

My Friends PDHC celebrated <u>25</u> years of service with our Orangevale, Elk Grove, San Jose, Stockton and Modesto staff! The owner, Simone Giachino and the business office staff also joined in the celebration. My Friends continues to be committed to providing special care for special people.



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This summer at Stockton My Friends we enjoyed various activities and visitors.

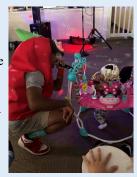
We had water play during our 25th Anniversary celebration, where the children received goodie bags, played in the water jump house, swimming pool, activity water table, and octopus sprinkler. They had a picnic with pizza, cupcakes, and juice.

We also had visits from our wonderful

music therapist, Alelih, and our new friend from Jahri's World

aka Hot Jalapeno. They kept the children dancing and singing with their wonderful talents.

During our late nights we had movie nights, paint & sip which consisted of colorful canvases and Capri Sun. The children showed off their painting skills.





Assembly Member, Rhodesia Ransom visited our center in April. She and her staff learned about our program.

We appreciate Assembly Member Ransom for taking the time to tour the Stockton My Friends center.





Reminder to parents:

- *Please provide your child with extra clothes/diapers/wipes.
- *Email updates on IEPs to the center director.



10 year Anniversary at My Friends

Miriam has been working at My Friends since August of 2015. Her roles have been staff LVN from 2015-2018, Assistant Charge Nurse from 2018-2022, Charge Nurse from 2022-2024, & Director for Stockton & Modesto from 2024-to present. Miriam says that working

at My Friends is a rewarding career. She has experienced genuine happiness working with the children. Miriam says that it's encouraging to see the patients make progress. Knowing that she is part of the team that works with amazing and unique patients brings her joy. When Miriam is not at work, she is busy doing ministry at church with her husband and daughters. Other times Miriam and her family will head out of town or stay in and have bonding time. Miriam has been the director of children's ministry at her church for 15 years. She is now leading the women's ministry and is a board member of Embrace Community Church in Stockton. Her favorite colors are green & turquoise. Her favorite flower is the sunflower and Filipino Noodle (Pancit) is her favorite food. Miriam has two dogs named Ponyo & Georgie. She loves shopping and spending time at church and with her family and friends. Miriam also loves to attend retreats, church, camping, seminars, & conferences.

Meet Jenny



Jenny has been working at My Friends for over two years. She is an LVN at our Stockton center and was promoted to Assistant Charge Nurse in June of 2024!

Jenny felt drawn to work with special needs children and believes children with special needs show determination and resilience in the face of chal-

lenges. Jenny believes their perseverance inspires her to approach life with patience, gratitude, and hope.

What Jenny enjoys the most about her job is being able to be part of the children's growth and watching them achieve their milestones.

When she is not at My Friends, Jenny enjoys spending time with her friends and family. She enjoys reading books and trying new things. Jenny loves exploring new places and going hiking with her friends and boyfriend. Jenny has a Husky named Luna who is five years old and loves to go on runs every day. Jenny's favorite color is pink, and her favorite flowers are tulips and lilies. Her favorite food is sushi, and she loves the fall season.

Jenny is attending nursing school online, pursuing her BSN and hopes to continue working with children or in labor & delivery.

Meet David

David is four years old and has been attending My Friends since 2023. David's favorite show is Sesame Street, and he especially likes Elmo. At My Friends, David enjoys watching Super Simple Songs. David's mom says his favorite food is Fideo (vermicelli pasta) and beans. His family loves playing futbol (soccer) together. David's parents, David Sr. and Clemencia have three other children, (David's siblings) Jonathan, Anthony, and Daisy.



Mark your calendar: No school on these dates

Lodi Unified:

Fall Break: September 29th - October 10th

Veterans Day: November 11th

Thanksgiving Break: November 26th – November 28th

Winter Break: December 22nd -January 2nd

Stockton Unified:

Fall Break: October 6th - October 10th
Veterans Day: November 10th & 11th
Thanksgiving Break: November 24th -28th



What's Happening...

October: Our center will be hosting a Halloween Carnival on Wednesday October 29th from 4:30-6:30pm. Be sure to RSVP and sign up to bring a potluck dish, dessert, or appetizer. We will be providing pizza, drinks, and candy. Dress up in your favorite Halloween costumes and bring a trick or treat bag for your goodies. Friendly reminder that the center will be closing at 4:00pm on 10/29 to allow staff to prepare for this event.

November: A field trip will be scheduled sometime this month and parents will be notified beforehand. Wednesday, November 26th, we will be hosting a Thanksgiving lunch for the children at the center.

<u>December</u>: Friday, December 19th Santa Claus will visit My Friends Stockton and bring gifts for the children.