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## **DEPARTMENT UPDATES...**

### **PR/DEVELOPMENT...**

***Submitted by Doug Sorter***

#### **PR/Marketing:**

#### **Foundation Board:**

We had a very successful retreat with our Foundation Board and developed a plan to address the needs and steps to help the STRIVE organization with its fundraising efforts. Our new chair Ashlie Zimmerman is full of ideas and energy, what a powerhouse! The two newest members, Kevin McChesney and Nate Cook were inducted, and they have both jumped in with both feet.

#### **PR/Marketing:**

- With the new year comes new information that we need to educate the Grand Valley on. We have had a good degree of success with the local TV news, radio and *Daily Sentinel*. What has been added this year is the work of Foundation Board member, Georgann Joufflas. She is a professor at CMU Business and introduced me to the Marketing Professor, James Mclean. James is going to have his Marketing class develop an entire marketing plan for Alida's. It will be four teams competing to win and will work the semester on what I believe will be a terrific plan to market Alida's and the STRIVE connection.
- Kevin McChesney has already helped with our continued presence in the community by putting together a PSA with Mark Miller Chevrolet, where we will be talking about STRIVE on the air waves at no cost!
- Jack FM is looking at developing PSA's as well for their radio spots.

#### **Transportation:**

Steve Shain, our Transportation Manager and Botanical Director, has worked his tail off to find busses and vans to supplement our aging fleet. He has been able to add two busses; one donated and one purchased for next to nothing that are in good shape. He's found a couple of mini vans and is in the process of getting them.

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His effort to improve the fleet has really helped with fewer breakdowns, fewer costly repairs and better service to the people we support and serve. We are entertaining the idea of leasing three 11 passenger vans so we can have a little flexibility.

### **Vocational Department:**

- We have been in the process of building a strong team of supervisors and managers. With the help of Kelly Lupo and Peggy Gordon the team is really starting to click. We have made a few surgical enhancements that will help both the individuals we support, the staff and reduce expense. The development of an admin person to enhance the managers role and provide great oversight of the programs without increasing the FTE head count is an example of one such improvement.
- As we move to the Final Rule Setting, we are excited about the many possibilities we have in front of us to improve the lives of the people we support daily.

### **Fundraising:**

- We continue to find ways to increase our fundraising. Our sponsorships are growing, donations are increasing in both numbers and amounts. We are in grant season, not only developing and writing the reports for those we have received but researching new possibilities. We are currently sending one to the Kenneth King Foundation for employment efforts, US Bank for job creation for people we support and having discussions with USDA, DOLA and Federal Reserve Bank of KC. We have funders like Coors Family Foundation, Daniels Fund, Boettcher Foundation and the CDBG grants through the City of Grand Junction that we will begin to process with.
- One disappointing area and of concern is the lack of interest funders are showing in our capital campaign efforts. It is becoming apparent that there fewer and fewer donors interested in, as they put it, "servicing our debt". I am finding less and less organizations who will even have a conversation let alone a letter of intent? Hopefully we can find grants to meet other financial needs so we can reduce the liability of capital expense.

### **Events:**

Yep it's stacking up like the best events year ever!

- We are looking at an improved Tulips & Juleps Derby Event, May 2<sup>nd</sup>.
- Four, yes four, concerts, June 5<sup>th</sup>, June 26<sup>th</sup>, July 31<sup>st</sup> and August 14<sup>th</sup>. With a possible 5<sup>th</sup> on July 11<sup>th</sup>, it's in the negotiations stage but should it work out it will be tremendous. I'm in the process of looking for one more \$2,500 sponsor.
- Easter Egg Hunt April 11<sup>th</sup> with 15,000 EGGS! Ages 0 to 8. A big thank you Jamee Simons at Enstrom.
- JUCO Picnic May 21<sup>st</sup> Jeff Franklin & Bank of Colorado is planning to take this over as a volunteer project this year and in the future.
- And last, but not least, Rollin on the River October 3<sup>rd</sup>.

