

Our Vision

TNC Community works to be the region's foremost provider of high-quality services to persons with developmental disabilities by providing individuals the opportunity to achieve their goals in a safe and healthy environment.



A Message from the Executive Director



The year is moving swiftly and TNC Community is progressing right along with the times. We have had a number of staff members celebrate anniversaries with TNC Community for the month of February and several more will for the month of March. View the full list of celebrants at the end of this newsletter!

Here's the latest from the Capitol City: In February, the state learned that it will receive \$52 million dollars from a legal settlement and additional federal funding. Gov. Greitens stated that he will be issuing an amendment to the budget putting \$41 million toward home and community-based services, *restoring* his proposed cut to in-home and nursing home services.

However, this is not final. We must continue to be diligent in our efforts to encourage support for individuals and families that will be directly affected by any change in government funding at the local and national level.

[Click here](#) to read the entire statement on the governor's Facebook page.

Here are two more bills to watch in the coming months:

SB 456 - Enacts provisions relating to health care for individuals with physical, cognitive, emotional, mental, or developmental disabilities: [Read more on SB 456 here.](#)

HB 1011 - Changes the laws regarding health care for persons with disabilities: [Read more on HB 1011 here.](#)

Mark your calendars! March is National Disability Awareness Month. With that in mind, the Governor's Council on Disability will partner with organizations to promote Disability Rights Legislative Day on March 15 from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the Capitol. Registration will begin at 10 a.m. This year's theme is "We Choose Inclusion." [Click here to let us know if you're planning to attend.](#)



March is National Disability Awareness Month

"In 1987 President Ronald Reagan proclaimed March 'Developmental

Disabilities Awareness Month.' The presidential proclamation called upon Americans to provide the 'encouragement and opportunities' necessary for people with developmental disabilities to reach their potential.

Advocates recognized a moral imperative to engage individuals with developmental - and other - disabilities. With passage of the Americans with Disabilities Act in 1990, workplace discrimination against people with disabilities became sanctionable...

The national conversation began to address the full spectrum of services needed for people with disabilities to live secure, fulfilling lives. Passage of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) in 2004, further cemented the resolve of self-advocates and their supporters."

Source: *Special Needs Alliance*



TNC to Be Featured at Trails West Library

Searching for a great read or eager to learn something new? Stop by the Trails West Library at 11401 E. 23rd Street, Independence, MO.

While you're there, check us out, too! TNC Community will be featured at the library for National Disability Awareness Month! Learn about our volunteer and employment

opportunities. Gain some insight on the events and programs, care and supports TNC provides for individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities in homes like mine and yours.

Stop by the Trails West library any time during the month of March and discover TNC Community.

[Click here for more information](#)

After Being Rejected From Fashion School, Designer With Down Syndrome Is Making History

Heather Cichowski, *aplus.com*

Around the world, doors are opening for those who have not traditionally had representation in the industry in the past. One designer in particular to look out for is Isabella Springmühl.

After being rejected by fashion schools, the Guatemalan designer went on to carve her own path and achieve many career accolades.

At just 19 years old, she made history as the first designer with Down syndrome to show at London Fashion Week.

[Click here for complete story](#)



Education Series is Back!



Whether you're considering home-ownership, want to balance your budget or just need a refresher course on checking and savings accounts, there's no time like the present.

Through our partnership with Urban Financial Services Coalition - Greater Kansas City, we invite you to participate in a FREE Financial Education Series.

Beginning March 21, join us on the third Tuesday of every other month from 4-6 p.m. at TNC for unrestricted, insightful instruction on topics including banking, budgeting, impulse buys, credit and more! Establish your financial plan or make adjustments to your current one with this informative series.

The best thing about this program is that you will be receiving expert advice from recognized professionals in the financial industry for FREE! There's no cost to attend. All courses are open to the public.

Connect with TNC Community on Facebook, [LinkedIn](#) and [Twitter](#) for topics and additional information or email development@tnccommunity.com for details.

[Click here to register or for more information](#)

TNC Community Anniversaries

February:

Barbara Cowan 2/19/2001
Joan Ibale 2/10/2005
Aggrey Seemani 2/17/2006
Mary Mallard 2/5/2008
Hanna Leggesse 2/29/2008
Grace Sular 2/9/2009
Jamie Randle 2/16/2011
Schniquitta Howard 2/23/2015
Mary Beth Johnson 2/5/2016
Pam Bodenhamer 2/18/2016
Susan Ochonogor 2/18/2016
Leighann Baker 2/25/2016

March:

James Landrum 3/5/2001
Stacy Baker 3/17/2014
Mary Akinyi 3/17/2014
Miyata Franklin 3/23/2015
Robert Milliren 3/24/2015
Sandy Ray 3/3/2016

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STAY CONNECTED:

