

A MESSAGE FROM OUR CEO

KIM CORNWELL
 EPIC CEO



We are so thankful for the support we've received over the past year. Whether that be your time, talents, treasure, or activism, all of it helps us to be a premier provider of services in the state of Illinois.

EPIC has a long history of pushing for changes that impact those with cognitive differences and that work is yet to be done. It's past time to look beyond disability and see the person who is a capable, contributing member of society. Until that day, our staff will continue to work tirelessly to be a voice for those we serve.

As a part of those efforts, we've spent the last few years investing in storytelling. Highlighting real people supported and their successes whose stories help give our mission life. In this newsletter, we've included our latest Mission Moment that was shown at our signature Bon Appétit event this past March. I encourage you to watch it and hear directly from those who are impacted by EPIC.

As we move into our next fiscal year we hope to have your continued support.

With gratitude,

EPIC HARVEST



Bi-weekly on Tuesdays starting at 9AM

Anyone with a bicycle is welcome to join!

Follow Us!



www.EPICci.org

Save the dates!

MAY EVENTS

May 21st

JUNE EVENTS

June 4th
 June 18th

JULY EVENTS

July 2nd
 July 16th

AUGUST EVENTS

August 6th
 August 20th

SEPTEMBER EVENTS

September 3rd
 September 17th

OCTOBER EVENTS

October 1st
 October 15th

EPIC HARVEST

We are busy prepping for the 2024 EPIC Harvest CSA season.

Don't miss out on getting direct access to high quality, fresh produce grown by EPIC participants. Season starts in July.



Purchase your share online at EPICci.square.site or call (309) 689-3607



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

EPIC JOB FAIR

MAY 15

epicci.org/careers/now-hiring/
1913 W. Townline Rd.

EPIC SUMMER CLASSES START

MAY 21

ICC
epicci.org/programs/post-secondary/

MEMORIAL DAY OFFICES CLOSED

MAY 27

BEST OF THE BEST NOMINATIONS

JUNE 3 - 24

yourchoiceawards.com/peoria/

JUNETEENTH OFFICES CLOSED

JUNE 19

ADA WOW CELEBRATION

TBA - JULY 26

epicci.org/events/

Event Note: Be sure to follow us on social media or check our website to stay up-to-date on new and changing events.

! EPIC EMPLOYEES



Kristina Legg was named the March Employee of the Month

Kristina was nominated because "She has been a leader in setting the tone for staff during the transition to rotational programming for our day service programs. She has consistently approached this change with flexibility, positivity, and a person-centered lens. She has ensured stability and consistency for the people supported in her department. She works incredibly independently and she is the first person to jump in and help when it is needed. Her dependability, loyalty, and positivity contribute greatly to the culture of Community Day Services."



Nicole Blair was named the April Employee of the Month

Nicole goes above and beyond when it comes to creating meaningful and supportive relationships with the individuals she works with in our Southern region. "She was persistent when it came to helping an individual clean up his apartment so that it could pass inspection, she was respectful of his wishes including his desire not to get rid of things. She offered many suggestions and came up with creative ways to meet him where he was. The apartment management team was very appreciative of all her hard work and dedication. Niki is always flexible and willing to help whenever she can. She always has an upbeat personality and wants what is best for the people we support."

! EPIC WELCOME

We are excited to share the addition of a new executive team member at EPIC. With a 30+ year career in the non-profit sector, Kristina "Kristi" Williams has joined us as our newly created Senior Vice President of Business Development. In this role, she will be responsible for overseeing the growth and stability of our Service Coordination Teams as well as the Behavioral Health Departments.

Kristi is a native of the Peoria and Central Illinois region. She has a clinical background that also includes both project and program development and management. She's currently attaining her Doctorate in Health Sciences and she is coming to us most recently serving Heartland Health Services as their Vice President of Clinical Operations.

Her philosophy is that as service providers in the community, we must break down any barrier possible in order to achieve the elimination of disparities and inequities and to be able to provide the broad support services needed in order to promote every individual having the opportunity to reach their personal best. In her spare time, she enjoys outdoor activities such as running, cycling, and kayaking, and spending valuable time with her family.



! SPRING FLOWERS

spring flower sales

Shop Online at
EPICci.square.site
Available on May 11th



Contact **Sunny Pearson** at
spearson@epicci.org or (309) 689-3607



! MONTHLY GIVING

Put your donation on autopilot

When you do, you'll receive a limited edition EPIC t-shirt as our gift to you.

\$25 a month
\$300 a year

\$50 a month
\$600 a year

\$75 a month
\$900 a year

\$100 a month
\$1,200 a year + Barbara Smiley Society Member



! NATIONAL CONFERENCE SPOTLIGHT

Recently, our Chief Human Resources Officer, Eric Sutter, and Anytime Fitness Peoria Owner, Doug Pinter, traveled to Florida to present at the Developmental Disabilities Nurses Association 32nd Educational Conference.

We spoke to all 300+ attendees about the development and growth of our wellness program which includes the onsite Wellness Center, educational classes, participant challenges, fundraising events, and corporate partnerships.

Encouraging those to think outside the box for the health of individuals supported and staff who support them.



! MISSION MOMENT

During this year's 13th Annual Bon Appétit, we shared a mission moment video with our guests. It helped show the connection between our Post-Secondary classes at Illinois Central College and the Employment program, matching people to careers they love. Navigating your life as a young adult can be challenging. EPIC is there to support those with cognitive differences throughout their life. With unique programs tailored to individual's needs, we empower people to live an EPIC life!



Scan the code to see the video!