



Adair County SB40 Developmental Disability Board
314 East McPherson Street
Kirkville, MO 63501

Postage
Information

X

You can help support activities and classes at the Community Learning Center by donating to the [Adair County DD Link](https://sb40life.org)
Visit <https://sb40life.org> or scan this QR Code



Come Join Us!

The Community Learning Center (CLC) is a great place to meet new people, learn new skills, learn how to be your own best advocate, and meet your sensory needs while having fun. The Center is open to the community, as space allows, for most classes and activities. We would love to have you join us!

The Center is open Tuesday - Friday from 8AM-5PM for you to take part in the many scheduled activities and classes that we have available or to use the Sensory Room. **You can also make an appointment to visit on a Monday by contacting Melissa at the CLC by calling 660-665-9400.**

In January, we have several new classes and activities planned to help keep you busy during the cold. On Tuesdays, we have brought back a few favorites - Game Time and Exercise Your Mind. Angela will also be leading a three week activity, Fun with Music where you can explore different activities that involve music. On Wednesdays, we have added a new class for people who have graduated from Project STIR in the last 12 months and want to become Peer Teachers. If you are interested in this class, please contact Melissa as registration is required. Don't forget that you are welcome to stop in anytime even if there are no scheduled activities at that time.

***If you would prefer to receive this mailing as an email, please contact Melissa
(clc@sb40life.org)***



Developmental Disability Board

Adair County SB40 Developmental Disability Board

DD Resource Center
314 E. McPherson Street
Kirkville, MO 63501
(660) 665-9400
sb40@sb40life.org

Community Learning Center
1107 Country Club Drive
Kirkville, MO 63501
(660) 660-9400
clc@sb40life.org

Website: <https://sb40life.org>

January 2024

15th Annual Community Engagement Conference

Registration is now open for the 15th Annual Community Engagement Conference on March 2, 2024, 8AM-3PM, at Kirkville R-III's William Matthew Middle School and you won't want to miss it! This year's conference will feature Keynote Speaker, Cody Clark. Cody is a magician and Autistic self-advocate. In addition to his keynote, "Dis-Impos-Ability, Cody will hold a question and answer session, a breakout session and a magic show!

This **FREE** one-day annual conference is open to the entire Northeast Missouri area and will bring individuals with disabilities and their families, provider agency staff, area professionals, and community members together to focus on learning how to support people with disabilities and to live a "MAGICAL" life. The conference will offer 15 breakout sessions focusing on advocacy, childhood, transitioning to adulthood, assistive technology, and skills for resiliency, a parent panel, and exhibitor areas.

Registration by February 16, 2024 includes:

- Refreshments and entertainment during registration
- Free lunch *with registration by February 16th*
- Admission to the keynote presentation and question and answer session with Cody Clark, breakout sessions, parent panel, and materials
- Admission to the Cody Clark Magic Show
- Admission to both the indoor and outdoor exhibitor areas
- Personal development through networking and connections
- Door Prizes - **Grand Prize is a 40" Smart TV!**



15TH ANNUAL
COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT CONFERENCE
BE MAGICAL!
Making My Life Magical

March 2, 2024 | 8AM - 3PM
Kirkville R-III
William Matthew Middle School



Featuring
Magician & Autistic
Self-Advocate
Cody Clark Magic



December's Spotlight Award Winner

Kid's Inclusion Award

Kirksville's middle school students of William Matthew Middle School Special Education instructor Jacinda Rhoads who are working with Team Rhoadsters Café have been selected as the Adair County SB40 December Spotlight Award recipients. This class of nine students has been nominated in recognition of their contribution to Kids Inclusion in our community.

Mrs. Rhoad's students were nominated for this award by middle school teacher and coach Laurie Waddle. "Jacinda and her Team Rhoadsters have opened up and successfully run a Cafe' at WMMS for the staff and employees to purchase a beverage or snack from their unique menus," Waddle said, "This started last year and it continues this year as well. I am a faithful customer. I thoroughly enjoy the student's professionalism, the creative snacks and being served in my classroom. It truly is a pick me up experience at the end of the day, at the end of the week."

In November their menu included Blessing Trail mix, multiple flavors of hot coffee, hot tea, hot cocoa and hot apple cider. The Café is usually held on Fridays and typically comes with a seasonal theme. The program, which was developed by their teacher Jacinda Rhoads, also teaches the students how to run a business, improve math and money skills, provide quality customer service, and increase their general life skills necessary to succeed in the adult world of work.

