



THE LEAFLET

An Oak Leyden Monthly Newsletter

September 1, 2023 | Issue #33

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Hello Oak,

Happy September!

As we've shared over the last few months, we have moved into a new Day Services site in Hillside, after selling our building in Elmwood Park. We are working through the transition and we're grateful for the Oak Leyden team, our participants and guardians who are focused on making this site even better than the previous location on Conti Circle.

We are hosting our second annual Friends of Oak Leyden Golf Outing on Thursday September 21st at Water's Edge Golf Course. [Please join us!](#) If you're a golfer, gather three friends and register – foursomes are still available. If you're not a golfer, please sponsor a hole or join us for the cocktail reception.

Every September, we celebrate our Direct Support Professionals (DSPs). These dedicated team members are the backbone of organizations like Oak Leyden. They care for our participants 24/7, 365 days a year! Their impact is real and it is felt day in and day out by the people we serve.

As Labor Day approaches, let us seek opportunities to leverage good weather, good fortune, and good luck in support of our frontline workers – especially our DSPs. These committed folks are the glue for their organizations. Take the time to recognize them, their work and their impact on those around them.

Sincerely,

R.J. McMahon
CEO



ANCOR | RELIAS

**DIRECT SUPPORT
PROFESSIONAL
RECOGNITION WEEK**
SEPTEMBER 10-16, 2023



FRIENDS OF OAK LEYDEN

GOLF OUTING

It's not too late to join us on Thursday, September 21st for a day of golf the scenic Water's Edge Golf Club!

Gather your friends to enjoy a one-of-a-kind round of golf, while learning more about Oak Leyden's mission of supporting individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities.

Register Today

August Adventures



Per usual, our participants were "eager beavers" --eager for adventure, that is. Adults with Oak Leyden could be found at the Trailside Nature Museum, in Elmhurst, or out playing bocce.



Day program participants were visited by SOL Bloom, a local organization that taught flower arranging with an emphasis on the mood-boosting benefits!



Our day program participants wrapped up summer with a very fun barbeque and some basketball.

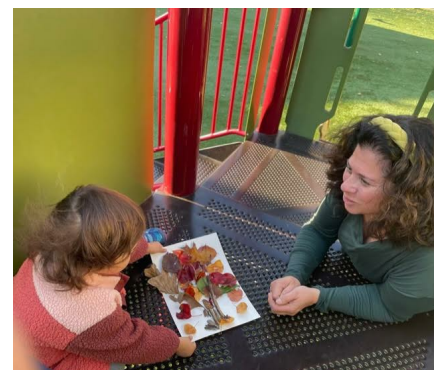


Follow us on social media for more!



Our team is growing!

As part of our mission and strategic plan, Oak Leyden aims to fill the gaps in care for the I/DD community in Cook County. In order to serve more of the adults and children on the county's waitlists, we are always seeking more caring, talented individuals to join our team. If you or someone you know might fit that bill, [please check out our current career opportunities.](#)



NEW Children's Group: Together On Thursdays!



We have a new group for children to play and grow together. Developmental Therapist Alison Keane and Licensed Social Worker Bianca Boyce will facilitate this group and help your child build upon their social skills.

Group Details:

Thursday at 10:00 a.m.
starting 9/7 and running through 10/26
411 Chicago Ave, Oak Park IL
\$200* for the 8-week session
*scholarships available by need

To sign up: Contact Melissa Ehmann, Director of Children's Services, at mehmann@oak-leyden.org or at (708) 524-1050 ext. 107.

PALS Group | Parents. Are. Life. Savers.

In our last guardian survey, parents overwhelmingly indicated that they were looking for ways to connect with other parents who have a child or children with intellectual or developmental disabilities or delays. PALS is our response to that need--and it comes complete with free childcare and the support of Bianca Boyce, our licensed social worker and group facilitator.

You don't have to be a current Oak Leyden family to join us--alumni families and Oak Leyden friends are welcome. **Don't miss our next group on September 6 at 5:30p.m.** RSVP below.

Group Details:

1st and 3rd Wednesdays of the month
5:30 p.m.
411 Chicago Ave, Oak Park IL
Childcare is available upon request

Facilitated by [Bianca Boyce, LSW](#)

[Sign Up Here](#)



Staff Anniversaries

Thank you to all the team members who support the participants at Oak Leyden. An extra special shoutout to those celebrating their work anniversaries this month!

Lorraine Hemphill, 13 years
Tabatha Moore, 11 years
Carrisa Rouse, 10 years
Chaunteese Lewis, 8 years
Caffie Moore, 7 years
Lakeysha Hammond, 5 years

Alesia Wade, 5 years
Dontie Baker, 5 years
Sharneice Stringer, 2 years
Terrance Baines, 2 years
Marquita Head, 1 year



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Oak Leyden | 411 Chicago Ave, Oak Park, IL 60302

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