



THE STELLAR GAZETTE

FEBRUARY 2026 • VOL. 26

Welcoming the New Year

BRITTNI HODINKO - DIRECTOR OF PROGRAMMING

We closed out the year with a beautiful admin holiday party, taking time to pause and truly appreciate the leadership, collaboration, and dedication that keep Supernova strong; It was a moment to reflect on everything we've accomplished together and to celebrate the people behind the scenes who work tirelessly to support our mission every single day. The laughter, connection, and gratitude shared that evening were a powerful reminder of just how special this team is.



We then welcomed the new year in the most inspiring way possible – by cheering on S.E.M. at her cheerleading competition in Cleveland, Ohio. Watching her perform with such confidence, determination, and pride was nothing short of amazing. She did so well, and we could not be more proud of her growth and accomplishments. Moments like these remind us why we do what we do and how impactful consistent support, encouragement, and belief can be. If S.E.M.'s success is any indication of what 2026 has in store for Supernova, we are truly in for something extraordinary.



We also want to take a moment to express our deepest gratitude to our dedicated staff who continue to show up no matter what – even in the midst of snow, ice, and challenging winter weather. From shoveling to adjusting schedules and making sure our individuals are supported without disruption, your commitment does not go unnoticed. Your reliability, compassion, and resilience are what set Supernova apart. Because of you, we continue to raise the bar and remain the best of the best. Thank you for all that you do, especially when it isn't easy.



Events and Celebrations

AMY STROMBERG - HUMAN RESOURCES DIRECTOR

Welcome February! For such a short month, February is packed with celebrations, other occasions and highlights Black History Month as well as Heart Awareness Month.

- February 2, 2026: Groundhog Day
- February 4, 2026: World Cancer Day
- February 4 to 22, 2026: Winter Olympics competition window in Milano Cortina, with the Opening Ceremony on February 6
- February 6, 2026: National Wear Red Day for heart health
- February 8, 2026: Super Bowl LX in Santa Clara
- February 10, 2026: Safer Internet Day
- February 11, 2026: International Day of Women and Girls in Science
- February 14, 2026: Valentine's Day
- February 16, 2026: Presidents' Day
- February 17, 2026: Lunar New Year, Year of the Fire Horse
- February 17, 2026: Random Acts of Kindness Day
- February 20, 2026: World Day of Social Justice



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Happy Anniversary to our Supernova Employees!

THANK YOU FOR CONTINUING TO SHINE BRIGHT WITH US!

SAMANTHA OKEL

JAN. 7TH, 2025

MACKENZIE SKIDMORE

JAN. 8TH, 2024

MICHELE GRANDE

JAN. 25TH, 2022

MCKENNA THOMAS

JAN. 30TH, 2025

THELMA HICKLE

JAN. 31ST, 2022



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Meet Our New Supernova Staff!



Beatrice "Bea" Thomas
DSP

1.) What do you like to do in your spare time?

I like to watch movies!

2.) What is your favorite movie?

All the Godfather movies.

3.) If you could visit any place in the world, where would it be?

France!



Jennifer Morasco
DSP

1.) Do you have any hidden talents or hobbies?

Photography!

2.) What is your idea of the perfect day?

Going to the beach!

3.) What is the best concert you've been too?

The Rolling Stones when I lived in California.



Zachary Young
DSP

1.) Do you have any hidden talents or hobbies?

I like to make cover art for my music playlists.

2.) What is your idea of the perfect day?

Relaxing, going on a walk and the sun needs to be shining!

3.) What is the best concert you've been too?

Jason Aldean!

**WE ARE HIRING FULL/PART-TIME DSP'S \$18.50
HOURLY. REFER FAMILY/FRIENDS FOR A ONE-TIME
REFERRAL BONUS OF \$100 *NEW STAFF MUST WORK
3 MONTHS IN ORDER TO RECEIVE BONUS***



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Shining a Light on C.R.

C.R. is loving, caring and very independent; he loves to go out to eat and have a beer with his meals that he picks himself. C.R. is also a ladies man and loves to entertain them. When his family comes to visit it is one of his favorite pastimes, and Halloween is the best time of year because he likes to scare people with his mask!



Celebrating D.B.

MICHELE GRANDE - PROGRAM SPECIALIST/RECREATIONAL THERAPIST

The month after the holidays is always a little slow, but luckily we had something fun to bring some excitement—D.B.'s birthday! 🎉 We celebrated the birthday girl with a lunch out at Applebee's followed by ice cream cake and presents back at the office. D.B. is especially excited to use her gift certificate for a massage and enjoy some well-deserved relaxation. Happy Birthday, D.B.!! ❤️



Celebrating the Launch of CPI Verbal Intervention!

