

# Clients Celebrating the Holidays at the Center

## *POSITIVE ACTIVITIES FOR HOLIDAY CHEER*

The Center always celebrates the holidays with our clients to ensure that everyone enjoys themselves during a time that can be difficult for some. FCB keeps a positive atmosphere with decorations, outings, activities and parties from November through the end of year.



*Children's Program students prepare a side dish for Thanksgiving.*

The two youth programs were combined for both November and December to give the Transition (teen) group a chance to have positive interaction with the children's group. During the November program, the teens and children prepared a Thanksgiving dinner for all the students, parents and staff to enjoy. In December, the teens helped with crafts to celebrate holidays around the world, and even dressed up as elves to deliver Christmas presents to the children from the Center. The teens were able to celebrate during their own time, having an adventure in Gainesville navigating, searching and purchasing gifts for their secret Santa recipient.

## **HOLIDAY SHOPPING TRIP & PARTY FOR ADULT CLIENTS**

FCB's Adult Focus Group discussed the frustration with going shopping during the holiday season. The stores are always crowded, no one is available to help, and getting transportation to go anywhere is another challenge entirely! FCB decided to bring the group to a shopping center to help them overcome the frustrations and challenges of holiday shopping. It was a great exercise not only for Orientation & Mobility skills, but for self-advocacy as well. The clients were able to ask for help when they needed it from both volunteers and store employees.

FCB celebrated the holidays with an exciting and festive party for alumni and clients on December 7th. An astonishing 42 people were in attendance to enjoy food and games. A handful of the attendees were alumni who had never been to the new Center. Many of the alumni are coming back to participate in activities such as EyeCAN and chair yoga.

The attendees continued to enjoy their time together as they shared their different holiday traditions in their homes and their holiday plans. The party was a wonderful time for clients, alumni and staff. Many guests left the event having made new friends.



*Clients socializing and getting ready to play a game at the Holiday Party.*