

Gompers Impact

*Developing innovative opportunities for
people with disabilities*



COMMUNITY BASED LEARNING OPPORTUNITIES: AN ESSENTIAL PART OF EDUCATION AT GOMPERS PRIVATE SCHOOL

Community based instruction is a form of teaching designed for students who need intensive instruction. It can be defined as educational instruction in naturally occurring environments providing students "real life experiences." The goal is to provide a variety of hands-on learning experiences to help students gain the skills they need to live and thrive in the world.

Students with cognitive challenges have difficulty generalizing and transferring information. When young people practice learning with the actual materials in the natural environment, special needs students have the potential to progress at a greater rate.

Providing Gompers Private School (GPS) students opportunities to experience new situations and practice skills they are

learning in the classroom is important to their education and life-skills training.

Recently, professional trainer Tony Diaz of Special Arabian Training Center invited GPS to tour his Arabian show barn. The trip allowed the students to experience the benefits of community integration while supporting their social, academic, sensory and therapeutic needs.

Our students, teachers, paraprofessionals, parents, and speech therapist spent over two hours learning "experiencing horses." They toured the barn and learned the difference between males and females, quarter horses and Arabians.

The most exciting part of the morning was riding Coco, a beautiful Arabian horse. Every student who wanted to go for a ride was able to! With their feet tucked in the stirrup, holding one hand on the pommel and the other on the reins, they rode around with the biggest smiles we have ever seen.

It was amazing to see their eyes light up! Their faces beaming with excitement and at every turn the students communicated the sheer enjoyment of being on top of the world.



The excitement continued when they met a little foal named Angel, who was only a month old. Tony brought out both mom and baby to see the GPS gang. The joy of watching the students laugh and giggle at this tiny foal dancing about was just priceless. One student even tried to kiss little Angel on the nose!

This was truly a wonderful experience for everyone! A big thank you goes to Tony Diaz and the **Arabian Training Center** for making this a one of a kind show for our GPS gang!

For more information about Gompers Private School see page 9 or contact our Director of Special Education, Becky Gurnick, M.Ed at bgurnick@gompers.org



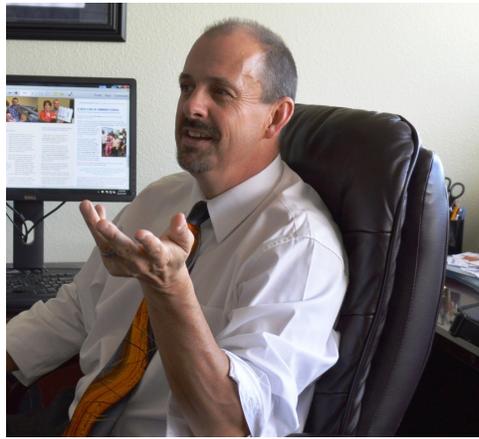
MARK'S MESSAGE

"When you come to a fork in the road, take it!" - Yogi Berra

The venerable Yogi Berra could not have more accurately described Gompers journey into the world of Assistive Technology (AT) if he tried. When we first installed SMART Boards in our school in 2008, it was our way of beginning to bring the AT our members and students could utilize to gain greater independence.

Thanks to community partners like **Thunderbirds Charities, Enterprise Holding Foundation, Sundt Foundation, North Phoenix Kiwanis Foundation, St. Helen Catholic Church Knights of Columbus and Holy Name Society**, and those who attend our golf tournament, Gompers began amassing an array of AT equipment. Today we have SMART Boards, touch screen computers, interactive touch panels, adaptive keyboards, switches, tablets and more.

Somewhere along the line, though, it struck us that we'd become like Brookstone; the really cool store at the



mall with all of the shiny equipment that's fun to play with but you really can't do anything with. We realized we had neglected the most important part of the AT world: People.

Thanks in large part to grants from the **Nina Mason Pulliam Charitable Trust** and the **BHHS Legacy Foundation**, we began an intense focus on three critical groups of people who are essential for AT to change lives and increase independence: Staff, Families and Community. While Gompers plays a critical role in our students and members lives, we are only present for a portion of the day. Whittle down our AT Specialist's time, and we realized it was essential to leverage our knowledge of AT with people from these groups in order

to improve communication and increase independence for those we serve. To that end we have intensified our trainings for staff and the community. We now offer monthly lunch and learns free of charge for our parents. Last year we launched our first annual AT summit and attracted 70 people from across the state. We've met with state funding sources. We've shared our knowledge with fellow providers and we are partnering with other experts. By doing this outreach, we can expand the overall strength of our program, and ultimately, the lives of our students and members.

