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DISABILITY SERVICES

October 2026

Residential CILAs Outing: Fright Fest at Six Flags Great America

On Saturday, October 24th our Residential Services Team supported CILA residents as they traveled to Six Flags Great America to participate in Fright Fest! The day began early as staff filled the vans with excited residents of our Avondale, Mclean, Oakley, and Unity CILAs and began their trek to have some Fright Fest fun. To say the group was excited is an understatement. The smiles that appeared on everyone's faces throughout the day let anyone around know how much fun they were having. Whether it was the fantastic Halloween decor, the fabulous food, the brilliant lights, the thrilling rides, or a combination of them all, fun was had by all!









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Residential CILAs Outing: Fright Fest at Six Flags Great America
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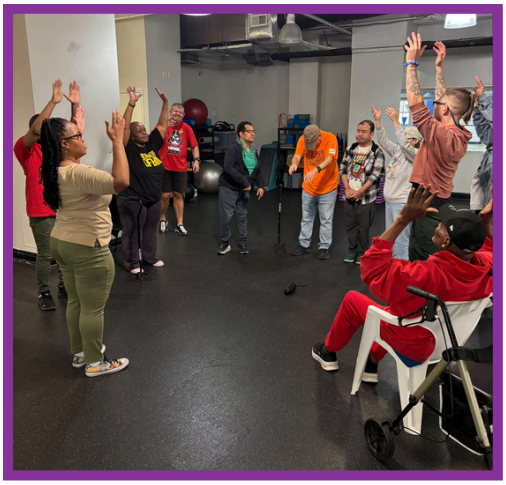
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CRS Choice: Community Connections

CRS Choice had a very busy October. Participants engaged in a variety of organized classes including some favorites like cooking, yoga, arts & crafts, and the Movement and Motion Class at the Edgewater Athletic Club. The weather was mild during the month which made going on adventures out in the community that much more fun. There were many opportunities to shop at local malls and plaza as well as some independent stores. Favorite outings during the month included Navy Pier, the Museum of Science and Industry, bowling, the Lincoln Park Zoo and Conservatory, the Harry Potter Store, Spirit Halloween, Golden Corral, and going to a pumpkin patch.











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CRS Choice and CRS Legacy: Halloween Parties

Our CRS Choice and CRS Legacy Day Programs ended the month of October on a high note as they all got into the spirit and celebrated Halloween. Halloween is always a favorite time at our day programs as the holiday is all about silliness and fun. Many participants came to the programs dressed in costume as their favorite character. Whether they were dressed as a superhero, a teddy bear, a pumpkin, a villain, a ghost or a ghoul, they all had fun. There were tricks and treats, music and dancing, and goodies galore. A great ending to the month.













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Literacy Tutor Spotlight:
Sara Thompson - Helping Prepare for GED



Anixter Adult Literacy is proud to celebrate Sara Thompson, a dedicated volunteer tutor who has spent the summer helping adult learner Charles Brown work toward an important milestone: earning his GED! Charles was referred to the Literacy Program because he expressed a strong desire to earn his GED. The Literacy Department matched Charles with Sara, who has been working closely with him since June 2026.

Sara brings a diverse educational and professional background to her volunteer work. She studied biology at the University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign and has experience in research, healthcare, laboratory work, and customer service. Her previous role as a certified nursing assistant involved supporting medical staff and helping patients feel calm and comfortable. These experiences reflect valuable qualities for a literacy tutor, including organization, patience, problem-solving, and the ability to support others as they work toward meaningful goals.

Throughout the summer, Sara and Charles have met regularly for one-on-one tutoring sessions focused on GED preparation. Their work has included reviewing practice materials, strengthening academic skills, completing practice tests, and carefully assessing Charles's progress. Sara has consistently challenged Charles to build his knowledge, identify areas for improvement, and develop the confidence needed to approach the exam! Through weekly practice and pretesting, they have worked together to turn his long-term goal into an achievable next step.

Now, Charles is ready to take his GED exam! His overall pretest scores indicate that he is on track to pass, marking an exciting turning point in his educational journey. While the official exam will be the next important step, Charles has made tremendous progress toward a goal that requires preparation, perseverance, and a strong support system.

Congratulations to Sara and Charles on this exciting milestone! We thank Sara for her dedication, encouragement, and commitment to Charles's success!