

TESTING 1..2..3

Stephen Jordan M.Ed., COMS



"HELLO? HELLO? HELLO?
IS THERE ANYBODY IN THERE?
JUST NOD IF YOU CAN HEAR ME
IS THERE ANYONE AT HOME?"

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PINK FLOYD

"COMFORTABLY NUMB"

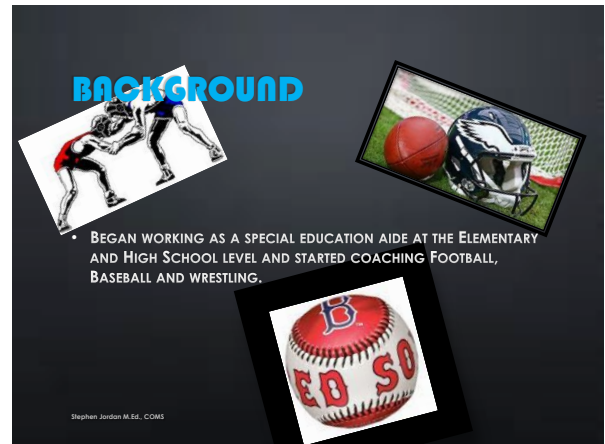
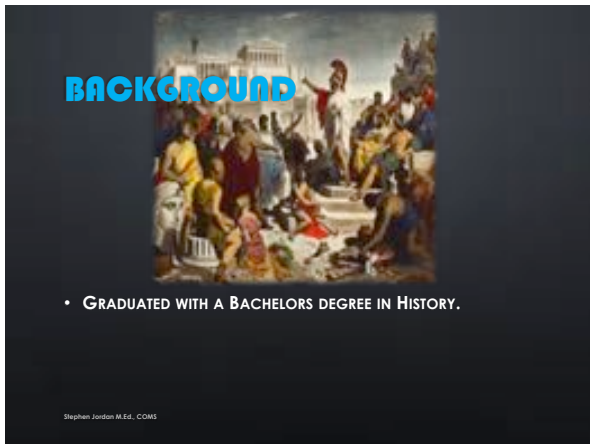
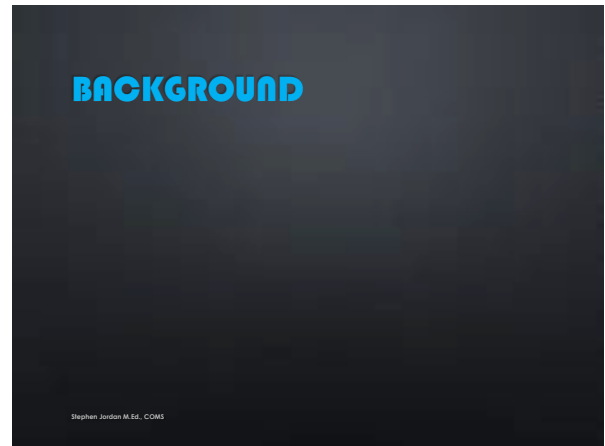
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RALPH WALDO EMERSON



"TO KNOW EVEN ONE LIFE HAS
BREATHED EASIER BECAUSE YOU
HAVE LIVED. THIS IS TO HAVE
SUCCEEDED."

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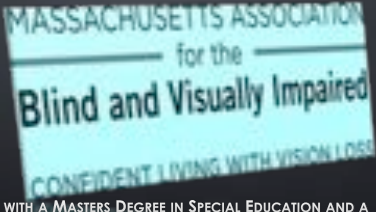
BACKGROUND



- MET A STUDENT THAT WOULD FOREVER CHANGE MY LIFE. THEN MET AN O&M INSTRUCTOR THAT DID JUST THE SAME.

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BACKGROUND



- GRADUATED WITH A MASTERS DEGREE IN SPECIAL EDUCATION AND A NATIONAL CERTIFICATION IN ORIENTATION AND MOBILITY. BEGAN WORKING AS A COMS AT THE MASSACHUSETTS ASSOCIATION FOR THE BLIND.

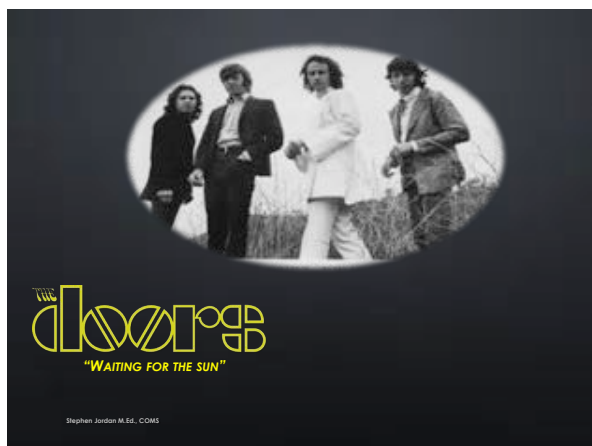
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GET READY

