What’s Happening at Strive
April 2019

Strive Employees Support AUTISM AWARENESS DAY!

Message from the President/CEO
Submitted by: Grant Jackson

It’s feeling pretty fresh outside with the springtime air after bits of rain and some bright blue skies! I wanted to say THANK YOU all for your hard work and dedication to our agency, for supporting one another and most importantly for caring for the individuals and families we support in our community. What you all do on a daily basis is immensely important and in my eyes, one of the most important pieces of a highly functioning community. So many of you go above and beyond to assure the greatest possible outcomes for the individuals we serve. I know this because I hear about the efforts put forth by our teams throughout this agency. Sometimes it’s via text or a phone call late at night when someone we support is in crisis and multiple people rush to help calm the situation or help put the pieces in place to keep them safe. YOUR HARD WORK AND KINDNESS DO NOT GO UNNOTICED AND IS VERY MUCH APPRECIATED.

I’ve been trying to fast-track my learning curve as I finish up my 4th month on the STRiVE team, I know it probably feels like a glacial pace to some, but as the picture comes in a bit clearer every day I am astonished by the passion and drive that encompasses STRiVE. That’s not to say that we don’t have some struggles going on and some hurdles to jump over because we surely do! There is a tremendous amount of work that goes on behind the scenes to try to make the lives of the individuals we support the best they can be and a great effort to support you all that interact with these individuals.

We hit a milestone this month by reaching 80 Host Home providers! This has been a goal for some time and we are all super excited and very proud of the hard work this team has put in to not only reach this goal, by their collective efforts towards expanding possibilities for the individuals we support to reach their own goals and realize their own personal dreams. GREAT JOB!!!

THANK YOU ALL FOR DOING WHAT YOU DO!

Grant
Departmental Updates:
Public Relations & Development...
Submitted By: Doug Sorter
Foundation Board
- The Membership Committee has been actively seeking a few new members due to the term limits cap for Louise Goodman and Larry Beckner. Steve Goede was promoted at West Star and moved to Tennessee. They have a couple of prospects in the pipeline and will be sealing the deal soon.
- Our next meeting is April 17th and we will be addressing several new initiatives and improved focus as we move forward.

Marketing / PR
- We are in the process of updating our current brochures and other printed materials to adequately represent STRiVE in both the internal and external marketing areas.
- We are developing a marketing plan that will consist of where and how we want to use our limited resources for best impact.
- Our theme for the next few years is “We want to be the non-profit of choice in our community” the four aspects of concentration are employer of choice, top of mind presence for donations, volunteers and services we provide the population was support.

Events - YES IT IS EVENT SEASON, YEA!!!
Easter Egg Hunt Saturday April 20th 11:00am to 12:00pm. Let me know if you’d like to volunteer
Tulips and Juleps Derby Viewing Saturday May 4th 2:00pm to 5:00pm GET YOUR DERBY ON!!!!! Sponsorships still available.
JUCO Picnic May 23rd 6:00pm to 8:00pm - Volunteers needed. BEST EVENT WE DO!!
Just a few and I will keep you in the loop on the others

Accounting...
Submitted by: Chris Bergquist
- Officially closed in the sale of 950 and the purchase of 790 on 3/22/19!
- Starting the process of working on the FY 20 budget.

Human Resources...
Submitted by: Adele Avolio
Good News!
Three (3) pay dates in the month of May!
Please note: Benefits will not be deducted on the May 31st pay.

Vocational....
Submitted by: Jeff Green
Wellness and Active Wellness
- We have started getting our courtyard ready for the summer months. Staff and individuals have started
prepping the soil for planting and we are coming up with plans for all of the planters.
• Individuals enjoyed a St. Patrick’s Day Party!
• Everyone is looking forward to spring after the long winter.

Uniquely Yours
• Uniquely Yours has been freshly painted and we have been moving everything around.
• New products are coming in for spring and summer.
• We are making plans for all of the downtown festivities that occur in the warmer months.

Healthy Body/Health Mind:
This month we have explored a lot of trails and working building up stamina. We have hiked Holy Cross, Echo Canyon and the 3 Sisters trail. We have been working on how to relax our minds and how this is important to the body’s overall health.

Performing Arts:
This month we have focused on the art of writing. Learning how to write poems, stories and what rhyming words are. We have also focused on the writer Dr. Seuss and what made his work of art special to the world.

Coffee Klatch:
This month we have focused a lot on the life skill of personal boundaries. We also worked on shopping and money management. We went to the store and learned price values, and how to get the most for your money in this world today.

Reception:
This month Reception has been working on typing. We have been seeing how long it takes us to type 7 words, ranging 1 to 7 letters.
**Host Homes...**
*Submitted by: Michelle Sharman*
- One person transitioned from the GJRC in March and 2 additional people moved into HH’s. We have 2 additional Family Care Givers joining our growing program in April.
- In addition to the department growing, we have also certified 3 in home respite providers!! Yay! More support for our amazing HHP’s and FCG’s!
- We appreciate all the help we get from the entire agency to make this possible and a successful program. We also greatly appreciate out amazing providers!

**Early Intervention...**
*Submitted by: Nancy Ketchum*
EI continues to see an increase in referrals to the program.

Currently – 195 children in program
- 146 eligible
- 49 Childfind/Intake

EI has contracted with Family Health West for service providers to work with our families. So far they have been able to provide us with PT and SLP services. Mary Johnson our SLP and Amanda Pesta OT have also moved over to Family Health West but continue to work with Early Intervention families. We are also still offering Telehealth to families as an option for services.

Children who are being evaluated for services in Early Intervention, the evaluations are completed by the School District’s Childfind Team. They are tasked with determining a percentage of delay and providing that information to the EI team. The EI team will then determine if the child is eligible for services. At the State level there is some discussion of moving Childfind away from the School District and giving it to Early Intervention. This would mean EI would need to complete their own evaluations of children referred. These evaluations require a transdisciplinary team of at least 2 providers. At this time there has not been a final decision made regarding this move, and everything is still in the preliminary stage. The State is currently completing a study as well as gathering data and feedback from CCB’S before making any final decisions. With all these necessary steps and other details to work out it is not expected that any changes will occur for several months if not longer

**MDS Resource Coordination...**
*Submitted by: Kayla Purdy*
- In March there were 4 SIS’s completed for the month. We continue to work on getting more individuals enrolled into services each month.
- 3 new enrollments occurred in the month of March thanks to the hard work of our intake team!
This month the Case Management Department wants to recognize Chris Flores for all of his hard work and dedication to the individuals he serves. Chris was nominated as our CM of the month not only because of his hard work and dedication but because of his great coordination and preplanning for his caseload. Keep up the great work Chris!

An individual completed the SLS-CDASS enrollment process and began receiving CDASS services on 3/16. This is the first person to begin CDASS services through our CCB.
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