

OUT & ABOUT

JANUARY-FEBRUARY 2024



Within these pages, you'll discover a snapshot of the work carried out by each department here at Opportunity House (OH). As a full-service agency, we take pride in our commitment to supporting individuals at diverse stages of life and with varying levels of need. At Opportunity House, every endeavor is guided by our mission: *To help individuals with developmental disabilities work, live in homes of their choice, and enjoy community life.*

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COMMUNITY DAY SERVICES

We recently kicked off a new year of Learning for Life classes with our first class of the spring semester, 'Grocery Store Math,' where students learned about counting money by hand, budgeting with a calculator, and finding sales and coupons for our local grocery stores.



Joe weighing produce



On Valentines Day, CDS celebrated with dancing, games, and a photo booth! Valentines Day is an exciting day for us at OH, and we are beyond grateful to spread the love during this beautiful holiday.



Clients enjoying Valentines Day activities

O.H. INDUSTRIES



Group Employment participants keeping the DeKalb County History Center look shiny and new!

Our new Group Employment Program is going strong as our crews are hard at work for our community employers. Our Group Employment teams can be built around a specific task with a customizable team whose strengths meet your goal! For more information, contact Crystal Holdcroft at crystal@ohinc.org, call us at 815-895-5108, or stop by to set up an in-person meeting. There's also a video on the home page of our website, go check it out!



RECREATION

Our Recivities are always exciting for the individuals we serve, whether it's an out and about activity, or staying in from the cold weather and enjoying a craft with friends. Crafts are always a big hit, and this time we had some visitors from the NIU School of Nursing!



Individuals posing with their crafted hearts

Our Out & About activities took us to Cave of the Mounds in Wisconsin, a Rockford Ice Hogs game, AMC Theatre, Chicago, Four Seasons Sports, and more!



Our Kiwanis Aktion Club members got a chance to learn about nuclear energy in February. We welcomed Jim from the Byron Nuclear Generating Station who taught us about the importance of nuclear power, how the plant works, and we even got the chance to build our own uranium neutron!

OH ATHLETICS



In January, all 3 of our basketball teams participated in the Special Olympics Illinois - Region A basketball tournament. With some impressive performances from all 3 squads, the Lightning (above - left) secured bronze medals while the Thunder (above - right) and Heat (right) earned silver medals!

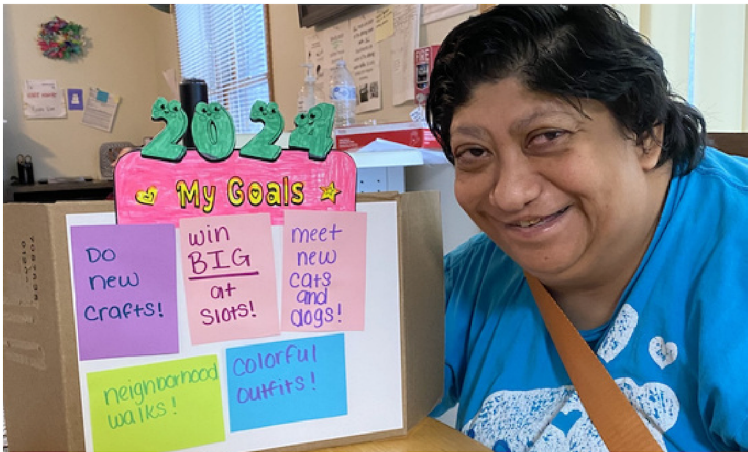


New 
Sport
Alert!

In February, we started gauging interest in a new unified sport we'll launch this summer: Cornhole! This month, we've been sharpening our bag-tossing skills in preparation for the SOILL Tournaments in July. Currently, we have 11 athletes and 10 partners signed up — not bad for a new sport!

RESIDENTIAL

In January, Case Manager, Kalin, helped a few clients create their 2024 Goal Boards. Connie's includes personal goals like utilizing her cute new wardrobe she recently shopped for and meeting her friends' or OH Staffs support animals or personal pets!



Connie posing with her 2024 Goal Board



"They ain't gonna know me" Marge says during her Salon Day. Every February, she likes to plan red themed outfits, accentuated by her red colored hair! She is Valentine's Day personified!

COMMUNITY & VOCATIONAL SUPPORT



Josh and Joaquin in their Lehan Drugs Uniforms

January and February were great months for Voc! Josh and Joaquin celebrated their 90th workday milestone at Lehan Drugs, congrats guys! Scott also started working at Fannie May in January. Even with all these incredible accomplishments, voc is staying busy and are starting to take on more individuals who are looking for work!

CSP's oldest client, Richard, celebrated his 77th birthday in February. Planned entirely by him, him and his CSP friends celebrated at China House. He also joined our Recreation Department for an Ice Hogs Hockey game!



16TH ANNUAL VOLLEYBALL EVENT



On Friday February 9th, we hosted our 16th Annual Volleyball Event. It was an incredible night of friendly competition, delicious concessions, and items won at the drop-in ticket raffle tables. Our 2 OH Athletics teams showed off their skills and left the Community Center with a couple wins! Congratulations to the winning teams in each bracket and thank you to everyone who attended this wonderful event. Your presence was greatly appreciated and we were beyond happy that you



decided to spend the evening with us. A special shoutout to Shannon Vanatta. Without her, this event wouldn't be possible and we thank her for her many years of service to OH!



THANK YOU!

FOR YOUR SUPPORT



Upcoming Events:

Band Together

Friday, April 5th, 6-10 pm
St. Mary's Memorial Hall
244 Waterman St in Sycamore

Art Show & Open House

Wednesday, April 24th, 4-6 pm
Opportunity House Main Building
357 N California St in Sycamore

Give DeKalb County

Thursday, May 2nd
Donations accepted by mail, online, or
walk-in on day-of (at DeKalb County
Community Foundation)

Memorial Day

Monday, May 27th
Main Building Closed

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About Us

OH is a not-for-profit 501 c 3 organization providing services to disabled adults since 1963. Our mission is to help people with developmental disabilities work, live in homes of their choice, and enjoy community life.

We offer a wide variety of services including residential, day program, supported employment, recreation and Special Olympics.

For more information about our programs, check out our website at www.ohinc.org or contact us at 815-895-5108.

OPPORTUNITY HOUSE, INC.

THANK YOU!

**TO ALL OUR DONORS & SUPPORTERS
THROUGHOUT JANUARY & FEBRUARY**



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OPPORTUNITY HOUSE, INC.

THANK YOU!

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We have recently launched our 2024 Corporate Sponsorship Program, if you'd like to become an annual sponsor, please reach out to Wanda (wtatum@ohinc.org, 815-895-5108 x 132) or Austin (aschroeder@ohinc.org, 815-895-5108 x 130)