

June 2025 <u>Literacy Spotlight: Welcome, Katy Dicker</u>

We're excited to welcome Katy Dicker, a passionate new Learner to our literacy program! Katy Dicker, who recently joined the program, is already making remarkable strides toward her educational dreams! She meets weekly with her new tutor, Janet Gosnell, for one-on-one sessions focused on advancing her literacy skills and preparing for the GED—a milestone Katy is determined to achieve.



Originally from Sherman Oaks, California, Katy attended Bridgeport High School, where she received a certificate of completion, but not a diploma or GED. Katy always knew that the "certificate of completion" was not the same as a high school diploma. Now independently living in Chicago and attending Anixter's day program on Berteau Ave., Katy has found a fresh start in our supportive learning environment. Though she previously tried community GED classes, Katy's brother Matthew realized that Katy thrives best with individualized instruction. After the community GED classes didn't' work out, Matthew and Katy reached out to our literacy coordinator to enroll in the literacy program (hoping that specialized attention and detailed services would remedy Katy's needs).

Katy reads at a 9th-grade level and is eager to build the advanced college-level math, reading, and writing skills needed to enter community college or a vocational program. She expresses a deep desire to "understand the true meaning of words and the stories I read." Katy's thoughtful curiosity also inspires her creative side—Katy journals regularly about daily life. Her long-term dream? To become a published writer!

We're proud to support Katy on her literacy journey and thrilled to see what she and Janet will accomplish together. Welcome, Katy—we believe in your voice, your goals, and your future!

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CRS Legacy: Urban Adventures



CRS Legacy participants remained very active during the month of June. They took part in exciting activities on site and continued their adventures in the community. They had a number of special occasions to celebrate during the month. Participants helped their friend, Carlotta celebrate her 60th birthday. They helped their friend Cass celebrate his medal win at the Special Olympics. They also were celebrated Juneteenth together with a wonderful BBQ along with their frinds from the CRS Choice pgoram.











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CRS Choice: Community Connections

CRS Choice participants remained very active during the month of June. They continued to explore all that the Chicagoland area has to offer. There were a variety of trips to shop, trips downtown Chicago to explore the parks, bowling, volunteering, the Chicago Riverwalk, the Peggy Notebaert Nature Museum, the Lincoln Park Zoo, and so much more. Participants also took part in a variety of interesting classes on site including knitting, gardening, and cooking classes. They had lots of fun during the month and can't wait for July.

Gardening Class









Knitting Class









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ICILA: Staying Connected Fun with Friends

ICILA learners truly enjoyed themselves in June. They had a blast celebrating birthdays and learning how to golf. Of course, next month will be just as great.