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I

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**BEFORE YOU BEGIN WORKING WITH INDIVIDUALS
WITH DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES AND VISUAL
IMPAIRMENTS YOU NEED TO DO 2 THINGS...**

CARE

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**BEFORE YOU BEGIN WORKING WITH INDIVIDUALS
WITH DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES AND VISUAL
IMPAIRMENTS YOU NEED TO DO 2 THINGS...**

CARE

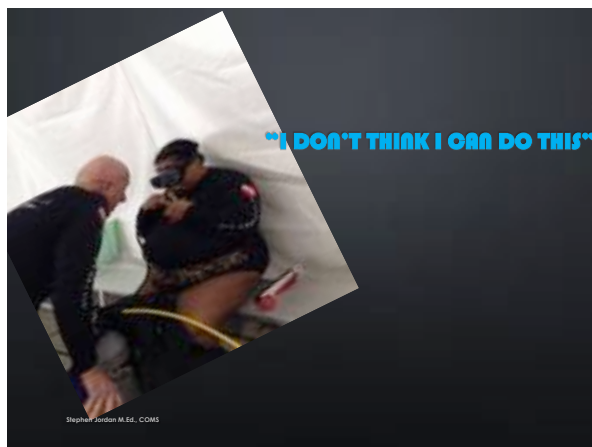
Don't CARE

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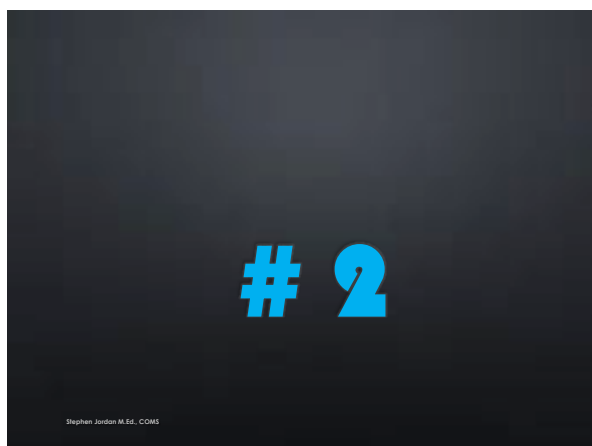
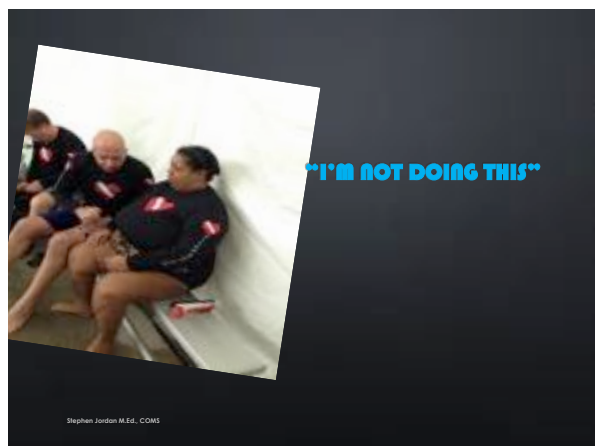
CARE

- YOU HAVE TO CARE ABOUT THE INDIVIDUALS YOU ARE WORKING WITH.
- YOU HAVE TO ACKNOWLEDGE THEIR (DIS)ABILITY, AND FIND OUT THEIR STRENGTHS AND WEAKNESSES.
- HAVE TO BE WILLING TO GET DOWN AND DIRTY!!!

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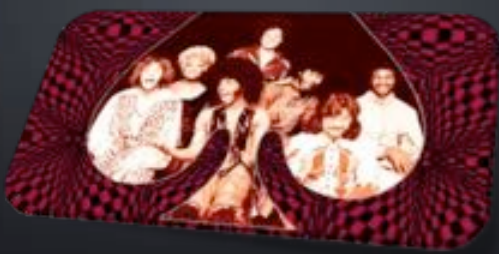




Speaker icon

"WE GOT TO LIVE TOGETHER,
I AM NO BETTER AND NEITHER ARE YOU.
WE ARE THE SAME WHATEVER WE DO.
YOU LOVE ME, YOU HATE ME, YOU KNOW ME
AND THEN, YOU CAN'T FIGURE OUT THE BAG
I'M IN.
I AM EVERYDAY PEOPLE."

