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Aaron's Acres' Acts of Kindness participants held fundraiser to benefit Alex's Lemonade

Reading, PA . . . Aaron's Acres' Acts of Kindness (AAAOK) participants and staff held their annual Alex's Lemonade Stand fundraiser on Thursday, June 29th. The fundraiser took place in front of the UGI Energy Services, Inc. Building (1 Meridian Boulevard, Reading). Our participants partnered with SAH, Inc. and Berkshire Systems Group, Inc. once again this year.

A total of \$625 was raised for Alex's Lemonade Stand Foundation.

AAAOK is a community service component of Summer Camp in which participants (older adolescents aged 13-21 with special needs) support charitable organizations in their own communities, learn valuable skills, engage in meaningful tasks, and most importantly, experience a sense of pride in knowing they can serve others, not just receive services themselves.

Too often we see individuals with developmental disabilities as people who always need our help; with this Acts of Kindness program, our entire perspective changes. The adolescents feel good about what they are doing, knowing that they are helping others and everyone else realizes that they are members in our community who can give back and make a difference in the lives of others!

Aaron's Acres provides individuals with developmental disabilities age 5-21 year-round therapeutically based age-appropriate recreational programs directed by specifically trained and certified staff in a supportive environment that enhances socialization and communication skills. Emotional, educational, and recreational support is offered for the entire family.

Visit <u>www.aaronsacres.org</u> to learn about our year-round social and recreational programs in Central PA. For more information on Aaron's Acres, please contact Maria Kapsak, Community Outreach Coordinator at 717-917-6101 ext. 105 or <u>mariakapsak@aaronsacres.org</u>.

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