

## **Community Engagement Report**

**May 2023**

**Visits – 610**

**Volunteer Visits – 8 (10 hours)**

In May, the Community Learning Center had a total of 610 separate visits and 8 volunteers provided 10 hours of volunteer time. May's volunteers assisted with setting up for and assisting individuals with BINGO on Fridays, assisting individuals during activities and classes, providing childcare during the monthly Parent-to-Parent meeting, and maintaining the outdoor flower beds.

The Center continued to have growth of participation in all activities and classes with the size of crafts and BINGO groups drawing the largest number of participants with an average of 40 people each day. The Wednesday afternoon Get Fit has also started to grow in number of participants with many staying after to hang out and play games in the sensory room while Project STIR classes are held in the activity room. The Project STIR class continued to move forward in learning about self-determination, self-advocacy and their rights and responsibilities in May.

In May, Melissa provided Mandt System certification classes to 14 area DSP's and met with Dr. Wilcox and Jen Meyers from Kirksville R-III Schools to discuss providing Mandt System Training for the District. Some administrative staff will begin their certifications in July. Melissa will then provide trainings the full week of August 14<sup>th</sup> - 18<sup>th</sup> and during some professional development days throughout the year with the goal of having all district staff trained (including paraprofessionals) within the next few years beginning with staff who support and work with students who have disabilities and other complex support needs.

Melissa also participated in the monthly Transition Coalition and System of Care meetings and spoke on the monthly Area Scene spot for SB40. She also facilitated the second People First meeting where participants began working on setting the ground work for creating a Northeast Missouri People First Chapter and developed their Mission Statement, *"People advocating to teach cooperation by working together to ensure voices are heard."*

The Young Adult Neuro-Diverse Social Group and Parent-to-Parent Group both met in May. The parent group met on May 18<sup>th</sup> with five families attending. Kristin Lovin with MPACT provided the training, "Special Education, What I Need to Know." The social group met on May 27<sup>th</sup> to play games, listen to music, and enjoy ice-cream with eight participants.

Angela prepared and lead all of the activities and classes with the exception of Project STIR, during May. She also created the monthly community activities calendar for June and worked with volunteers to send out 420 newsletters and coordinated other volunteer tasks throughout the month.