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.

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-2pm

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.
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!

Let’s TACO ‘bout the fun month we had!

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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