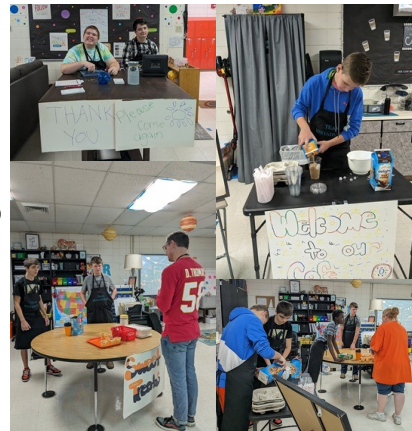
"The opportunity created for these students to fully participate in their education and to provide a valued service to the staff of the middle school is what inclusion is all about," said Crystal Aminirad, Executive Director of Adair County SB40. "It's more than a job and it's more than learning life skills. These students are recognizing that they do provide meaningful contributions to their community. Their customers are supporting the development of lifelong connections which will assure inclusive employment options as they transition into adulthood. We admire Mrs. Rhoads' innovative approach and the student's strong work ethic!"

In receiving this award Mrs. Rhoads said "Team Rhoadsters students are honored to be recognized for the month of December! What a wonderful surprise. Tears of joy come to me as I think of how our Cafe got started and how far we have come to be the 'famous Friday café' for our teachers and staff not only at WMMS but also the whole district. Thank so much for the recognition! It means the world to us all." Kirksville School District Superintendent Robert Webb added "These are the stories that we need to be sure to share. Well deserved!"

If you would like to nominate a great candidate for a monthly Spotlight Award, Adair County SB40 is accepting nominations. Anyone can make a nomination. Nominations can be made in any of the four following categories:

- Kids Inclusion Spotlight Award for children in kindergarten - 8th grade
- Youth Leadership Spotlight Award for youth in grades 9-12
- Community Volunteer Spotlight Award (any age)
- Entrepreneur or Employee Spotlight Award (any age)

In March 2024, a Spotlight Award of the Year winners will be selected from all of the monthly winners. Nominations can be made throughout the year by visiting the Adair County SB40 website or by contacting a SB40 staff member to assist you at (660) 665 - 9400. You can also find more information about the four nomination categories by visiting Adair County SB40's website, <https://www.sb40life.org>.



Crystal's Corner

Welcome to 2024! It's that time of year AGAIN where we all make New Year Resolutions - maybe to manage personal finances better or improve our physical or mental health. Goal setting is a great idea for everyone to consider, but the self-discipline it takes to reach our goals is often not so easy to stick to. Most people find that life is best lived when we find the right balance, making sure that all areas of our life are included in our personal improvement efforts.

Professionals who are providing services to individuals with developmental disabilities (like our SB40 Service Coordinators) challenge themselves to provide *person-centered planning* services. They work with folks to develop annual life plans which sometimes look very similar to resolution setting. In the person-centered planning process, the planning team identifies each individual's strengths, goals, medical needs, service needs and desired outcomes.

Often that planning process can fall into either a 'medical model' of services or the 'social model' of service. Planning teams sometimes debate about which model is the best approach to meet the needs of individuals we are serving.

The medical model focus is to try to find remedy to the challenges thought to be caused by disability through a medically focused assessment, such as development of a health care plan, finding appropriate medications, therapies and adaptive equipment. Often, clinicians on the planning team want to see the medical model approach used to provide health care to 'fix' a health issue, or to at least bring an individual into the realm of 'normal health' as much as possible.

Human services professionals on the planning team tend to lean into the social model, which holds the view that challenges presented are rooted in how the individual and their society interact with each other. These planners look at community-based barriers, such as accessibility, accommodation, relationships, etc. One example of a social model solution might be building a ramp for better access (recognizing that the building's stairs are the problem, not the individual). Another example would be using assistive technology as an accommodation in order to have an integrated job. Social model approaches are the foundation of home and community-based services, relational supports, inclusive education, networking, integrated employment and trauma informed approaches.

So which approach is better?

At Adair County SB40, our Case Management and Learning Center programs are based upon our vision that the best approach is finding the right balance – one that fits each individual that we serve *like a glove*! Of course, it's critical to provide a plan that includes good safety and security measures through a trusted health risk safety plan. But it is also very important to assure that everyone lives 'their best life' through access to their community, their friends and family, to attend church if they want, work in the job that they want and participate in events and recreation that they want. We know that a good balanced approach to life planning makes for the best and healthiest life for everyone.

This is why Adair SB40 works so hard to collaborate with service providers, schools, community agencies, civic leadership, area healthcare clinics, hospitals, transportation services, employers and others. We want to assure that our work links people with disabilities and their families to all of the resources available and which they can benefit from. We look forward to working with you in 2024. Together, we can make *magical things* happen!

Story and Craft Time with Bre coming in February!

Fridays at 11:30AM