***VOCATIONAL PROGRAMS...*****2850 Chipeta*****Submitted by: Peggy Gordon*****Creative Creations**

- January was a busy month for us. We worked on parts for a float that will be in the Lion's Club parade. The theme is "Rock of Ages," and we chose the band KISS for our theme. We painted faces on giant pieces of cardboard to look like each member of the band. They came out great.
- We also worked on making clocks for some of our other programs; Uniquely Yours, Botanical Gardens, and Alida's. We sanded, painted, drilled holes and got the boards ready to apply the decals and clock parts. We should have those finished and ready to go out next month. But it wasn't all work. We also got to enjoy Individual Appreciation Day at the main building, where we had juice and donuts. It was a busy month!

**Woodshop**

- Woodshop has been busy with community customers working on an arbor trellis for a local school, as well as, a custom shelf built to fit.
- We are also near completion on a display cabinet for Alida's that will be antiqued and distressed.
- The shop has also been dip painting the remaining Halloween skulls
- for special orders

**Mobile Crew**

January was a cold and snowy month! We spent a lot of time doing snow removal!! Along with snow removal, we took care of our internal and external properties, removing leaves and debris that we had collected over the Fall. One of our bigger projects was cleaning up the backyard area where the golf course used to be at Performing Arts. We hauled old tires, carpet, and wood to the dump. That was quite the job. We also worked on getting the trailer ready for the float that we are making for the upcoming Lion's Club parade next month. When we couldn't get out, we worked on filling out sample job applications; and, also got to enjoy juice and donuts for Individual Appreciation Day at the main building. All-in-all, it was a great January.

**Fruitvale*****Submitted by: Kelly Lupo*****Wellness and Active Wellness**

Wellness individuals JM and DPL planned a Birthday Party Bash for the middle of January that included both Wellness and Active Wellness. DPL was happy to plan the menu (since it was also celebrating his birthday) and they made baked pizza and fresh baked cakes. On the few warmer days staff took small walks around the building. 508 also joined in on the Fun at Work Potluck by making and sharing Pozole. So Delicious!

## Uniquely Yours

Uniquely Yours started focusing on the up and coming holiday, Valentine's Day. We had a wonderful in-kind donation from a window artist named Breanne who hand painted a beautiful window. We are going keeping it up for a while to display her generous donation of time. Staff and individuals are working on organizing inventory and updating items that need repurposed.



## ***HUMAN RESOURCES...***

***Submitted by: Adele Avolio***

### **Open Enrollment begins March 4<sup>th</sup>!**

This is the time of year to renew your benefit selections. The current Plan Year will end March 31<sup>st</sup> and you must re-enroll to maintain or begin to receive benefits for Plan Year beginning April 1, 2020.

Starting March 4<sup>th</sup>, you will be able to go to Enterprise Benefits in Paylocity to elect your benefits for the new plan year.

Plan to attend the **Open Enrollment Open House:**

**790 Wellington Ave. on March 4<sup>th</sup> from 10AM to 2PM.**

All plans – Dental, Health, Retirement, etc. will have a representative onsite.

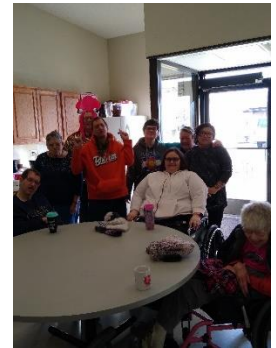
**This year STRiVE is offering TELEDOC – free to ALL employees and families, whether or not on the medical plan.**

#### **Teledoc**

- Offers telemedicine visits to employees and their families at no cost.
- The most recent enhancement to this plan is the addition of behavioral health care.
- It also includes dermatology and tobacco cessation support.

**Good news! There will NOT be an increase in premiums!**

STRiVE employees had fun celebrating National Fun Day at Work on January 31st!



### ***FINANCES...***

**Submitted by: Chris Bergquist**

- We just finished scheduling the year end 403b and financial audit. This will be in June and August respectively.
- We implemented all the DSP wage increases starting the first payroll in January.