Eight years in and we're just getting started. Gompers is committed to our AT program, and while we're excited about our success, we're even more excited about what we can yet accomplish.

If you have questions or would like to find out more about Gompers AT program, please contact me at 602.283.3933 or mjacoby@gompers.org.

Sincerely,

Mark Jacoby, Executive Director

Meet our Board of Directors



Frank Martin, Chairman



Jonah Roehl, Vice Chairman



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Gompers

Assistive Technology

Increasing Independence Everyday



LEARN MORE ABOUT OUR AT PROGRAM ON YOUTUBE



Search YouTube: Gompers Assistive Technology to learn more about our program.

WHAT'S THE POINT? OUR NEW POINT OF SALE SYSTEM SUPPORTS LIFE SKILLS

Thanks to a generous grant from Gompers Business Solutions partner, **HBI International**, and **Wells Fargo Foundation**, we recently were able to purchase a Point of Sale (POS) system for Sammy G's Cafe' at our Phoenix campus. Members are using real world tools to improve their financial literacy and their ability to navigate a variety of real world situations.

A POS system is simply a computerized cash register. POS systems record and track customer orders, process credit and debit cards, connect to other systems in a network, and manage inventory.

At Sammy G's Cafe', members now practice the life-skill of ordering meals and snacks as consumers, while other members train for community integrated employment.

One of our Group Supported Employment enclave members, Korey, has been

looking forward to the new system so he can learn how to accurately track inventory, a skill which will help as he looks for community-based employment. Additionally, members in our Day Training program now have the ability to place their orders more independently.

With the new POS system, members are able to learn not only how to make a transaction in actual retail experiences such as grocery stores, gas stations and restaurants, but also the financial knowledge of how to pay for their purchase using cash or a debit card. To teach life-skills related to money management and safety in using a debit card, Gompers is using the valuable, free, on-line Wells Fargo Hands-On Banking® program to further our members' financial literacy. Available to the public, the program is offered in both English and Spanish and is geared to various age levels and abilities.



Thank you HBI and Wells Fargo for empowering the lives of individuals with disabilities. It makes a difference!

GIVING BACK BUILDS SELF ESTEEM AND A BRIGHTER COMMUNITY

Gompers members know all too well the benefits of volunteering in their community. Every week they show up in places like St. Vincent de Paul's to pack lunches for the hungry or Duet's to help the elderly shop for groceries. Through their volunteer efforts they have had the opportunity to learn and grow as individuals, while also being able to give back to the community and make a difference.

needed in our community. They have dedicated their time and energy to giving back. We make it a priority at Gompers to continue to build relationships with other nonprofits, who see our members as important contributors to their programs. This exchange of resources is extremely valuable and a great way to build community while providing fulfilling, community integrated, learning opportunities for our members.

DTA Director, Cheril Edson, recently remarked, "Individuals in our program have the same desire to be valued as contributing members of our community as others do. Volunteering allows them to do just that!"

We are thankful to our nonprofit partners who demonstrate shared interest in building strong communities, where individuals with disabilities play a valuable role in making a difference.



TO YOUR HEALTH

The benefits of gardening have long been felt by people across the world, but we have recently begun to understand why gardening is so good for your overall health and well-being. Gardening improves dexterity and has the potential to improve self esteem. Also, it has been shown that gardening lowers cortisol levels, a stress hormone, leading to a decreased risk of heart disease and increased brain function.

After germinating and watering, watching, and waiting, our garden is beginning to bear fruit - or in this case vegetables. Mark, one of our intrepid gardeners, displays the first green beans that began their journey several months ago. Congratulations on your hard work!

Gompers Day Training for Adults

Growing isn't always about learning or gaining; it is also about sharing your time, sharing your resources, and sometimes sharing your perspective with others. At Gompers, we believe that through our collective impact, we become better qualified to provide support to individuals in need. By sharing our time and our resources, we continue to add value to the lives of everyone in our community while simultaneously making our communities more just and tolerant places to live and work.

