

Venturing out to the community during CBI has been of crucial importance to Gabby's social development. He has learned very valuable skills needed to become a functional member of society as well as various ways of communicating with others.



Gabby has visited restaurants where he has been able to order his own meal and witnessed the proper etiquette used while dining out. This has benefited our family tremendously as now when we go to eat out he behaves appropriately and is able to communicate his needs to the server with minimal assistance.

Gabby has had the chance to grocery shop at supermarkets and delis. Not only has he been able to experience the correct manner of achieving this task, but has also been able to grasp the concept of exchanging currency for valuable goods. This last skill is of extreme importance to live independently in this world.



His classroom had the opportunity to interact with the elderly at a nursing home. The children brought gifts and shared quality time with the senior citizens there. This interaction allowed Gabby to gain important human qualities such as respect, compassion, kindness, tolerance towards the "grandmas" and "grandpas" (like Gabby referred to everyone at the home) who are many times in desperate need of affection.

In honor of Dr. Novembre and celebrating kindness month, our son has passed kind notes to total strangers on the street — notes written by his own hand, reminding them they are loved, cherished and accepted just by who they are. This was a wonderful way to show him the importance of accepting others and embracing their differences.

His school has been visited by Police Officers and Firemen, dressed in their particular uniforms. This has been done with the purpose of showing Gabby the steps to follow in the event of becoming stranded, being trapped in a fire, enduring an accident, etc. These are key survival techniques that Gabby has been able to acquire.

All these activities — among many others — in which Gabby has participated have managed to entertain him, prepare him to face the challenges that society may bring with adequate skills, and instilled in him great values. He is a better person thanks to CBI.

Please assist us to continue CBI with a new state-of-the-art Sensory Room so that our children can continue to progress during these very difficult times.

Mariana Zamora, Gabby's Mom