

Community Engagement Report

April 2023

Visits – 549

Volunteer Visits – 20 (19.75 hours)

The Community Learning Center had a total of 549 separate visits and 20 volunteers provided 19.75 hours of volunteer time in April. The volunteers helped with setting up for and assisting individuals with BINGO on Fridays, supporting attendees during activities and classes, sharpening pencils, laundry, pulling weeds, and putting together newsletters for mailing.

During April, the Center had increased participation in most of the classes and activities, with crafts and BINGO having the largest attendance. TSU Exercise Science students continued to offer Exercise Your Mind and Healthy Habits. The Project STIR class continued to meet and is working on the chapters at the pace of the needs of the class. Participants seem to be enjoying the class and are working to sharpen their skills and retain the information.

In April, Melissa and Angela participated in the annual staff retreat where they worked with the full SB40 team on the company strategic plan and build positive working relationships with others.

Melissa continues to work with the summer program teacher, Megan Hines, to organize and lead the two-week camp. Applications for both staff and youth have gone out. This year's 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. Two staff applications have been submitted and five student applications have been received. The last date to submit a youth application is Friday, March 28th.

Melissa also participated in the monthly Transition Coalition meeting, facilitated the monthly Parent-to-Parent meeting, spoke on the monthly Area Scene spot for SB40, led a People First interest meeting and worked with Dr. Cox from TSU on a possible grant to support youth activities.

The Parent-to-Parent group met on April 13th with guest speaker, Jeff Silvernail, O.T. There were seven parents present along with four children. Volunteers from ATUS provided childcare during the meeting. A People First interest meeting was held on April 26th with 10 people who are interested in helping to relaunch a chapter in Northeast Missouri. There will be a callout meeting held on May 31st to continue working on the formation of a new chapter.

The Young Adult Neuro-Diverse Social Group met at the Center with Crystal on April 8th. This group continues to have strong participation from a group of people who enjoy getting together to build their social circle while having fun and socializing. Anyone who is Autistic or Neuro-Diverse, lives in Northeast Missouri, and is in their 20's or 30's can participate.

Angela ran the Center several days in April while Melissa had to be away. She also prepared and lead all of the activities and classes during the month with the exception of Project STIR, and classes taught by volunteers. Angela also worked with volunteers to send out over 400 newsletters and coordinated volunteer tasks throughout the month.