

SEARCH SPOTLIGHT

A QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER THAT SHINES A LIGHT ON SEARCH'S DAY SERVICES

CONGRATS TO THE



FITNESS CLUB!



GET YOUR REAR IN GEAR

5K!

A Veritable Smorgasboard



The Lake County Fair is just a short drive from Search's Waukegan site, and as we found out, this annual event is jam-packed with treats for all of the senses. Many people we serve had never been to a fair or carnival and had a lot of things that they wanted to see and try. The 4-H exhibits were the first stop on the trip. Awards were given in science, sewing, photography, sculpture, gardening and more. Everyone spent time looking through these exhibits, admiring the work. The baking prizes were the next to catch our eye. It was all mouthwatering. On the fairgrounds, the group enjoyed the petting zoo, where they fed goats and pigs. When it was time for a snack, we indulged in a variety of treats, including mini donuts, ice cream, fudge, milkshakes and, for the first time, the staff member heard Tony say something other than "no" or "yes" - "CORNDOG!" He knew what he wanted! We ended the day in front of the carnival games. When Babette was approached by a carnival worker to play a sharpshooter game, she grabbed the rifle, aimed and fired away - carnival dream fulfilled!

Drawing Inspiration

On a beautiful day in August, the Visibility Artists from Search's Kensington site took a special trip to The Grove National Historic Landmark in Glenview. They packed art supplies, drawing boards and lunches for the day. In the gardens at The Grove, everyone created drawings from their observations of the lush flowers, trees and plant life. They also observed chickens, turkeys and other birds, among the wildlife. After drawing in this peaceful environment, everyone enjoyed a picnic lunch to end their outing. It was an amazing day full of inspiring experiences!



Beat the Heat



It's been a hot summer, but a group from Search's Lincoln Square site took advantage of one of the cooler days in August with a picnic in Grant Park. We started with a ride around Museum Campus, viewing the Adler Planetarium, Shedd Aquarium, Field Museum of Natural History and Soldier Field. After stopping to admire Chicago's beautiful skyline on Lake Michigan, we proceeded to Buckingham Fountain. Everyone was amazed by how high the water shot toward the sky - up to 150 feet! Some of us ran through the fountain's spray, as the wind blew the water into the crowd. After finding a quiet picnic bench in the shade, we ate our lunches and talked about all of the things we saw. On the ride back, we stopped and got ice cream at Margie's Candies on Montrose Ave. Everyone is looking forward to next month's picnic!

Natural Wanders



While the weather is still on our side, little can match the simple pleasures of stepping out into nature. At Search's Kensington site, that amounts to merely walking out the front door. An individual we serve at Kensington, Susie, has a daily one-to-one staffer, Paula, who assists her with all activities of daily living. As a result, these two constant companions have many opportunities to take quick trips into the Mt. Prospect community for creative exploration. Susie's most frequent outing includes simple, healthy walks in Search's corporate park area. Alongside Paula, Susie treks daily into this familiar terrain to convene with nature, greet various passersby, and catch glimpses of mild-mannered creatures such as Mallard ducks, Canadian geese, stunning white egrets hunting pond-side, grey and black squirrels and, increasingly, large black ravens giving hints of the cooler, harvest season approaching.

Susie's walks can be upwards of two miles, though she harbors more than enough energy for the hike. During these walks, Susie and Paula bond through discussions of wildlife and the dynamics of nature - falling leaves, buzzing beehives, shifting weather patterns, and conga lines of Canadian geese marching ever-so-slowly across busy, parkway boulevards. Additionally, Paula will point out different types of trees and flowers during their walks and explain to Susie the natural function of this greenery. Adding to the feast of senses, Paula will typically play lilting classical or jazzy flamenco music from her smartphone. One of their final stops before returning to Susie's day program class might be the client garden. The garden teases the senses with a bouquet of aromas: elegant basil, cooling mint, earthy rosemary, and refreshing parsley. Susie's daily strolls with Paula provide great sources of physical conditioning, as well as myriad sensory treats from Mother Nature. These walks also leave Susie more relaxed and at ease, as sometimes day program activities can become over-stimulating for her. Keep on trekkin', Susie and Paula!

Tours from the Pros

It was a busy summer at No Boundaries - Train for Work, Train for Life, where participants prepare for employment in the digital age. Two of these participants, Abby and Matt, took on the responsibility of introducing our new Trainer, Tricia, to the Search locations where they have some insider knowledge. On the first field trip, Abby led the tour of



the PAC Warehouse in Des Plaines. She regularly engages in a variety of work at this site. Matt led the way at the Planet Access Co. Store, in the Lincoln Square neighborhood of Chicago, showing off what he learned working as an intern there last year. Both Abby and Matt did an outstanding job in their roles as tour guides! They continue to hone their work and social skills, each week, as No Boundaries gears up for its Fall session.



FALL

IGNITE

After completing a phenomenal Summer Ignite schedule, it is time to look ahead to our Fall Schedule!
To enroll, contact Nick Larson at nl Larson@search-inc.org

Tuesdays in Lincoln Square

October 11th - December 20th
(4:00-5:30PM)

**"Life Skills:
Cooking & the Kitchen"**

Wednesdays in Mt. Prospect & Des Plaines

October 12th - December 21st
(4:00-5:30PM)

**"Book & Plays Club: Secret Garden"
&
"Self-Advocacy: Elections 2016"**

For more information about Search's Adult Learning Programs, please contact
Ken Bellis (773) 271-8282 ext. 28, kbellis@search-inc.org