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The Center for Enriched Living's Thanksgiving Dinners Provide Meals to Nearly 200

Riverwoods, Illinois, November 17, 2014 – Thanksgiving provides an opportunity to gather around the table with family and friends and reminisce what you are thankful for. At The Center for Enriched Living (CEL), members will have an opportunity to prepare and enjoy a traditional turkey dinner with friends, staff and volunteers.

The Center for Enriched Living provides year-round social, recreational and educational programs for youth and adults with developmental disabilities from across the Chicagoland area. Thanksgiving festivities will kick-off on Wednesday, November 19 and continue through the weekend, culminating with a friends and family feast on Monday, November 24. In total, more than 20 turkeys, 25 pounds of potatoes, green beans and cranberry sauce will be served to more than 190 members.

"During this season of being thankful, many of us cite family and friends as the number one reason we are thankful," says Melissa Juarez-Ehlers, Director of Program Services. "However, many of CEL members don't have the 'traditional' family with whom they can enjoy the Thanksgiving meal. For many, CEL is like an extended family and a place where they feel connected to community."

"This tradition began 26 years ago and has continued to grow over the years," says executive director, Harriet Levy. "We know how much our members love this holiday and they always look forward to Thanksgiving dinner at CEL."

For more information on the Thanksgiving dinners or to learn more how you can volunteer or participate contact Ashley May at 847.315.9921.

About the Center for Enriched Living

The Center for Enriched Living exists to enhance and enrich the lives of people with developmental and intellectual disabilities – from youth through adulthood. CEL provides a space for our members to grow and learn new social, educational and independent living skills as well as have equal opportunities to fulfill their dreams and become vital participants within their communities. More information available at www.CenterForEnrichedLiving.org.