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**PRESS RELEASE**

February 1, 2021

**Kenosha Achievement Center Brings New Meaning to KAC: Kenosha Awesome Cookies**

**February 1, 2021 (Kenosha, WI.)** – Kenosha Achievement Center (KAC) is excited to announce the launch of a new youth program initiative: Kenosha Awesome Cookies. Kenosha Awesome Cookies is a start up business where Voyage program participants design, prepare and sell cookie baking kits. Kenosha Awesome Cookies is open for business and ready to take your orders.

Each cookie baking kit costs ten dollars and consists of one 32-ounce mason jar filled with the dry ingredients needed to make a batch of delicious cookies. Six flavors are regularly available, including triple chocolate chip, white chocolate lemon and more. Featured Valentine's Day flavors include White Chocolate Red Velvet and Strawberry Chocolate Chip.

Youth participating in this program voiced an interest in learning how to run a business. This idea fits nicely with one of the program's goals to increase independence. KAC staff provided the support and resources needed to move forward with the idea. After excitedly brainstorming with the team, Kenosha Awesome Cookies was born. Program participants developed the business name and logo and insisted on baking and taste-testing each flavor to ensure quality. Now, they strategically plan their day to allow time to purchase supplies, assemble kits and fulfill orders.

"It is so rewarding to lead the Voyage program as they pursue their goals," says Kourtney Bilotta, youth services manager at KAC. "Everyone has been able to practice and develop new skills! It is our hope that with time and effort Kenosha Awesome Cookies will be able to stand as an independent business owned and operated by one or a group of the original youth founders. We appreciate the community's support as we begin taking our initial orders."

Proceeds from Kenosha Awesome Cookies benefit KAC's Voyage program. Participants hope to use funds raised for a group outing to Dave & Busters as soon as it is safe to do so.

To place an order from Kenosha Awesome Cookies or for more information, please contact the Voyage Program participants at [kenoawesomecookies@thekac.com](mailto:kenoawesomecookies@thekac.com).

KAC considers the health and safety of its community, employees, participants and their families a priority. In regards to the COVID-19 pandemic, KAC remains open and continues to provide essential services. This includes operating Specialized Transportation Services, offering virtual home visits and therapy sessions for infants and toddlers, providing employment support and programs for adults with disabilities in small groups and virtually and more. Kenosha Achievement Center looks forward to resuming its services to normal operations as soon as it is safe to do so.



KENOSHA AWESOME COOKIES



*Voyage program participants (left to right: Brenton, Nate and Colin) bake and taste-test a cookie baking kit.*

*(Continued on next page.)*



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**About Voyage:**

Voyage is an active day program for young adults with disabilities ages 18 - 26 years. The goal of the program is to increase independence through community involvement. Individuals actively participate in planning their day including making decisions about activities and outings. Participants develop life skills, enjoy social interaction with their peers, learn to navigate the community and explore recreational and volunteer activities.

**About KAC:**

Since 1964, Kenosha Achievement Center has worked to create opportunities for the personal growth and success of persons with special needs. KAC does this by removing barriers, changing perceptions and building confidence. Annually, KAC serves roughly 3,000 individuals in the Kenosha community and the surrounding area. These vital children, adult and transportation services provide individuals with special needs and their families with the resources and support needed to thrive throughout their entire lives.