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SKY AND THE FAMILY STORE
"EVERYDAY PEOPLE"

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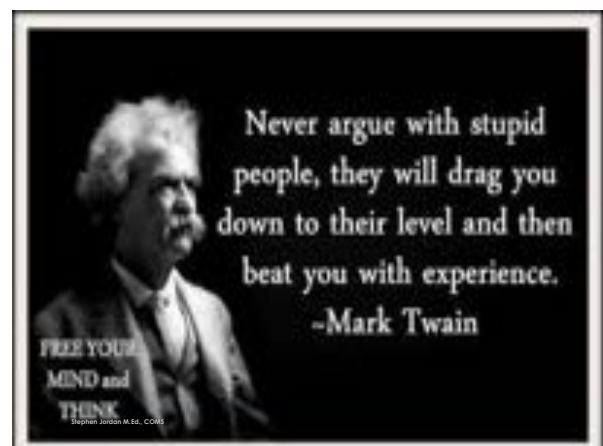
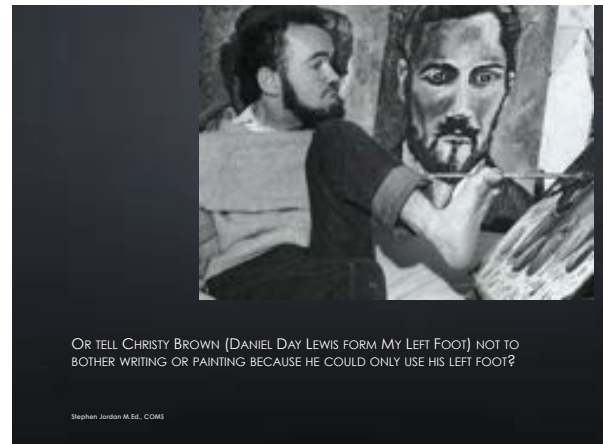
**IS IT REALLY IMPORTANT FOR
INDIVIDUALS TO BE OUT INTO THE
COMMUNITY???**

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JOHN Q. PUBLIC

"BUT THEY ARE BLIND, CORRECT? WHY
WOULD THEY WANT TO GO TO THE MOVIES
OR A SPORTING EVENT IF THEY CAN'T
SEE???"

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IMPORTANCE OF COMMUNITY INCLUSION

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IMPORTANCE OF COMMUNITY INCLUSION

- ABLE TO USE TECHNIQUES AND SKILLS IN A FUNCTIONAL MANNER.
- DO THINGS THAT THEY NORMALLY DO NOT DO.
- BREAK UP THE MONOTONY OF EVERYDAY LIFE.
- GAIN CONFIDENCE, SELF-ESTEEM AND INDEPENDENCE.
- SHOWCASE THEIR TALENTS TO THE PUBLIC. PROVING ALL THE THINGS THEY CAN DO INSTEAD OF MYTHS OF WHAT THEY CAN'T DO.

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IMPORTANCE RELATED TO TRAVEL

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IMPORTANCE RELATED TO TRAVEL



- MOST INDIVIDUALS HAVE BEEN WORKING ON ORIENTATION AND MOBILITY SKILLS AND TRAVEL TECHNIQUES FOR COUNTLESS HOURS/DAYS/YEARS.

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IMPORTANCE RELATED TO TRAVEL

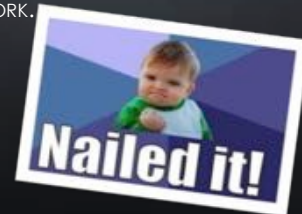


- INDOOR LESSONS USUALLY OCCUR IN RESIDENCES, DAY PROGRAMS, JOBSITES, ETC...
- OUTDOOR LESSONS USUALLY OCCUR AROUND THOSE AREAS OR ON PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION

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IMPORTANCE RELATED TO TRAVEL

- THERE IS A DIRECT CORRELATION BETWEEN THESE TRAVEL SKILLS AND JOB PLACEMENT OR VOLUNTEER WORK.



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IMPORTANCE RELATED TO TRAVEL

- THESE INDIVIDUALS PRACTICE, PRACTICE, PRACTICE.....

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IMPORTANCE TRANSLATED

- PRACTICE VS COMPETING



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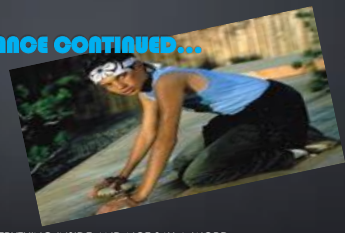
IMPORTANCE CONTINUED...



- SOME WONDER WHY THEY SHOULD EVEN BOTHER PRACTICING.

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IMPORTANCE CONTINUED...



- SOME MIGHT JUST HOLD EVERYTHING INSIDE AND NOT SAY A WORD.

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IMPORTANCE CONTINUED...



- OTHERS MIGHT NOT WANT TO EVEN PRACTICE ANYMORE.

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IMPORTANCE CONTINUED...



- SOME MIGHT JUST GET VERY MAD AND ACT OUT.

