

Community Engagement Report

February 2023

Visits – 520

Volunteer Visits – 14 (15.25 hours)

In February the Community Learning Center had a total of **520** separate visits. Participation in activities and classes at the Center continues to grow steadily each month. **14** volunteers provided **15.25** hours of volunteer time. The volunteers assisted with setting up for and assisting individuals with BINGO on Fridays, assisting individuals during activities and classes, sanitizing BINGO covers, and assembling newsletters. The Center was closed on February 20th in observation of President's Day.

The Center continued to offer its most popular activities in February including Coffee & Cards, Game Time, Music Moves, Dance Aerobics, Crafts, Get Fit, and BINGO. All of these activities had great participation. A popular class led by TSU Exercise Science students, Exercise Your Mind, restarted the beginning of February. This class is based on Cognitive Stimulation Therapy and provides theme-based activities to help people use and increase their working memory. Project STIR classes continued to meet and seven class members were supported to register for scholarships for the MOAAIDD Annual Conference in Columbia, MO on March 8th.

In February, Melissa continued to work with the stakeholder group to continue developing the Summer Youth Program/Camp. She also hired Megan Hines to help organize and lead the program. Applications for staff and participants will go out in March. The program will focus on youth ages 13-15 with Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities for vocational transition planning. The program is scheduled for July 17th - 28th.

In February, two individuals were supported by Melissa to complete oral history videos and reached out to a previous provider agency about sharing their past experience with working at a Habilitation Center in Missouri and their transition of supporting four people in an ISL setting.

During the month she also continued to work with the Community Engagement Conference Committee to organize and plan for the conference and added more information to the conference website. Melissa also worked with the keynote speakers and presenters to submit their presentations for the conference in addition to registering participants for the conference.

Melissa also participated in the monthly Medical Health Equity Advocacy meeting, Transition Coalition meeting, and Interagency meetings. In addition, she spoke on Area Scene on February 15th to discuss the upcoming Community Engagement Conference, Spotlight Awards, Disability Awareness Month, and Center activities and classes.

The Parent-to-Parent Group did not meet in February due to weather. The next meeting is scheduled for March 16th and Jeff Silvernail will present to the group on Executive Functioning.

Angela prepared and lead all of the activities and classes during the month of February, with the exception of Project STIR, Music Moves, and Exercise Your Mind which were led by Melissa, Kaelie Gerber, and TSU Exercise Science students. Angela also worked with volunteers to send out 423 newsletters.