



**DDM**  
**CONNECT**  
FEBRUARY EDITION

# DDM CONNECT



## From the Desk of Our President & CEO

February may be the shortest month, but it has been significant for our DDM family. As winter begins to ease, our residents have appreciated the early signs of spring, especially following the recent snowstorms. Those colder days reminded us how thankful we are for the improvements made through our HomeREVIVE10 capital campaign. These upgrades have strengthened our homes, ensuring greater safety, warmth, and reliability for the individuals we serve.

This month, we also marked a profound loss with the passing of our Founding Director, Dr. Richard Clayton Davis. He was an exceptional leader whose vision and steady guidance shaped DDM from the very beginning. I valued the time I spent learning from him about our history and the principles that built this organization. He often reminded us that “we have a story to tell.” That conviction continues to guide us as we carry his legacy forward. He was wise, faithful, and deeply committed to this ministry.

We have also celebrated moments of joy. Several residents participated in Night to Shine, experiencing an evening of recognition and community. It is always encouraging to see them celebrated in such a meaningful way.

As we move ahead, we remain focused and steady. We currently have several residential vacancies and are working to identify individuals who would thrive in our homes. Each opening represents another opportunity to extend our mission and provide quality residential support.

Thank you for your continued partnership and trust in DDM!

*Ryan Whitnire*, President/CEO

## IN THIS EDITION:

REMEMBERING  
DR. RICHARD  
DAVIS

RESIDENT  
HIGHLIGHTS

LEAP INITIATIVES

EMPLOYEE  
SPOTLIGHTS

2026 GOALS

FEBRUARY'S  
RECIPE



In Loving  
Memory Of  
**Dr. Richard Clayton Davis**

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1938 - 2026

We at Developmental Disabilities Ministries, Inc. are deeply saddened by the passing of our beloved founding Director, Dr. Richard Clayton Davis, who died peacefully on February 18, 2026, surrounded by his loving family.

Dr. Davis was more than a leader; he was the heart of DDM. With steadfast faith, compassion, and vision, he dedicated 25 years to advocating for individuals with developmental disabilities and their families, building the foundation of the organization we see today. We would not be here without him; the lives changed and the homes created through DDM's work are part of his enduring legacy.

His humility, integrity, and servant leadership shaped our culture of dignity and care, and his influence will continue for generations.

Our hearts and prayers are with his wife, Nancy Jean Davis, his children, grandchildren, great-grandchild, and all who loved him during this time of loss.

***In true continuation of his legacy, the family of Dr. Richard Davis is requesting that donations be directed to Developmental Disabilities Ministries, Inc. & SmokeRise Baptist Church. If you feel called, please donate in his name here:***

**CLICK  
HERE**



Night to  
**Shine**  
TIM TEBOW FOUNDATION

Night to Shine is a complimentary event for people with special needs hosted by local churches and made possible by the Tim Tebow Foundation. The event is open to those living with disabilities, and every year, DDM residents get excited and GO!



**SHINE ON, DDM RESIDENTS!**



# *Why We Love Night to Shine*

*"My favorite part of Night to Shine is the red carpet entrance, where the residents are cheered on and photographed like celebrities!*

*-Amanda Blocker, DDM RSC."*

## *Our Residents Said...*

*Jack loved the music and dancing!*

*Fred's favorite part was being with his friends!*

*Gary's favorite part was the balloon animal artist!*

*Robert's favorite part was dancing with his date!*

*D.C. loved being made to feel like royalty!*

*Mark said his favorite part was the karaoke!*

# IDEAL ROOMMATES

at DDM (click each box for contact!)

## APPALACHEE HOME - STATHAM, GA



2 vacancies

Males

Must enjoy relaxing  
& pizza

## DAY HOME - FORSYTH, GA

2 vacancies

Females

Must enjoy outings  
& crafts



# IDEAL ROOMMATES

at DDM (click each box for contact!)

## PEDIGO HOME - AUGUSTA, GA



1 vacancy

Females

Must enjoy peace  
& crafts

## CORBIT WALKER HOME - MANCHESTER, GA

1 vacancy

Females

Must enjoy relaxing  
& outings



[CLICK HERE](#)

to see all details!

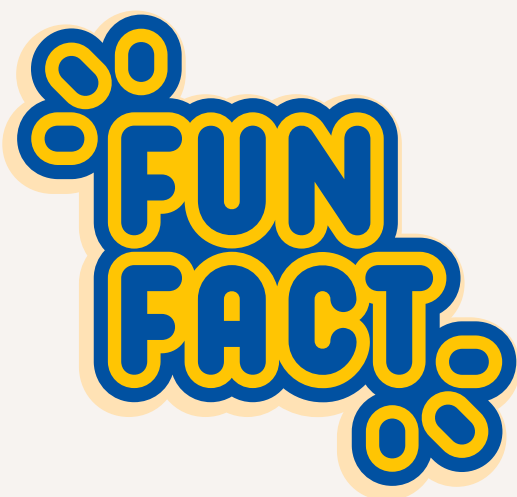
# RESIDENT HIGHLIGHTS

## “Soup-er” Bowl

Tom and Maurice at our Paul Home in Rome spent their afternoon on SuperBowl Sunday doing one of the most American things... whipping up a nice crock-pot full of Chili Soup!

