

# Adult Day Services

## Innovations in Learning

March 2015

**Effective Teaching – SUCCESSFUL Learning**

### PROGRAMMING

March is Disability Awareness Month, and the theme this year is “Love Where You Live”. This is an important month at Innovations, and everyone will be participating in many exciting activities to not only learn more about something that is near and dear to everyone’s hearts, but also to educate the community about individuals with disabilities. Because there is so much that we want to do, we will not be running many of our regularly scheduled activities this month, at least not in the same manner as we have in the past. Be sure you are reading the daily communication sheet to see what we are up to!

We will be hosting two separate contests related to this month’s theme. Each classroom will have the opportunity to participate in either an art or essay contest surrounding the themes of “Love Where You Live” or “Attitudes”. Specific details will be revealed in each of the classes.

**SAVE THE DATE:** April 24, 2015 will be our 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Blues Fest. This is a fun fundraising event, and all proceeds will be donated to Autism Speaks and Prevent Child Abuse Lake County. This year’s fest will be even more important for each of you to attend as this is when you will have the chance to vote on your favorite essay and art project. Prizes will be awarded! Flyers will be sent home as the date approaches.

There are many exciting changes happening in the Day Program. We are in the process of revamping our programming, which will provide for many new and exciting learning opportunities, beginning in April. There will be new groups added, many new resources and materials available for our clients, and we intend for improved learning opportunities for everyone. We are also in the process of improving our data collection on ISP goals and will have a new format to our monthly reports that should be much easier to read; these new reports will begin to be rolled out in March with our intentions to have everyone moved to the new format in April. Please let Jennifer Ferrara know if you have any questions.

#### New Opportunity for Individuals with Special Needs

*The Growing Piece* is dedicated to improving the quality of life for individuals with Autism and related Intellectual Disabilities by providing meaningful employment and relevant skills training; while ensuring a supportive and positive environment that helps each person achieve his or her individual potential. *The Growing Piece*, started by employees of Innovations and other community members, is looking to grow in 2015. Plans are in the works to harvest our first crops this year and provide delicious, organic produce and canned items for purchase. *The Growing Piece* is currently looking for clients, family members, and other interested individuals that may be interested joining in this new opportunity. **Come find out more on March 10, 2015 at 6:00pm.** The meeting will take place at Innovations In Learning.

### STAFFING

We would like to welcome the following new staff members: Tiffany, Carlos, Michele, Isis, and Ray. We would also like to congratulate Chris, as he has been promoted to the position of Lead ADI. The Lead ADI is available and trained to assist in all classrooms as needed throughout the day, allowing Stacey and Anie to work on bigger projects for the program as a whole.

Below is the current breakdown of the day program staffing roster, with Michele, Isis, and Ray who have not yet been assigned:

**Stride:** Wendy, Jacqui

**Shine:** Todd, Katie, Dawn, Michele

**Leap:** Kasey, Robert, Sierra, Carlos, Isis, Ray (Tiffanie)

**Life:** Heather, Jim, Stacey G, Michelle, Tiffany

### COMMUNITY HABILITATION

*Please note your outing day. If you need to arrive late or early on that scheduled outing day, please speak with your Program Supervisor to make arrangements in advance.*

**Life: Monday\*\*note day change**

3/2: Guest Speaker about Dental Hygiene

3/16: Visit local police station

3/23: Martial Arts presentation at Innovations

3/30: Visit to Omni Rehabilitation Center

**Stride: Tuesday**

3/3: Guest speaker about Dental Hygiene

3/17: Visit to Omni Rehabilitation Center

3/24: Visit to a local elementary school to teach children about special needs

3/31: Finding out how our community upholds ADA-exploring local businesses and evaluating them

**Shine: Wednesday**

3/4: Library and Shopping

3/11: Explore community businesses to locate Braille

3/18: Visit to a local Rehabilitation Center

3/25: Finding out how our community upholds ADA-exploring local businesses and evaluating them

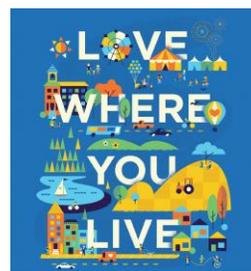
**Leap: Thursday**

3/5: Explore community businesses to locate Braille

3/12: Visit local police station

3/19: Shopping

3/26: Visit to a local Rehabilitation Center



IndianaDisabilityAwareness.org  
Communities thrive when we all take an active part. When you embrace your community and the people who live there - everyone feels at home.

Indiana Governor's Council  
for People with Disabilities