

# JOURNEY21

## 2023 JANUARY - MARCH

Programs & Outings - 1st Quarter



## HEIDI'S HAPPENINGS

On Saturday, January 28th, 30 participants enjoyed an afternoon basketball clinic with the Arrowhead Varsity Boys Basketball Team. We learned the basic fundamentals of basketball, played a game of kickball, and participated in team building activities. Then on Tuesday, January 31st, we were invited to play at the halftime of the Varsity Boy's game against Oconomowoc in front of a standing room only crowd. The gym was full of energy and the crowd cheered loudly every time we scored a basket. A special thank you goes out to Coach Haase, his coaching staff, and the Varsity Team for embracing Journey21 and creating such an amazing experience for us! Community truly creates opportunities and memories that will last a lifetime.



## J21 RECEIVES RECOGNITION

On February 19th, Journey21 was recognized at the Milwaukee Admirals game as a #MILHOCKEY Role Model. We are honored by the recognition and had a great time watching hockey! A BIG THANK YOU to the Milwaukee Admirals and we will be back to watch another game!

On February 14th we celebrated Valentine's Day at the Oconomowoc Community Center. We decorated our own mailboxes, created and shared cards, passed out candy, played bingo and competitive cornhole. It was an evening full of fun, friends, and smiles! It was the perfect way to celebrate the holiday of love and friendship.



# NEW FACES AT JOURNEY21

Hi, my name is Kim Dion. I have recently started my new position with Journey21 as the Administrative Assistant. I am beyond excited to be here. As part of my position, I will be the first face you see when entering the Enrichment Center and I can't wait to welcome you all! I come from a very long career, 28 years, with Arrowhead High School. I began back in 1995 as a Special Education Assistant at Richmond for 4K-8 grade students. I loved every minute I spent there with the students. They taught me so much about myself and life than I could have ever imagined. In 2010 I moved over to Arrowhead High School as the Student Services Administrative Secretary. Again, I loved my time spent with the students, they made my day. I am very grateful for the opportunities I had getting to know the students and their families.

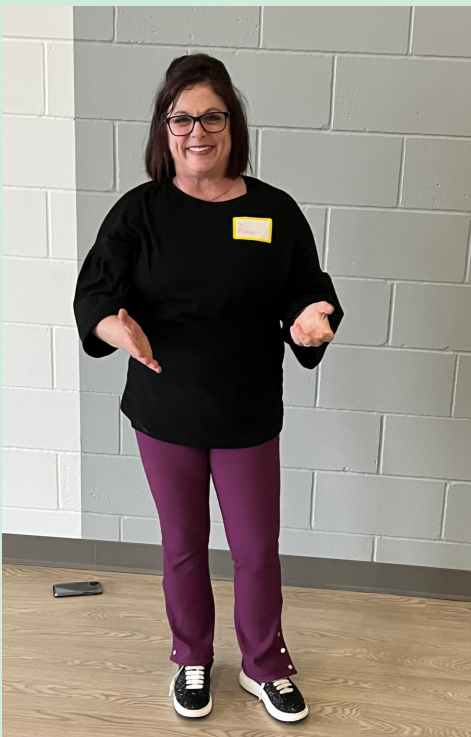
I have a son, Adam, whom I absolutely adore. He is my rock and the shining star in my life. He is employed at Pewaukee Fire Department as a Firefighter/Paramedic, and I couldn't be prouder of him. My daughter-in-law, Kerry, is also a Firefighter/Paramedic. She is employed at Brookfield Fire Department. Kerry is a treasure to me, and I am so blessed to call her my daughter-in-law.

I also have 2 dogs, Watson and Georgia. Both are rescues that keep me on my toes and enlightened with their personalities and daily shenanigans. Nashotah Park is our go to place after a long day to ground us from the day. I love reading, movies, walks, summers by my pool, and time with family and friends. I live the simple life and I love it! I am excited to meet everyone and begin this new journey with you all!



