



**My
Friends**
A Pediatric Day Healthcare Center

Elk Grove Fall Newsletter 2025

My Friends PDHC celebrated 25 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.



We had a lot of fun this summer! From water activities in the backyard to a trip to the zoo, there was always something exciting on the agenda! In April, we made baby chicks and decorated our center with flowers made from coffee filters for spring. In May, we made Star Wars and weather crafts. We recognized Nurses Week by celebrating our whole staff! Thank you to all the parents who celebrated with us! We also had an End of School Party where we ate popsicles and cupcakes. In June, we went to Chuck E. Cheese and the zoo! At the zoo, we saw flamingos, frogs, and even a rhino! Our staff decorated our kitchen for summer with jellyfish, sea horses, and fish. In July, we had a lot of water days in our backyard! We got sprayed by water, played with water toys, and played on the swings. In August, we celebrated 25 years of My Friends! We had a huge party. We had a bounce house, we made big bubbles from a kiddie pool, we had our faces painted, and we played games where we all received medals! In September, we started decorating for Fall with scarecrows and leaves. During circle time, we practice American Sign Language, learn about the weather, and dance to music with bubbles. Twice a month, our therapy dog, Michah, visits to give us comfort and cuddles. We have a music therapist that visits us once a month too; we get to bang on drums, strum a guitar, and sing our favorite songs.



Assembly Member, Stephanie Nguyen visited our center back in April. She and her staff played with the kids and learned more about our program.

We appreciate Assembly Member Stephanie Nguyen and her staff for taking the time to meet our clients in Elk Grove.



Special Note to Parents:

*If your child is **not** attending My Friends one day, please call staffing or the center in advance.

*Cubhub is now called Statewise. Please login daily.

*If your child arrives after 10:00am, breakfast will not be provided. Please feed your child at home.

*Label your child toys and clothes.



Mark your calendar:

October 30th: My Friend's Halloween Party

November 27th: Thanksgiving- Center Closed

December 25th: Christmas- Center Closed

January 1st: New Year's Day- Center Closed

Looking ahead.....

We will be having a Halloween Party on October 30th! Families are welcome and encouraged to join! On Halloween Day, we will be having an in-house trick or treating event with our clients only. We're planning on making plenty of turkey crafts for November and snowmen in December. We're hoping that a certain jolly man from the North Pole might visit us again too! If the weather isn't too cold, we'd love to go on a few field trips to a pumpkin patch or the fire station.



Meet Justynne

Justynne is an RN, and our newly appointed Assistant Charge Nurse! She's been working with us for three years. Justynne has been working with kids for most of her life through Sunday School and was inspired to be a nurse after watching nurses care for various family members. It was an easy choice to work with children because she's felt drawn to children and pediatrics all her life. She went to Sac City and Sac State for her bachelor's degree, and she also has a degree in nutrition from CRC! Justynne has a twin sister as well as two younger sisters. Together, they enjoy going hiking and camping. Justynne is also a big movie buff. Her favorites include Spiderman, Into the Spiderverse, Titanic, A Walk to Remember, and The Notebook. She likes anything artsy, from drawing and painting to collages! Justynne has traveled to Hawaii, Washington, and New York; her goal is to visit all 50 states. Justynne's favorite part of the job is the clients. She loves watching their progress and development. She also notes that having great coworkers helps with their encouragement and support. We are so proud of Justynne and all her hard work!



Meet Celesthe & Stephany



Celesthe and Stephany are sisters! Despite looking very similar, they are not twins. It's understandable if you thought so. Their mom likes to dress them alike. They always arrive in matching or coordinating outfits from head to toe, and even their blankets match! Their hair always has an accessory,

such as bows, hair tie puffs, barrettes, or hair knockers. Both sisters are great listeners and are very reactive when we talk to them or watch Disney movies. Both girls enjoy our various art projects as well. Despite their similarities, the girls each have their own personalities. Celesthe is the oldest. During circle time, she is either asleep or smiling at the music. She's the quieter of the two, but sometimes we'll get lucky and catch a Celesthe smile if a bubble pops on her face! Stephany may be the younger sister, but she's the talkative one of the two! She likes to sing along to our music, and her favorite song to sing is Part of Your World from The Little Mermaid. Stephany especially enjoys her sensory activities like fingerpainting, touching shaving cream, and popping bubbles. Both girls are a joy to have at My Friends, and we always look forward to seeing them!