



News You Can Use Summer 2023



We're excited to be thinking about sunshine and summer ☀ Below, we've listed some of the fun programmings this summer at ICompete!

ICompete's mission is to introduce underserved families to arts, academics, and athletics by breaking down barriers of access to better prepare for life experiences. The goal is to stimulate interest, provide academic support, and increase opportunities to participate in organized sports, clubs, or community programs. The following agencies have partnered to develop this program: **Partners for Our Communities, Palatine Park District, Palatine Township, Palatine Police Department, Palatine High School, and Community Consolidated School District 15.**

ICompete Summer Programs

ICompete Summer Camp

July 10 - July 28

ICompete Drop-in Programs

June and August

ICompete & Palatine Pack Track and Field Camp

June 5 - 30

ICompete Dance Clinic

June 6 - 29

Looking for More Information?

Contact Rachel Lara at rlara@palatineparks.org or 847-496-6303.

Thank You for a Successful 2023 ABC Quick Check Bike Clinic

On June 1, 2023, our ICompete program hosted a successful ABC Quick Check Bike Clinic at Edgebrook Community Center. The event focused on bike safety with helmets and locks being distributed and bicycles checked for safety.

A special thank you to our partners:

- **Bike Palatine Club** for support and collection of bike donations
- **Rotary Club of Palatine** for supporting this community cause
- **Village of Palatine** for the partnership with Palatine Police
- **Palatine Park District** for photo and video footage captured
- **Mike's Bike Shop** for year-round support with bicycle donations for families in need
- **La Michoacana-Palatine** for a delicious paleta donation



Congratulations to Liza Gutierrez – Newly Graduated Colibri Fellow!

POC is incredibly proud of Liza Gutierrez, Director of Immigrant Programs who graduated today as a Colibri fellow from the **Immigrant Justice Leadership Academy!** Liza worked hard over the last 9 months to become partially accredited with the Department of Justice. This achievement will allow POC to refine and improve legal services for immigration relief. Way to go, Liza!



- POC served **35,773** individuals.
- ICompete served **2,275** individuals and outreached to **3,600** individuals while canvassing and accompanying the All Saints Food Pantry Mobile Unit to local apartment complexes in Palatine.
- The Violence Prevention Program served **5,793** individuals including 64 teens and 250 family members. The program started in April 2022.
- Family Learning Lab served **734** individuals.
- ROLE served **694** women (includes parent mentors, bilingual liaisons).
- **365** volunteers participated in programming and fundraising
- The Clothing Closet served **622** people.
- Workshops, Outreach, and Case Management Services under the Access to Justice and IL Welcoming Center Grants served **6,634** individuals.
- POC assisted the All Saints Food Pantry in serving **16,754** people.



Success Story!

Celebrating New USA Citizen, Rosa Perez!

Rosa began her journey with POC 17 years ago when she came to the Community Resource Center for Harper Classes. She was pregnant then and, after having her first child, would bring little Stephanie to childcare as she worked on perfecting her English literacy skills. Rosa joined ROLE and, while going to school, began volunteering with the Artists Market and filling other needs with POC programs and services.

Over the years, both of Rosa's children have participated in ICompete activities, and we have enjoyed watching them grow and become involved in their community, just like their mom! When Rose was ready to return to work, POC helped her secure a job with CCSD15 with a schedule that allowed her to volunteer still and be home with her children. Last month, after hours of preparation on her own and with ROLE mentors, Rosa passed her citizen test! We now see Rosa helping in our community closet with some of her extra time on her hands-she is a true example of ROLE, and we are honored and proud to be a part of her remarkable life!

Save The Date for Upcoming Special Events



Young Professionals Board Annual Fundraiser



Farm to Table Dinner

Saturday, September 16

J&D CHARITY GOLF OUTING

BENEFITING **POC**

J & D Golf Outing for POC

Friday, September 22

Saturday, August 5

Brothers' Field, Long Grove

Soulful Prairies,
Woodstock

Palatine Hills Golf Course,
Palatine

Learn More

Learn More

Learn More & Tickets



Come Visit the Roots Community Garden!

1475 North Hicks Road Palatine, IL

Tuesday & Thursday – 5:30 - 7:00 PM

Saturday – 9:00 AM - 1:00 PM

Roots Community Garden is a collaborative effort between POC, Palatine Park District, Palatine Township, Village of Palatine, CCSD15, businesses, churches, and community volunteers, including POC clients. The garden provides vegetables to local families in Palatine as well as educational opportunities and hands-on activities for children.

- If you're interested in volunteering at the garden, please call 847-776-9500 and leave your name, phone number, and e-mail address with the front desk staff.
- Coordinators Kim Haas and Thomas Border will support Roots Community Garden this season.
- We kindly ask that those volunteering bring gardening gloves!

Upcoming Family Nights at Roots Community Garden

We will be hosting themed family events at the garden every other Tuesday throughout the summer from 5:00 - 7:00 pm. Snacks, crafts, and other activities will be provided. All are welcome!

- June 13 - Painting Flower Pots and Planting
- June 27 - Releasing Ladybugs and Snacking on Watermelon
- July 11 - Creating Stepping Stones for the Garden
- July 25 - A Taste of the Garden: Herb Night
- August 8 - A Taste of the Garden: Salad Night
- August 22 - End of Summer Barbecue

Meet Our Young Professionals Board

The Young Professional Board is a group of service-oriented professionals who aim to be the voice of the younger generation in the communities that POC serves. Through fundraising, program development, and volunteerism our goal is to provide new opportunities and resources for the families in our community through the POC, its programs, and partners.

Here's what we're working towards:

- Making change and lasting impact
- Increasing agency visibility
- Focusing on areas of improvement and agency strengths
- Familiarizing the Young Professionals Board with events and direct client service opportunities
- Raising funds and recruiting new members

Take a look below to see some of the initiatives YPB has!



Scholarship Award Presentation

Each year YPB raises money to award four Palatine High School seniors a \$1,000 scholarship each for college.



YPB Fundraiser Prep & Plan

This fundraiser's purpose is to raise money for the ICompete Youth & Family Programs. More details and date to come!



Palatine Bank & Trust Workshops

Children and adults learn basic money management. More details and dates upcoming!



Board Member Volunteers

Did you know that all of the Young Professionals Board are 100% volunteer members? Thank you for all you do!



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