

! a message from **OUR CEO**

**KIM CORNWELL**  
 EP!C CEO



And just like that, another EP!C year has come to an end. On July 1<sup>st</sup> we started a new fiscal year, and with a new year comes new opportunities and new challenges.

In the 2018-2019 year we had some great wins. We welcomed new staff, largely in the southern Illinois market with the acquisition of a division of Illinois Mentor's services, giving us a second office in Swansea, IL. We had successes with an appeal for donations specifically to secure used, low mileage vehicles of which we were able to purchase two, allowing us to get out in the community more often. We received an award for our "I Am EP!C" branding campaign from the Public Relations Association of Central Illinois. We had more volunteer groups participate with us than ever before, and in turn, the people we support provided over 100 hours a month volunteering in our communities.

As we head into the 2019-2020 year, we look forward to more great things. In January 2020, for example, we will officially kick off our 70th anniversary celebrating the impact we've had on the lives of people with disabilities. We will increase our medical advocacy program thanks to a grant from the Illinois Council on Developmental Disabilities (ICDD). And on March 19th we will host our 9th annual Bon Appétit signature event. And that's only a few of the many, many things we are planning.

We hope you will help share in our EP!C journey and engage in all the great things we accomplish in this next year.

*Thank you for being an EP!C supporter.*

! EP!C **HARVEST CSA**



**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 EP!C Harvest participants.



**Mid-July through October (about 16 weeks)**

**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 - \$350**

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 Night at the **BALLPARK**



**Friday, August 2<sup>nd</sup>**  
 5:30 PM - 9:30 PM  
 Dozer Park

*Buy Your Tickets Today!*

# EPIC MISSION AND VISION

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



## ! upcoming EVENTS

### NIGHT AT THE BALLPARK

**AUG 2ND**  
5:30PM - 9:30PM  
Dozer Park



### IGNITE PEORIA EP!CASSO

**AUG 10TH**  
9:00 am - 4:00 pm  
Peoria Civic Center

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

**AUG 15TH** 4:00 - 6:00pm  
**AUG 16TH** 9:00am - NOON  
1913 W. Townline Road  
Peoria, IL 61615

### 2ND ANNUAL EP!C RIDE FOR INCLUSION

**SEPT 7TH**  
10:00 am  
1913 W. Townline Road  
Peoria, IL 61615

### 2ND ANNUAL FAMILY FUN NIGHT

**SEPT 19TH**  
4:00 pm - 7:00 pm  
1913 W. Townline Road  
Peoria, IL 61615

## ! THE EPIC FAMILY IS GROWING

Back in December, EPIC entered into an Acquisition Purchase Agreement with Illinois MENTOR Community Services and assumed



responsibility for providing Host Home and supported living program services in Peoria, Springfield and Swansea, IL that were previously operated by Illinois MENTOR Community Services. EPIC continues to be headquartered out of Peoria, IL but is now also operating out of a second office in Swansea, IL.

**This acquisition makes EPIC one of the largest providers of supports for people with disabilities in downstate Illinois.**



### MEET THE FAMILY

Cheyanne, Kristina, Diana, Jane, Tamisha & Jaisha are ready to serve our Southern, IL market!

## ! EPIC FIREFIGHTER DAY

### What did you want to be when you grew up?

In June, EPIC was invited to live out that dream as the Peoria Fire Department once again hosted EPIC Firefighter Day.

Assistant Captain Tony Ardis and his team spent the day interacting with people from EPIC. We got the chance to visit Fire Central and try our hand at being Firefighters by learning

about the trucks, equipment and emergency skills such as putting out a fire.

This experience gives people with disabilities the opportunity to be advocates for their own safety and to have a better understanding of this service in their community.

It also gives first responders a better understanding of who they may be rescuing and how they may need to respond.



## ! EPIC EMPLOYEES

**Dawn Dudley** in our Transportation department was named our May Employee of the Month. Dawn is "always willing to go above and beyond to make the individuals feel special. She helps with community activities such as dances or outings when done with her regular shift because there are never enough drivers or transportation to do so."

Our Employee of the month for June was **Tiara Gordon**. Her nominator said, "She is always advocating for the inclusion and acceptance of the people we support. Tiara has also been a central part of inspiring one of the individuals at our home on Briarcliffe to go to the doctor's office, a feat that in the past would have been almost impossible."