Now that’s what we call a SOUPER Bowl!

Great work, gentlemen!



DDM’s Paul Home men are hoping to enjoy next year’s Super Bowl on a new sofa (their current one is incredibly dated!) Keep reading the newsletter and find Paul Home’s wishlist for “Make it Home!”

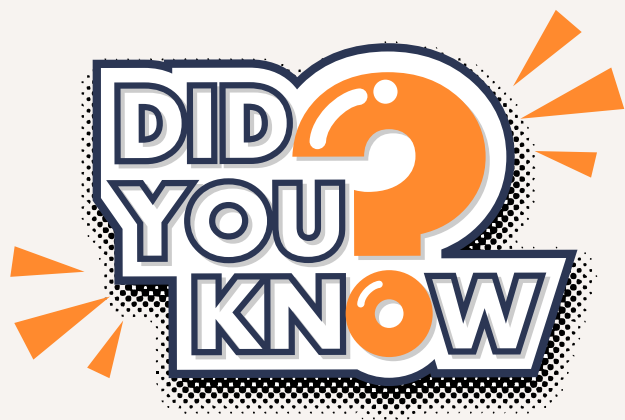


# RESIDENT HIGHLIGHTS

## All Around the World!

From Italy to France, to Jamaica to Japan! Mexico and Thailand! And of course, classic United States! This week, they “traveled” to South Korea!

Our Pedigo Home ladies are cooking up something good every Friday from a different country! These ladies enjoy cooking and eating dinner together over conversation, so why not try it all over the world???



DDM's Pedigo Home ladies really use their dining table for meaningful moments, and over the years, it's undergone wear and tear. A new dining set is on their “Make It Home” wishlist, so be sure to check it out!



# RESIDENT HIGHLIGHTS

## Look Good, Feel Good!

Corey from DDM's Paul Home had an outing this month to go get his regular haircut, proving that when you look good, you feel good!



This is an example of our person-centered services. Our RSC's ensure our residents are taken care of mind, body, and soul!

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## Love Day 2026!

Remember Jeannie and Jamie (they celebrated their commitment to each other last year)?

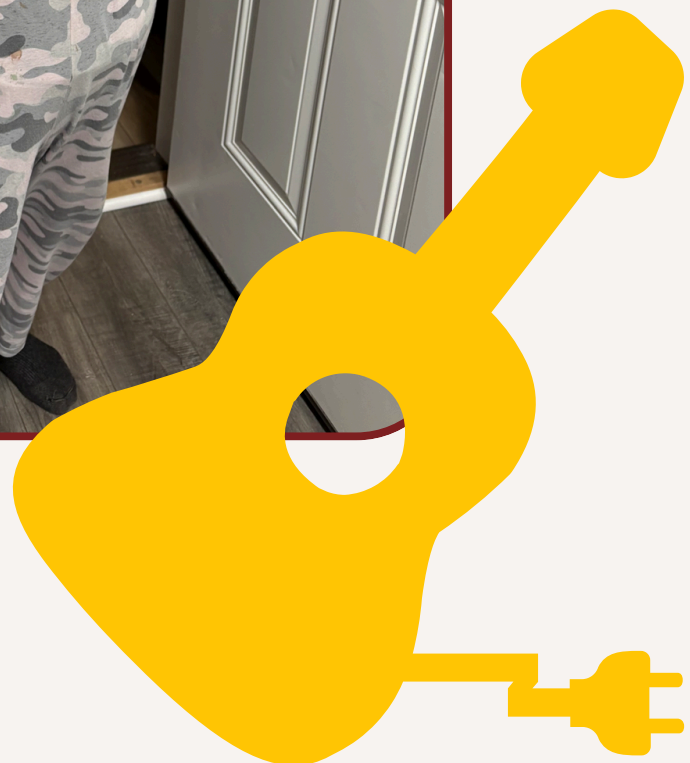
They just celebrated their first Valentine's Day as an officially coupled-couple! Congrats, lovers!

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Holly is a HUGE Elvis fan and last weekend, she went and enjoyed the new Elvis movie with her new Elvis-inspired shades!

For those in the know... they know Holly loves Elvis, and any chance to express it is immediately seized!

