

February 2025 <u>Literacy Spotlight: Tutor, Ania Harrell</u>



We are excited to introduce Ania Harrell, the newest addition to our literacy department as a volunteer literacy tutor! Ania brings a passion for education and a commitment to helping learners develop essential reading and writing skills. With a background in bioengineering and biomedical engineering from the New Jersey Institute of Technology, she is eager to make a meaningful impact on the lives of our clients. Ania works full-time as a quality engineer at Medline Industries, LP, the largest provider of medical-surgical products and supply chain solutions serving all points of care. During her academic journey, she was actively involved in organizations such as Women's Basketball, the National Society of Black Engineers, the Society of Hispanic Professional Engineers, and the Prosthetics Club. Her focus was on biomechanics, with a minor in nanotechnology.

Ania's first literacy student is Lavonne Harris, who now reads at a third-grade level. Lavonne aspires to work for his uncle's local landscaping business and eventually earn his GED. Ania provides patient, personalized instruction to help him achieve his goals.

When asked about her motivation for joining our literacy program, Ania shared, "I've always been passionate about education and believe that everyone deserves the chance to learn. I'm honored to be part of a community that values literacy as a fundamental right."

We are thrilled to have Ania as part of our team and look forward to seeing the positive impact she will make. If you see her at our Berteau location, be sure to give her a warm welcome!

CRS Legacy: Urban Adventures

February proved to be a challenge for Legacy participants with bitter cold temperatures, snow, and ice making travel difficult. However, participants didn't let that get in the way of their desire to have fun. The group simply dressed for the weather and took every opportunity to venture out and explore. Highlights for the month included outings to the Field Museum, going to the Levy Center, the DuSable Museum, lunch at Golden Corral, and the Art Institute.

















Avondale, and Rockwell CILA: Valentine's Day

The staff from Avondale and Rockwell acknowledged Valentine's Day by gifting every resident with their very own special Valentine's Day gift. Each man received a festival Valentine balloon, and a gift bag filled with some special treats and personal items that each man would enjoy. Judging by the smiles on all of their faces, it sure looks like the gifts were a hit.

















Rockwell CILA: Super Bowl Celebration

The men of Rockwell were excited to watch Super Bowl LIX. The matchup between the Kansas City Chiefs and the Philadelphia Eagles was highly anticipated to be a fierce battle, but the Eagles came out on top. The final score was Eagles 40 - Chiefs 22. The guys from Rockwell may not have been rooting for the same team but they but they had a great time watching the game together and enjoying the fantastic spread of food!





















ICILA: Staying Connected Fun with Friends

There have been many cold days however that hasn't stopped ICILA from enjoying fun activities together such as a Valentine's Day Bingo Party and a Matine Movie with popcorn. We are Looking forward to March!!!!