### ***RESIDENTIAL...***

**Submitted by: Kristina Kukus**

- Residential continues to hire into the group homes to build teams. Tell your friends!
- **OT** - We continue to support our individuals in services. Please E-mail Kristina Kukus and James Wright for your equipment needs/ repairs.
- **Appointments** - We have an increase in appointments around cold and sinus symptoms. Remember to Wash, Wash, Wash your hands!! Remember to document any symptoms and report to nursing if worsening.

- **Host Homes** - We are looking for more host homes and respite providers. Tell your friends!
- **Service and Supports** - We love to support our individuals and look for new skill building programs all the time! Don't forget to document your ISP programs!!
- **PCA** - Continue to support individuals in community living. Welcome Cynthia Hendrickson to the team!!

### ***BEHAVIORAL & CLINICAL PHARMACOLOGY...***

***Submitted by: Christina Cruz***

#### **Valentine's Day Stress**

Each year of your life, Valentine's Day will likely bring out different thoughts and feelings. When you were younger, you were probably excited about getting cards and candy. As you grow older, the focus changes from Valentine treats to the feelings connected with the holiday. You may view it as a day to celebrate a special relationship, friendships, or your family. But there will be some years when you would rather not acknowledge your relationships, or the lack of them in your life. If that's the case, Valentine's Day may cause negative feelings especially when you focus too much on what you hope to get or what the day might bring.

Instead of focusing on what you might get, think about how you can **give** a gift from your heart. Try making a card, writing a note, sending a photo or text. You could also go out of your way to do something nice for someone else. The idea is that if you concentrate on the **giving**, you might not get your hopes up so much about the **getting**.

Does Valentine's Day have to just be about hearts and flowers from a certain someone? Include your friends and/or family in on the holiday celebration. Guess what? Your grandma would probably love flowers or a card from you. Is there a broken relationship that you would like to mend? How about doing something nice for yourself?

You don't have to spend a lot of money on someone to show how you feel. Give a gift from the heart. Remember that caring about others is not just a Valentine's Day thing—show you care **365** days a year. Having that as your focus may turn out to be a lot more rewarding than placing all your hopes and dreams on what happens on just that one day during the year!

### ***MDS RESOURCE COORDINATION...***

***Submitted by Kayla Purdy***

- In January, there were 2 SIS's completed for the month. We continue to work on getting more individuals enrolled into services.
- Currently, we have 52 individuals in the process of being enrolled into services. Our Intake team is working hard at getting them all enrolled.
- For the month of January, we have submitted 4 Emergency Enrollment requests. Out of those, 2 have been approved and 2 are still pending. We also had 5 approvals to enroll into the HCBS-DD Waiver via the ASAA Wait List.
- Case Management would like to nominate Cassie Williams for the gnome award this month. Cassie shows tireless dedication to the team and is always willing to make herself available for support. She is a wealth of knowledge, and her helpful nature is appreciated by us all.



- Our Consumer-Directed Attendant support Services (CDASS) program is up and running thanks to our CDASS team. We currently have 11 individuals enrolled into CDASS and 5 that are in the process of being enrolled.
- People First had their Valentine's Day Party on February 10<sup>th</sup> at the In Steps building at Career Tech.

BIRTHDAYS	
DAY	STAFF
2/1	Jamee Hansen
2/2	George Chesney, Jo-Ann Maestas
2/3	Elycia Burns, Heidi Miller, Jesse Waltman
2/4	Russell Eggleston
2/5	Chantel Fenn, Sandra Mendoza
2/6	Emily Ernstsens, Karen Jones
2/7	Gabriel Millican
2/9	Jennifer Dinterman, Toni Newberry, Cassie Williams
2/12	Anna Mercado
2/15	Carmen Valdez
2/16	Jeannie Larsen
2/20	Sandy Cooper, Krista Popish
2/22	Eric Franco, Xlyia Gordon
2/23	Fred Martin
2/27	Tracy Brown
2/28	Morgan Hurshman

ANNIVERSARIES	
YEAR	STAFF
1	Noah Carrington, James Cottrell, Morgan Hurshman, Amber Struble, Jesse Waltman, Steve Wright
5	Russell Eggleston, Jay Veale
6-9	Holly Moffett
10	Chris Wright
11	Robbie Melton, Natasha Romanoff
24	Monica Smith