

## **Community Engagement Report**

**April - 2024**

**Visits – 465**

**Volunteer Hours – 38**

In April, the Community Learning Center had 465 independent visits where people participated in classes, and activities, volunteered, or chose to hang out with friends. 31 volunteers assisted by providing 38 hours of volunteer time by helping with tasks around the Center such as assembling newsletters, sanitizing the sensory room, and folding cleaning towels and aprons that had been washed. On April 20<sup>th</sup> students from the ATSU-KCOM IDD Club assisted with landscaping the front flowerbed and rebuilding the brick retaining wall for one of the beds.

During April, the Center held its regular activities such as coffee and cards, dance aerobics, crafts, Get Fit, and BINGO. Volunteers from TSU and the community taught Exercise Your Mind, Nature Time, Science Fun, and Open Hearts Story Time. Melissa began teaching Project STIR to five people and Circles Level 2 to six people. Crafts and BINGO continue to have the largest attendance with participation in Get Fit growing from an average of eight people to 15.

The Parent-to-Parent meeting on April 18<sup>th</sup> was canceled due to an emergency with the presenter. On April 23<sup>rd</sup> three people attended the People First meeting and discussed moving the meeting to a Monday night to see if more people would be able to attend. They also designed fliers to share with friends when inviting them to be a part of the group so that a chapter for the area could be established.

In April, Melissa taught a Mandt System recertification class for three area DSPs. On April 7<sup>th</sup> she met with Megan Hines to begin planning for the L.I.F.E. Program. Melissa also attended the monthly Interagency meeting, a meeting with Nate Fajkus from BOTT Radio, the Transition to Adulthood Coalition, and met with Tiffany Busch for a monthly meeting about needs at the Center. In addition, she facilitated a follow-up conference meeting and People First meeting, spoke on Area Scene at KIRX, trained a new volunteer, helped represent SB40 at the Annual Diversity Festival on April 27<sup>th</sup>, and met with staff from both First Assembly of God and First United Methodist Church about renting their space for the summer program. After receiving quotes for building use, it was determined that First United Methodist Church fits within this year's budget. Both Melissa and Angela attend the yearly staff retreat.

Throughout April, Angela facilitated most of the activities at the Center and worked with volunteers who teach the science class, Exercise Your Mind, Open Hearts Story Time. She also compiled the monthly community activities list and supervised volunteers who helped to prepare the monthly newsletters for mailing and volunteering during Center activities.