MELISSA HITCHMAN - ASSISTANT RESIDENTIAL DIRECTOR

Supernova is excited to announce the successful launch of CPI Verbal Intervention! This achievement marks another incredible milestone in our journey toward Performance-Based Contracting and reflects the hard work, dedication, and teamwork that define our organization. We want to congratulate every team member who has supported, prepared for, or participated in this rollout; Your commitment to growth and excellence continues to move Supernova forward in powerful ways.

★What is CPI Verbal Intervention?

CPI Verbal Intervention focuses on strengthening communication, empathy, and understanding. This innovative training equips our staff with tools to manage difficult situations through compassion, professionalism, and composure—helping everyone work together in safer, more respectful environments.

Through this training, participants learn how to:

- Communicate with empathy and confidence
- Recognize early signs of tension or distress
- Use de-escalation strategies effectively
- Foster positive, supportive interactions grounded in respect.

When we communicate with care, everyone wins!



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February Kindness Challenge!

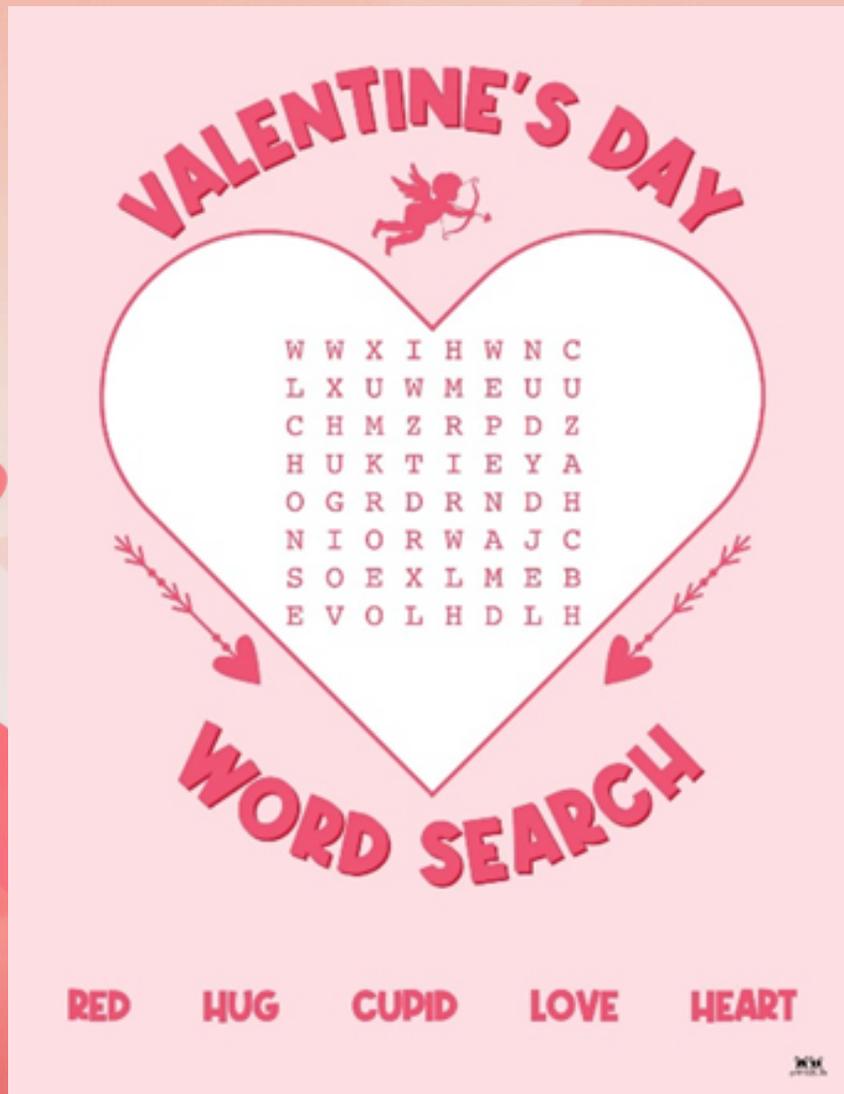
HEATHER MILLER - DIRECTOR OF BEHAVIOR SUPPORTS

February is a month all about love, connection, kindness, and caring for ourselves and others. This month, let's focus on showing kindness in small ways, building positive relationships, and celebrating the progress we make every day.

♥ February Kindness Challenge

Try to complete at least one each week:

- Say something kind to someone=
- Help a friend
- Do something kind for yourself



RELIAS

A reminder to all staff to please keep monitoring your Relias accounts for upcoming due dates to ensure that we are in compliance with the 6400 Regulations, for we must acquire 24 hours of training each year. Thank you all for being amazing as always!



Want your ideas featured in the Supernova Newsletter?

Please contact Amy Stromberg, HR Director, for more info!

amystromberg@supernovaservices.org



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