



January 2022

Dear Friends and Neighbors,

The past couple of years are ones all of us will remember, even though times and events seem to run together. While global pandemics changed the way we live, not everything coming out of that challenging time was without joy, growth and a newly found sense of purpose for our lives.

We Grow Dreams is a local non-profit greenhouse that trains and employs young adults with disabilities year-round. As the world changed, so did we in order to continue our mission.

Our high school transition team members stopped coming since it wasn't safe; yet the greenhouse was allowed to continue operations. Thankfully, a small contingent of folks dedicated their time to getting us through the growing and selling seasons. Once schools returned to operations, so did our students return to the greenhouse to continue their work.

Our team members are obviously the reason why we exist – to provide a place where their work is valued and needed, where they learn valuable skills of not just tasks but also of being an integral part of society, working independently as well as part of a team. We missed them so much and love seeing their smiling faces every week.

The WGD annual fundraising Bowlathon was postponed a few times in 2021 until we finally acknowledged that it simply couldn't happen. So, we are now back in full swing, with the hopes and dreams of a 'Best Ever' event in 2022. Funds raised through this event support ongoing programming and training for our team members. The calendar has a big star on Sunday, February 27 for the 16<sup>th</sup> WGD Bowlathon at Parkside Lanes in Aurora!

Anyone can join us for an afternoon of bowling fun, food, drink, raffles and a feel-good afternoon of knowing you are helping others achieve great things.

Sponsorships and donations are critical to this event and we would love your support. There are multiple levels of support available: Event, Supporting, Lane, and Bowler sponsorships and donations of all kinds are gratefully accepted for raffles and silent auction items. You can return the enclosed Donor and Sponsorship form, or you can sponsor us through our new online event website at [www.Bowlathon.net](http://www.Bowlathon.net). You can even upload your logo!

Your support means the world to us, and allows us to continue to change the lives of many who rely on us. Please commit to our Bowlathon event now, then mark your calendars to come out on the 27th of February and see the impact you are making. Thank you for choosing us...we couldn't do it without you.

Gail Bettcher, 2022 Bowlathon Chair – [gail@wegrowdreams.org](mailto:gail@wegrowdreams.org)

