

Anixtercenter DISABILITY SERVICES

April 2025

ICILA: Staying Connected Fun with Friends

April may have brought a few showers and cold weather however that did not stop ICILA from enjoying fun outings and activities in the community. The individuals loved bowling, eating at local restaurants and walking around the mall doing light shopping. Of course, they are excited about May.



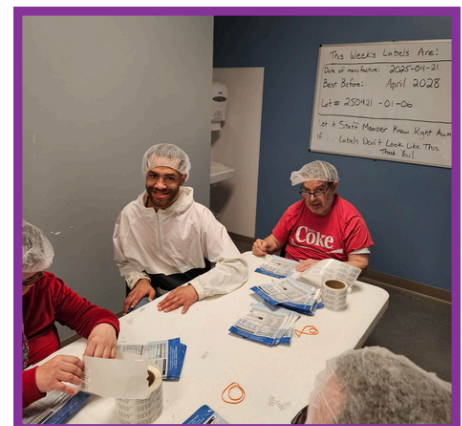
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CRS Legacy: Urban Adventures

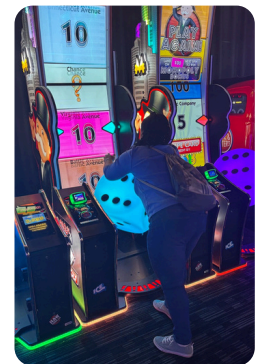
The month of April lived up to the saying, "April showers bring May flowers" as rainfall was at a premium this month. However, Legacy participants did not let that prevent them from having fun with their friends. They continued to volunteer at Bernie's Book Bank and Feed My Starving Children. They visited iconic locations like Navy Pier, the Chicago Botanic Garden, and the Lincoln Park Zoo. The group was very excited to celebrate Easter with a party that included an Easter Egg Hunt, sweet treats, and souvenir bunny ears. Participants are looking forward to what comes next in May as warmer weather will bring more opportunities for outdoor events.



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CRS Choice: Community Connections

April has been a soggy month, but that has not stopped our Choice individuals from making the most out of this rainy season. The individuals continued to participate in a movement and motion class at a local fitness center where they showed off their agility skills and stamina. Cooking class remains a favorite activity as clients continued to enhance their skills in the kitchen. There were trips to downtown Chicago for some shopping, a favorite activity. Participants continued to volunteer at Bernie's Book Bank and Feed My Starving Children. The highlight of the month was going to Dave and Buster's. The group had a fantastic time playing all of the games.



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Literacy Spotlight: Dianca Morris **Reading Her Way to Independence and Happiness**



Every Monday, Dianca Morris walks into her literacy session with her tutor, Tom Williamson, with a smile on her face and hope in her heart. Dianca isn't just any learner—she's a friendly, music-loving young woman with a purposeful vision. Dianca joined the program with the goal of gaining the life skills and writing skills that she needs to support her occupational and domestic goals.

Dianca is currently reading a book about her favorite singer, Billie Eilish. She adores Billie's poetic lyrics, unique style, and expressive personality. Dianca might try to contribute to the Billie Eilish Reedit fan page. Tom is hoping to build Dianca's confidence in writing so that she can participate in the Billie Eilish Fan community!

Dianca's literacy goals go beyond fandom. She has a clear life mission: to get a job at the local Footlocker shoe store, located within walking distance of her home. She wants to earn her own paycheck and use it to buy new bed sheets for her grandparents, who have raised her with love and care. Dianca enjoys living with her grandparents. One of Dianca's daily joys is making her grandparents' bed every morning—something she sees as a symbol of love and responsibility.

Tom hopes to strengthen Dianca's communication skills. While she mostly communicates with SMS texts—she's working hard with Tom to improve her handwriting so she can write notes and letters to friends and family. Learning to write with confidence will open doors for Dianca, from employment opportunities to expressing herself socially.