

# The Lukas Community

Fall 2018



***Every successful individual knows that his or her achievement depends on a community of persons working together.***

Rudolf Steiner

This past year, The Lukas Community has celebrated many wonderful changes, all while supporting our residents to realize their full potential and pursue their dreams. We are a community that remains true to our core values of respect and dignity for each human being. As we move through the seasons, I am more thankful for the love, dedication and commitment our residents have to each other and to all of us. It is for them we are together; and with them our lives are fuller and richer.

But we cannot meet the challenges of the future without your help. To those who have contributed in the past, your support has made a positive difference to the health and well being of The Lukas Community, and all who live and work here. Your donations not only support our heartfelt work serving the adults with developmental challenges in our care, but are also investments in everyone who touches Lukas and have their lives changed forever. We hope that you will continue your support this year. To those of you who have yet to offer your help, please join our circle of support by making a contribution today.

Thank you in advance for joining with us in making the Lukas Community a special place for special people. Your tax-exempt gift will be used solely for their benefit.

Enjoy the photos and musings on these pages; and I invite you to visit The Lukas Community to experience our day to day celebrations.

Warmly,  
Kristen Stanton, Executive Director



*Daniel has grown and thrived at Lukas. This is his home, and he is always looking forward to returning.*

*When you visit one of the residences, you are struck immediately by the “family” feeling that the residents share. House parents, volunteers and residents forge strong bonds and their affection and concern for one another is abundantly evident, as is the sense of comradery throughout the community.*

Herb and Arleen, parents of Dan

*The care for our residents, which is the center of our work, is deeply rewarding, as each of them brings such a wide range of beautiful qualities, challenges and gifts to our community. To learn to work as a team with the other nine highly gifted, deeply caring and dedicated coworkers and leaders is an honor and a great joy.*

Mathias, houseparent at Echo Farm



*The Lukas world is a little slower and more predictable. It’s full of kind people who have time – well – who make time for John. At Lukas, John is accepted as he is, and he is at peace. When we talk about our brother, we find ourselves telling people that he is in the perfect environment.*

*Rather than asking him to change to fit to the world we live in, it’s Lukas who has changed the world just a little for John.*

Sarah and Becket, sisters of John





### Weaving Together at The Lukas Community

Wool is an amazing substance. Uniquely warm, water-repellent, and even anti-bacterial. When formed by human labor into fabric it creates a protective layer that nurtures and sustains us, as it has done for millennia.

As we work with wool in the weavery at The Lukas Community, transforming it into garments and objects both useful and beautiful, I think of these qualities and to me they provide a picture of how a group of individuals can be transformed into a community. Single strands of wool are thin and easily broken; when spun into yarn or worked into felt, tiny scales of their surface enable them to lock together into a web that is impressively strong, yet still flexible and malleable. Different fibers contribute their own character to the whole, beautifully complementing and completing each other. Our

weaving is symbolic to the philosophy of Lukas, and portrays how our residents, co-workers and volunteers mesh together. How appropriate it is, then, that wool is the one material in our weavery that we can experience from its very beginnings, from growing it on the sheep that graze our meadows, through shearing, sorting, washing, picking, carding, spinning and finally weaving it into the final products that we are so proud to display. So if anyone wonders why we still work with such old-fashioned substances and tools, I invite them to come into our weavery and learn from the residents. To have joy in one's work and do it in the service of others, is the secret of life. The products we create belong to all of us, and we gladly share them with the world.

Lory Widmer Hess, The Lukas Community



*The Lukas Community is a wonderful place for Rima. Happiness is a task with a reachable goal when you find the right place and the right people.*

*I think my daughter Rima has found both. The co-workers are kind, they understand Rima and they constantly encourage her in doing and completing the many activities offered there. This is helped Rima to develop and mature into a stronger person.*

Joseph, father of Rima

[www.lukascommunity.org](http://www.lukascommunity.org)



***Donations can be made by  
sending a check to:***

*The Lukas Community  
PO Box 137  
Temple, NH 03084*

*Online donations can be made by going to our  
website: [lukascommunity.org/support-us](http://lukascommunity.org/support-us)  
and then click on the online donation site of your  
choice. Donor advised funds, appreciated stock,  
ongoing gifts and Legacy gifts are also appreciated.*

A special thank you to the Lukas Board of Trustees:

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**Volunteers come to Lukas to provide a year of community service. Our striving is for them to receive, in return, life lessons that will stay with them for a lifetime.**



*I plan to work in a social profession in the future, and I wanted to gain practical experience before beginning my studies. The reason why I am here is simple to explain, but the experience that I have every day is indescribable. There are challenges that ask for solutions, but people can find these solutions together. That fascinates me a lot. Here at Lukas we share each other's needs and special qualities. This community is very warm and lovely, and I think that there is no one who wouldn't feel well here. I experienced a wholeness of life.*

Myriam (former volunteer)