big lakes

OCTOBER 2026

We celebrated National Disability Employment Awareness Month!



ROOM to Create

We're excited to launch Room to Create, Big Lakes' annual giving campaign! With your support, we'll create dedicated art spaces in Manhattan and Clay Center, giving individuals more opportunities to explore their creativity and express themselves.

Watch your mailbox around Thanksgiving for more details and how you can help bring this vision to life!



We took many trips to the pumpkin patch!

WE DID IT! Thanks to YOU!

10 IN 10 ENDOWMENT CAMPAIGN

Thanks to your generosity, the Big Lakes Foundation has successfully completed our 10in10 Endowment Campaign, reaching our goal of growing the Foundation by **$10 million in 10 years!**

Since 2019, donor support has provided $1.5 million in operational funding and $3.8 million for capital and special projects, including a new residential home, facility improvements, and critical workforce support. Your generosity has also helped increase **starting wages for Direct Support Professionals from $10 in 2017 to $17 in 2026.**

Your impact will last for generations. The endowment will continue strengthening Big Lakes and supporting the individuals we serve for years to come.

This milestone would not have been possible without YOU. Thank you for investing in the future of Big Lakes!

Halloween Week 2026

We had a great time celebrating Mad Scientist Halloween Week!

From bingo and science experiments to mystery boxes, a movie, trick-or-treating, and plenty of treats, it was a fun week of Halloween festivities!














Thank You

Grateful for Our October Supporters!

- Christina Brennan
- Michael Houghton
- Diana Johnson
- Linda Klabunde
- Rhonda Raulston
- Charities Aid Foundation
- BCBSKS Foundation