

## SPOTLIGHT FRIDAY



In December of 2018, my brother, Royce Fontenot, came to live with me and my husband in Lafayette, after our mom passed away. Prior to that, he lived with her in Oakdale, LA. She was bedridden and we had 24 hour sitters to take care of both of them. Moving here was a huge adjustment for Royce since he grew up in the country and lived there for all of his 43 years. Life was a lot slower in his small town and unfortunately, there were few activities or services in the area for him to participate in. I knew that I needed to find organizations right away to help with his disabilities, make friends, and feel included in his new community.

I did a lot of research and was thrilled to learn about Families Helping Families and their mission "to assist and strengthen individuals with disabilities and their families through a coordinated network of resources, services, and supports".

They have been a perfect resource for us in so many ways and I knew that I could turn to them for advice and guidance, not just for Royce's needs, but for my many questions as I navigated my new role as his caregiver. One of their services includes The Lagniappe Club which offers opportunities for adults with disabilities to meet and enjoy activities in the community. So far, Royce has participated in a movie night at The Grand, eating at Crub Burger, attending a UL softball game, and a cooking class. We look forward to reconnecting with our new friends at each monthly outing.

I'm happy to say that Royce is thriving in Lafayette and it is truly a blessing to have the wonderful people of FHF in our lives.

*-Ava Hebert*



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