



FOR: The Douglas Center

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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#Giving Tuesday: The Douglas Center Kicks-Off Crowdfunding Campaign for Multi-Sensory Therapy Room Aquarium

Skokie, IL — The Douglas Center has joined #GivingTuesday to harness the collective power of a unique blend of partners—charities, families, businesses and individuals—to transform how people think about, talk about and participate in the giving season. Coinciding with the Thanksgiving Holiday and the kickoff of the holiday shopping season, #GivingTuesday will inspire people to take collaborative action to improve their local communities, give back in better, smarter ways to the charities and causes they support and help create a better world.

The Douglas Center will kick off its campaign to raise funds (\$8,000.00) for the purchase of an Aquarium for their Multi-Sensory Therapy Room for individuals living with intellectual, developmental and physical disabilities on #Giving Tuesday, December 2, 2014 at Crowdrise.com. Individuals with disabilities have difficulty interacting with their external surroundings. They struggle with eliminating distractions when focusing on a particular activity. They often feel overwhelmed by their environment due to their inability to appropriately process sensory information.

Multi-Sensory Therapy Rooms provide a controlled and responsive sensory-focused environment for individuals with disabilities. This controlled environment assists the participants in the improvement of their skills by eliminating distractions and providing an environment that enables them to interact with specific objects and people.

Individuals with disabilities often possess limited psychological and sensory stimulation and as a result have limited choices and control in their lives. Multi-Sensory Room Therapy is designed to provide both a relaxing and stimulating environment...enabling the participant to choose, control and explore the environment around them. Participants of Multi-Sensory Room therapy are more relaxed and less likely to exhibit self-injurious behaviors and aggressive behaviors.

“Our goal is to purchase an Aquarium for our Multi-Sensory Therapy Room to assist our participants in the improvement and management of their ability to interact and engage with their environment,” commented Rifath Khan, Chief Executive Officer. “Your generous support will make a difference in the lives of individuals living with disabilities!”

To be a part of The Douglas Center #Giving Tuesday campaign, visit their website: www.thedouglascenter.com or go directly to their Crowdrise site: <https://www.crowdrise.com/Multi-SensoryTherapyRoom>

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ABOUT THE DOUGLAS CENTER

The Douglas Center, a non-profit organization located in Skokie, Illinois, provides day programs for individuals with intellectual, developmental, physical and mental disabilities. Through their Work Program, The Douglas Center offers employment opportunities that include manufacturing, commercial/industrial sewing, packaging, assembly, shrink wrapping, labeling, heat sealing, fulfillment services, etc. by partnering with local manufacturers, businesses and individuals on work contracts/projects. The center offers pre-vocational skills and work training (including sheltered workshops), Supported Employment program, Expressive Therapies programs, a Seniors program as well as developmental rehabilitation for adults of all ages.

The Douglas Center opened its doors in 1999. Today, they provide a home away from home for the hard working and dedicated individuals they serve. Because of The Douglas Center participants are able to experience fuller lives, enhanced and enriched by the employment opportunities, programs and services our center provides. The Douglas Center programs are focused on assisting each individual in the management of their disabilities and building of self-esteem while developing and/or improving existing social, work and independent living skills. Here at The Douglas Center lives are being changed every day!

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