Members in Gompers Day Training for Adults (DTA) program have been partnering with nonprofits across the Valley to provide a variety of services



Our Members Are Making a Difference

EMPLOYMENT SERVICES FOCUSES ON TRANSITIONS TO EMPLOYMENT

Gompers recently was approved by the Arizona Division of Developmental Disabilities to provide transition to employment (TTE) services. Transition to Employment is a unique program that supports individuals as they acquire soft skills to transition to integrated community employment.

What is community employment? It occurs when an individual with disabilities is able to work in the community in an integrated setting with non-disabled individuals, or is self-employed.

“The goal of our TTE program is to support individuals with disabilities as they achieve community employment opportunities, whether supervised or fully independent,” explained Mark Botterbusch, Director of Employment Services.

Gompers TTE program includes traditional classroom instruction and computer based learning with various visual and auditory learning instruction based on an individual’s special needs.

TTE focuses on building many of the soft skills required to be able to secure and maintain employment. Additionally, the program includes time spent in the community to address topics such as job exploration and the use of public transportation.

TTE begins with an overall assessment to determine what teaching modules may be beneficial to the individual.

A wide variety of soft skill sets can be taught through modules like: assessing learning styles, identifying career likes, dislikes and interests, developing positive work behaviors, dressing for success, following the rules, getting along with co-workers and supervisors, responding to and resolving conflicts at work, developing a resume, applying for a job, getting to work, receiving and using a paycheck, job exploration and job shadowing, and understanding how income can impact your disability benefits.

A NEW APPROACH

S&K Oil, a local company committed to community involvement and giving back, initially became involved with Gompers as a way to be of service to their community. Now they see working with Gompers Employment Services (ES) as a business benefit as well.

S&K Oil provides tanks for restaurants to dispose of used cooking oil. As a new and innovative approach, they will be coming to our Glendale campus and working alongside our members to build these tanks and get them distributed to restaurants.

In addition, members and S&K Oil employees will work together at Gompers to bottle, label and package olive oil for sale.

We love when the community gets it and S&K Oil gets it!

Work builds...

purpose
identity
community
self-sufficiency
self-esteem
well-being
character



A FLOWER A DAY...

Mayesh Wholesale Florist is Gompers Business Solutions newest Group Supported Employment site. Members work at the florist cleaning buckets, and placing plants and flowers in buckets for drivers to pick up and deliver.

On “rose day” employees stage buckets for drivers to easily pick them up and deliver them to retailers like AJ’s Fine Foods and Safeway. Thank you!

Gompers

Employment Services

Employment is a fundamental part of life for people with and without disabilities



44th Annual Golf fore Gompers

A Huge Success!

GOLF FORE GOMPERS BENEFITS STUDENTS IN OUR SCHOOL

On April 8, overnight showers gave way to a sunny morning as 134 golfers joined with Pioneer Distributing in raising more than \$46,000 at our 44th Annual Golf fore Gompers tournament. With the support of BJ's Restaurant & Brewhouse and a plethora of other generous in-kind donors, final net proceeds of more than \$33,000 were realized to benefit students in our K-12 special education school. Tiffany Melia, Pioneer Distributing Vice President, served as the tournament's volunteer chair for the sixth year.

"Tiffany has been the powerhouse behind the continued success of our golf tournament," said Mark Jacoby, Executive Director. "She cares deeply about individuals with disabilities and works tirelessly to ensure every penny possible

is raised to benefit the programs and services at Gompers."

While providing education to students with significant disabilities is first and foremost a labor of love, it is also very costly. "Our students benefit not only from a highly educated special education team, but also from trained therapist and a licensed practical nurse," explained Becky Gurnick, GPS Special Education Director.

The majority of students in our program are referred to GPS, when their public school district is not able to meet the student's educational or medical needs.

At Golf fore Gompers, making a difference for individuals with disabilities turns out to be a lot of fun!



SIX YEARS OF MAKING A DIFFERENCE

For six years, Tiffany Melia has dedicated her time and energy to ensuring the success of our biggest fundraiser of the year. Her service to the community and her commitment to making sure our members and students continue to receive the resources they need has been a blessing. Words cannot express how meaningful Tiffany's dedication has been.



