# **Rhode Island Transition Academy 2023**

#### NOVEMBER NEWSLETTER

"The Thankful Heart Opens Our Minds To A Multitude of Blessings..."

#### **RITA EVENTS**

- \*November Theme: Community Month
- \*Monthly Featured Internship
- \*Community Day Roundup
- \*Apartment Latest
- \* Thank You Veterans















## November is Community Month at the Transition Academy



"Involvement in your community" was the focal point of November at the Academy. Students were exposed to a variety of topics including an overview of RI history, general understanding of the court system, and public safety assistance at the 911 Emergency Call Center. Students participated in researching their local community to explore different ways to be an active participant in their own community. Students will put this research into action by visiting the RI State House and local City Hall, and participating in valuable personal interaction with different members of the local community.







#### This Months Featured Internship Partner: Sanctuary Herbs/Tea Space



Established in 2017, **Sanctuary Herbs** of Providence provides an extraordinary line of chemical-free herbs & spices whose essence embodies health, comfort and community. They source their teas and herbs in partnership with Rhode Island's farmers focusing on refugee and immigrant farmers. Their mission is three fold: support small, local farm viability by paying a fair price, low carbon footprint and farm to cup in days. They offer 21 blends of herbal tea and over ten varieties of culinary spices.



(Pictured Left/Right) Jonathan, third year RITA Student, recently interned at Sanctuary Herbs/Tea Space last semester. His primary task included Sieving/Sorting of a variety of freshly dried herbs. This tedious process involved careful plucking and separating of the stems from the usable portion of the dried plant. Once completed, the tea 'sommelier', delicately combined and packaged the many herbs to their specific blends.



#### RITA's Community Day Roundup for the Month of November







In November, our students had the opportunity to visit the New Bedford Whaling Museum in Massachusetts. This museum focuses on the history, science, art, and culture of the international whaling industry, and the colonial region of Old Dartmouth in the South Coast of Massachusetts. This was a great learning experience with multiple interactive exhibits, unique collection of artifacts, including our groups favorite, the [half-scale] whaling ship Lagoda.



#### RITA's Community Day Roundup for the Month of November (cont.)









With inclement weather falling on one of our *Friday Community Days* in November, the Transition Academy switched gears from the typical museum-setting to bowling alley fun! (BOTTOM LEFT) Second-year student **Derick** displaying his best *'three-step-approach'* when firing the ball down the alley. (BOTTOM RIGHT) Second-year student **Angela** tearing-it-up with one of two strikes in her first game. Way to go Angela!



### What's Going On This Month at the Transition Academy Apartment...?



In November, our students took part in our annual tradition of having a 'Friendsgiving' at the Transition Academy apartment. This inclusive gathering called for the entire class to take part in planning the meal, shopping for the groceries, preparing/cooking of the food, and everyone's favorite thing, cleaning up. Pictured *Top Row,* (Left to Right): 1st-year students Anthony, Alexis, Grace and Leo. Bottom Row: Kizari, and 3rd-year student Jon.

