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CAC Corner: Robin Savage- Traveling the Trax

Center for Persons With Disabilities

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Getting out into the community is important for everyone. Options for Independence, a nonresidential Independent Living Center, makes it possible for individuals with disabilities to participate fully in the community.

**CPD Consumer Advisory Council member Robin Savage joined OPTIONS for Independence on an adventure to Salt Lake City to spend a day at the New City Creek Mall.**

My day started with OPTIONS for Independence waking me up because I slept in and was not ready when they came by to pick me up. Once in the van, we headed to Ogden, Utah to Union Station to board the new Front Runner train for a ride to Salt Lake City. There was a large group of participants attending this OPTIONS activity and it was quite a chore getting everybody loaded on the train. Once on the train, the smooth ride was very comfortable and it was fun looking out the second level window at the scenery as we zoomed down the track.

The train arrived in Salt Lake City and we hurried off the Front Runner and hurried onto the TRAX train for the final ride to City Creek Mall. When we got there, everyone seemed to go their own direction checking out the City Creek Mall. The mall is very big, three stories tall and covers two blocks with a glass covered sidewalk on the second floor connecting the two blocks. It also was very easy to get lost, once inside you could not tell which direction to go because you were surrounded with shops, stores and a lot of people.

There were so many stores to choose from as we were walking around we could not find the Disney store but luckily we noticed it was on the second floor so we took an elevator up to go to it. I went into Macy’s and several other stores and found that the prices were very expensive. There were some stores that were reasonably priced. I found the City Creek Mall to be larger than ZCMI and Crossroads combined.

Once we had been through the mall we decided to cross a street and visit the Salt Lake City Temple where we enjoyed spending time in the visitor center. I enjoyed the small temple display in the visitor center that allowed you to see the many rooms in the Temple.

When we left the visitor center we crossed the road and found an ice cream shop by the mall. While enjoying our ice cream we could see the Church Office building, the Joseph Smith Memorial building, and the beautiful landscaping along the sidewalks. It also brought back memories from my family history mission I served several years ago.

Back at the mall we spent some time finding the gym which was on the third floor. I wanted to go in the gym because my brother built some of the equipment used in the gym.

Next, we realized we needed to find the TRAX stop for the green line which would take us back to the Front Runner Train and our ride to Ogden. I was amazed that OPTIONS staff was able to round up 23 individuals and get us all on TRAX at the correct time so we would not miss the transfer to Front Runner for our ride back to Ogden. In Ogden we all got on three separate buses and headed back to Logan.

I want to thank OPTIONS for Independence for providing a fun and safe activity and ride home. I found this adventure to be a great learning experience and very exciting. It was a wonderful day filled with fun and friends.

Sincerely, Robin Savage