

! a message from **OUR CEO**

**KIM CORNWELL**  
 EPIC CEO



**New Minimum Wage Law and How It Impacts our Staff and the Individuals We Serve.**

A large portion of how we operate is determined by the Government and while EP!C can't lobby we most certainly can advocate and we feel it's our duty to educate our individuals, Families, Guardians, Staff and Supporters on how these decisions affect them. There are currently two bills presented to the Illinois House of Representatives that require Action on your behalf.

**HB2148** - Disability Worker Wage ensures our front-line staff earn a professional wage and not a minimum wage. We are asking for your help in voicing PROPOSITION to this.

The bill asks legislators to increase the rates and reimbursements for Direct Support Professionals (DSP's) on or before July 1, 2019, so their base wage is not less than \$5.25 per hour ABOVE the highest state minimum wage.

**HB3340** - Subminimum Wage Phase-Out aims to do just that, phase out sub-minimum wage. We are asking for your help in voicing OPPOSITION to this.

We currently serve 43 people who don't meet the minimum wage threshold and the ability for us to be able to provide them a sub-minimum wage gives them the opportunity to gain skills and albeit smaller, earn their own paycheck.

Imagine what a difference these legislatures will make in the lives of our staff and the quality of services our individuals will continue to receive. Please consider taking action you will be helping our legislators understand the impact this decision will have on the people we serve.

*Thank you on behalf of EP!C Individuals and Staff.*

! job **PLACEMENT**

**JOB PLACEMENT PROGRAM**

Matching reliable employees with local employers.

Contact Kaitlin McVey at [kmcvey@epicci.org](mailto:kmcvey@epicci.org) or 309-689-3724.



! certificate **CLASSES**

**EP!C** is now offering certificate training in a career of your choice.

**TECHNOLOGY | HORTICULTURE | CULINARY ARTS  
 LIFE SKILLS | ART EXPERIENCE**

Registration Deadline: **JUNE 5<sup>th</sup>** | Classes Start: **JUNE 10<sup>th</sup>**

Registration forms for each class can be picked up at our Townline location or found at [EPICci.org/programs](http://EPICci.org/programs)

For more information contact Rachel Grysoan, Curriculum Coordinator  
[rgrysoan@epicpeoria.org](mailto:rgrysoan@epicpeoria.org), 309-689-3669

Just a few of our proud partners:



# EPIC MISSION AND VISION

At EPIC we enrich the lives of individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities. We envision a world where people with disabilities are respected, engaged in community life, and have every opportunity to achieve their personal best.



## ! upcoming EVENTS

### WINGFEST

MAY 19TH  
11:00AM - 5:00PM

Riverfront Park



### QUARTERLY ADVOCATE FAMILY GATHERING

JUNE 20TH  
5:30pm

1913 W. Townline Road  
Peoria, IL 61615

### HOST HOMES 15TH ANNUAL BAKE SALE AND RAFFLE

AUGUST 15TH  
4:00 - 6:00pm

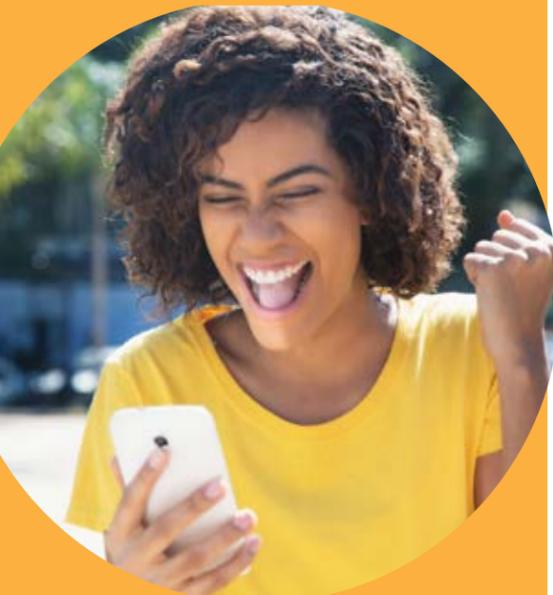
1913 W. Townline Road  
Peoria, IL 61615

### HOST HOMES 15TH ANNUAL BAKE SALE AND RAFFLE

AUGUST 16TH  
8:00am - NOON

1913 W. Townline Road  
Peoria, IL 61615

## ! EPIC e-newsletter



### Our Volunteers now have their very own e-newsletter!

Contact Carmen McCarthy, Development Coordinator, at [cmccarthy@epicci.org](mailto:cmccarthy@epicci.org) or call 309-689-3606 to sign up.

## ! ep!c HARVEST CSA



Mid-July through October (about 16 weeks)

### What is a CSA?

"CSA" stands for **Community Supported Agriculture**. A CSA allows individuals to have direct access to high quality, fresh produce grown by our EPIC Harvest participants.



### Sample of Seasonal Produce Offered

Heirloom Tomatoes  
New Potatoes  
Carrots  
Summer Squash  
Zucchini  
Cucumbers  
Hot Peppers  
Sweet Peppers

Cauliflower  
Onions  
Winter Squash  
Sweet Potatoes  
Kohlrabi  
Melons  
Cherry Tomatoes  
Eggplant

Sweet Corn  
Green/Wax Beans  
Cabbage  
Broccoli  
Beets  
Fresh Herbs  
Various Fruits - from local partners

### FULL SHARE - \$500

Each week, you will receive a box containing 6-12 freshly harvested, in-season veggies.

### HALF SHARE - \$500

Every other week, you will receive a box containing 6-12 freshly harvested, in-season veggies.

Visit us at [epicci.org/programs/epc-harvest/](http://epicci.org/programs/epc-harvest/) for CSA & Pop-Up Shop sign ups!

## ! ep!c EMPLOYEES

The employee of the month for March was **Tonja Gunter**. Two other employees nominated her and said "Her positive attitude and dependability gives the individuals a consistent and reliable staff member...There are often times when Tonja goes above and beyond normal shift duties and has a positive attitude the entire time." "Her dependability gives the individuals a consistent and reliable staff member. Not only do the individuals feel comfortable and relaxed while she's in their home, but they know they can depend on her".

**Beth Britton** was selected as our Employee of the Month for April. Beth "takes initiative to help wherever is needed, without hesitation and goes beyond what is expected. She truly cares about the people we serve." She also works with our individuals who like to sing by volunteering to lead the EPIC Choir each year at the Community Festival of Nativities.



## ! ep!c BON APPÉTIT

thank You!

THANKS TO ALL OUR AMAZING SPONSORS AND GUESTS, EPIC WAS ABLE TO SURPASS THIS YEAR'S GOAL!

