



from the

HEART

NEWS FROM LIONHEART 2020-21

What a Year It's Been!

We want to thank you for continuing to support Lionheart as we endure these challenging times. Lionheart students and WORKS participants have risen to this challenge and shown us their amazing resilience in completing a year in a very unfamiliar way!



Lionheart is still strong and our mission is thriving because of you. We will continue to get through this together - WE NEED YOUR GIFT MORE THAN EVER. Your support touches every aspect of our school and WORKS programs. Thank you for making a difference.

Lionheart has lost more than \$250,000 since Covid-19 began due to the cancellations of fundraisers, many foundations shifting their focus of funding, covid compliant cleaning and protocol expenses, and lack of reimbursements from the government.

Lionheart WORKS

Thanks to the City of Alpharetta, WORKS moved into our own place in downtown Crabapple; we are networking connecting with our new Milton and Crabapple neighbor; thank you for the warm welcome!. Check out our new website to read all about our program!

HAPPY RETIREMENT, GAIL!

Gail Nearing served the needs of the Lionheart population since the beginning! She was our everything from teacher assistant to Job Coach coordinator for WORKS, always willing to step in wherever needed! Gail was an incredible ambassador for Lionheart, recruiting volunteers, establishing relationships with key community partners, always coming to work with a smile on her face and demonstrating a willingness to contribute in every way. We extend our sincere gratitude to Gail and the entire Nearing family for their dedication and generosity to the Lionheart community. Gail, you will be missed dearly!



a) Our Tech Site team has been working hard to repair and update computers. We donated several computers to those in need during the pandemic AND we have even received donations for some of our laptops. b) Lewis' trays are available to purchase at The Savory Gourmet and Scottsdale Farms - Congrats Lewis! c) Gail Nearing d) Carly is back to work at CFA Avalon! Order a catered meal and she will include all the sauces and ingredients you need!

the Cottage



"Have LionheARTisans, will travel" - Our lovely Cottage at APC had to be vacated to respect COVID protocols. We shifted the LionheARTisans' work to the new WORKS site at 12624 Broadwell Road in Crabapple. Thanks to a reformulated workspace that includes the use of tents, portable

I am often asked why I have been involved with Lionheart for so many years. I usually smile and reply, “Have you met our students?” I have supported many causes in my life, but Lionheart is the one that touched my heart all those years ago...and still does.

KYLE CASWELL, BOARD PRESIDENT

Garden Spotlight



The Lionheart Garden is a vocational organic farm and experiential learning environment where we provide students with age-appropriate, high-affect activities. These activities also allow our students opportunities for academic learning and vocational exploration. We are on track to produce over 1,300 pounds of organic fruits and vegetables this year! Students grow, harvest, weigh, package, and sell “Produce Baskets” every week to Lionheart families. We continue to enjoy partnerships with local restaurants, such as *Table and Main*, *Superica*, and *Osteria*, who purchase the majority of our harvest. To give back to our community during quarantine, we donated close to 60 lbs of vegetables and herbs to Table And Aid. Big thank you to our long-time partner, the Alpharetta Rotary Club, for building a brand new chicken coop for our 15 hens!



This year has brought plenty of changes to our Lionheart community! One of the changes we are very excited about is the addition of a new facility dog named BURKE. She will be taking over the leash as our wonderful LANGLEY begins her much deserved retirement. BURKE is simply the happiest dog you could ever meet! She is excited to meet every student and is curious about everything happening each day at Lionheart. BURKE has over a hundred commands at the ready; however, the truly amazing piece is her instincts. She seems to already know how to meet each child right where they are in each moment. We could not have imagined a better successor dog for our beloved LANGLEY! We are grateful that BURKE is here to carry on what LANGLEY began eight years ago.





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We Need Your Help

LIONHEART is dedicated to serving our students and young adults in an environment that is as safe as possible. We put in place the highest level of recommended procedures and protocols. We spread out our classes, modified our transportation, improved cleaning procedures and frequency both by our staff and our professional janitorial service, and installed UV-C air filters in every teaching space. We also added additional outdoor educational spaces using portable tents, tables, and seating.

Please scan to donate to our annual fund

Thank you for making a difference

www.thelionheartschool.com/annualfund

