

# R.E.C. Connect Fall 2023 Newsletter

## Fall Highlights

It's hard to believe that there is only one week left before the start of winter! R.E.C. Connect and community members enjoyed an active and busy fall that was filled with numerous social and recreational opportunities. The cooler weather and rain didn't stop members from trying new experiences and participating in some of their favorite programming while interacting with their friends and engaging with staff!

Fall highlights include going to Post Family Farm festival in Hudsonville where we enjoyed tasty apple cider, a hayride, yard games and successfully navigated through a tricky corn maze! We also cheered on the Grand Rapids Griffins at the Van Andel Arena. This was a very memorable game because one of us caught a free tshirt from the Griffin's tshirt cannon! Lastly, another favorite was checking out the Allendale Artisan Craft and Market Place Fair. With over 150 vendors, it was fun to look around at all the different handcrafted items! And the samples of kettle corn is always fun and delicious to try!



## R.E.C. Impact At A Glance

"This program allows my loved one to have a sense of belonging. He is limited in the community as to what events he can attend and despite being a friendly guy, he still has difficulty meeting new people to make friends due to his disability. This program helps him make friends and explore the community."

*- Family of a member who has attended since 2020*

"Rec connect has improved my life a lot. Since starting rec connect and then all the other programs IKUS offers I'm the happiest I've ever been in my whole life. I like that I get to hang out with friends especially my best friend and go to fun places and do fun things I wouldn't get to otherwise."

*- R.E.C. Connect participant since 2021*

