

DIRECTOR'S MESSAGE

I am sending love and warmth to all of you this holiday season. This Christmas marks six months that I have held the Executive Director position at Western Avenue and I am humbled by the love, patience, support, and care my staff, Board of Directors, community organizations, and the community at-large has shown me and the Center. I send my sincerest thanks to anyone who has visited the Center, donated to the Center, or sent words of encouragement to me this year. THANK YOU!

In 2021, Western Avenue turned 95! We have developed exciting new and renewed partnerships, updated our landscaping, and reflected on the needs of our community to provide meaningful programming. We have been a safe and welcoming place for those in our community to gather, learn, and support one another. I look forward to next year and the exciting and meaningful ways Western Avenue will open doors of hope and love to the Bloomington/Normal Community.



CURRENT PROGRAMS

Sisters By Chance Tuesdays 3-6PM

After School Club Tuesdays and Thursdays 3-6PM

> Teen Club Monday 5-8PM

Adult ESL Classes Mon, Tues, Thursday

Hispanic Outreach Program
By Appointment Only

Food Program
Food Delivered Once a Month

Interpretation/Translation Services
By Appointment Only

Bilingual Family Counseling
By Appointment Only

CCSI

Every 3rd Monday of the Month

Senior Fitness Classes Tuesdays and Thursdays 10-11AM

Senior Cards Day 11AM-1PM 1/25, 2/22, 3/22, 4/26

Senior Movie Day 11AM-1PM 1/27, 2/24, 3/24. 4/28

Body Under Construction Mondays and Wednesdays 9:00-10:00AM

WERQ

Tuesdays 7-8PM and Fridays 9 to 10

January 2022 Winter Newsletter

2021 IMPACT

- <u>Programs for Education:</u> We hosted 16 middle schoolers this fall in our After School and Sisters By Chance Programs and 16 adults in our English as a Second Language Class taught by Heartland Community College.
- <u>Programs for Recreation:</u> Our Teen Club hosted on average 23 teens each night, our Teen Summer Camp hosted 45 teens, and 60 seniors participated in our Recreation Programs.
- Programs for Well-Being: Our Hispanic Outreach Program served 1,417 clients and provided interpretation services to 1,164 individuals.
 Additionally, we distributed 3,309 food boxes from the Tinervin Family Foundation to the community.
- <u>Programs for Health:</u> We had on average 11 Seniors in our fitness classes and we provided counseling services to 67 individuals.



UPCOMING EVENTS AT WESTERN AVENUE

COVID-19 BOOSTER CLINIC

We will be hosing a COVID-19 Booster Vaccine Clinic **January 10th from 11-3PM**. Please bring your vaccination card.

VALENTINES DAY DINNER DANCE

We will be hosting a Dinner Dance for our Seniors

February 10th from 4-7PM.

Food and entertainment will be provided.

FAMILY MOVIE DAY

Saturday morning on February 5th from 9:30-12PM, we will be hosting a family movie day.





Family Movie Day

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Making a Difference by
Partnering with the <u>Tinervin Family Foundation</u>

ADOPT A FAMILY

Our partnership with the Tinervin Family Foundation allowed us to provide Christmas gifts for 15 families.

SHOES

We were able to give shoes to 92 children who participate in our programs!

FOOD

We gave away over 250 Holiday Food boxes FULL of non-perishable food as well as 250 frozen turkeys and/or hams to our community.

HOLIDAY HELPER PARTY

We are so grateful to Illinois State University's Center for Civic Engagement for organizing a Holiday Helper Party for our community. Generous individuals purchased gifts for 77 children whose families use our Center. Mr. and Mrs. Clause came to visit and there were games and food for families to enjoy.





SISTERS BY CHANCE

Our Sisters by Chance Program had a holiday shopping trip, dinner, and sleep over.

TEEN CLUB AND SENIOR FITNESS

Our Teen Club made tie blankets and gave them to our Senior Fitness Class

LOTERIA

Our Hispanic Outreach Program hosted a Christmas-themed Loteria game day.

DONOR AND VOLUNTEER THANK YOU

A special thank you to our partners, organizations, businesses, families, and individuals who have donated time, services, or funds to Western Avenue Community Center this year. Your support has helped our programs and special events be successful. Western Avenue would not be who it is today without our dedicated and caring volunteers and donors. THANK YOU