

Community Engagement Report for March 2019

Community Learning Center Recorded Visitors: 312

Recorded Volunteer Hours: 25

We attended the Disability Rights Legislative Advocacy Day in Jefferson City on March 13th. Topics that were discussed at the rally included community employment, restraint and seclusion in schools, and managed care. After the rally, we spoke with Cindy O’Laughlin’s Chief of Staff, Paul Curtman, about issues regarding disability and issues personally important to us. To end the day, we got an ice cream treat at Central Dairy and a tour of the new Special Olympics Training for Life Campus.

Preparation and publicity for the Creating Community Arts Festival continued through the month, and we also sponsored two art workshops. Both Saturday workshops were very much enjoyed by all of the participants. Many incredible pieces of artwork have been submitted, and we will have a fantastic gallery display for the public to view.

Several Truman students are working with us to complete service learning projects related to their Disability Studies coursework. One group of students planned and taught a cooking lesson this month, another student created an accessibility presentation for faith-based organizations, and we are also planning an Earth Day event with another group of students. In addition, Mandt training was offered in March for Center student-volunteers, and it was very well attended.

This summer, we plan to be a volunteer site for the Youth Volunteer Corps. The volunteers will learn about inclusion, assist with programming, and work on simple repairs and landscaping. We’re very excited to partner with this group and these youths!

CLC programming carried on as usual, with many people enjoying classes, activities, technology, resources, and our social atmosphere.