

# TOM

We are **Thrive On the Move**



SPEAK UP AND  
SPEAK OUT  
**summit**

Friday, October 11, 2024

# TOM (Thrive On the Move)

- We used to be called the Client Advisory Board (CAB).
- We put out a seasonal newsletter:
  - Highlight community activities, past and future
  - Movie review
  - Food review
  - Poetry Corner
  - Interviews
- We do podcasts.

Your Inside Look at All Things TOM at Thrive

SPRING 2024 EDITION



## THRIVE ON THE MOVE

### INTRODUCING TOM

TOM, which stands for Thrive On the Move, is the self-advocate group at Thrive Community Services. The mission of TOM is to educate and showcase abilities and skills we can bring to our community, while moving beyond past barriers that came with being labeled as having an intellectual or developmental disability.

TOM strives to create relationships with new people, seek opportunities for personal growth, educate their community about their abilities, and continue to build volunteer opportunities.

TOM is a proud member of The Alliance, a statewide team of self-advocacy groups in Illinois.

Michael Hanlon, President  
Brittany Kane, Vice President  
Jeanne Hardesty, Secretary/Historian  
Hector Renta, Treasurer  
Glenee Brooks  
Laura Gale  
Tiffany Greene  
Becky Guild  
Josh Kain  
Shelley McMillan  
Tiffany Miller  
Tasha Norris  
Amanda Shumaker  
Luella Thompson  
Geoff White

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### SELF ADVOCACY GROUP LIVES ON THROUGH RE-BRAND

*TOM President Michael Hanlon sits down with Sally Fischell, Participant Advocate of Thrive and discusses the change in name for the Client Advisory Board.*

**Michael: Why the change in name for Client Advisory Board (CAB)?**  
Sally: Our advocates meet monthly to discuss up and coming items at Thrive and what is on the horizon. They really felt it was time for a new name seeing as KCCDD changed their name to Thrive and wanted to show that the advocates were ready to Thrive as well.



**Michael: Why TOM?**  
Sally: After receiving several ideas we took a vote and chose THRIVE ON the MOVE (TOM). It describes who we are and how we are keeping active.

**Michael: What is on the horizon for TOM?**  
Sally: Our group is flourishing! Our plans involve getting out in the community more, introducing ourselves and contributing by sharing our knowledge, experience and skills, while asking questions and gaining new skills.

**Michael: What is one thing TOM is excited about?**  
Sally: The advocates worked together to create, design and order shirts for the group. While the advisory group has had shirts before, they have never sold shirts before. The group is excited to learn the process of organizing a shirt sale. More details to come!

## Are you a Thrive Superfan?

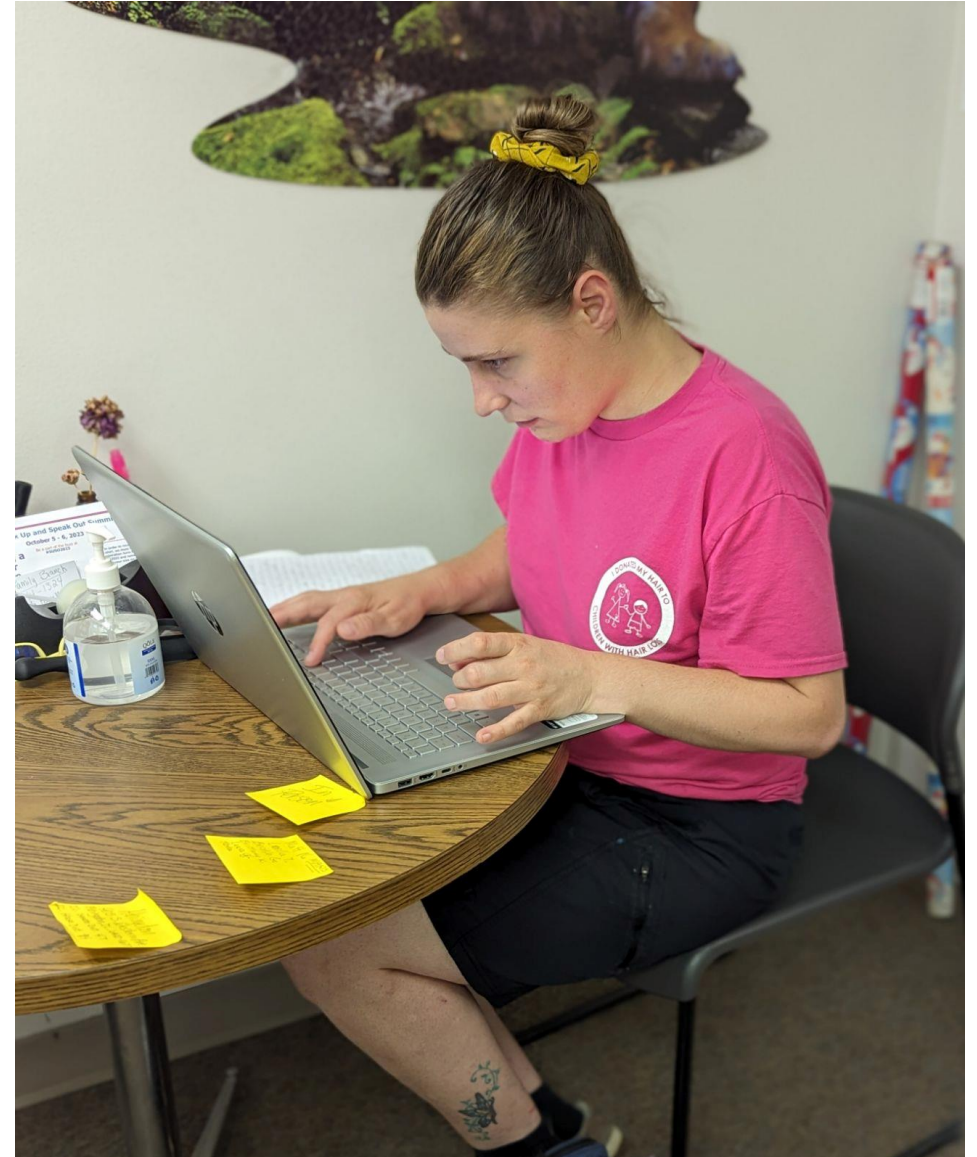
Follow Thrive!