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IMPORTANCE CONTINUED...

- THESE INDIVIDUALS WE ARE WORKING WITH ARE NO DIFFERENT, THE ONLY DIFFERENCE MAY BE THAT THEY ARE NOT ABLE TO TELL YOU HOW THEY FEEL. IT MAY COME OUT IN OTHER WAYS.

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THIS IS HOW THEY FEEL!!!!!!



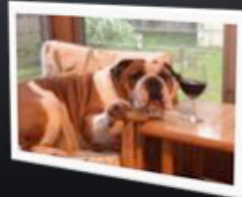
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INDIVIDUALS WHO DO NOT GET THE CHANCE TO GO OUT

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INDIVIDUALS WHO DO NOT GET THE CHANCE GO OUT

- A LARGE PERCENTAGE OF THE INDIVIDUALS I HAVE COME ACROSS RARELY GET THE CHANCE TO EXPERIENCE COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES THAT ARE TAKEN FOR GRANTED EVERY DAY.



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INDIVIDUALS WHO DO NOT GET THE CHANCE TO GO OUT

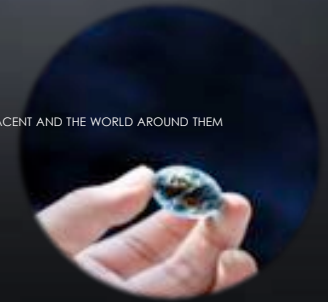
- INDIVIDUALS MAY NOT GET THE CHANCE TO ADVOCATE FOR THEMSELVES.

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INDIVIDUALS WHO DO NOT GET THE CHANCE TO GO OUT

- INDIVIDUALS BECOME COMPLACENT AND THE WORLD AROUND THEM SHRINKS.

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INDIVIDUALS WHO DO NOT GET THE CHANCE TO GO OUT



- THERE IS MORE TO LIFE THAN "THE WALL'S" THEY ARE SURROUNDED BY.

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3

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"YES, AND HOW MANY YEARS CAN SOME PEOPLE EXIST BEFORE THEY'RE ALLOWED TO BE FREE?

YES, AND HOW MANY TIMES CAN A MAN TURN HIS HEAD AND PRETEND THAT HE JUST DOESN'T SEE?

THE ANSWER, MY FRIEND, IS BLOWIN' IN THE WIND.

THE ANSWER IS BLOWIN' IN THE WIND."



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Bob Dylan

"Blowin' in the Wind"

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**OK. AN INDIVIDUAL HAS EXPRESSED
INTEREST IN COMMUNITY
EXPLORATION ... NOW WHAT???**

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KNOW THE INDIVIDUAL

- GET TO KNOW WHO YOU ARE WORKING WITH, DON'T JUST GUESS!!!!
- BUILD A RAPPORT.
- MOST LIKELY THERE IS A TEAM OF SPECIALISTS WHO WORK WITH THE INDIVIDUAL. THEY ARE A WEALTH OF KNOWLEDGE SO ASK QUESTIONS!!! (FAMILY, O&M, OT, PT, SLP, STAFF, ETC....)
- AREAS TO LOOK FOR - STAMINA, PHYSICAL IMPAIRMENTS, GAIT, MEDICATIONS...
- KNOW HOW THEY WILL BE TRAVELING, WHETHER IT IS SIGHTED GUIDE, VOICE GUIDE, PARTIAL ASSISTANCE, FULL ASSISTANCE. NO MATTER WHAT THE CASE, TALK WITH THEM AND MAKE THEM FEEL AS COMFORTABLE AS POSSIBLE.
- A COMFORTABLE TRAVELER IS A BETTER TRAVELER!!!

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INDIVIDUAL/TEAM APPROACH

- ***MOST IMPORTANT*** TALK WITH THE INDIVIDUAL!!!
- FIND OUT THEIR GOALS, HOBBIES, AND INTERESTS. MOTIVATION IS KEY! FIND OUT WHAT THE INDIVIDUAL WANTS TO DO!!!
- HAVE THEM BE INVOLVED IN THE PROCESS.
- GIVE OPTIONS.
- TALK WITH STAFF, TEAM, AND COME UP WITH A PLAN OF ACTION.

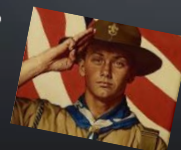
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OK. NOW WHAT???

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PASSENGER LIST

- IS ANYONE ELSE IS COMING?
- YOU NEED TO KNOW EVERYTHING ABOUT EVERYONE GOING.
- BE PREPARED



- ONCE YOU FIND OUT WHO IS GOING AND WHERE THEY WANT TO GO, DO SOME RESEARCH!!!!

