## **Mission Moments**

Made Possible By YOU!

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## **Volunteers Bring Music and Smiles to Tangram**

Each year in April, we celebrate National Volunteer Week. This year, National Volunteer Week is April 15-21. This month's Mission Moment highlights the work of an exceptional group of student volunteers!

In January, Tangram received a call from a student member of Kappa Kappa Psi, a national, co-ed band fraternity. Alex McGill, the Vice President for Programs for the Alpha Zeta Chapter of Kappa Kappa Psi at Indiana University, explained that the five chapters of Kappa Kappa Psi in the state of Indiana (from Ball State University, Butler University, Indiana State University, Indiana University, and Purdue University) were planning a combined day of service and would like to partner with Tangram to offer some music programming to the individuals we serve.



New friends!



The pep band performs for the audience.

Knowing that opportunities to explore music are always popular among our clients, as evidenced by our long-running music club, Tangram jumped at the chance to work with the students on a music exploration event. The event was scheduled for March 24 and the students of Kappa Kappa Psi worked tirelessly to plan an event that would offer different

ways for participants to experience music—including a live music component and four different interactive stations—dance, make-your-own maracas, drum circle, and boom whackers!

Tangram was tasked with finding a location to host the event. With 90 student volunteers expected and up to 50 participants, we reached out to our friends at the Boys and Girls Club of Hancock County, a United Way partner agency where Tangram recently started renting office space, and they graciously allowed us to use their space.

As the date of the event approached, Indiana's unpredictable spring weather struck! March 24th brought ten inches of snow to Central Indiana and forced us to postpone the event.



Tangram clients and staff participate in a drum circle.

But the student volunteers didn't let this turn of events dampen their spirits—they worked quickly to determine a new date, April 14, and gather volunteer sign-ups.

"It was a joy to work with this group of volunteers. They went above and beyond any expectations I had. I can only imagine what a massive feat of coordination it must have been to plan this event between five different chapters and among dozens of volunteers. Not only were they organized and thoughtful, but they didn't give up when the weather threw us a curveball. They embodied the true meaning of service in every way, and our entire organization is grateful to them," said Lindsey Hill, Tangram's volunteer coordinator.





Tangram clients enjoy a moment in the spotlight at the center of the dance circle!



If the pictures alone are any indication, all the students and participants had a great time! A smile was on every face and lots of new friendships were made as a shared love of music brought these two groups together. What a great way to kick off National Volunteer Week! Thanks, Kappa Kappa Psi!

Left: More drum circle action!



More than 50 volunteers from Kappa Kappa Psi Chapters at Butler University, Indiana State University, Indiana University, and Purdue University organized and executed a Music Discovery Day for Tangram's clients on April 14.

Mission Moments are made possible by our supporters! <u>Donate today</u> and help us make more moments like these for individuals with disabilities OR join our volunteer team and make a difference through service! We appreciate your support!