

Happy Thanksgiving

Can you remember what you were thankful for exactly one year ago? Those of us in the events business were scrambling to re-think who and what we are and where, all the while "Zoom-ing" around the world safe and secure in our offices. We missed large family gatherings, we worried about our loved ones and yet we kept on going!

One year later, that light at the end of the tunnel is NOT the train coming but a true light... we are beginning to get our events back up and running, with caution, and still with a virtual element; sponsors are rejoining the ranks, and families are able to gather for a Thanksgiving celebration.

As most of you know I have a nonprofit organization called *Sylvia's Children* where we support a school in Mbiriizi, Uganda, Africa. During this time of thanksgiving, I realize how thankful I am for the opportunity to work with these folk. They are kind, generous, resilient, smart, generous and yet they do not have the luxuries of life that we experience here in America. They don't have food banks, unemployment insurance, electricity or running water, and public transportation has been halted since March 13, 2020 and, still, they do not complain.

Take time this year to say "thanks" for all the simple things of life (running water, electricity, transportation, social services) that help us during times of deprivation and, most of all, thanks for everyone's ability to survive and keep going!

With gratitude,

Sylvia Allen

Sylvia Allen Event Producer Allen Consulting, Inc.

732.241.1144 or Sylvia.Allen@allenconsulting.com

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