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Newsletter

Spring 2020 Happy Easter

Ending Homelessness One Family and One Child at a Time

From the Director's Desk

Anyone familiar with the great Redwood Forest in California, may already know of the remarkable strength, size, and endurance of a Redwood tree. They are among the world's oldest and largest trees. A single great Redwood can grow as tall as 350 feet!!!



What is amazing about the fortitude, and resilience of these great trees can be seen in their root system; their roots tells us a story about the power of community! The roots of the great Redwood trees do not grow deep or downward. In fact, Redwood tree roots are quite shallow and typically no deeper than 5 to 6 feet deep. Depth is not where the magnificent trees get their strength; that is not how they survive the storms and struggles of time.

Instead, the roots of these beautiful trees grow sideways, spreading a great distance as much as 100 feet from the trunk and, most importantly, the roots of each tree intermingle and intertwine with the roots of the surrounding Redwoods. The result of this intertwining is strength for each individual tree while supporting the rest of the community.

- Ola Boswell, Executive Director

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Did You Know?

The Deep Roots Sprouts after-school classes are starting an amazing Spring project and curriculum in the garden and greenhouse! From seed to food and every step in between!

L "I appreciate you for always being kind and I hope one day I can give back to Deep Roots. You all are awesome for what you all do in helping families. May God continue to bless Deep Roots. I'm thankful for finding Deep Roots. I was given an opportunity to stabilize my life and look deep into myself and find my purpose."
O
V
E - former resident, N.Young

*****Recipes From Our Kids to Make You Smile*****

Special thanks to Miss Jessica's Sprouts class for these innovative recipes

Hot Chocolate: Mary, 6

Ingredients:

Powder stuff, chocolate powder

Hot water

Ice

Step 1 – Put the chocolate powder in the cup.

Step 2 – Put the hot water in.

Step 3 – Put ice in.

Step 4 – Then, you're done!



Crunch Wraps: Leroy, 12

Ingredients:

Doritos

Sour Cream

Lettuce

Soft Taco Shell

Step 1 – Get a big soft taco shell, put sour cream all over it. Then add Doritos, lettuce, and tomatoes on it.

Step 2 – Cook it in the oven at 300 degrees for 10 minutes.

Step 3 – Enjoy!

Friend Toast: Hayden, 8

Ingredients:

2 Eggs

Half of one bar of butter

Bread

Milk

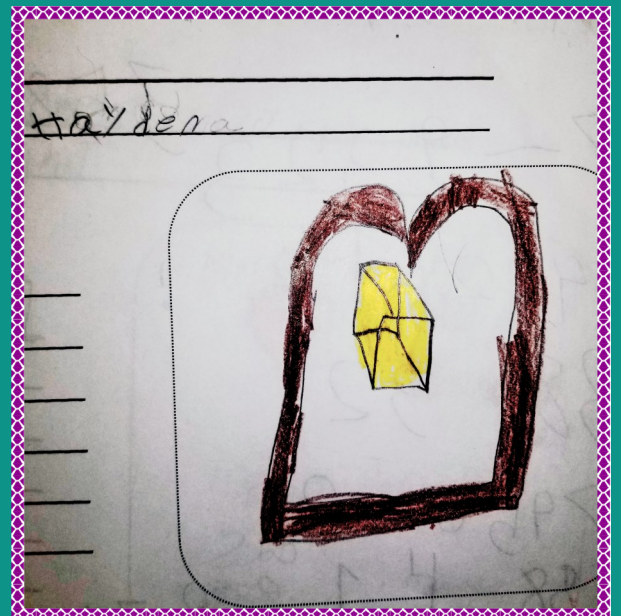
Step 1 – Crack the egg, put it in a bowl. Crack the other egg, put it in a bowl. Mix it.

Step 2 – Put the butter on the bread.

Step 3 – Pour it on the bread.

Step 4 – Put a little milk on it and put it in the microwave for 2 minutes.

Step 5 – Eat it!



Spring Volunteering at Deep Roots

by Kelsey Eastman, Volunteer and Outreach Coordinator

Deep Roots has some exciting new updates which include volunteers assisting and creating a plan to improve our garden and greenhouse programs in coordination with our Sprouts children's classes. We can't wait! Additionally, we have several dedicated volunteers assisting with refining some of our community kitchen protocols and resident training sessions. We are also quite proud of the multiple individual volunteers who assist staff with office tasks, not to mention one who has started baking beautiful birthday cakes for the Deep Roots children. Also new to our volunteer team are several volunteers who will donate licensed veterinary services and vaccinations to our many adopted on-site cats. Deep Roots has volunteer opportunities for ANY interest and skill-set!



Volunteering is a great opportunity to share skill sets, build skill sets, build relationships, and to be an educated and active member of the community. While making an impact or giving back to the community is often the most common reason people begin volunteering, here are a few statistics which show how volunteering can benefit your life:

*Volunteering makes you feel like you have more free time to spare.

*Volunteering improves both your physical and emotional health.

*Volunteering makes you more marketable when looking for a new job.

*Employers who promote volunteerism create happier and more effective workplaces for their employees.

