



Ability &  
Choice Services, Inc

# February 2018 Newsletter

During the Month of January The ACS Drama Club and the Arts and Crafts Club kicked into gear preparing for a new play. This year we will present *Sleeping Beauty!* Look for the production to go live in May. It is going to be awesome!

Additional activities included bowling, arts and crafts, movies, volunteering, and exercise!

During the Month of February love is in the air! We will be celebrating Valentines Day with a party and a dance. Feel free to dress up and impress your peers! Healthy submarine sandwiches will be served for lunch.

Additional recreation, learning and job development activities will take place around each of the centers and in the community.

**Please make a note that we will be closed on February 19th for Presidents Day.**

UACS, DSPD, DOH, DHS, DLC and the Legislature

Wow! There is a lot going on right now! DSPD issued a new Statement of Work addressing some requirements of the Settings Rule in anticipation of a new contract beginning July 1<sup>st</sup> of this year. After reviewing comments from people in services, providers, families, etc. and a last-minute announcement from the US Department of Justice rescinding the 25 guidance documents that directed Medicaid to create the Settings Rule enforced by the DOH, they have decided to take another look at how the new contract could impact people and providers. In addition, the Disability Law Center filed suit against DSPD and DHS for keeping people in Intermediate Care Facilities that shouldn't be there by not providing real choice to people. On top of all of that is the fact that the Utah State Legislature is currently in session. As is the case every year, we are fighting for additional money. Specifically:

1. \$3,000,000 ongoing to complete the Social Services Appropriations Committee's original three-year funding plan for direct care staff compensation.
2. \$350,000 ongoing for the MTP (transportation) rate.
3. Funding for the waiting list

Please make the effort to email, write, or call your representative to support our services. You can find your legislator's contact information at: <http://le.utah.gov/documents/find.htm>



### Brady's Success Story

Congratulations to Brady on his job with Diamond Rental! He has been able to utilize his maintenance and mechanical skills by helping to clean and maintain the mechanical machines that are rented at Diamond Rental. His management mentions how hard working he is and how thorough he is with the tasks he is assigned. They also appreciate Brady coming in early to help shovel off snow and get the store prepared for opening. Brady has shined bright in his new job position! Congrats again Brady, we are so proud of you and your accomplishments!