May 13th, 2020

Dear Families,

We want you all to know about the Summer Campership summer activity scholarship program this year. We realize that this year poses challenges that none of us have ever had to deal with before. We at the Progressive Center want you to know that the Camp Scholarship program is still operational despite the public health crisis, and we want you to know that we will work with recipients to make sure they are able to use the funding in the way in which it is intended.

The purpose of the program is to assist youth with disabilities (ages 4-25, who reside in Mercer County, NJ) in having a positive summer experience. For many that has been a day or sleep-away camp, but these are not the only options. In the past recipients have used the funding for enrichment classes such as sewing, driving, cooking, and crafting. We will certainly entertain virtual activities held on software platforms this year. There are other ways in which the money can be used, for example, it could be applied toward rental reasonable costs associated with recreational destinations (for the camper only). We may consider applying to a day pass to parks or activities which have an entry fee (again only for the Camper). There may be other options as well, we are willing to be as creative as possible to make sure this opportunity for Campers can continue this year. What the program cannot do is purchase physical items like recreational equipment, and it will not pay for memberships or other programs which begin before Memorial Day extend passed Labor Day, 2020.

I’d like everyone to know that we are committed to supporting the participants of the Campership Program, while still staying within the scope of the program’s design. I encourage anyone who has applied, or would like to, to please reach out and share your ideas with us. Although we may not be able to approve all ideas, we will consider them thoughtfully.

For more information on the program, or to obtain an application, please visit:

www.pcil.org/campership

Thank you all very much.

Be well.

Reed Thomas
Independent Living Resource Specialist
reed.thomas@pcil.org