

Memorial Page for Matt Enyart



This page is dedicated to Matt Enyart who passed away on July 13, 2023. Although Matt is not from Minnesota, we honor his work in establishing the Home and Community Positive Behavior Support Network (HCPBS).

Matt Enyart was a founding member of the HCPBS Network established in 2011. Together with Meme Hieneman, Matt recruited other leaders in the field to join forces in establishing Home and Community PBS, one of today's largest APBS networks today. Matt and his team did groundbreaking work in bringing PBS principles into outside organizational structures.

Matt was a tireless advocate for his community and worked his entire career in promoting positive behavior support. Matt's friendliness, sense of humor and enthusiasm for PBS was a magnet to engage others in the cause to promote and amplify the use of PBS in settings outside of the classroom.



Matt Enyart, Kris Matthews, & Joe Lucyshyn

Related Links

APBS Memorial Page: (Coming Soon)

[Local Article Celebrating Matt Enyart](#)

Stories and Reflections from Others

The following reflections and pictures give you a sense of who Matt was as a person in the world. Please add your thoughts. Send your stories and reflections to: mnpbsnetwork@gmail.com.

Ashley Greenwald, Nevada

Matt was one of my very first friends at APBS. He and I connected over our passion for families and we became quick friends and colleagues, comparing notes on projects, failures, and successes. He and I just really seemed to understand the work that we each were doing. We had many phone calls and participated in work groups together for years. It was always one of the highlights to see him and catch up together at

conferences. His positive energy and supportive nature were always so encouraging. Matt was a true friend and he is very missed!

Kris Matthews, Kansas

Anyone who knew Matt, knows that he was downright evangelical about positive behavior support, especially in the context of home and community-based settings. He truly believed that PBS with a focus on person-centered planning and quality of life could address almost any challenges encountered by individuals, families, organizations, and communities. He was so excited to bring PBS training to almost all of the Community Mental Health Centers in Kansas and he talked about expanding out far and wide. When I asked him once, "What's next?" He said (with that charming smile), "The world! PBS takes over the world!" And he wasn't kidding. In his too-short of time on this planet, he trained organizations in states outside of Kansas and as far away as Singapore. Coming to the APBS conference was truly one of the highlights of the year for him. He had so much respect for his colleagues and maintained strong relationships with those he met there. I was especially fortunate to co-train with him throughout Kansas, co-present with him regionally and nationally, and simply to learn so much by seeing PBS through his passionate lens. As his partner, I was in awe of his ambition, his commitment to the field, and the respect he had for those he served. He saw the best in people and wanted to collaborate with...well almost everyone he met on his journey! He was passionate in his work and in his life. He left us way to soon. But he also left an everlasting legacy in his wake and much work left to be done in his spirit.

Rachel Freeman, Minnesota

I had the honor of working with Matt Enyart when I worked at the University of Kansas. Matt was really good at bringing groups of people together to work on important changes in the community. I wanted to share this picture Matt made as he was preparing for the last Chicago APBS Conference. Matt recruited people across Kansas to join the Amtrak to go to Chicago together and he created this picture (see below) to encourage people to join the caravan going to APBS (and he was teasing me in a positive and funny way that showed he thought I was important).

Matt was the person I turned to when I didn't know what to do and needed help. When Larry and I were having a health crisis, I called Matt and asked him to come to my house and help me figure things out. Matt dropped whatever he was doing at the time and made sure Larry and I were taken care of...this is the type of person I celebrate and remember. I will miss him.



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