

# The HeartBeat

## Welcome

Michael Hearts Academy (MHA) was created to represent the passionate love Michael Nelson had for others. He would help and give his last to anyone. Michael's unfortunately drowning accident led to him losing his life at the age of 14 on June 17, 2012. This hardship became the platform to help individuals with disabilities. Being that you do not know when they are hurting or in danger of the world. Michael Hearts Academy is here to assist as many individuals as possible with social skills in the community and educate the community to allow individuals to work.

### Who We Are:

Michael Hearts Academy, Inc is a nonprofit organization that was founded in 2019. We are in Central, Florida. Our objective is to increase social skills in individuals with intellectual disabilities (i.e. Austim) by providing various activities in the community with a focus on daily living skills to enhance their meaningful day. We also bring awareness to the community by educating them on these disabilities.

## The Anniversary

October 6, 2020 is the one-year Michael Hearts Academy has been operating. We have developed great relationship and looking forward to making more network connection. MHA has great plans for the upcoming years.

Picture below: Flag Football Fundraiser and two individuals played for fun



## Our Vision

Believing more individuals with disabilities can increase their abilities in the community and to live a productive life with their developmental disabilities.

### Our Mission:

Building an organization that provides unconventional interactive community experiences for individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities; by offering activities such as on the job training, summer, and year camp, promoting social, educational, and daily living skills.



## Inside Story Headline

Jennifer Biggins is originally from Cordele Georgia but lives in Orlando Florida. She graduated from Lake Region High school in Eagle Lake Florida. Ms. Biggins realizes her passions were taking care of others after interacting with children while working at the Department of children and families for Protective Services. It was her determination and love filled heart that leads her into caring for special needs

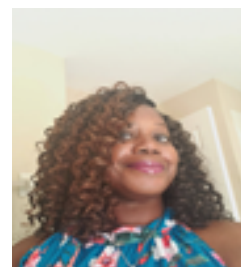
adults and children. The experience of being a victim of domestic violence and a single mother gave Jennifer a deeper appreciation for improving the quality of her life challenges. Jennifer is given the ultimatum test of life. Jennifer lost her oldest son in 2012. Life is the fine line of faith, being ready for whatever unknown coming into your path all while running a company.

*My Mission in Life is to Not Merely to Survive, But to Thrive; And to do so with some Passion, Some Compassion, Some Humor and Some Style. --- Maya Angelo*

### Events/ Awareness

- Jan- 2nd annual sweetheart dance
- Feb- 2nd annual flag football
- Mar- Madi Gras Bingo
- April- Movie Under the Stars
- May- Mothers Day "Sip & Paint"
- June- Michael Summer Kick off Jamboree
- July- Michael's Bowl-a-thon
- Aug- Back to School Drive
- Sept- Michael's Karaoke Night
- Oct- Michael's Heart Spooktacular
- Nov- Turkey Drive/Award Gala
- Dec- Toy Drive

### Meeting the Board Members





## Programs

We serve children ages 8-21 and adults 22 and up, from all socioeconomic backgrounds, races and religions, with programs that challenge, educate, and inspire. We bring together typically developing individuals, individuals with neurodevelopmental differences, individuals from underserved areas. We believe that by including as many children and young adults as possible, we create a stronger community that can learn and work together. Michael Hearts Academy will provide several services.

**Parental Support Workshops-** Parents are offered assistance with resources to enhance the lives of their disabled children; these include Specialized equipment, Training, and Consultations with professionals on physical therapy, speech therapy, occupational therapy, Guardianship and behavioral therapy. It's a great opportunity for parents to connect with other parents, share tips, and grow a community of support.

**After School Program-** We host sessions from 3-6 pm, Monday to Friday, where we create a calming environment for students with disabilities to improve their communication skills using special training and specialized devices. Hearts Getaway- Overnight weekends with movies, games, arts & crafts, Campfire stories and bond while socializing with others. Lots of different outside games such as basketball kickball flag football bean bag toss and more. Campers can arrive Friday at 5pm then pick up Sunday by 4pm

**Day/Summer Camp-**May to August - 10 week period where our students are taught critical thinking and cognitive skills. Students participate in activities such as music therapy, recreational sports, and socialization training. Day Camp runs year-round 730am-230p where individuals will attend weekly activities such as Art Adventure, Music's fest, Scavenger Hunt, and Summer Blast

**Vocational Rehabilitation-**Helping individuals get back to work and Educate the community. Providing on the job training. Assisting with interviews. Assisting with finding employment. Providing interview training. Assistance with attire for interview. Assist with filling out Application, Assist with preparing resume.

## Giving Tag Program

We asking your supporters to visit any BI-LO, Harveys, Winn-Dixie, or Fresco y Más store, purchase the \$2.50 Community Bag (pictured in my signature below) and use the attached Giving Tag to direct the \$1 donation to your organization. It's simple- just follow the instructions on the big tag with the blue heart on it.



## Upcoming Event

### October 2020

Anniversary Sale..... whole month  
 Pampered Chef Fundraiser .....1<sup>st</sup> to 9<sup>th</sup>  
 Register to Vote..... 5<sup>th</sup>  
 Trunk or Treat.....24<sup>th</sup>

### November 2020

Open Membership.....1<sup>st</sup>  
 Florida Vote Day.....3<sup>rd</sup>  
 Thanksgiving Turkey giveaway.....14  
 Founders Birthday.....21

### December 2020

X-mas Giveaway.....12<sup>th</sup>  
 Open Board members.....

## Micheal Hearts Academy, Inc

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*"Home Away From Home"*

Find us on the Web:  
[www.Michaelheartsacademy.org](http://www.Michaelheartsacademy.org)



## How to Become a Sponsor

Michael Hearts Academy Inc. is seeking donations for the following: camps for individuals with intellectual developmental disabilities, after school care for school aged individuals, job training, and daily living skills. Secure your sponsorship or donation and support Michael Hearts Academy Inc., commitment to provide these individuals with the opportunity for success and bring awareness to the community. As a potential sponsor you hold the key to success, not only does Michael Hearts Academy depend upon your continued support but our individuals are also counting on you.

## Sponsorship packages

Please contact us or go to [www.Michaelheartsacademy.org](http://www.Michaelheartsacademy.org) if you are interested in learning how to become a sponsor. We have different sponsorship packages.

Platinum Sponsor, Gold Sponsor, Silver Sponsor, and Bronze Sponsor packages

Other ways to Donate- Store on website, One-Time Sponsor an individual, Additional in-kind, Monthly and/or Annual. Make all Checks and money order out to Michael Hearts Academy, Inc. Mail to P.O Box 681783, Orlando, FL 32868.

Micheal Hearts Academy, Inc  
235 E 5th Street Ste 6  
Apopka, FL 32703



[Recipient Name]

[Street address]

[Address 2]

[City, ST ZIP Code]