***Source: 10 Amazing Volunteer Stats! mobileserve December 7, 2016**

The volunteer possibilities are endless here at Deep Roots, from working with the kids, to helping in the kitchen, driving, building-maintenance, office help, or sharing your expertise. We need and welcome volunteers 7 days a week. If you have any interest in volunteering, please contact our Volunteer Coordinator, Kelsey Eastman, at volunteer@deeproootsinc.org or (302) 588-2159.

To Everything There is a Season - Ecclesiastes 3:1

by Board President Pastor Terri Martin

As winter comes to a close and we prepare for spring, I'm reminded of the beauty and hope that are found in new beginnings. The amazing wonder of new life in all its forms. The anticipation of what's to come and how the moment itself marks a milestone in our lives. While we're not always prepared for the new—and sometimes the old familiar is easier to live with rather than enter the realm of uncertainty—new beginnings afford us the chance to take a realistic view of where we are in the cycle of life. Change can be hard, not because the life we're living is so great, but because it's what we know and have learned to live with. As the seasons in our life change, so do our opportunities to reinvent ourselves. Just because it's the way it's always been doesn't mean it's the way it has to stay. If things are good, they can be great. If they're bad, they can be good. If things feel hopeless, there's hope waiting for you to embrace it. A new season in your life is a time to prepare for a new chapter, or as C.Joybell C. says, "No, this is not the beginning of a new chapter in my life; but the beginning of a new book". A time to start over, a time to do things differently, a time to consider the cost of my decisions, a time to evaluate the past and make the necessary adjustments to avoid making the same mistakes. The uncomfortable feelings that come with change, newness of the unknown, don't have to be scary but rather exciting. Choose to think of the seasons' change as opportunity to grow and learn more about yourself. An opportunity to push toward a better tomorrow and expect a different outcome because you've approached this new season with greater consideration, greater preparation, greater expectation.

Remember, it's never to late to start over. There are more people for you than there are against you. There are strangers rooting for you that want to be a part of your success. No matter where you may be in life, there's always room to grow and be better. None of us have it all together, some of us are just better at masking it than others. We all need each other as we navigate through life and as we enter Spring each of us can add something to the life of another that says, you can live your best life in this new season and I'm praying for you and believing God's amazing plan for you is NOW!



Ending Homelessness One Family and One Child at a Time

In addition to serving as a homeless shelter for children and families in the community, Deep Roots strives to break the generational cycle of homelessness. Our program encourages children and their parents to envision a brighter future, to sustain healthy relationships, and to navigate a course towards personal and social responsibility. Through better life experiences, with mentors, and by providing healthy life-models, education, and supports, Deep Roots seeks to show our families that homelessness is not destiny...

Catching Up with Amy - A Deep Roots Success Story

by Deep Roots Resident Farm Assistant, Todd Flenniken

When you look in the dictionary for the definition of perseverance, there should be a picture of Amy Pedrick. Amy and her adorable son, Qaiyim (who is now 6 years old), first arrived at Deep Roots years ago in 2016. She had endured a parent's worst nightmare, the loss of a child. Admittedly angry and aggravated with life, she soldiered on the best she could. She obtained a job and secured childcare for Qaiyim. After a period of time, she moved on from Deep Roots.

Amy faced multiple curveballs and struggles in the few years following her original move-out from Deep Roots. By 2019, things unfortunately still weren't going Amy's way; she found herself struggling with what many single moms struggle with most: work, rent, childcare, and "just keeping it all together". Amy was out of options and found herself homeless once again. She called Deep Roots. We were able to welcome Amy and her family back to Deep Roots. She asked if we could give her a hand, and we were very happy to.

Amy worked within our program with a fierce *can-do* attitude. Within a few months, Amy and Deep Roots built on an existing partnership with the local permanent housing organization, the Community Coalition for Affordable Housing, and were able to secure affordable, permanent housing for Amy's family, along with a game plan to help her sustain her housing, her job, and daycare for Qaiyim.

Amy's determination has caused her to do better and more than she ever expected. For example, very recently, Amy encountered a few major obstacles to childcare and, in light of that, she was unable to make it to work and lost

her job. Amy refused to give up, fought her way through the childcare issues, and approached her employer to be reinstated. They agreed and she is back to work—go Amy! Amy says she feels blessed for the help Deep Roots has given her over the past couple of years. We promise you Amy, the feeling is very mutual, you are a blessing and you have certainly persevered!



Amy and her son, Qaiyim, at Deep Roots for a recent visit to play here at the new playground with old friends and new ones.

Did you know....? That donating money to Deep Roots is as easy as shopping with **Amazon Smile**? Amazon donates 0.5% of your Amazon Smile purchases to Deep Roots when you shop at **smile.amazon.com**. Designate "Deep Roots Inc." as your charity of choice!
***We are a United Way of Cecil County Partner Agency**

Please send checks to:
Deep Roots, Inc. P.O. Box 113
Earleville, MD 21919
or to donate online, please visit the Donate page on our website:
www.deeprootsinc.org

Deep Roots is extremely grateful for all your contributions—*thank you!* In addition to monetary, food, and goods donations, please check out our *Current Needs List* on our website at deeprootsinc.org/ongoing-needs/. Donations are tax deductible. Please call or email us at: (410) 275-2194 or info@deeprootsinc.org for additional information.