Tournament Chair:
Tiffany Melia

Keynote Speaker:
Mattie Matlock

Gompers Members:
Matthew German, Mary McClellan, Michael Miller, Eric Torres

Community Volunteers:
Katie Pfeffer, Jennifer Grisham, Suzanne D. Nelson



Jack "Golden Bear" Nicklaus Sponsor

SQUIRE
PATTON BOGGS

Phil "Lefty" Mickelson Sponsors



Flag and Hole Sponsors



- DC Carriers • Billie and DonENZ
- Jeanmarie and Mark Jacoby

Breakfast and Lunch Sponsors



In-Kind Donations

All In the Present
 Apache Stronghold Golf Club
 Arizona Cardinals
 Arizona Coyotes
 Arizona Diamondbacks
 Arizona Golf Resort
 Arizona Grand Resort
 Arizona Science Center
 ASU Karsten Golf Course
 Aunt Chilada's Restaurant
 AZ On The Rocks
 Ballet Arizona
 Bearizona Wildlife Park
 Big Surf Water Park
 Castles N' Coasters
 Changing Hands Bookstore
 Children's Museum of Phoenix
 Coach's Corner
 Copper Still Moonshine Grill
 Deborah Youngs
 Desert Botanical Garden
 Desert Sands Golf Course
 Design Dimensions
 Diane Jezek-Powell
 Eagle Mountain Golf Club
 Enchanted Island Amusement Park
 Flagstaff Ranch Golf Club
 Foothills Golf Club
 Fort McDowell, We-Ko-Pa Resort
 Frasher's Steakhouse
 Golfand Entertainment Centers, Inc.
 Great Arizona Puppet Theater
 Heard Museum
 In-N-Out Burger
 Legacy Golf Club
 Lone Tree Golf Club
 Lookout Mountain Golf
 Lucky Strike Phoenix
 Martin Enterprise/Bike Barn
 Native New Yorker

Ocotillo Golf Course
 Paradise Bakery & Café
 Pedal Haus Brewery
 Philly's Sports Grill
 Phoenix Art Museum
 Phoenix Mercury
 Phoenix Suns
 Phoenix Symphony
 Phoenix Zoo
 Pioneer Distributing
 Pointe Hilton Squaw Peak Resort
 Prestige Cleaners, Inc.
 Rustler's Rooste
 Sauce
 Salt River Project
 Scottsdale Center for Performing Arts
 Sea Life Arizona Aquarium
 Stonecreek Golf Course
 Superstition Springs Golf Club
 Sue and Mark Stodola
 Tacos and Tequila
 Talking Stick Resort
 The Rim Golf Club
 Tilted Kilt
 TopGolf
 Total Wine & More
 Troon Golf
 Trek Bikes
 Trilogy at Vistancia
 Trilogy Golf Club at Power Ranch
 Valle Luna Mexican Food & Cantinas
 Verde Canyon Railroad
 Viad Corp
 Village Health Clubs & Spa
 V's Barbershop & Shoeshine
 Western Skies Golf Club
 Westworld Paintball Adventures
 Wet N' Wild Phoenix
 Wildlife World Zoo & Aquarium

Swag Bag Stuffers

All In The Present
 Ameripride Linen and Uniform Services
 Bashes
 Bobby Q
 Brentagg Pacific
 Castrol
 Dermarche' Labs
 Desert Lily Solutions, LLC
 Eco Power
 Energi

Laura's Gourmet Granola
 Kleen Performance Products
 S & K Sales, LLC
 Status Building Sales
 Squire Patton Boggs
 Stultz Distributing
 Warren Distribution
 Wells Fargo
 Williams Document and Print Services

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS GRANT SUPPORTS UPGRADES TO OUR SENSORY ROOM

Recently, generous gifts from St. Helen Catholic Church Knights of Columbus and Arizona State Council Knights of Columbus helped fund needed updates to our Sensory Room and provide support for our Assistive Technology program.

The grant from the **St. Helen Catholic Church Knights of Columbus** was used to upgrade our Sensory Room. Human beings use our seven senses including vision, hearing, taste, smell, touch, proprioception (how we recognize and



control the movement and position of our bodies), and vestibular sense (how we process movement and its effects on our posture, balance, eye movements and motor planning) to make sense of the world around us. Sensory experiences are crucial for brain development and can be very calming for individuals with intellectual disabilities. By understanding how a disability impacts an individual's perception of the environment around them, a sensory diet can be created to help them enjoy and control a variety of sensory experiences.

