

My Story of Resilience By Mike Lataille

November 2020

Mike, how did this calendar come about?

I am a consumer at Community Support Associates (CSA) in Hyannis and a Member of the Bridging Out Program at Bridges Associates, Inc. CSA donates meeting space to Bridges for this group.

I was taking painting lessons with Jax McKinnis, InspireArt as part of the CSA Rec Program. I enjoyed it. I even sold some paintings at an art show and fair five years ago. As we planned the yearly program activities at Bridging Out, we were thinking of things to do. I thought it would be cool to suggest group painting. The group liked my idea and agreed to hire Jax.

The group raised money to paint and pull the project together. All of the families helped out. We produced cards from the art and sold them at community fairs while we worked on a sales plan together. We were planning to get tables at Farmer's Markets and more church fairs.

When COVID-19 hit, it was obvious our sales plan would not work. In the meantime, our group has worked virtually since April. I had the idea of making a calendar with the group members art. Each person could have a page. I worked with Jax and Mary-Jane from Bridges to put the calendar together. Quicker Printing in South Yarmouth did a quick job for our first printing. Karen Ryan, Social Techie is helping us with a Facebook Page, and Desiree Cole, Cole Web Development made a webstore. In the future, we hope to invite other groups to collaborate in our venture.

Together While Apart! We are proud of this project. When you think of holiday gifts, please consider supporting our project and order a calendar.

Visit www.bridgesassociates.com/shop to order a copy!

If you are interested in painting or planning with us, we will begin working on 2022 soon! <u>info@bridgesassociates.com</u> or 508-362-7692 or 508-574-0604