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RESEARCH OUTSIDE AND AROUND THE DESTINATION

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RESEARCH OUTSIDE AND AROUND THE DESTINATION

- HOW ARE WE GETTING THERE?
- HOW MUCH WALKING IS INVOLVED FROM THE PARKING SPOT OR DROP OFF.
- WHAT IS THE TERRAIN LIKE?
- REMEMBER THE GOAL IS TO BE AS INDEPENDENT AS POSSIBLE.

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RESEARCH THE FINAL DESTINATION

- IS THE DESTINATION ACCESSIBLE?
- ARE THERE STAIRS, ELEVATORS, ESCALATORS, RAMPS, ETC. ...???
- PEDESTRIAN TRAFFIC?
- RESTROOMS
- SURFACE CHANGES
- WILL ANYTHING NEED TO BE MADE ACCESSIBLE BEFOREHAND

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#4

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**YOU DON'T NEED A WEATHERMAN TO
KNOW WHICH WAY THE WIND BLOWS**



- WEATHER PLAYS A MAJOR ROLE IN HOW INDIVIDUALS TRAVEL.
- MAKE SURE THE INDIVIDUAL IS PREPARED FOR WHATEVER SEASON IT IS.
- MAKE SURE THE ENVIRONMENT IS SAFE FOR TRAVEL.

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**RESEARCH IS DONE. DESTINATION IS CHOSEN.
YOU ARE READY TO GO... NOW WHAT???**

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**ALL THE RESEARCH IS DONE.
DESTINATION IS CHOSEN.
YOU ARE READY TO GO...
NOW WHAT???**

HAVE FUN!!!

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**RESEARCH IS DONE. DESTINATION IS CHOSEN.
YOU ARE READY TO GO... NOW WHAT???**

- IF YOU ARE HAVING FUN, THERE IS A HUGE CHANCE THAT THE INDIVIDUAL WILL HAVE FUN! NO ONE WANTS TO BE OUT WITH A DEBBIE DOWNER.



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**RESEARCH IS DONE. DESTINATION IS CHOSEN.
YOU ARE READY TO GO... NOW WHAT???**

- STRIVE FOR INDEPENDENCE. DO NOT DO EVERYTHING!!!!!!

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**RESEARCH IS DONE. DESTINATION IS CHOSEN.
YOU ARE READY TO GO... NOW WHAT???**

- HAVE THE INDIVIDUAL OPEN DOORS, TRAVEL INDEPENDENTLY (IF POSSIBLE), PURCHASE ITEMS, TIP, ORDER, ETC.

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**RESEARCH IS DONE. DESTINATION IS CHOSEN.
YOU ARE READY TO GO... NOW WHAT???**

- HELP THE INDIVIDUAL ADVOCATE FOR THEMSELVES. IT MAY NOT HAPPEN THE 1st, 2nd OR 3rd TIME OUT, BUT REPETITION BREEDS FAMILIARITY.

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**RESEARCH IS DONE. DESTINATION IS CHOSEN.
YOU ARE READY TO GO... NOW WHAT???**

- MAKE IT A POSITIVE EXPERIENCE. NO MATTER WHAT HAPPENS, THEY ARE BREAKING OUT OF THE NORM AND EXPERIENCING SOMETHING DIFFERENT.



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**GOOD TIMES. BAD TIMES...YOU
KNOW I'VE HAD MY SHARE**

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**GOOD TIMES. BAD TIMES...YOU
KNOW I'VE HAD MY SHARE**


- DINERS



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**GOOD TIMES. BAD TIMES...YOU KNOW I'VE
HAD MY SHARE**

- MOVIE THEATER



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GOOD TIMES. BAD TIMES...YOU KNOW I'VE
HAD MY SHARE

- MOVIE THEATER



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GOOD TIMES. BAD TIMES...YOU KNOW I'VE
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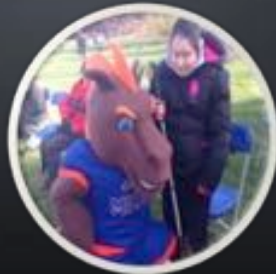
- MALL



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GOOD TIMES. BAD TIMES...YOU KNOW I'VE
HAD MY SHARE

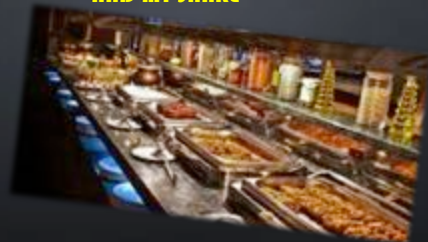
- FOOTBALL/
SPORTS
GAME



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GOOD TIMES. BAD TIMES...YOU KNOW I'VE
HAD MY SHARE

- BUFFETS



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**GOOD TIMES. BAD TIMES...YOU KNOW I'VE
HAD MY SHARE**

- FANEUIL HALL



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5

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"ONE DRINK AIN'T ENOUGH JACK, YOU BETTER MAKE IT
THREE
I WANNA GET DRUNK, I'M GONNA MAKE IT REAL CLEAR,
I WANT ONE BOURBON, ONE SCOTCH AND ONE BEER
ONE BOURBON, ONE SCOTCH, ONE BEER"