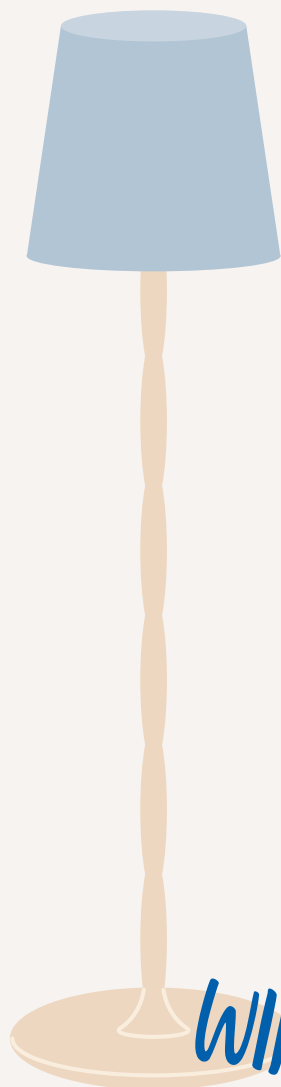




# LEAP

LIFE ENRICHMENT & ACTIVITIES PROGRAM

*"Because a full life deserves more than basic care."*



TELEVISIONS

LIVING ROOM SETS

SENSORY SPACES

WINDOW TREATMENTS

HOME DECOR



DINING SETS

& MORE!



**Right now, each resident home has a "wishlist" of items and YOU can help make it possible to fulfill their wishes to make their houses feel like a home!**

# ORGANIZATION HIGHLIGHTS



CONGRATULATIONS TO  
THESE INCREDIBLE DDM  
TEAM MEMBERS AND  
CELEBRATING  
MILESTONES AT DDM  
THIS MONTH!

**Lateeka - 12 YEARS**

**Keyera - 11 YEARS**

**Natasha - 10 YEARS**

**Brenda - 4 YEARS**

**Selena - 3 YEARS**

**Diamonique - 2 YEARS**

**Gwendolyn - 1 YEAR**

**Barbara Ann - 1 YEAR**



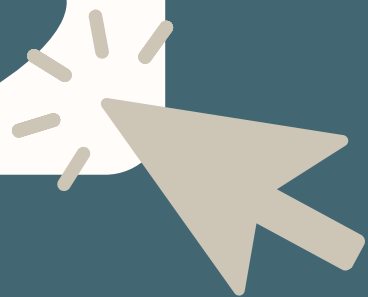


Developmental  
Disabilities  
Ministries



SUPPORT  
**DDM**  
TODAY

**DONATE** 



*Your generosity creates safe homes, meaningful days, and brighter futures.*

# RECIPE OF THE MONTH: CHOCOLATE COBBLER

## INGREDIENTS

- 1 CUP FLOUR
  - 2 TEASPOON BAKING POWDER
  - 1/2 TEASPOON SALT
  - 2/3 CUP SUGAR
  - 1 1/2 TABLESPOONS COCOA POWDER
  - 2 TABLESPOONS BUTTER MELTED
  - 1/2 CUP MILK
  - 1 TEASPOON VANILLA
  - 1/2 CUP CHOPPED WALNUTS OPTIONAL
- ### TOPPING
- 1/4 CUP SUGAR
  - 1/2 CUP BROWN SUGAR
  - 1/4 TEASPOON SALT
  - 2 TABLESPOONS COCOA POWDER
- 
- 1 CUP WATER BOILING

## INSTRUCTIONS

PREHEAT OVEN TO 350 DEGREES F. IN A MEDIUM SIZED MIXING BOWL, COMBINE THE FLOUR, BAKING POWDER, SALT, SUGAR AND COCOA. THEN STIR IN THE MELTED BUTTER, MILK AND VANILLA. STIR IN THE WALNUTS, IF DESIRED.

1 CUP FLOUR, 2 TEASPOON BAKING POWDER, 1/2 TEASPOON SALT, 2/3 CUP SUGAR, 1 1/2 TABLESPOONS COCOA POWDER, 2 TABLESPOONS BUTTER, 1/2 CUP MILK, 1 TEASPOON VANILLA, 1/2 CUP CHOPPED WALNUTS

SPREAD THE MIXTURE INTO A GREASED 1.5 QT CASSEROLE DISH (OR SQUARE PAN). SET ASIDE.

IN ANOTHER BOWL, COMBINE THE DRY TOPPING INGREDIENTS (SUGAR, BROWN SUGAR, SALT AND COCOA). SPRINKLE ON TOP OF THE BATTER; DO NOT STIR.

1/4 CUP SUGAR, 1/2 CUP BROWN SUGAR, 1/4 TEASPOON SALT, 2 TABLESPOONS COCOA POWDER

POUR THE BOILING WATER ON TOP; DO NOT STIR.

1 CUP WATER

BAKE FOR 30 MINUTES, OR UNTIL THE TOP OF THE CAKE IS ALMOST SET. THE CAKE WILL RISE TO THE TOP AND A PUDDING WILL FORM ON THE BOTTOM.

SERVE WARM WITH ICE CREAM.

