



# empowering ALL people Palatine Opportunity Center

1585 N. Rand Rd.  
Palatine, IL 60074  
847-776-9500

[palatineopportunitycenter.org](http://palatineopportunitycenter.org)

Spring 2015  
Newsletter

## POC Celebrates Another Successful Cinco de May Fundraiser

As the POC continues to expand its programs and area of services, the need for fundraising is a great one. This year's successful Cinco de Mayo Fundraiser helped meet the financial obligations of the POC. We are thrilled to announce that we met and exceeded our fundraising goals. We are also happy to report that this year's event was the highest in attendance. It was an honor to feature local talents at this year's event which included the Winston Campus Junior High Mariachi Band, Flores en Hielo featuring Leslie Diaz, Edgar Huerta and Karla Robles, and the artistic dance talents of Karina Matias. Guests at our event were treated to savory, Salvadoran food prepared by Pupusita Express Restaurant, and delicious deserts from La Michoacana.

We want to thank our table sponsors and guests who understand and support the mission of the POC. Thank you for helping us empower ALL people by making this event a great success!

A special thank you to the following for the festive decorations:

- Nancy Grybash, Chair of the Decorating Committee
- Countryside Church Unitarian Universalist
- ROLE

Thank you for the in-kind donations to:

- Linda and Robert Bruce of Soulful Prairies
- Barrington Lopez

Thank you to our event organizers:

- POC Board of Directors, staff, Debbie Rohrwasser and Emily McGough

Thank you to following generous donors:

- Palatine Park District
- PATH
- Dr. John J. McGillen
- BMO Harris Bank
- Northwest Community Healthcare
- Palatine Bank & Trust
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- Conant High School Student Council
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- Hoffman Estates High School
- Hoffman Estates High School Student Council
- Nancy Grybash & Jeff Fujino
- Palatine High School Student Council
- Palatine Township Senior Citizens Council
- Schaumburg High School Student Council
- Jeff and Angela Kreye
- Dan and Susan Cates



Help us fulfill our mission of building a community of  
empowered people, healthy families, and vibrant  
neighborhood by donating online at  
[palatineopportunitycenter.org](http://palatineopportunitycenter.org)



## Meeting our Civic Duties

Although they are kept busy at POC, volunteers and staff find time to dedicate to other civic duties. Here are some of the things we are proud to be involved in:

- ROLE volunteers helped sell poppies during the Memorial Day week. Money raised helps funds countless of veterans, their widows and orphans. Thank you to Araceli M. and Angelica R. who helped sell poppies for the American Legion Post 690. Other ROLE volunteers were also busy this year selling Kiwanis Peanuts.
- Pastor Seth Moland-Kovash (*pictured above*) met with GED students for **On The Table**. **On The Table** is a community initiative where people come together to discuss ways to commit to making communities stronger, safer and more dynamic.
- Our director, Kathy Millin, has been busy outside of the POC home area as well. Kathy serves on the Board of Directors for the Excel Beyond 211: Dollars for Scholars Board. Dollars for Scholars seeks to mentor, inform, and support first generation, young, adults determined to find college success.
- The POC hosted Palatine's Sister City, Fontenay-le-Comte, France through the Sister Cities Association of Palatine. Our friends from France learned about POC programs and how we address our community needs. The French Deputy Mayor was impressed with POC programs and hopes to implement the same ideas in Fontenay.



## Ask Me What I'm Reading!

At the POC we are PASSIONATE about reading and this summer we are launching our **Ask Me What I'm Reading, DEAR**

campaign. According to a literacy statistics collected in February of this year, the rate of low literacy in the United States directly costs the healthcare industry over \$70 million every year\*! We want to set reading examples for the next generations and positively affect literacy in our little corner of the world. This summer you will see staff, volunteers, and service providers wearing our campaign button. Do stop and ask them, "What are you reading"? Our goal is to get a minimum of 100 readers of all ages to complete the requirement for the Palatine Library Summer Reading Program. In addition, every Wednesday at 10:15 am, our service providers, children in ICOMPETE and childcare, and CRC clients will be involved in **DEAR: DROP EVERYTHING AND READ**. If you drop in on a **Wednesday at 10:15am, bring a book and join us for 15 minutes of quiet reading at the CRC**. If you can't drop in, **send us a picture of you or your loved ones reading** to [palatineopportunitycenter@gmail.com](mailto:palatineopportunitycenter@gmail.com) or at [facebook.com/palatineopportunitycenter](https://www.facebook.com/palatineopportunitycenter). Join us, with your favorite book and your Palatine Library Summer Reading t-shirt, on Friday, August 21<sup>st</sup> at 10am in our lobby for a group picture. We will also be sending our own version of Flat Stanley, FLAT POC, on journeys with our clients. To request a FLAT POC, contact Terry in the Family Learning Lab and send in your picture of FLAT POC to our facebook account listed above. We hope you join us in making this summer a fantastic reading adventure! So, what are you reading?



## Save the Date

- July 14<sup>th</sup>, time TBD: Chef Esau visits Roots Community Garden
- July 19<sup>th</sup>, 3 pm: ROLE Family Picnic
- August 20<sup>th</sup>, 4pm to 7 pm: Better Together Block Party
- August 21<sup>st</sup>, 10am: Summer Reading T-shirt Picture
- October 3<sup>rd</sup>, Farm to Table Dinner

For more information on upcoming programs, visit us on online or email us at [palatineopportunitycenter@gmail.com](mailto:palatineopportunitycenter@gmail.com).



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