

NEWS TO KNOW

SUMMER 2018



Britany has a new job at **C D Services** where she uses social and job skills she learned at Living and Learning.

“ I think it's a great program and everyone that works at the center is nice and friendly. The workers are also very helpful. ”

— Britany, commenting about her experience at Living and Learning

A huge thank you to **First Centennial Title Agency** and **C D Services** for being the latest partners to join our job skills training and job placement efforts. We also want to thank you, our loyal supporters, for helping us make these successes happen.

On the Radio with Mitch Albom

Make sure to catch our radio interview with **Mitch Albom** on **The Mitch Albom Show**, scheduled for September 4, 6:35pm on WJR News Talk, 760 AM.

Living Learning Enrichment Center

To help individuals with autism and related challenges reach their full potential in work, relationships, and in the community.

Living and Learning is a 501(c)3 nonprofit organization.
www.LivingandLearningCenter.org



Susan is thrilled with her new job at **First Centennial Title Agency**. Your generous financial support ensures that individuals like Susan have every opportunity to be placed in a long-term job.

How Your Support is Making Successes Happen!

The unemployment rate for individuals with autism and other special needs is up to 90%! Living and Learning's Job Skills Team is happy to announce two standout successes with Britany and Susan. Both women had years of disappointing experiences with multiple agencies. They then went through Living and Learning's Job Skills Program and are now working in long-term jobs where they are happy and part of legitimate teams who appreciate their contributions. This is an important step towards living an independent life.

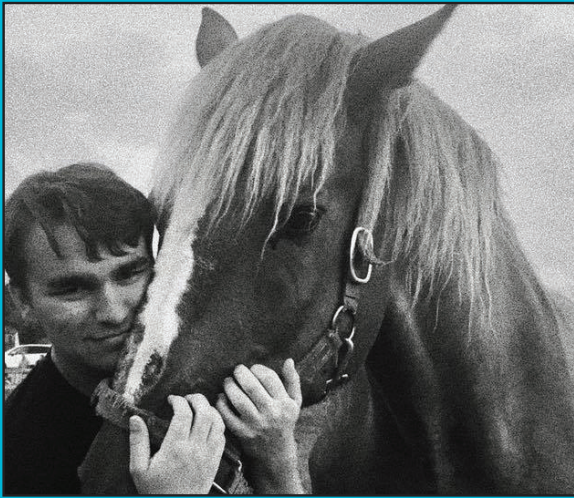
Living and Learning's Job Skills Team partners with local businesses to give our clients an on-the-job training opportunity with one of our mentors. We also identify training programs and micro businesses to start which create appropriate learning and employment opportunities for our clients. Our ultimate goal is to create employment opportunities that truly offer a more diverse and inclusive environment in our community.

If your business is interested in partnering with Living and Learning for job skills training and placement or with any questions on our Job Skills Program, please contact Living and Learning's Director of Business Development David Franco at 248-308-3592 or df.LivingandLearningCenter@gmail.com.



Volunteer Spotlight

“I would like to introduce to you one of the most beautiful people I know. This is Erik Maahs, a student at Catholic Central High School and volunteer mentor at the Living and Learning Enrichment Center. Erik has been with us for almost two years and has worked at many of the programs we offer. There is something very special about Erik and the way he is in tune to others’ feelings.



Erik Maahs

He genuinely cares about each person who walks through our doors and will go out of his way to make sure they feel safe and comfortable. There have been many times I have been in awe of the kindness he shows. This fall Erik will be a lead mentor, training new volunteer mentors in the selfless act of being a peer mentor.”

— Rachelle Vartanian, President and Founder,
Living and Learning Enrichment Center

Wish List

- Passenger van to transport young adults to and from our Job Skills Program
- Fellowes Microshred 99Ms Micro-Cut Shredder
- Uber gift cards to help our clients attend programs
- Gas cards for our volunteer mentors

To view our entire Wish List, please visit www.LivingandLearningCenter.org, click on “Support Us”, then choose “Wish List” from the dropdown menu.

Thank You!

A special thanks to **Advanced Disposal** and their Public Relations Manager **Joe Kohn** for their continued support of Living and Learning. Joe worked tirelessly in guiding us to prepare for the official launch of our recycling business. This business will focus on, but not be limited to, the collection of batteries, pallets, and deposit-refundable bottles and cans. Please contact David Franco 248-308-3592 or df.LivingandLearningCenter@gmail.com to schedule a pick-up of your recyclables for your business or home.

