

# Spring Fling & PrimeTime Things

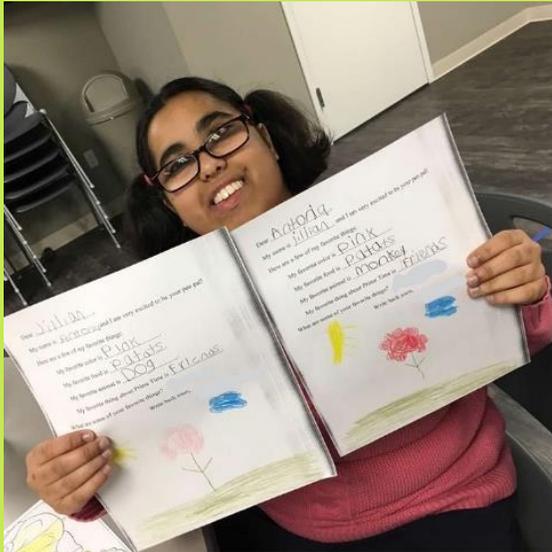
Our spring season started with our very first clothing drive. Together we created a flyer to pass out to local businesses, friends, and families to help spread the word. The response was overwhelming and we are so grateful to all of you that participated. As a team we collected 254 bags of clothing! When B&B Management Company came to pick up our donations, everyone helped carry each bag to the truck. All items that were collected will be distributed throughout the community to thrift stores and people in need.

This season we enjoyed focusing on the Winter Olympics by learning about different winter sports and the training that goes into being an Olympian. To

celebrate, Carteret hosted their own Winter Olympic Games! We competed against our peers in hockey, bowling, and relay races to win the gold. Preparing for the games was just as much fun as the event itself. We teamed up with Carteret to make medals by rolling out clay, baking them in the oven, and attaching them to a string. Our location also chose to make Tie Dye shirts that we wore to help represent our team. We especially loved how every shirt was unique.

This season we focused on making healthier food choices which inspired many of our community outings. Going on a tour of Stop and Shop helped us learn about the different departments in a grocery store and how to make a healthy grocery list. We also practiced making healthy choices when we went out to eat during a trip to Amy's Omelet House.

We continue to work on independent living skills. Filing, developing resumes, setting the table for meals and using the computer to search for community transportation options and schedules are just some of the things we are trying to master. A planned trip to Harmon's Face Values gave everyone the opportunity to select and then purchase personal care items for their own use. We took this time to discuss the importance of personal hygiene and how to use these items on a daily basis.



As all of our Primetime locations grow, sometimes it is a challenge to plan things to do together with the other sites. Recently we have established "Prime Pals" which is a pen-pal system so that when we can't see our friends in person, we are able to communicate and share our feelings through writing letters and cards. Each one of our participants in Brick has been paired with another participant at our Eatontown and Carteret sites. Sometimes it may be just a quick "Hi" and at other times it may be a longer letter talking about things they have done or anticipating future trips when we will see each other in person. Everyone looks forward to the monthly correspondence from their pen-pal. This is a great alternative to social media.

