



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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## **The Center for Enriched Living Hosts Inaugural Firefighter Challenge Community Day**

June 24, 2014, Riverwoods, Illinois – The Center for Enriched Living brought hosted its inaugural Firefighter Challenge Community Day in conjunction with the Deerfield-Bannockburn Fire Department on Saturday, June 21 at its facility in Riverwoods. The Center for Enriched Living (CEL) is a non-profit organization providing opportunities for individuals – of all ages throughout Chicagoland – with a wide range of intellectual and developmental disabilities, including autism, cerebral palsy, Down syndrome and others, to create meaningful relationships, achieve goals and thrive in the community.

This free event provided an opportunity for CEL members and families, neighbors and friends of the organization as well as the entire community to come and learn more about CEL while enjoying food and refreshments, games, music by DJ Ray, in addition to booths from other agencies and organizations including the Deerfield Public Library, Z Center of Gurnee, the Countryside Association of Palatine and the North Shore Teen Center provided by Clinical Connections.

“This event allowed us to open the doors to everyone and really see who CEL is,” Executive Director Harriet Levy says. “CEL is about providing opportunities for our members to connect and learn social, educational and recreational skills; and this event offers our members – as well as people from the community – a chance to get to know what we are all about.”

“We’re grateful to all of our partners in this event – Micah Maldonado and the entire Deerfield-Bannockburn Fire Department, DJ Ray, and JG’s Reptile Roadshow as well as our volunteers and staff for making our inaugural Community Day a huge success,” adds Director of Program Services, Melissa Juarez-Ehlers. “We are already looking forward to next year.”

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### ***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](http://www.CenterForEnrichedLiving.org).*