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**"ONE BOURBON. ONE SCOTCH. ONE
BEER"**

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CASE STUDY

AUREA

- 36 YEAR OLD WOMAN, ESL, VERY QUIET, LEGALLY BLIND (LP), CANE USER, COGNITIVE DISABILITIES.
- SHE IS A GOOD CANE TRAVELER AND ALWAYS LOVED O&M LESSONS.
- I REALIZED THAT SHE DID NOT GET TO GO OUT IN THE COMMUNITY MUCH ONCE SHE LEFT THE DAY PROGRAM.
- ONE DAY WE WERE DISCUSSING MOVIES AND SHE STATED THAT SHE HADN'T BEEN TO ONE SINCE SHE WAS A KID. A MONDAY HOLIDAY WAS FAST APPROACHING...

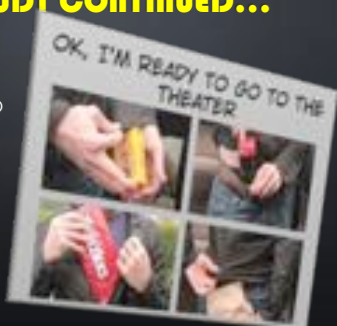
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CASE STUDY CONTINUED...

- I TOLD HER WE WERE GOING TO THE MOVIES ON MONDAY AFTERNOON...



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CASE STUDY CONTINUED...

- ... AFTER WE GOT BREAKFAST OF COURSE.



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CASE STUDY CONTINUED...



- PICKED HER UP, GOT BREAKFAST, WENT TO MOVIES, DROVE HER HOME...

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CASE STUDY CONTINUED...

- DID IT HAVE AN AFFECT ON HER???

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CASE STUDY CONTINUED...



FAST FORWARD 1 ½ YEARS...

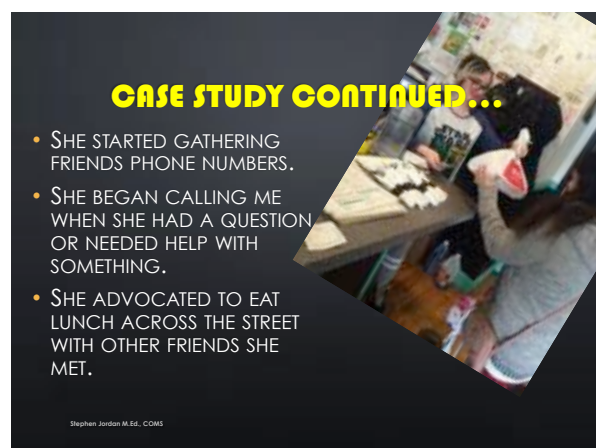
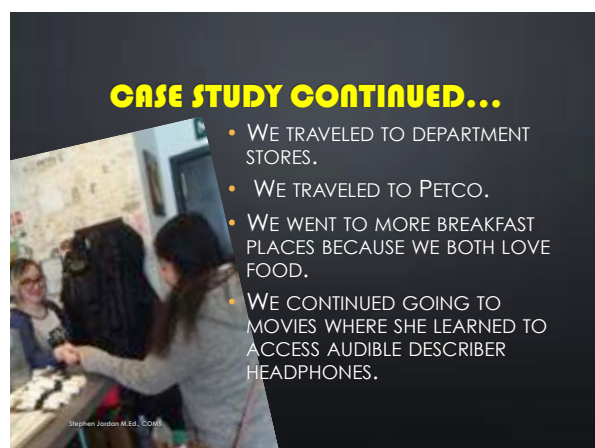
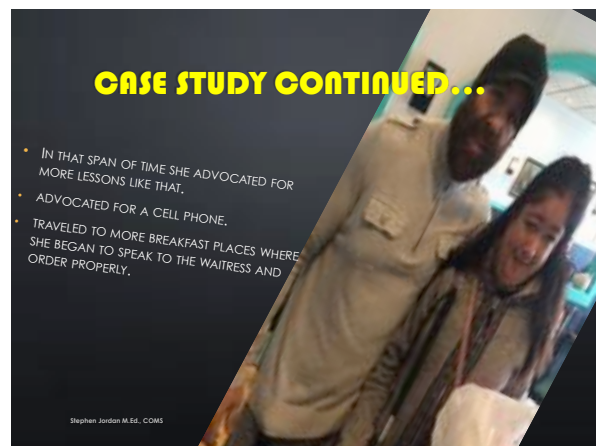
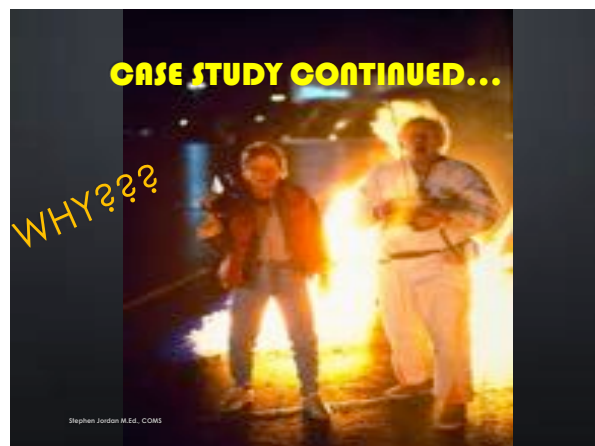
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CASE STUDY CONTINUED...