The **Arizona State Council Knights of Columbus** grant will provide valuable support for Gompers Assistive Technology (AT) program, a program funded 100% through generous community support. AT includes any product, device or service used to maintain, increase or improve the daily living and functioning capabilities of individuals with disabilities.



AT is embedded into the daily routines of our programs to provide our students and members access to various assistive or adaptive products, devices or equipment and to help them use them successfully. Providing these services enables our students and members to communicate better and to accomplish tasks of daily living. It also increases social interaction which is essential to physical and mental health. AT is truly life changing!

Thank you Knights of Columbus for improving the lives of individuals with disabilities!

COPPER STILL MOONSHINE GRILL FUNDS ARTFUL MINDS PROGRAM

Golfers at the Copper Still Moonshine Grill tournament teed off early May 1 to raise essential funds for Gompers Artful Minds program. Owners Chuck Smeriglio and Stephen Wipf opened their upbeat, unpretentious, family friendly Gilbert restaurant in 2013 and immediately began to build a loyal following of individuals and families. It's no wonder that when they decided to give back to the community, their friends and patrons immediately signed up.

"We always sell out the event," the owners agreed. "Everyone comes out because it is such a fun day!" Not your typical golf tournament, the 3rd annual charity fundraiser offers unique golfing challenges like a Grill Hole where golfers tee off with oven mitts, and a Moonshine Hole where the restaurant's famous moonshine was sampled.

After a morning of golf, everyone headed back to the restaurant for food, celebration and recounting the best moments of the day.

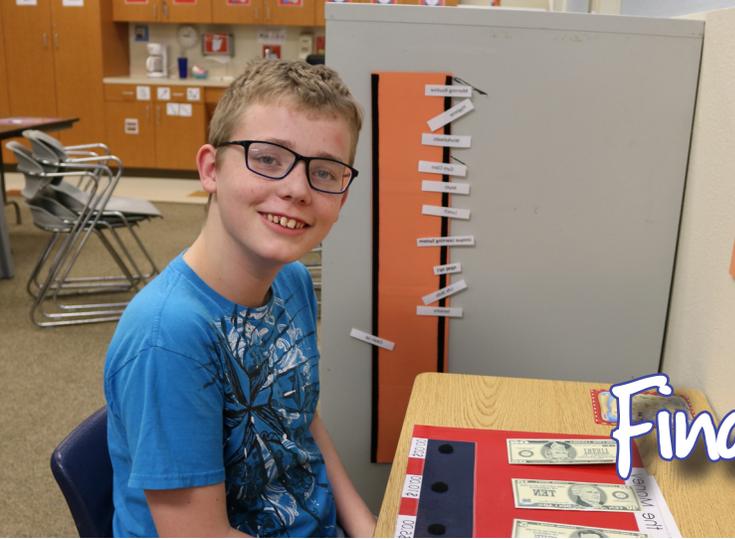


Gompers Board members, Frank Martin and Cary Pfeffer, played in the tournament and Executive Director, Mark Jacoby, and Program and Services Director, Scott Muller, were guest speakers at the lunch. "This was our first year to be honored with the proceeds of the tournament," Jacoby said. "Artful Minds isn't about painting or sculpture or photography. It's about giving our members and students an outlet to express their dreams, communicate their feelings, and share their goals in life. Artful Minds is a creative way that we can help fulfill our mission of providing innovative opportunities for people with disabilities." The tournament raised more than \$4,000.

Gompers depends on community support like the Copper Still Moonshine Grill tournament to fund programs like Artful Minds. Gompers receives less funding today for the people we serve than we did in 2005, with many additional requirements, which has resulted in unfunded programs being cut back. So the next time you reach for an oven mitt, remember that raising money can be a lot of fun! The 3rd Annual Copper Still Moonshine Grill Charity Golf Tournament is a perfect example.

