



March

Developmental Disabilities
Awareness Month

National Brain Injury
Awareness Month

National Cerebral Palsy
Awareness Month

National Social Worker
Month

Women's History Month

3/1 Mardi Gras

3/4 National Employee
Appreciation Day

3/17 St. Patrick's Day

Conway HDC's Annual Polar Plunge

We had our Polar Plunge on Saturday, February 19th at Woolly Hollow State Park in Greenbrier. We were in full costume! Registration was at 10:30 a.m. The parade and prizes were at 11:30 a.m. The Plunge began at noon. We usually have 5-6 participants BUT this year CHDC had nearly 30 on its PLUNGING TEAM! We raised over \$3,000 for Special Olympics!



Conway HDC's Annual Polar Plunge



DHS/DDS Jefferson County shares the love

DHS staff in Jefferson County shared the love with Jenkins Memorial Center on Valentine's Day. The staff were very appreciative.

Jenkins Memorial Center is an Early Intervention Day Treatment in Pine Bluff, Arkansas. They serve clients from Kindergarten to 21 years of age.



DHS STAFF



Jenkins Staff with DDS staff Patricia Jenkins

March Madness

For all you sports fans gearing up for the next championship ride, it's time for basketball. March Madness! After Selection Sunday, March 13th, email your completed bracket by 4:30 pm Monday, March 14th to yvette.swift@dhs.arkansas.gov. We'll see who has the best predictions for bragging rights. How far do you think Arkansas can go? All the way?



There is a lot coming up at DHS. Stay tuned!

Save the Date

March

Developmental Disabilities Awareness Month

Social Worker Month

May

Public Employee Recognition Week 5/1- 5/7

Nurses Week 5/6-5/12

DHS 2nd Annual Employee Appreciation Event

DHS Visitor Parking Deck

May 6

11am- 2 pm



Comments, Suggestions, and Q&A

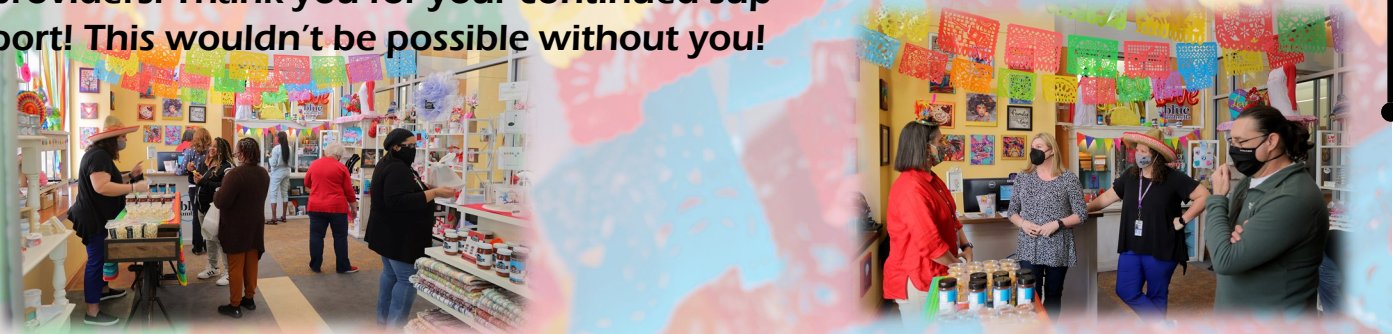
What would you like to learn more about or see featured? Please send all comments, suggestions, and Q&A to Yvette.swift@dhs.arkansas.gov by the **15th of the month**.



Let's TACO 'bout the fun month we had!

The Blue Umbrella celebrated our 3rd birthday on February 11th.

We have grown quite a bit in these three years! The Blue Umbrella has generated over \$55,000 for the artists who sell products in the store and now has over 189 artists from the Human Development Centers and 25 individual and community providers. Thank you for your continued support! This wouldn't be possible without you!



The Blue Umbrella held a pop-up shop event at the Capitol on January 19th during the DHS budget hearings.

We are thankful for the senators, representatives and



Dates to remember in March:

All month long: Developmental Disabilities Awareness Month

March 1: Mardi Gras/National Pig Day

March 4: Employee Appreciation Day

March 17: Popcorn Lover's Day/St. Patrick's Day

March 20: First day of Spring

March 21: National Salsa Day



What's new in the Blue Umbrella?

State of Arkansas cutting boards made by Randy Pennington, Owner of Pennington's Cutting Boards in Pea Ridge, AR. Large and small boards available.

Sales of these items help support the mission of the Blue Umbrella.

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We're Social



The Blue Umbrella



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