



Niles Township High Schools District 219 - Bridges Adult Transition Center Announces the First of its Kind Vocational Partnership with the Target Corporation at a Launch Event on Monday, 11/07/22

For Immediate Release

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For more information:

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Lincolnwood, Illinois - The Niles Township High Schools District 219 - Bridges Adult Transition Center is for young adults ages 18 to 22 years old with special needs who have met high school graduation requirements and are transitioning to adulthood. The program was previously housed in Niles North High School and moved to a dedicated facility designed to address the needs of the Bridges program in September 2020. The new Target simulation lab, the first of its kind in the nation, allows students to learn skills in a space where it looks and feels like an actual Target store. The lab was created and stocked by current Target employees who donated their time and energy to ensure everything was done to perfection. The merchandise in the lab are products that can be purchased in a Target store and are refreshed on a seasonal basis.

A curriculum specifically designed for retail employment, developed this past summer by teachers from the Bridges Adult Transition Center, will come to life as students learn technical skills that assist them in obtaining a full/part-time position. This partnership also paves the way for students, not just in our district, but across the country. It embraces young adults with disabilities by bringing them into a mock work environment and providing them with opportunities to be successful. Since the lab has been operable, our students have begun the process of being employed with local Target stores.

The invite-only launch event will be held on Monday, November 7, 2022, at 3:00 pm CT, Bridges Adult Transition Center, 4700 W Chase Ave, Lincolnwood, IL 60712. The event will be attended by district staff, administration, Board of Education members, local Target executives, and government officials. The mayor of Lincolnwood will share remarks on this momentous occasion.

Members of the press who plan to attend should contact April Stallworth, D219 Executive Director of Communications and Partnerships, at aprsta@d219.org or 847-626-3958.

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