



## CDCS Planning and Support

As many families begin working on CDCS renewals, I want to provide clarity and support in these uncertain times.

Franklin Capstone is a group-based instructional program focused on employment readiness, independent living skills, social development, community participation, and related transition skills. We do **not** provide 1:1 direct care or personal support staffing through Capstone programming.

When families or case managers need information for CDCS planning, Franklin can provide class descriptions, schedules, cost breakdowns, program descriptions, and other documentation that explains what is being provided. However, Franklin does not approve CDCS plans and cannot guarantee whether a specific class, activity, or cost will be approved by a county, case manager, or FMS provider.

Because CDCS guidance and county interpretation have been inconsistent this year, we encourage families to ask for clarification if they receive guidance that seems unclear, incomplete, or inconsistent with Franklin's program information. It can be helpful to ask whether a cost is truly not allowable under CDCS, or whether additional documentation is needed to better explain the service, activity, or program structure. When possible, families may also want to request clarification in writing so everyone is working from the same information.

For add-on activities, such as the Summer Overnight, Franklin lists those costs separately because they are additional expenses beyond regular programming. These activities are connected to Capstone's broader community engagement and independent-living goals. Still, families using CDCS should work directly with their case manager, FMS provider, or lead agency contact to determine whether the cost can be included in the participant's support plan.

If your case manager or FMS provider needs additional information about a class, activity, schedule, or cost, please contact us. We are happy to provide accurate program information and documentation to support the planning process.

---

## Thank you for Spring Conferences

Thank you to everyone who participated in Spring Conferences. We appreciate the time families take to meet with staff, ask questions, share updates, and think through next steps with us. These conversations are always helpful as we look at each participant's growth across classes, community experiences, employment readiness, social development, and independent living skills.



I also want to thank our staff for the amount of preparation that goes into conferences. The conversations families see are only one part of the process. Behind the scenes, the team spends significant time reviewing progress, comparing observations, discussing goals, and making sure we are looking at each participant as a whole person.

If you have follow-up questions from conferences, please don't hesitate to reach out.

---

## Cell Phone Expectations Survey

As we look ahead to next year, we will be sending out a short parent survey about cell phone use during Capstone programming.

Earlier this year, we shared some of our thinking around healthy phone habits. Cell phones are part of adult life, and our goal is not to remove technology altogether. At the same time, participants need practice being present during classes, volunteering, community outings, Social Fridays, and other structured activities.

The survey is intended to help us understand what families would like to see from Capstone in terms of expectations, consistency, and follow-through. Just as importantly, we want to understand what families feel prepared to support from home. Phone expectations work best when participants hear a clear and consistent message from both staff and families.

We are especially interested in feedback around when phone use should be allowed, when it should be limited, how staff should respond when phones become a distraction, and how families would like to be informed if phone use becomes a repeated concern.

Our goal is to develop expectations that are realistic, respectful, and aligned with adult independence while still protecting the quality of programming and community engagement.

**With Sincere Appreciation**  
**Michael Faeth**  
**Director of Adult Education**

# May 2026

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
				Nickelodeon Universe (MOA) 1
PRISM/ DoubleTree 4	Second Harvest/ YMCA 5		Minds of All Kinds Breakfast @ 8:30 am 7	Rollerskating at Cheap Skate/ Minnesota Zoo 8
PRISM/ Sholom 11	Second Harvest/ YMCA 12			Centennial Lakes Mini Golf/ Carlson's Loveable Llamas 15
PRISM/ DoubleTree 18	Second Harvest/ YMCA 19	Capstone Parent Roundtable-Employment @ 5:00 pm 20		The Mandalorian and Grogu/ Big Stone Mini Golf 22
Memorial Day- No Programming 25	Second Harvest/ YMCA 26			French Park/ Westwood Hills Nature Center 29

