



Our Vision

People with developmental disabilities are empowered to realize their greatest potential, thrive within the community, and achieve their hopes and dreams.

Our Mission

Enriching the lives of individuals with developmental disabilities by maximizing their opportunities for personal success, fun & friendship, employment, and community involvement.



We're Excited You're Here!

You may notice that things look a little different _ CEL has a new logo and tagline!

We updated our branding to reflect the experience of our members. CEL is where you are individually known and respected, you connect with others who accept and welcome you, and you achieve more than you thought was possible. It is a safe, fun, positive place to make friends and be part of your larger community as an active participant.

By promoting independence, self-advocacy, and personal growth, CEL helps individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities thrive and reach their full potential. The organization is committed to removing barriers, both physical and attitudinal, and creating opportunities for learning, engagement, and social connections. With a strong sense of community and a dedicated team of staff and volunteers, CEL makes a positive and lasting impact in the lives of our members and their families. CEL is where everyone can experience life's possibilities!







Two programs launched to serve members in new ways:

Robert Vihon Family Resource Center: Mental health and disability services and resources for individuals and families Catalyst Day Program:
Life skill building focus for greater
autonomy and satisfaction



Dear Friends & Supporters,

For the past 37 years, I have had the extraordinary privilege of serving this incredible organization dedicated to empowering teens and adults with developmental disabilities so they can realize their potential and thrive within the community. This journey began in 1987 when I first joined CEL as their first Director of Development. Over the years it has evolved into more of a profound personal and professional experience.

I am filled with immense pride and gratitude for the privilege of leading this organization. When I assumed the role of CEO in 2003, I could not have envisioned the extraordinary progress we would achieve as an organization. Over the past two decades we have made significant strides in enhancing the lives of teens and adults with developmental disabilities. I am confident in a bright future for CEL and our members through the talented and excellent leadership of our new CEO, Herb Washington.

As I step into retirement, I do so with the knowledge that our work is far from over. I know that with your renewed and generous support CEL will continue to thrive and make a profound difference in the lives of individuals with developmental disabilities.

Thanks to you there will alway be opportunities for teens, adults, and seniors with developmental disabilities to experience life's possibilities!

With gratitude,

Harriet Levy Retired CEO RFOF
Went
Willia
Richard
Mitchell
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Of Friends
Joan and Nor
Mitchell
Tim a
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Felsenthal and Rox
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CEL is proud to welcome Herb Washington as our new CEO!



VOLUNTEER LEADERSHIP

FY23



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In Memoriam Robert S. Vihon Meet the FY23 Board!





EMPLOYMENT PARTNERS

Thank you to these local businesses who partnered with CEL to hire valuable employees who have intellectual and developmental disabilities.

Amazon Fresh

Bark University

Blitt and Gaines Law Firm

Boarder Tails Rescue

Culver's

Dogtopia

Gigi's Playhouse

Heartland Animal Hospital

Horizon Therapeutics/Eurest

Hotel Indigo

Kohl's

Leider Greenhouses

Lou Malnati's

Mariano's

Noggin Builders

Pet Factory

Prospect Heights Public Library

Rainbows for All Children

Riverside Foundation

Saf-T-Gard International

Schaumburg Boomers

Thrown Elements Pottery Studio

T.J. Maxx

Walgreens

The Wild Roaster



Watch this video to learn about the impact of CEL's Employment Opportunities Program:



Member Statistics



381

Member Lives Enriched



80,463
Program Participation Hours



55
Communities Served



260

Members Receiving Scholarship

\$92,739

Financial Aid Awarded

Support & Revenue

Misc/Interest: \$80,404

In-Kind: \$129,652

Contributions: \$1,055,186

Membership Fees: \$1,032,006

Special Events: \$1,003,535

Grants: \$467,852



Management/General: \$608,300

Programs: \$3,121,986

Fundraising: \$699,023



CEL is proud to once again achieve a Candid Platinum Seal of Transparency

on GuideStar

Platinum Transparency **2024**

Candid.





280 Saunders Road, Riverwoods, Illinois 60015 www.CenterForEnrichedLiving.org

Volunteer or Intern at CEL:



CEL is a great place to work.

See jobs:



Join our Board of Directors:









