Adahlyn graduated on the 17th of May and is heading to California for an internship opportunity in her desired field of audio/video technology.

- Adahlyn has attended Hand Camp since 2017.

Julius T. Graham III graduated with his diploma and associate's degree from Riverside High School & Florida State College at Jacksonville, as an early college student.

- Julius also was also awarded a gold seal of biliteracy for mastery in Spanish.
- Julius will be attending Florida Agriculture and Mechanical University in the Fall, as he was accepted in the FAMU-FSU College of Engineering where he will study to become a Chemical Engineer. Go Rattlers!!
- Julius has attended Hand Camp since 2015.

Kendall will be attending Auburn University where she hopes to get a degree in Business with OT added (still working on what that will look like).

- Kendall has achieved multiple academic scholarships and has been recognized as a Linley Heflin Student Scholar.
- Kendall has attended Hand Camp for 12 Years!

Sam has been accepted to the University of Florida and will attend beginning Summer 2024. Sam will double major in Math and Data Science, with plans to attend graduate school and go on to teach college level math.

- Sam received Florida Bright Futures Scholarship with a 4.95 GPA and a near perfect ACT of 35 out of 36. This will pay for his full tuition, books and fees.
- Sam has attended Hand Camp since 2009.

Savannah will be attending UF in the fall - go Gators!

- Savannah graduated with high honors, fully paid college tuition through Florida Bright Futures, and has received close to $15,000 in scholarships so far.
- Savannah recently attended her 17th year of Hand Camp and cannot wait to return as a volunteer!
The Disability Resource Center (DRC) at the University of Florida (UF) is dedicated to providing support and resources to students with disabilities, ensuring they have equal access to educational opportunities. Recently, the DRC had a wonderful experience meeting families during Hand Camp, where they made meaningful one-on-one connections through a fireside chat. This interaction allowed for in-depth discussions and personalized guidance.

During the fireside chat, we discussed IEPs (Individualized Education Programs) and 504 plans, exploring what these plans mean for a postsecondary institution and how they transition into college settings. We also covered the various aides available to students registered with the DRC, highlighting the comprehensive support provided to ensure their success. It was a great opportunity to talk openly, ask questions, and discuss the beautiful future of some amazing students!

The best advice I can offer is to meet with each institution’s Disability Center before making your decision on where to attend. It’s crucial to understand each center’s requirements, how they handle accommodations and documentation, and the specifics of housing and academic support. Once you feel confident in the services and support provided by the Disability Center, choosing the right postsecondary institution becomes much easier.

Jenna Gonzalez
University of Florida
jenna04@ufl.edu

Another Special Congratulations to our Hand Camp Siblings! We are incredibly proud of all your accomplishments!

Hand Camp Colorado is a wonderful opportunity for some of our out-of-state families. It is taking place August 3rd, from 9:00 am to 1:00 pm. The event will include games, skills activities, breakout sessions for parents, and lunch... so many opportunities to make new friends! Sign up deadline is July 7th, 2024. For more information, click here.

Ages 4-18
1 Buell Mansion Pkwy
Cherry Hill Village, CO 80113
John Dufek served Hands to Love as the president of our board of directors from 2008-2011. He shared his vast experience in non-profit leadership with Hands to Love having served on the board of Catholic Charities for many years. John embodied the spirit of selfless service.

As a reflection of John’s spirit, many volunteers have served and continue to serve selflessly to make Hands to Love a success.

To honor John and the countless volunteers who have served Hands to Love, the John Dufek Scholarship will assist in covering fees for volunteers willing and eager to serve Hands to Love but would be unable to without financial assistance.

Give to the fund here.

**INTERESTED IN VOLUNTEERING YEAR ROUND?**

While Hand Camp weekend undoubtedly requires countless volunteers, Hands To Love offers numerous volunteer opportunities throughout the year. To fill out a volunteer interest form, click [here](https://handstolove.org).

**COMING SOON**

Hands to Love will be registered with other non-profit organizations to participate in the Walmart Spark Good Round Up program. This program will help you support Hands To Love in two ways:

1) Round up to the nearest dollar on all purchases made through Walmart.com or the Walmart App

2) Visit the Hands To Love registry and have donated items shipped directly

*Additional details to come*
Hands To Love is a 501 (c)(3) non-profit organization. We strive to provide all H2L events and activities at the lowest possible cost to our families. We rely on the donations of generous supporters like you in providing services to upper limb different youth and their families.

Thank you for helping us make a difference!

To give, click here

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**SUMMER ADAPTATION IDEAS**

**Belt Fishing Pole Holder**

Stabilizes rod while fishing and reduces the grip and hand strength needed to support the weight of the rod.

**Swim Paddle**

Paddle increases surface area and helps to propel more water while swimming. Straps are stretchy and adjustable.

**Active Hands Gripping Aid**

Gripping aid may come in handy for kayaking or other water activities requiring paddling.

Calling ALL parents who have attended Hand Camp at least once in the last 3 years! You are invited to join us for a virtual discussion group on June 25th. Two spots per family are available but space is limited. Register here.

**OUR MISSION**

“Hands to Love (H2L) empowers children with upper limb differences and their families through connections, support, and resources.”

COMING IN THE FALL

Virtual Adaptive Yoga Classes

Be on the lookout for an interest survey in August!