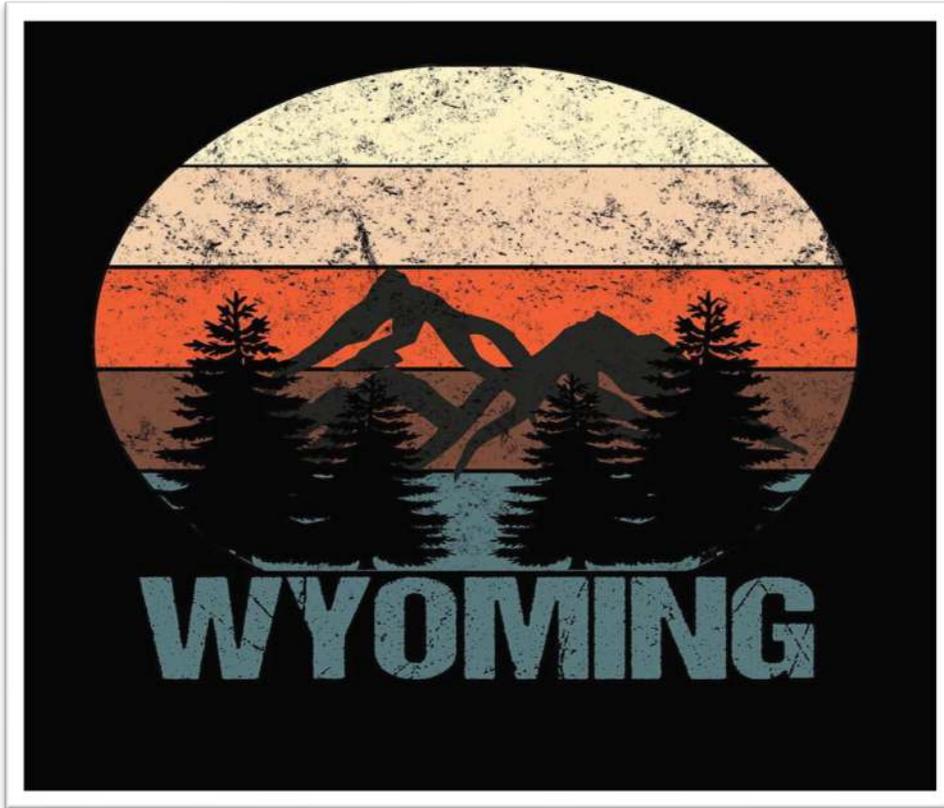


WYOMING PROUD



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ABLE HANDS - YOUR COMMUNITY PARTNER

- We are a dedicated team of professionals who understand having a disability does not define who you are as a person.
- We work with you to establish your goals and desires for personal development.
- Our services are individually tailored to produce the best results.
- We are committed to providing the highest quality of services to you, whether through our program or by identifying the best possible placement for you.
- Our company's primary objective is facilitating individual growth as identified by you.
- Our staff are trained to aid you in identifying areas of interest or those areas you wish to improve.
- We recognize our sole purpose as an organization is in meeting your needs while providing education for the larger community to promote the eradication of barriers for all people.
- We believe "We the People" means every human being.

TOPIC 1

Get To Know: Kevin Momoda

Hi! My name is Kevin Momoda and I moved into my new home with Able Hands in October of 2018. I was born in Tokyo, Japan on August 24th. I spent most of my adult life in Evanston, Wyoming. While I did love my years in Evanston, I felt that I was ready to undertake a new challenge in my life. After touring multiple places, my mom, Betty, and I chose Able Hands based on their unique approach to services. We both felt this would be the perfect setting for me to really excel and grow outside of my comfort zone.

I use a wheelchair to aid my mobility. I have never let it create barriers for me. In my free time I love to paraglide, go handcrank biking, and pretty much anything that allows me to get outside and take advantage of the adventures Wyoming has to offer. When the weather doesn't allow me to get outside, I enjoy using my



Art from his late brother David

computer, playing on my phone, going to the movies, and have become very fond of going to Coal Train Coffee for a smoothie. Transitioning to a new area and leaving behind all your comforts and friends can be a challenge. Luckily I am settling in well and have started to make some new friends that enjoy the same things I do.

When I lived in Evanston, I had a job and took a lot of pride in working. Currently, I have a part-time job shredding papers. Sometimes I face challenges making meeting my work responsibilities hard but I never give up trying. Eventually I would like to take some classes at Western Wyoming Community College and pursue a job based on my interests.

Recently I took a trip with my mom to the Pacific Northwest to see some friends and family. I am proud of my family and relationships.

Please come meet me, I 'd like to get to know everyone and share a few jokes.

TOPIC 2

2019: The year of choice.

We have so many amazing things that we have either already done or have scheduled to do this year that it's hard to know where to begin. In the past we had focused on big trips with moderate to big groups, but feedback was that people prefer more customized trips in smaller groups, so that is the direction we went.

Participants have already been to Aladdin the Broadway Musical, FAN-X (formerly Comic Con of Salt Lake), Disneyland, Special Olympics, and on multiple day trips to Salt Lake for shopping.

Frontier Days, Evermore Park, WWE, camping in Pinedale, Special Olympics Summer Classic, Pickleville Playhouse, and more will round out our summer. Of course we will still be doing our Friday Ice Cream Socials, accessing different parks in our county over the summer. Picnics, BBQs, music in the park, and all the other things Sweetwater county has to offer are also on our calendar of events. In June, a group of us will be attending the WGCDD three day conference in Casper. If you have never been, it is a great way to see what is happening in the world of disabilities all over the state of Wyoming.

In July, Josh has been invited to attend the NACDD Conference in New Orleans. We hope this will give some insight on things that are happening at a national level and the opportunity to take what he learns and put a Wyoming twist to it. These are always great, as they give us a new perspective on how we can deliver a better service to our people.

Sometimes all the focus is put into the population served, while the people who are on the frontline providing the services can get lost in the shuffle. In September, Josh is planning to attend the NADSP National Conference. The National Alliance for Direct Support Professionals (NADSP) is a national non-profit whose mission is to elevate the status of direct support professionals by improving practice standards; promoting system reform; and advancing their knowledge, skills and values



TOPIC 3

It is hard to believe that December 2019 marks our 13th Anniversary serving the community of Sweetwater County. While the first half a decade certainly had its fair share of ups and downs and learning experiences, Max and Josh finally feel like they have a system in place that works for their unique delivery of services. Over the course of that time we have seen a steady growth in both people served and staff providing services. At the time of writing this we currently serve 31 people with 25 staff members.

This past week we had a party to celebrate several major milestones for our people served. It is hard to believe but we had several people celebrating 12 years with Able

Hands, some with 10 years, 8 years, etc. We constantly feel blessed that people have put their faith in us and our organization to allow us to be a partner in their lives.

On the other side of the coin, coming in February of 2020 we will be celebrating 10 year anniversaries for the core base of our staffing. It is these people who have made us what we are. Without them Able Hands would not be the organization that it is today.

As always, we welcome your feedback, suggestions, and questions. Please reach out to us any time to share your thoughts.

Sincerely,

Josh Bellamy

Max Michele