Great Music and Fun! “Spectrum Fest” to Support Our New Market

On Saturday, September 8, noon to 10:00pm the Living and Learning Enrichment Center will host Spectrum Fest 2018, a free day of family fun, music and food on Main Street in downtown Northville. The day will be filled with **music performed by local bands and headlined by Fifty Amp Fuse** to close out the night. There will be an assortment of food, beverages and spirits available to purchase to help us celebrate along with a variety of vendors and activities for all ages.



NEW! MOD MARKET

Proceeds from Spectrum Fest 2018 will benefit the establishment of Living and Learning’s new MOD MARKET at 150 Mary Alexander Court in downtown Northville.

In addition to providing an eclectic shopping experience this new market will also give individuals with autism and related challenges the opportunity to learn essential job skills and obtain gainful employment.

Make Your Giving More Affordable: Become a Monthly Donor

There are many benefits to being a monthly donor. Your tax-deductible investment is spread out, making it more affordable for you, while giving Living and Learning a predictable income stream. You don’t have to remember to send in a check, remember when you sent in your last donation, or otherwise make an effort to donate as your donations are automatic, saving you valuable time.

To become a monthly donor please go to www.LivingandLearningCenter.org, click on “Support Us” along the top menu, and choose “Become a Monthly Donor” from the drop down menu. Your online donation is safe and secure.



Summer Camp: Learning Important Life Skills

This summer was the first year Living and Learning was able to offer two summer camps. One for young adults who need more support and one for young adults who are more independent.

Summer camp should be an opportunity that everyone has the chance to experience. Our summer camp programs offer a variety of activities and essential life skills to help foster independence.

“I cannot believe everything my son is doing and learning. He is trying new things he has never done in the past! I know it’s because he feels so comfortable and loved there.”

— Summer Camp Parent



Summer Camp clients learn important life skills such as cooking.

Summer Formal Dance

Living and Learning held their first annual summer formal dance on July 15th. The girls were generously given a day of pampering by **Studio 170** so they could feel their best.

Seeing the joy of these young adults dancing and socializing with their peers was priceless. This beautiful event will be a special memory for not only the young people who attended, but their parents as well. Three of our volunteer mentors, Northville High School 2018 graduates Sarah Colvin and Abbi Colvin, and Schoolcraft College student Ethan Pepple, had the vision for this and volunteered endless hours to make this a reality. **Sweet Brews n’ Spice** and the **Tuscan Cafe** provided delicious drinks and sweets. John Holbel of **CMIT Solutions** made this night possible as our presenting sponsor. **THANK YOU CONTRIBUTORS!**

Living and Learning Featured in HOUR Detroit Magazine!

HOUR Detroit Magazine recently featured Living and Learning’s President and Founder Rachelle Vartanian. To view the article, visit www.LivingandLearningCenter.org and click on “NEWS”.



Sponsor Spotlight: Planet Fitness

To say Planet Fitness is generous to Living and Learning is an understatement. Our first corporate sponsor, club manager Lara and her amazing team contribute financially and volunteer their time. The team at **Planet Fitness** showed up on Sundays to help paint our new home. They gave out free bottled water, snacks and day passes during our Open House and helped us promote the event. They donate bagels and do whatever they can to support us. They are our Superheroes!

Thank you Lara and your entire team! We appreciate you. **Planet Fitness** is located at 235 East Main Street across from Living and Learning.



Northville **Planet Fitness** Club Manager Lara (L) with Field Marketing Representative Bella. “We’re very proud to support such an innovative and important part of this community,” said Bella about their support as a corporate sponsor of Living and Learning.

Become a Corporate Sponsor

If your business would like to become a corporate sponsor of Living and Learning, please contact us at 248-308-3592, LivingandLearningCenter@gmail.com or donate online at www.LivingandLearningCenter.org. Your contributions are tax-deductible and it’s a powerful way for your business to gain visibility, goodwill and new customers.

Invest in Your Community: Become a Contributor Today

If you have not made a contribution yet in 2018, you can donate securely online at www.LivingandLearningCenter.org. or use the enclosed reply envelope to make your tax-deductible gift today. Or consider making an extra gift to further our efforts. Contributors receive our informative newsletter and are recognized in the newsletter after their gift. Thank you!

Living and Learning Enrichment Center is a 501(c)3 nonprofit organization. Your contributions are tax-deductible to the full extent of the law.



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Summer Camp Visits

Cherie Baby Cafe
Edward's Cafe & Caterer
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Planet Fitness
Northville Downs
Northville Library
Northville Fire Department
Red Dot Coffee
Sweet Brew N' Spice

Living  Learning
Enrichment Center



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pass it on!**

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