

First Annual Residential Tricky Tray

Central Recreation hosted its first annual Residential Tricky Tray! The event was held at the Teaneck Adult Training Center and it included an evening of prizes, ranging from sports tickets, jewelry, cooking supplies and TVs. The evening also featured a buffet dinner, music and tons of fun!

We are very thankful to Joe and Mary Wynman who generously donated many of the gifts for the evening's raffles. We would also like to acknowledge The Spectrum for Living Sibling Group, who raised over \$4,000 towards the event. Additional thanks to the many families who donated prizes.

Thank you to Central Recreation for another fantastic event! Also, thank you to the staff and to the volunteers for all your help.



For more photos, visit www.facebook.com/spectrumforliving.



Check back here for updates.

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2017 Spectrum Olympic Games

The 2017 Spectrum Olympic Games were hosted by Central Recreation. The event featured activities such as relay races, basketball shot, and a beanbag challenge! All of these events were ambulatory and wheelchair client friendly so that everyone could take part. Congratulations to everyone who participated!



Bergen Bassmasters

Spectrum for Living attended the Bergen Bassmasters Outing for the Disabled. Our clients who participated did a great job catching lots of fish and taking home a few trophies!

Congratulations to everyone and thank you Bergen Bassmasters for having us! It was a blast.



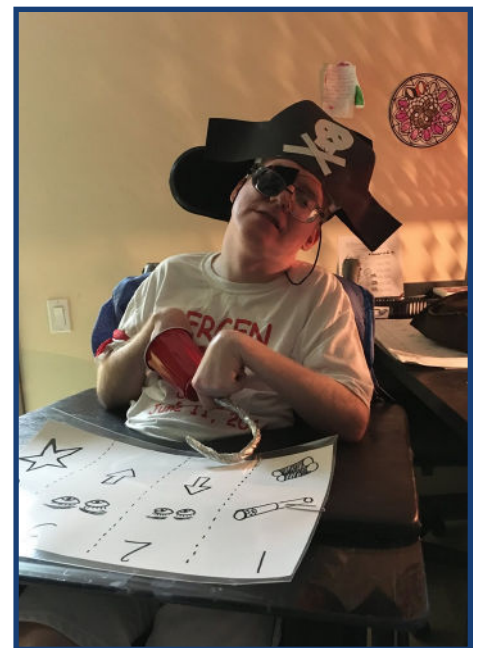
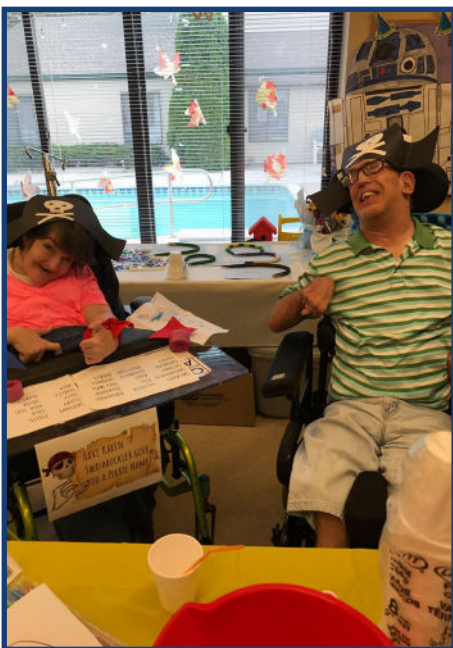
Closter ICF Pirate Party

The Speech Therapy Department and Recreation Department at the Closter Intermediate Care Facility joined forces and hosted a pirate-themed party.

A little background - Many of the speech therapy sessions are held as groups and the goals often focus on social communication, cooperation, and direction following. Jennifer Biener, Speech Pathologist, along with her intern Lauren, picked pirates as the theme for their speech therapy sessions. They specifically selected activities that accommodated a variety of physical abilities and provided different types of sensory stimulation. With the help of Recreation, they were able to take this theme to the next level and turned it into a party, allowing the clients to be involved in the process to feel a sense of accomplishment and ownership as they fulfilled duties for the party preparation and hosting.

"The clients worked very hard for about two months preparing the materials for the party," said Jennifer Biener. "They made the eye patches, hats, hooks, and bandanas for everyone to wear. They also prepared activity supplies and even painted a cardboard pirate ship for the navigator's wheelchair! There were seven booths split between the speech therapy room and the recreation room filled with fun activities for guests to enjoy. Clients that were running the booths had their own assistants, our amazing volunteers, and were enthusiastic hosts for their peers and staff."

Thank you to the Speech Therapy and Recreation departments for planning this awesome event. Also, thank you to the staff and volunteers for all of your help!