For more information about third party fundraising events contact Diane Jezek-Powell, Chief Development Officer at 602.283.3931 or djezek-powell@gompers.org





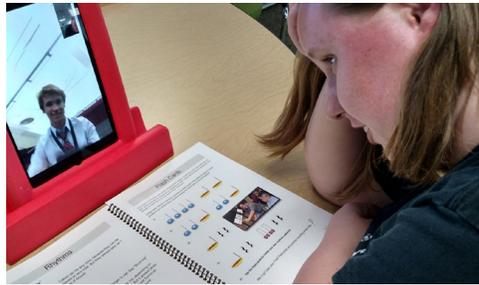
GPS

Gompers Private School

Finding A Way to Your Future

SUMMER PROGRAM REINFORCES LIFE SKILLS

Summer Explorers, DTS Program, is off and running with a wonderful variety of activities organized into weekly themes. Scheduled from June 6 to July 15, members will celebrate the summer by exercising and playing games in an air-conditioned gym, tapping their toes to some favorite songs in the music room, engaging in colorful art projects, and taking some amazing trips out into the community. Our weekly themes are designed for everyone to enjoy our beautiful sunny days by taking a dip in the pool, visit an indoor flower garden, and meeting the fireman at the Phoenix Fire Department.



BUILDING BRIDGES

What do you do if you have a student who loves music lessons but has trouble getting to them? You innovate! Pictured here, Danica uses an iPad to Facetime with Jeff, a student at Brophy high School. While Danica works on overcoming various challenges she experiences, she doesn't have to miss out on these valuable learning opportunities!

ENROLL YOUR STUDENTS IN GPS

The 2016-2017 school year is fast approaching! Our first day of school is August 8, 2016, and we are currently enrolling new students for our second year utilizing a structured teaching model in our school. If you haven't seen our school this year, then we encourage you to contact Special Education Director, Becky Gurnick for a tour of our state of the art campus. Students in our program benefit from researched-based, Unique Learning Systems curriculum, an Assistive Technologist Specialist, community-based instruction and life-skills training. GPS is an environment where your child will have the opportunity to exceed their potential.

A 2016 GATOR GRADUATION : STEPPING TOWARD THE FUTURE



On May 18, 2016 Gompers Private School (GPS) had the pleasure of congratulating the class of 2016; Danica, Dalton and Fernando. Dressed in green caps and gowns, the students crossed a bridge and walked under a cascade of green and orange balloons to receive their diplomas. Witnessing our students take the

next step in their lives, as they transition into employment and adult day training programs, was meaningful for everyone who attended. Director of Special Education, Becky Gurnick, summed up the day by saying: "GPS is very proud of the outstanding graduates of 2016. Danica, Fernando and Dalton have reached for the stars and caught just the right one to be a life long learners. Each of the graduates have used the skills they learned at GPS to become very special adults. While many of us simply learn to live, it is apparent that these amazing graduates will continue to live to learn as they begin experiencing their journey through adulthood." Special applause goes to Becky Gurnick, Luz Enriquez and Suzanne Munguia, for their enormous efforts in making the day one that will be forever remembered by our students and their families.

Congrats Class of 2016

Fernando
Dalton
Danica

VOLUNTEERS MAKE THE DIFFERENCE!

We love our volunteers! Volunteers from **American Express** came to Gompers to help with much needed renovations to our school and our program rooms. Classroom walls were painted and garden boxes



were built with enthusiasm. We are so fortunate to have the support of the community, as we work hard each day to ensure that we provide individuals with disabilities innovative services (in freshly painted spaces!) that foster growth and development. Volunteers not only support our mission, but also show our members they are not alone - people care.

FUN FOR EVERYONE

Sometimes you just have to let your inner kid out and what better way to do that than at a carnival! Thanks to community partner **Genentech**, Gompers Day Training Program members were able to enjoy a circus-like atmosphere at the Arizona Biltmore, complete with carnival games, prizes, tattoos and dancing! If that was not enough, each member received a new backpack full of goodies! Thank you Genentech for a great afternoon.



YOU'VE GOT A FRIEND IN ME

Life is full of lessons, but one of life's best teachers is friendship. Friendship teaches us the importance of building meaningful relationships, nurturing those relationships through different forms of communication, and learning important life-skills, including mutual reciprocity, empathy and sacrifice. Friendship can begin at any age and has the power to defy social boundaries such as gender, age and a variety of other barriers.

A recent partnership with the **Grand Canyon University BESTBUDDIES® Program** has produced some exceptional memories for our members and for the GCU students as well.



