



handstolove
“where difference does not equal disability”

Back to School

It's officially time to head back to school!

Here are some quick facts about IEP and 504 plans to make sure your student is setup for success to showcase their smarts!

Each school and school district may differ slightly in their processes, but generally:

An IEP plan sets changes or accommodations related to learning. A 504 plan sets accommodations for success with the standard curriculum.

Speak with your child's school if you have any questions or concerns, then you can work with their team to develop a plan.

Here are some accommodations to consider that may help your student succeed in class:

- use of adaptive devices and/or assistive technology
- extra time allowed on tests and assignments
- note-taking assistance or notes provided in advance
- use of computer or dictation for written assignments

Here's to a great school year!



Empower your child to advocate for themselves in their classroom- with their peers and their teachers. Talk through potential conversations at home to increase comfort and confidence with self-advocacy!

Bill & Susan Owens Volunteer Feature



2024 is Hands to Love's "Year of the Volunteer" and we would like to recognize Dr. Bill Owens and his entire family for their many years of service. Bill did his hand surgery fellowship in 1996 with Dr. Dell at the University of Florida before Hands to Love even existed but as is the case with many of Dr. Dell's fellows he and his wife Susan have given selflessly. Susan Owens is a science and math teacher at the Spartanburg Day School in Spartanburg, South Carolina and in 2017 volunteered for the first time assisting with the new STEM program at hand camp. Through the years both of their sons William and Thomas have supported the STEM curriculum and their daughter Lillian has volunteered as a family pal for several different campers and has supported programming as well. And the Owens family's commitment to Hands to Love didn't stop there! Susan, as the Spartanburg Day School Interact Club advisor, enlisted high school students several times to take the long road trip down from South Carolina and volunteer at hand camp and Thomas has helped his mom create curriculum, order supplies and implement the STEM program as a high school student. The Owens family exemplifies the generous giving spirit that defines the Hands to Love volunteer. We are blessed!

Refocusing for the Future: H2L's Summer Updates and Exciting Developments



By Courtney Wampler, Executive Director

Summer's slower pace has allowed the H2L office to refocus on our goal of becoming functional and sustainable. In May, the Board appointed Ruthie Dell as our new Chairperson. We appreciate her continued commitment to the organization she helped found. Her top priority is developing organizational and programming manuals to ensure consistency in our operations.

We've also started to deepen our understanding of our donors by analyzing our database to identify giving trends and connections with H2L. This will help us refine our fundraising communications and improve donor retention, which is essential for the sustainability of Hands to Love and our programs.

In June, we hosted a virtual discussion group with Hand Camp parents to gather feedback. We value the honest and constructive comments provided, which will guide our planning for Hand Camp 2025, our 25th annual camp.

We recently welcomed Angel, a University of Florida student, to our team. Angel, who led early morning yoga sessions at Hand Camp, is now using her passion for yoga to address the psychosocial needs of children with upper limb differences. She will be offering virtual adaptive yoga classes this fall (details below) and contributing to various office projects.

We're excited to announce a \$2,500 grant from the TJ Maxx Foundation, made possible by a Hand Camp family's connection with TJ Maxx. Our Hand Camp families and supporters have consistently been our most generous contributors. As we prepare for Hand Camp 2025, consider supporting us through these new giving opportunities:

- Walmart Round Up: Round up your online Walmart orders to the nearest dollar by selecting H2L as your charity of choice. Instructions are included in this newsletter.
- Monthly Giving: Set up a monthly donation through the button on our website. Monthly contributions of any amount are a great way to help us provide a meaningful camp experience for children with upper limb differences and their families.

We're looking forward to a focused fall season as we approach our 25th anniversary.

Feel free to reach out to me anytime for resources, support, or if you have any questions or concerns. My door is always open, and you can email me at courtney@handstolove.org.

Walmart Spark Good Round Up

The Walmart Spark Good Round Up Program is ready to go! Spark Good will help you support H2L by rounding up to the nearest dollar on all purchases made through Walmart.com or the Walmart App. You will also be able to view the Hands to Love Walmart registry and have donated items shipped directly to us before Hand Camp! Follow the steps below to support Hands to Love with every Walmart order.

- 1) Follow the link below to the Congenital Hand Camp Profile [here](#)
- 2) Sign in or create a Walmart account
- 3) Click the blue button to make Congenital Hand Camp your default charity
- 4) Shop!

Hands To Love

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Setting Up Recurring Donations

1. Navigate to handstolove.org and click on the "Donate" tab on the top right
2. Scroll down and click the blue "Make a Donation" button
3. Click the blue "Donate" button on the right side of the screen
4. A pop-up will appear with amount options. Instead of choosing "One-time," consider setting up a monthly, quarterly, or annual donation.

Feel free to email info@handstolove.org with any questions!

\$20 a month helps us provide a meaningful Hand Camp experience to our campers and their families!

Virtual Adaptive Yoga Classes



If you and your family are interested in participating in an adaptive, meditative yoga program Sept-Nov, **please fill out the interest survey** below:

[Interest Survey](#)

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](#)

