



🍂 Fall 2018 Newsletter 🍂

In the Spotlight

Sam Rogers started working in the PawsAbilities bakery this past summer. He quickly proved himself to be a hard worker and great team member, so when **Fetchers Play & Stay** owner Heather Bever called looking for a new employee, we suggested Sam! Sam is doing great at his new (paid!) job - he loves working with the dogs and his co-workers enjoy working alongside him. Sam continues to attend the PawsAbilities program to work on new skills and gain further independence, which is an important component of making his employment successful.

Congratulations Sam and thank you Fetchers!



Emma Lengquist

In August, we held the **First Annual Emma Lengquist Memorial Puppy Parade** to honor the life of our beloved PawsAbilities family member, Emma. The event featured some of Emma's very favorite things: a costume contest, a DJ and the largest puppy parade in the state of Kansas. The event truly embodied all of the love and laughter Emma shared with those around her. We can't wait to celebrate Emma's legacy again next year by continuing to support her passions for the importance of **mental health awareness** and **animal advocacy**.

Program Highlights - Healthy Living



Living a healthy lifestyle can be difficult for anyone. We recently partnered with the gym next door- [Lifestyle Fitness](#) - giving our participants the opportunity to focus on cardio and weight training.

Thanks to a recent Grant, we've also been frequenting the Olathe Farmers Market and trying all kinds of new fresh fruits and veggies and incorporating them into our diets. Our Fall lineup of classes includes Cooking, Line Dancing, TaeKwonDo and Speed Stacking, along with many opportunities for social activities like holiday parties and game nights.

Healthy bodies make happier people!

FashionAbility 2019

Our 5th Annual Gala
FashionAbility is just around the corner!

We are SO EXCITED about the fantastic new venue – Embassy Suites Olathe! And it's on a Saturday (Feb 9)! This move will allow the event to be bigger and better than ever – delicious food and drinks, passionate emcees, exciting live and silent auctions, and a fun, heartwarming show with our participants that you don't want to miss. We're changing things up by having a DJ at our Dance Party afterward!



[Buy your tickets to FashionAbility today!](#)

Awards / Recognition

Kids activities & fabulous auction items provided funds which will support IC and the Hudler's charity, Team Up for Down Syndrome.

On October 11 IC will receive the 2018



Inclusion Connections was a special honoree for Special Day at the K on Sep 30, with a special pre-game lunch provided by hosts Rex and Jennifer Hudler.

the Persons with Disabilities Advisory Board. The award honors organizations that provide training & outreach activities for the advancement of equality and inclusion. Thanks to Marlene Abbey for nominating us!

Meaningful Giving

Here are several channels for charitable donations to have substantial impact on IC participants:

- National Christian Foundation
- United Way (*request a donor-directed giving form and designate IC*)
- Greater Kansas City Community Foundation
- Thrivent Financial
- Benevity

Have you thought about giving to IC through your donor advised charitable fund? Or perhaps your company matches your donations?

DONATE



Did you know that PawsAbilities has a mobile store? You can often find our participants in the community selling treats at local businesses. If you haven't already, invite our mobile store to your place of business and give your coworkers an opportunity to see what PawsAbilities is all about. You can also find us at places like the Farmers Market, Holiday Mart and a number of retail locations around the metro ([check out this link](#))!

**** We'd like to welcome our newest partners, Olathe Glass and Olathe Pet Shop to the Paws family! ****

New Faces

We have two new employees at IC to introduce to you. Kristina Crawford, Program Manager, is responsible for planning and implementing evening programs. Stacy Abell is PawsAbilities Program Assistant, and supervises participants in PawsAbilities' job training program.

Welcome Stacy and Kristina!



Connect with us at ICkc.org!



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