Staff & Volunteers News

July 2017 Promotions

Lisa Chavez - Supervised Apartment Supervisor-River Vale Supervised Apartments- FT to Assistant Program Director-River Vale Supervised Apartments-FT (7/30/17)

Thomas Donahue - Director of Psychological and Behavior Services-Agency Wide to Vice President of Medicaid Long Term Care-Closter Intermediate Care Facility (7/31/17)

Nickalina Nessine - Recreation Therapist-Closter Intermediate Care Facility to Assistant Director of Central Recreation-Agency Wide (7/31/17)

Mercy Obu - Direct Care Counselor-Closter Intermediate Care Facility-FT to Group Home Supervisor - Hillsdale Group Home-FT (7/16/17)

Kyara Session - Group Home Counselor-Guttenberg Group Home- FT to Group Home Supervisor - Guttenberg Group Home (7/30/17)

Oksana Shulha - Activity Therapist Assistant-Ringwood Adult Training Center-FT to Psychiatric Aide-Ringwood Adult Training Center (7/20/17)

Samantha Simmons - Recreation Coordinator-Closter Intermediate Care Facility to Senior Recreation Coordinator-Closter Intermediate Care Facility and Teaneck Adult Training Center (7/31/17)

Tracey Stradford - Group Home Counselor-Elmwood Park Group Home to Assistant Program Director-Wayne and Elmwood Park Group Homes (7/30/17)

Doreen Thomas - Assistant Director of Psychological and Behavior Services-Agency Wide to Director of Psychological and Behavior Services-Agency Wide (7/31/17)

Brian Weiner - Director of Community Apartment Services-River Vale Central Office to Assistant Director of Administrative Services-Closter Intermediate Care Facility (7/31/17)

Volunteer Birthdays -July

Augustina C.
Avanika D.
David M.

Volunteer Birthdays -August

Carolyn C.
Lillian D.
Debra K.
Peyton K.
Kathleen N.
Mark P.
Victoria R.

Volunteer Spotlight: Eileen Bundz

Our Wayne Group Home residents are very fortunate to have volunteer Eileen Bundz as a friendly visitor. Since 2010, Eileen, Tom, their daughters Hayley and Jessie, and grandma Carolyn have devoted lots of time and talent pursuing a myriad of activities that have delighted the residents. In one of their earliest endeavors, the entire family participated in painting a mural in every bedroom with each resident choosing their favorite theme.

For many years, Eileen has been coordinating visits to Wayne Group Home for the First Reformed Church of Pompton Plains. This very energetic group of volunteers have painted the kitchen, repaired doors, planted gardens, celebrated birthdays and holidays, hosted special activities at the church just for us, and much more! Recently, our residents helped Eileen and our church friends to prepare activity packets for their Vacation Bible School. The church provided VBS t-shirts for everyone to thank them for helping. Always planning ahead, Eileen hopes to provide a special VBS for our residents and is already thinking about pumpkins!



Spectrum for Living visits Walmart

As part of the Job Training Program affiliated with the Walmart grant, a group of ATC participants from the Teaneck ATC paid a visit to the Walmart facility at Teterboro.

"We had a group of 10 clients visit the Walmart facility at Teterboro, where staff explained to our clients all the different positions in working in different departments and demonstrated performing the duties of those departments. Our clients had a memorable experience and has sparked many employment conversations. We are all very motivated to find new opportunities that will allow our programs to continue to grow." - Silvia Kerslake, Program Director at Teaneck Adult Training Center.

We are so thankful to Walmart for their generosity.



Healthy Living Lunch Cook-Off

To celebrate the second quarter of the Healthy Living for Special Lives Program (affiliated with the RWJ grant), Spectrum held a Healthy Living Lunch Cook-Off at the Teaneck ATC. All Residential Programs and ATCs were asked to present their healthiest and most creative lunch recipes to a panel of judges. The winner of the Lunch Cook-Off was Teaneck ATC. Congratulations to Teaneck ATC! Also, a huge thank you to Kim Reitmeyer, Susan Kerrigan, Dale Sakurai, Mrs. Hoffman, Mrs. Fremont, Mrs. Perez, Mrs. Edmond for being amazing judges.



Puzzle Farms Visit



As part of the Healthy Living for Special Lives Program, our ATC participants have been visiting Puzzle Farms in Ringwood, New Jersey growing vegetables on a plot of land at the farm. Puzzle Farms is an agricultural/culinary training opportunity for adults with developmental disabilities.

On this visit, the clients learned how to use tools to evenly space and plant radishes and learned how to pick squash and jalapenos that they planted themselves. What a fun day! As always, thank you to Puzzle Farms for their generosity!

Upcoming Events

D'FEET DISABILITIES

BERGEN

Saturday, October 14, 2017

Overpeck Park
Ridgefield Park, NJ

<https://runsignup.com/dfeetdisabilities>

SPOOKY SPRINT

MIDDLESEX

Saturday, October 28, 2017

Johnson Park
Piscataway, NJ

<https://runsignup.com/spooky5k>



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Have any Good News to share?
Contact Marketing Associate,
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"Serving People with Developmental
Disabilities for over 30 years"

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