   @ThriveGalesburg

# Meet Amanda

Hello, my name is Amanda, and my unique experiences are with Special Olympics and my job.

I am a member of TOM.





# My Experiences and Expertise

- How the Special Olympics has fit into my life.
- My successes in the Olympics.
- My current job.
- My success in my current job.
- How my friends and staff have supported me.
- How I am trying to help others accomplish their goals.







# Amanda's Advice

My advice is to keep going and not give up! If you give up, you won't succeed. If you keep going you **WILL** accomplish your goals!



# Meet Hector

Hello, my name is Hector, and my unique experiences are helping others with employment and my mentoring for The Arc of Illinois.

I am a member of TOM.





# My Experiences and Expertise

- My assistance with learning how to complete interviews and apply for jobs.
- My helping my peers with job applications and interview skills.
- My work as an Arc of Illinois Mentor.
- Building on my skills to advocate for myself and others with state legislators, senators and local government.





# Hector's Advice

Speak up and speak out! Do not be afraid to ask questions, ask for help and share your dreams. 😊



# Meet Tiffany

Hello, my name is Tiffany, and my unique experiences are working with the Monarch Butterfly Foundation including giving presentations and working at the YMCA in daycare.

I am a member of TOM.





# My Experiences and Expertise

- My beginnings with the Monarch foundation.
- Working on the Monarch Foundation board and helping at a booth at the festivals for several years.
- How I got my job at the YMCA and what I do with the children at daycare.
- My involvement with TOM and supporting others.





# Tiffany's Advice

Have fun, be true to yourself and get out there and volunteer! Helping others feels good and helps you too.





# A Gift from Glenee Brook's Poetry Corner



## **TOM is...**

Thankful

Opportunity

Makes Things Happen

Helpful

Not Giving Up

Options

Rights

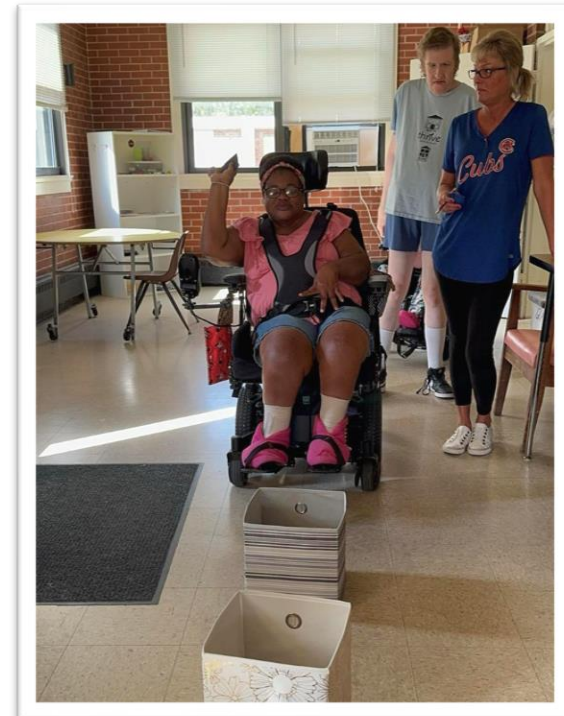
Voice

Independent

Encourage

Value

Expressive



***That is what TOM is about!!***

# Questions and Comments



# Contact Information

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