SHE NO LONGER WANTS TO GO TO THE MOVIES OR ANYTHING WITH ME...

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CASE STUDY CONTINUED...

- SHE MET A GENTLEMAN WHILE EATING LUNCH
- SHE NOW CALLS HIM ON THE PHONE WHENEVER SHE WANTS.
- HER INDEPENDENCE, ADVOCACY AND SELF-ESTEEM INCREASED TEN-FOLD.
- SHE NOW HELPS OTHER PEOPLE AT THE DAY PROGRAM.
- ALL BECAUSE SHE VENTURED OUT OF HER NORM.

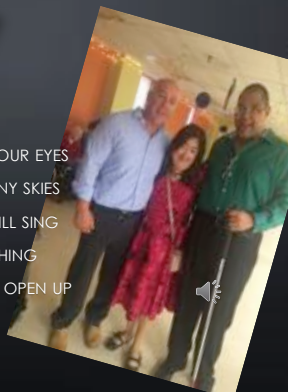
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"DEAR PRUDENCE, OPEN UP YOUR EYES
DEAR PRUDENCE, SEE THE SUNNY SKIES
THE WIND IS LOW, THE BIRDS WILL SING
THAT YOU ARE PART OF EVERYTHING
DEAR PRUDENCE, WON'T YOU OPEN UP
YOUR EYES"



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THE BEATLES
"DEAR PRUDENCE"

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PERSPECTIVES FROM INDIVIDUALS

EDIE – "I LIKED ORDERING MYSELF WHEN WE WENT OUT TO EAT. I GOT TO PRACTICE MY ENGLISH."

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PERSPECTIVES FROM INDIVIDUALS

THO – "THE MOVIES WERE GREAT, I SAW A FUNNY CHRISTMAS MOVIE. I LIKE GOING OUT PLACES BECAUSE I HAVE FUN."

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CEASAR – "I LOVE TRAVELING OUT IN THE COMMUNITY AND GOING PLACES, IT PREPARED ME FOR MY JOB."

ANGELA – "I HAD A BLAST, I GIVE IT 2 THUMBS UP, 10/10 !!!"

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GORDON – "I LOVED THE GAME AND I LOVED THE FOOD. I'M JUST A LITTLE SAD BECAUSE I DO NOT KNOW WHEN I WILL GET TO DO IT AGAIN."

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PERSPECTIVES FROM LOVED ONES

JOANNE - "MY BIGGEST FEAR (FOR MY SON) IS ISOLATION. I'M SO HAPPY HE STILL WANTS TO GO OUT AND DO THINGS EVEN THOUGH HE CAN'T SEE. HE REMEMBERS HOW MUCH FUN HE HAD DOING SPECIFIC THINGS AND GOING TO CERTAIN PLACES AND HE DOESN'T WANT THAT TO CHANGE. HE WANTS TO BE PART OF THE COMMUNITY."

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PERSPECTIVES FROM VISION SPECIALISTS

- **JOE C.-** "I THINK IT IS VERY THERAPEUTIC FOR THE INDIVIDUAL AND IT ALSO PROVIDES A CHANCE FOR SOCIAL NORMALIZING. DURING THE TIME OUT IN THE COMMUNITY, THE INDIVIDUALS ARE MORE RELAXED AND AT EASE. MOST IMPORTANTLY THEY ARE ENJOYING THEMSELVES."
- **ADDIE M.-** "IT PROVIDES THE INDIVIDUAL THE OPPORTUNITY TO BE PART OF A LARGER SOCIETY, WHICH IS VERY IMPORTANT. ALSO PEOPLE IN THE COMMUNITY WILL GET A CHANCE TO SEE WHAT THEY CAN DO."



