

Anixtercenter DISABILITY SERVICES

January 2025

CRS Choice: Community Connections

BRRRR! IT'S COLD OUT HERE, but that has not stopped our Choice individuals from making the most out of this cold season. This month was full of new experiences, and indoor fun! The individuals participated in a movement and motion class at a fitness center where they got their blood flowing and burned off some calories, while also enjoying going to the bowling alley with peers. To knock off the chill they enjoyed making hot cocoa and roasting s'mores in their cooking class. They even chose to enjoy some healthier options by making fruit kabobs. Even though it's been bitterly cold this month, the individuals still took time out to give back to their community by volunteering at Bernie's Book Bank and Cradle to Crayons. It has been an eventful month, and we look forward to what more this winter season has in store for us.



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CRS Legacy: Urban Adventures

CRS Legacy participants continued to venture out into the community during the month of January despite the bitter cold. Participants just bundled up and went about business as usual. One of their favorite experiences is volunteering at Bernie's Book Bank. Highlights for the month included outings to the Field Museum, shopping and lunch at the Lincolnwood Mall and the HIP Mall, bowling, and the Art Institute. Participants also helped their friend, Lamont celebrate his birthday!



Avondale CILA: Men on the Move

The guys at Avondale continue to keep busy and enjoy each other's company. They love going on community outings, but they also enjoy playing a variety of games together at home, like one of their favorites. horseshoes. The group took time out to help their buddy, William celebrate his birthday!



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Avondale, Oakley, and Rockwell CILA: Ringing In the New Year

The residents of Avondale and Rockwell were very excited to celebrate New Year's Eve together by having their very own New Year's Eve parties. Staff provided food and lots of fun complete with New Year's party favors, watching the New Year's Eve countdown on TV, and sparkling juice to toast and welcome 2025!



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Rockwell CILA: Men of Action

The men of Rockwell had many opportunities during the month to go out in the community for a variety of activities. Some of these outings were just for fun, like going out to lunch and socializing. Other outings gave the guys opportunities to take care of personal business, like shopping for desired or needed items. Although shopping can be fun, it also allowed the guys to work on and practice skills like making purchases, handling money or using their debit cards. The guys also had opportunities at home to practice skills like cooking with the guidance and support of the house staff. Participating in these activities and demonstrating their skills gave all the guys a true sense of pride.



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Literacy Spotlight: Tutor, Madelaine Dintelman **Empowering Growth Through Dedication**



Madelaine Dintelman, one of our outstanding literacy tutors, has been making a significant impact since she began working with her dedicated learner, Luzelie Roman, in November 2023. Meeting on a consistent basis, Madelaine and Luzelie have built a fantastic relationship rooted in trust, collaboration, and aspirational goals!

Luzelie, a motivated adult literacy learner, is eager to master “real-world” life skills to enhance her independence. Madelaine has been instrumental in helping Luzelie bridge the gap between literacy lessons and practical applications. Together, they’ve tackled essential life skills and important literacy skills. By integrating and blending literacy skill and life skill concepts into Luzelie’s daily routine, Madelaine has ensured that learning is both meaningful and relevant.

Currently, Madelaine and Luzelie are working on possessive pronouns and digraphs, paving the way for Luzelie to strengthen her language foundations. Recognizing her learner’s needs, Madelaine has planned to focus next on consonant blends and differentiating between commonly confused words such as “this,” “that,” “these,” and “those.” Her thoughtful, learner-centered approach allows Luzelie to make steady progress toward her goals. We are inspired by Madelaine’s commitment and the positive, collaborative environment she fosters with Luzelie. Together, they exemplify how literacy tutoring can empower learners and transform lives. With their genuine connection and deliberate focus on growth, we are confident that Madelaine and Luzelie will continue to achieve remarkable milestones!