BESTBUDDIES® builds one-to-one friendships between people with and without intellectual disabilities (IDD), through school and community friendship programs that provide socialization opportunities to help erase the invisible line that often separates students or adults with and without IDD. Friendship programs include Best Buddies Middle Schools, High Schools, Colleges, Citizens, and e-Buddies. The group met once a month, playing games, having fun and getting to know each other on a personal level.

Gompers members who have cell phones have taken pictures with their buddy and even call each other outside of Gompers. For those who don't have a cell phone, the buddy calls the program room and talks with them during the day. Recently the buddies had an end-of-year pizza party to say good-bye for the summer. Said Gompers member Sarah, "I can't wait til next year to see my buddy again!"



THE PHOENIX SYMPHONY

Every so often we are graced with a wonderful visit from **The Phoenix Symphony**. Our members and students are able to engage with these talented musicians and hang out with one another as everyone enjoys favorite melodies and even music of their choice. Members are able to ask questions, sing, dance and most importantly they are not just the audience, but get to participate as well.

A FIRST TIME FOR EVERYTHING

Gompers Day Training Program had the fortune of partnering with the amazing folks at **Daring Adventures** for a day of cycling at the park. DTA member Kelly really captured the spirit of this event; "I really enjoyed riding a bike! It was my first time being able to ride a bike that I can handle on my own. It was an awesome experience for me. I truly enjoyed it." Thanks to Daring Adventures' incredible array of adaptive equipment some members were able to experience the joy and workout of cycling for the first time!



You Make the Difference!



SCHOOL RECEIVES ADAPTIVE P.E. EQUIPMENT

In 2015 Kaitlyn Lauck, a 7th grader at St. Francis Xavier, raised several hundred dollars to purchase school supplies to support Gompers K-12 special education classrooms. She was personally moved by Gompers mission when she came to deliver the items as students greeted her with open arms and open hearts. Fortunately for us, this year she decided

to serve, Kaitlyn raised over \$800 by selling tacos. They must have been some really tasty tacos!

With the money raised from her fundraiser, Kaitlyn thoughtfully asked us, if there was something the school needed more than just regular supplies like paper, and pencils. *She was just in time!*

We were trying to find funding for adaptive P.E. equipment for our students and Kaitlyn graciously offered to fulfill our request for equipment like beanbags, basketballs, softballs and hoola-hoops. Having these items makes a huge difference for our students as we work with them to maintain their health and well-being through an adaptive physical fitness program. Thank you Kaitlyn!



to support Gompers again. Now with more experience and even more passion and understanding about the students with disabilities she was working

STUDENTS ADVOCATE FOR SOCIAL CHANGE



Recently, Gompers DTA had the privilege of joining **Brophy Academy** for their annual Game Day. While our members enjoyed playing basketball, dancing, board games and showing off their football skills, the real message of the day was the importance of community integration and respect.



MUSIC TO OUR EARS

We were so fortunate to have the incredibly talented **Musical Theater of Anthem** perform for our members. This highly energetic group of amazing young performers took our members on an amazing musical journey. They even took time after their performance to meet and greet members. Our special thanks to each of these amazingly gifted performers.



CLOWNING AROUND

We would like to make a quick shout out to the **APS clowns** for always showing up at our Gompers events and bringing joy to our members and students! You are appreciated!



OUR BOARD AT WORK

Earlier this year, Gompers hosted a book signing event. Cary Pfeffer, long time board member, set the launch of his new book, "There's Not an App for That!" as an opportunity to raise awareness of our mission and our vision. That night he sold nearly 50 books and all of the proceeds went to support our programs and services.

JOIN US FOR A TOUR



Gompers is an organization made up of people who are passionate about assisting individuals with disabilities to achieve their highest level of independence and productivity in our community. Our staff helps our members and students accomplish this by living up to Gompers mission and seven core values every day.

Person-Centered – Acknowledging each person’s right to determine and achieve his or her personal goals.

Dignify Others – Advocating that all people be treated with dignity and respect.

Enhancing Abilities; Seeing Possibilities – Focusing on abilities and encouraging growth through innovative opportunities.

Professional Excellence – Upholding the highest professional standard in every aspect of our organization.

Responsible Stewardship – Promoting fiscal and social responsibility toward those we serve, our staff and the community.

Collective Impact – Creating a culture of beneficial exchange through community collaboration and enduring partnerships.

Celebrate Daily – Celebrating the individual and group accomplishments of each day.