BLAKE PHOTO GALLERY

A NATURAL WONDER — Motown legend Stevie Wonder, joined by former New England Patriot Andre Tippett (left) and Massachusetts Association for the Blind executive director Joe Collins (right), was at the Fairmont Copley Plaza hotel last night for the MAB's 100th anniversary gala. Wonder received the service organization's lifetime achievement honor, the Uncommon Vision Award.

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PERSPECTIVES FROM VISION SPECIALISTS

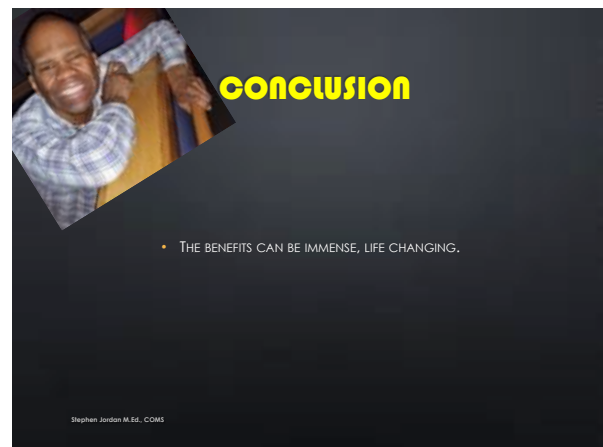
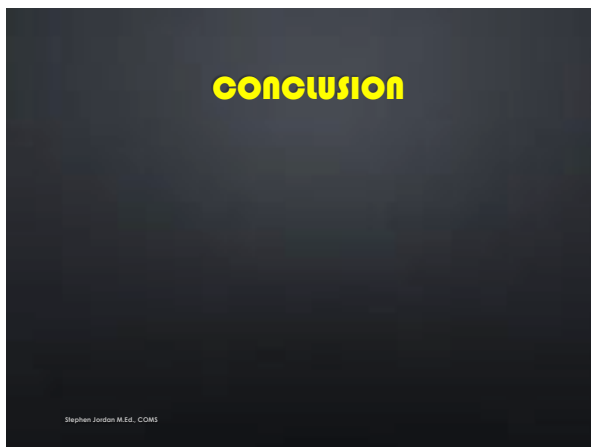
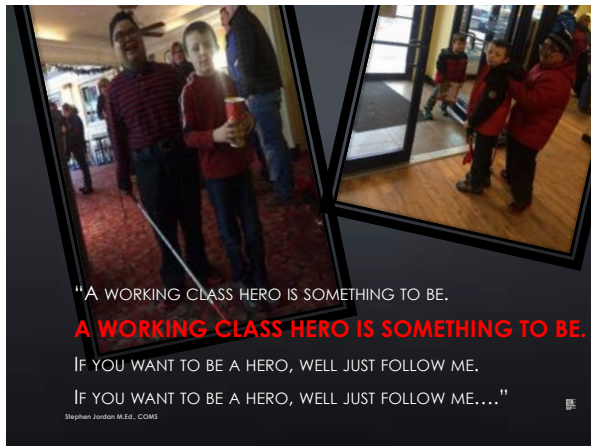
- **KARINA T.-** "BESIDES HUGE TEACHABLE MOMENTS, COMMUNITY INCLUSION ALLOWS THE INDIVIDUAL TO ABSORB THE EXPERIENCE AND HAVE IT IN THEIR MEMORY BANK. THEY CAN NOW TALK ABOUT IT AND RELATE TO OTHERS. FOR ME, SEEING THE JOY ON THEIR FACES, THE JOY OF JUST BEING THERE AND BEING ABLE TO EXPERIENCE THAT WITH THEM... THAT IS THE BEST PART."
- **KARLEESE N.-** "IT MAKES THE INDIVIDUALS FEEL HAPPY. IT GIVES THEM A SENSE OF PRIDE AND VALUE. THEY GET TO DO WHAT THEY WANT, INSTEAD OF WHAT IS CHOSEN FOR THEM, IT MAKES THEM FEEL IMPORTANT."



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#7

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CONCLUSION

- THE BENEFITS ARE IMMENSE, LIFE CHANGING.
- INDEPENDENCE, SELF-ESTEEM, AND SELF-ADVOCACY ARE ELEVATED.

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CONCLUSION

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- QUALITY OF LIFE IS IMPROVED.

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- PEOPLE IN THE COMMUNITY GET A CHANCE TO SEE THE AMAZING THINGS THESE INDIVIDUALS DO.

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- DESENSITIZATION OF THE COMMUNITY.



CONCLUSION

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- PEOPLE IN THE COMMUNITY GET A CHANCE TO SEE THE AMAZING THINGS THESE INDIVIDUALS DO.
- DESENSITIZATION OF THE COMMUNITY.
- THE IDEA SPREADS.

WE CAN ALL DO MORE

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8

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