



The Unity Newsletter

UNICORN CENTER



Read All About It!



Lucky, Thankful, Blessed

Hello family and friends,

March was a fun-packed month. We're sending a huge THANK YOU to the HB Family Foundation for making our new Pickle Ball Court & Gym a reality! Now we can offer our individuals new exercise and sports equipment to use in a cheerful, safe space for indoor recreation activities. We're also thankful to the TND Family Foundation for making the renovation of our beautiful life skills kitchen possible. The kitchen features brand-new appliances, cabinets, and more, and is a practical space for learning and practicing culinary skills. Both spaces are already being put to good use! Another *thank you* goes out to Junior League SA for helping us make Rice Crispy Treats and leading a boxing session with our individuals.

March featured one of our biggest day trips yet. ISS programs from Unicorn and Main Campus combined for a trip to the Texas State Aquarium in Corpus Christi! We fed sting rays, watched dolphins play, had a delicious lunch, and enjoyed a shark presentation. Best of all, thanks to a generous donor, we provided this activity to our individuals for absolutely no charge!

Let's not forget our annual St. Patrick's Day Celebration complete with Irish dancing and turning our fountain green! We made wishes and had green snacks. Have you had green popcorn? Surprisingly delicious! We also had our Easter Party with music, eggs, and a visit from the Easter Bunny. Follow us on Facebook to keep up with the fun! See you soon!



A Look Ahead

Watch out for some fun activities in April

Eclipse Watch Party!

Morgan's Wonderland Trip

Magik Theatre

Fiesta Celebration!

Don't miss any of the fun moments. Scan to follow us on Facebook!



Sussel Carreon
COO of Day Programming

March Newsletter

Contact Information for Sussel Carreon: 361-243-9954

Supported Employment Department



Story Time!

Alyssa Varos came to us as a student for the VAT program and completed the entire work readiness program! During COVID, Alyssa stepped back from her job. When she came to MRDC, she was ready to pursue her work goals and was paired up with a Job Coach, Mrs. Bea Valdez, after her VAT completion. Mrs. Bea assisted Alyssa with her job search activities, and after one interview, Alyssa got a job! She is now working as an H-E-B Curbside team member. We are sure Alyssa will be very successful because of everything she learned during her work readiness courses and working with Mrs. Bea.

Raquel Armendariz came to us in February. She had previously held a job for five years, but was ready for something new. When asked about her reasons for wanting a new job, Raquel mentioned that her previous place of work had hired a new manager. She expressed that her hours became shorter and shorter and her manager began giving her tasks that she had never been given before. She decided that it was time for a change. Job Coach Thomas Vasquez assisted her in finding a job at Raising Cane's where she is now happy with the management who understands the accommodations Raquel needs to do the best job she possibly can. Thomas has been providing her with job coaching as she continues to learn her new job duties and becomes independent in her role.

Fatima Chavez (pictured above far right) came from El Salvador, where she directed a pottery business for many years before coming to the U.S. After months of difficulty securing employment, Fatima signed up for MRDC's services. Fatima believed she wasn't receiving job offers because employers were worried about accommodating her needs due to her wheelchair. She'd encountered many obstacles and challenges job searching on her own, but Fatima's job coach, Mrs. Bea, knew she was capable! Mrs. Bea stayed focused and helped Fatima find the perfect placement at Toyota in its ToyotAbility Program. Toyota's program gives people with IDD and other disabilities opportunities to work and improve their skills while earning income. Fatima is now happily working and her persistence, hard work, and skills are paying off!

Congratulations Everyone!



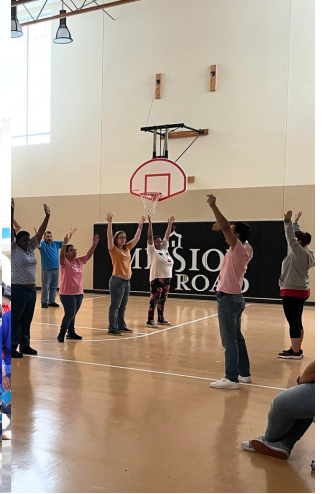
Follow us on FB!





FREE TO BE NEWSLETTER

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Hello family and friends,

So many wonderful memories were made this past month. We had such a blast at The Texas State Aquarium in Corpus Christi! We fed sting rays, watched the dolphins play, had a delicious lunch, and attended a shark presentation. Best of all this activity was free of charge for our individuals thanks to the incredible generosity of a donor! We are tremendously grateful for their support of our program.

To celebrate Easter this year, we enjoyed yummy treats, held our famous Easter egg hunt, and gave everyone goodie bags. We celebrated all day long by having separate groups outside for the Easter egg hunt tailored to our individuals' needs.

We are also thankful to Wonderland Theatre for bringing back our Theatre Boot Camp! This year, Mission Road individuals will be rehearsing one day a week for seven weeks while mastering dance moves and practicing vocals to perform Charlie and the Chocolate Factory. We will have more information on our performance later in April. Keep your eyes open for our invitation flyer! The event is set to take place sometime in May.

See you soon!

Sussel Carreon
COO of Day Programming



A Look Ahead

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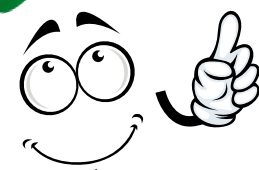
Magik Theatre


Fiesta Celebration

Eclipse Day!

Theatre Boot Camp

Scan the QR Code to visit our Facebook page where you can enjoy more information and pictures!



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