Who doesn’t remember going to the movies as a child. Smelling that fresh popped movie popcorn, hanging out with friends and maybe, just maybe meeting that special someone the makes your heart want to jump out of your chest.

That’s what MOVIE TIME is all about. Taking our residents, male, female, young and old. It takes them back to the old days, when they were young and carefree. They enjoy being out of the facility, getting to meet other people, reminiscing about when they were young and how they would walk to the dime store and buy a milkshake, then meet up with friends and walk to the movies. This involves all of our resident’s, it helps with morale and gives them something to look forward to each month.

It addresses issues like boredom, morale, loneliness, sadness. Its purpose is to get residents out of the facility, get them thinking about their past, opening up chances for them to meet new people and make new friends while still remembering their old friends. It gives them something to look forward to and know that they are going to get to relive some of their past, we have had so many that have said it makes them feel like a kid again. That pulls at your heart to see them happy, laughing, smiling, having a good time with friends.

This activity helps every resident that is living at our facility. All groups can be involved, we have a wheelchair van so all resident can go if they wish. It works by boosting morale because they know they are going to get to go each month, it helps with boredom, loneliness, and it takes them back to the times when they were a child and how simple life was back then. Some of them say they go just for the popcorn and coke, some go for the socialization, some go just to “get way” for a while, the benefits go on and on.

The challenges we have is that is takes several staff member and volunteers and sometimes it’s hard to find volunteers to help. We only have one wheelchair van so it takes several trips when we have a lot of residents in wheelchairs but the Theater is very close so it doesn’t take long for us to transport them there.

We always pay for it out of our petty cash or activity budget. Resident’s never pay. Sometimes we have fund raisers but most of the time it comes from our budget. The cost is $5.00 per person and that includes admission to the movie, popcorn and a drink.