**KIM DION-ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT**

## "COMMUNITY CREATES OPPORTUNITIES"



**WENDY MONSON-PROGRAM LEAD**

Hi, my name is Wendy Monson and I am the new Program Lead and so excited to be part of the Journey21 team! I have been an educator for the past 33 years, working in a variety of settings and roles.

I began as a Physical Education/Health/Adapted Physical Education teacher and Gymnastics Coach in the Germantown School District and found my love for working with kids with special needs. I obtained an MS degree in Adapted Physical Education, which really ignited my passion for creating opportunities for all kids to have meaningful movement opportunities. I then moved onto UW-Whitewater where I had the opportunity to work with future educators and share my passion for teaching along with serving as the Head Gymnastics Coach. This opportunity helped me to realize that I wanted a bigger leadership role, so I pursued an MS degree in School Administration/Director of Special Education. I had the opportunity to utilize these leadership skills while working at Lakeland School as an administrator, which serves students ages 3-21 with a variety of special needs. This was one of my favorite jobs as I was able to lead other educators and help them hone their strengths, along with collaborating with other county organizations to create meaningful opportunities for our Lakeland Students. I ended my public-school teaching in the Merton Community School District as a K-8 Physical and Adapted Physical Education teacher.

I believe all people, regardless of age or abilities, should have opportunities to be confident as a mover and should have ample opportunities to be active in the community. I look forward to sharing my passion for learning with so many new people at Journey21!

## CLUB CORNER

Music soothes the soul! Gary Huber leads our Music & Drum Club and brings his passion for music to Journey21. We participate in hand drumming on African based drums following a variety of patterns. Every month, Gary introduces new hand instruments and encourages us to use them while singing along. There is no such thing as a wrong note and it is the perfect opportunity to let our musical creativity flow.



## IN THEIR OWN WORDS

"Chris is blossoming with all the social activities that he can do with his friends. He looks forward to seeing everyone every time!"

~ J. Pequet, Brookfield

"Tom loves participating in a variety of Journey21 events. He enjoys socializing and the support and encouragement he receives to be successful and have a good time."

~ L. Rice, Hartland

"This is truly an amazing opportunity for young adults. We appreciate all involved who make this happen!"

~ K. Cain, Delafield

"Our daughter loved every program and outing she has participated in. They have helped her learn how to socialize with others and she is not as shy as she was prior to joining in the outings."

~ T. Singleton, Dousman



## GIVING BACK TO THE COMMUNITY-HAWS

FRIENDS HELPING FUR-FRIENDS! During the first quarter, we volunteered at the Humane Animal Welfare Society of Waukesha every 1st and 3rd Thursday afternoon. We filled dog kongs, created snack bags for the animals waiting to get adopted, laundry, washed dishes, and interacted with the animals.

In March, we volunteered at HAWS Schallock Center for Animals, located in Delafield, where we cleaned out the horse stables, filled hay bags, and spent time with the horses. What a great experience! Journey21 loves giving back and we can't wait for our next opportunity to give back to the community!

### FRIENDS HELPING FUR-FRIENDS!



## ENRICHMENT CENTER UPDATES

We are officially in our NEW HOME and have already started Second Quarter programs, outings, and clubs. We would like to officially invite everyone to our Open House where we will have a variety of activities including: arts and craft activities, music and drums, open gym and cornhole, cookies, tours and so much more. Please join us and here are the details:

WHEN: Saturday, April 22, 2023

TIME: 12:00 pm to 3:00 pm

WHERE: Enrichment Center-1671 Old School House Road

In May, you are invited to attend our "Partner & Family Resource Night" an evening of meeting our community partners and family resources available that help adults with intellectual and developmental disabilities navigate services in life. Tours will be given throughout the evening. Representatives for the Aging & Disability Resource Center, IRIS, DVR, Financial Advisors, and more will have booths for you to visit. Also, nearly 30 of Journey21's community partners will be present. Please feel free to share this event with family and friends you think would benefit and here are the details:

WHEN: Wednesday, May 3, 2023

TIME: 6:00 pm to 7:30 pm

WHERE: Enrichment Center Pine Hall -1671 Old School House Road