OUR FIRST ANNUAL WHITE CANE DAY A HUGE SUCCESS!

Thanks to a group called Wikki Wonders and the folks at the Southeastern Guide Dogs, our first annual White Cane Day was not only a success but also an eye opener for many.

At Freedom Village, after hearing about this event, community leader Debbie Williams came up with the idea to host it. Williams approached the folks at Wikki Wonders who put the idea into action.

As a kid, Williams had a visual impairment, which made it difficult for her to navigate her environment. A White Cane was developed by the National Federation for the Blind in 1938 and ever since then, has worked wonders for people like her. However, there's so much we had never heard about.

Our participants were amazed as they experienced using a simulated guide dog, bushy tail and all. They were also very impressed when they were able to use assistive technology, like Braille, and identify the number from the air.

Our website was also launched that day, which features a blog, information about their upcoming events, and links to their donation page. We'd love for you to check it out: https://besttogetherpodcast.com

THEME: SENSES

The theme of the White Cane Day was Senses. As Williams put it: "The theme of Senses was a perfect match. We're fortunate to have such a large variety of sensations here, ranging from visual, to auditory, to physical. So much to sense!"

This event was an excellent learning experience for our Outreach Team and organizers. We plan on making this an annual event and hope that you continue to support us.

MAKE YOUR VOICE COUNT!

Starting next month, we will be releasing a new screening program. This program is designed to help individuals with learning disabilities and other impairments.

We are partnering with Wikki Wonders and Southeastern Guide Dogs to provide free screenings and training opportunities. These events are open to the public and we encourage you to attend.

This is the first step in our effort to make our community more accessible. We are also excited to announce that we will be hosting a webinar series on the same topics. The first webinar will be held on the 22nd of this month and will be free to attend.

We encourage you to sign up for our email list to stay updated on the latest events and programs. And don't forget, we are also hosting a fundraiser to support our efforts, so please consider making a donation.

Thank you for your support and we look forward to seeing you at our events.

Best Wishes,
Kelsey Perez