



Sargent Translates Summer Learning into Summer Fun

Sargent Center students enjoyed a new Community Based Therapeutic Recreation program this summer which combined classroom learning and therapy with fun community based activities such as sailing on Narragansett Bay, golf, bowling, and martial arts. With grant assistance from the John E. Fogarty Foundation, this program allowed all Sargent students, ages 3-21 enrolled in our day school and adolescent brain injury programs the opportunity to participate and apply skills learned in the classroom and in therapy in actual community based, therapeutic recreation activities that accommodated all skill levels and disabilities. The nine week program culminated with an awards ceremony on our Sargent Campus where by the students received medals and hats for their participation.



According to Dave Dermksian, Sargent's Adaptive Physical Educator, "The experience of being on a boat and actually sailing it through the Bay was a huge accomplishment and a unique opportunity for the kids. These activities not only incorporated fun for the students but also allowed the students to carry over educational and therapeutic instruction into real life experiences. Many had never been on a golf course nor swung a golf club before." The activities were carefully



chosen so that all students could participate in at least one activity for maximum fun and therapeutic ability application. Based on the success of this year's program Sargent plans to carry over some activities into the fall and into the summer of 2014.



The summer activities concluded with summer games held right on Sargent's new playground/recreation area. The games included sponge races, volleyball, softball throw and student-teacher basketball games. The students had a ball competing against their teachers!

