Collective is all about trying new things, making friends, and creating memories.

Do you enjoy meeting new people? Want to make new friends? Come join us at The Collective! Each week we partake in a different activity that's either familiar, fun or festive. Our spring schedule is in the box below! If you would like to join us, we meet at the Trillium Office at 3pm - the more the merrier!

If you would like to learn more about The Collective, you can contact Liz Glesner at [eglesner@trilliumservice.com](mailto:eglesner@trilliumservice.com).

- Liz Glesner



Making self-esteem posters



The Collective group making sock snowmen



Making Valentine's Day picture frames



## The Polar Plunge

Team Trillium once again participated in The Polar Plunge! Melissa Weber and Cheryl Ray braved the cold and made the plunge on February 18th at Park Point.



This year's polar plunge had 624 participants and raised over \$165,000 for the Special Olympics of Minnesota!

Want to take the plunge with us next year? Contact Melissa Weber at [mweber@trilliumservice.com](mailto:mweber@trilliumservice.com)!



Melissa Weber and Cheryl Ray



The safety team prepping for those taking the plunge

**QUESTIONS?**  
 CONTACT LIZ GLESNER AT  
[eglesner@trilliumservice.com](mailto:eglesner@trilliumservice.com)

SPRING 2023 SCHEDULE

# THE COLLECTIVE

HOSTED BY: TRILLIUM WORKS!

|  |  |                                       |
|--|--|---------------------------------------|
| <b>3.1</b><br>No Bake<br>Banana<br>Cookies | <b>3.22</b><br>Wood<br>Craft   | <b>4.12</b><br>Disney<br>Trivia       |
| <b>3.8</b><br>Card<br>Games                | <b>3.29</b><br>Sweatin' to the<br>Oldies Workout<br>(Dress from<br>the 80's) | <b>4.19</b><br>No Collective<br>Today |
| <b>3.15</b><br>Friendship<br>bracelets     | <b>4.5</b><br>Board Games  | <b>4.26</b><br>Movie and<br>Popcorn   |



## Trillium Services Annual Picnic

After a few years off due to COVID-19 we were able to once again gather for Trillium's Annual Picnic! Not only was it special because it was the first time we gathered since 2019, it was also Trillium's 30th Anniversary.

We gathered at Sampo Beach to enjoy each other's company as well as food catered by MidCoast Catering. Chris Allen played some tunes, while everyone enjoyed playing games, dancing, and catching up with each other.

Employees who have worked at Trillium for five years or more years were recognized by Amanda Burcar-Annis and Brian Annis and each given a milestone t-shirt. There was also a Tribute Tree that included photos of the people we have lost over the years.

We are so thankful to have been able to celebrate the last 30 years with all who attended and look forward to seeing everyone again next year!

- Melissa Weber



Amanda Burcar-Annis and Brian Annis presenting milestone t-shirts



George Kelly



Brandon Anderson, Mike Molitor, Mike Johnson, Josh Hendrickson



Taylor Mooers and Kate Wallin



Kenny Jakowski and Mark Schuman



Jonah Plys



Jesse Miller and Brian Annis



Mindy Bolgrien and Stacey Fredrickson



Theresa Williams and Matt Bahl



Remembering those we lost with our Tribute Tree



Mark Anderson and Dylan Stephenson



## In The Spotlight: Kate Wallin

Hi! My name is Kate Wallin and I just got back into volunteering after two years.

I volunteer at the Hermantown YMCA at the membership desk greeting people and wiping down spray bottles. I also help out with anything else that needs to be done. I really enjoy working with the people at the membership desk because they accept me for who I am and help me when I need it.

Since I started working at the YMCA I've increased my independence at work and am continuing to add tasks to my job!

If you see me at the YMCA, make sure to say, "Hi"!

- Mariaha Boldan

*"I really enjoy working with Kate. She is a very big help to us and so pleasant to be around. I really enjoy it!"*

- Rachel, YMCA

### Visit the Hermantown YMCA:

4289 Ugstad Road  
Hermantown, MN 55811  
(218) 241-8008



*"She's the best, we love her! She's been really great to work with."* - Sam, YMCA



## Nature Rocks

By: Jake Peterson



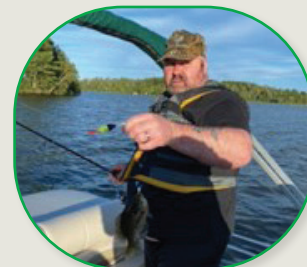
This season has been a fun one for Nature Rocks. We stayed busy between sleigh rides, hayrides, and fishing! While the weather was still cooperating, we headed out on the boat and did some fishing with some great catches! Our hayride event was also a potluck, so everyone who attended brought their favorite crockpot dish. For the sleigh ride to get into the festive spirit, we did a gift exchange!

We are looking forward to future events! So far, we have a tubing day at Spirit Mountain in March! As it warms up, we will be focusing on enjoying spring on the trails. And once fishing season comes back around, we will be getting back out on the water.

If you want to join in the fun or have any questions, contact Jake Peterson at the office!



Jesse Miller



Ken Raabe



Tim Anderson showing off his catch



Some of the Nature Rocks crew enjoying a hayride



Hank Batjes with one of his catches







Rebecca and Matthew Revak were married on November 5, 2022!



Jordan and Joe Sebesta welcomed a son, Luke Joseph on December 21, 2022. Luke weighed 8lb 10oz and was 20.5 inches long.



## Trillium Works! Book Club

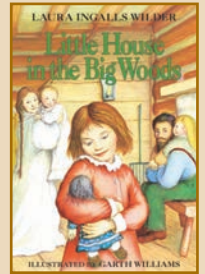
Trillium Works! hosts an inclusive book club for all lovers of books who have ever wanted to be a part of a group. Meetings occur every other week and book selections are made by club members so that we are reading something of shared interest. We always ensure that there are ways to access free copies each selection (print, e-book, and audio) so whether you prefer to read the book or listen to the audio version you can be a part of the club.

We will be starting a new book, *Little House in the Big Woods* by Laura Ingalls Wilder in the beginning of March.

Please join us at 3:00pm at the Trillium Office.

### Upcoming Dates:

3/14/2023  
3/28/2023  
4/11/2023  
4/25/2023



### Contributing Writers

|                       |                          |                      |
|-----------------------|--------------------------|----------------------|
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| <i>John McKeon</i>    | <i>Carol Makowsky</i>    | <i>Solomon Olson</i> |
| <i>Mariaha Boldan</i> | <i>Crystal Bailey</i>    | <i>Jaida Kovach</i>  |
| <i>Melissa Weber</i>  | <i>Joe McCourtney</i>    | <i>Josh Howie</i>    |
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