



CAMPUS CONNECTIONS

EMPLOYEE NEWSLETTER

Issue 2

February 2021

Vol. 1



Above: A Valentine's message from McAuley residents, pictured posing next to their Valentine's Day tree! **Left:** QIDP Megan T. and residents from Eisenberg Home on a winter stroll.

WHAT'S INSIDE

- **Employee Wellness** 3
Quarterly Health Benefits Update, COVID Vaccination Sites
- **Community Day Services** 4
Beyond Boundaries at the Marion Center
- **HR and Staff Development** 5
PHI Training, Diversity and Inclusion Sessions
- **Information Technology (IT)** 6
Color Printing on Campus, Foothold's AWARDS
- **Monthly Recognitions** 7
Staff Spotlights, Anniversaries, Warm Welcomes, Look Who's on the Move

ALSO IN THIS ISSUE

- **Honoring Black History Month** 2
- **Chicago Marathon Signup** 5

A MESSAGE OF GRATITUDE

To All Misericordia Staff—

Thank you for all the work that you do in dedicating parts of your lives to helping those with unique challenges and difficulties. I know that it is not easy to do. And I know exactly how much your work is needed. My uncle Mike was born and lived with severe physical and mental disabilities, but he was able to live a wonderful life in part due to the help he received on a daily basis. He was an artist, a wonderful friend, and a loving uncle, and I know for certain that a lot of this was because he had the support he needed to flourish, from people like you.

I can't pretend to know what it's like to do what you do, but I know that it requires strength, courage, and a profoundly massive heart. And I know that the past several months must have felt impossibly difficult at times. All I can say is that it warms my heart to know there are so many people like you in this oftentimes strange, scary, and unfair world.

I appreciate you so much.

—West Monroe Partners

HONORING BLACK HISTORY MONTH



Clockwise from the top left: W.E.B DuBois, Nelson Mandela, Martin Luther King Jr., Bessie Coleman, Maya Angelou, Malcolm X, Rosa Parks, Barack Obama

WAYS TO CELEBRATE BLACK HISTORY

- **Educate yourself**

Take some time to learn about the achievements and contributions of Black people in a wide variety of fields.

- **Enjoy media by Black creators**

Film, television, music, art, literature. Streaming services such as Netflix, Hulu, Spotify, and YouTube have varieties of content by Black creators.

- **Support Black-owned businesses**

Courtesy of *Support Black Owned*, [click here](#) to find a list of Black businesses in your area.

- **Donate to racial equity organizations**

Courtesy of the Museum of Modern Art, [here](#) is a list of organizations that actively fight for social justice and equality today.

"Black History Month is an annual celebration of achievements by African Americans and a time for recognizing their central role in U.S. history. Also known as African American History Month, the event grew out of "Negro History Week," the brainchild of noted historian Carter G. Woodson and other prominent African Americans. Since 1976, every U.S. president has officially designated the month of February as Black History Month. Other countries around the world, including Canada and the United Kingdom, also devote a month to celebrating Black history." - *Courtesy of History.com*. [Click here](#) to read more about Black history month and view their photo gallery of prominent figures throughout Black history.

WEBSITES ABOUT BLACK HISTORY

Click the underlined text to access



[HistoryMakers](#) is an audio/video interview collection of prominent African Americans in the arts, sciences, entertainment, law, and politics.

[BlackPast](#) provides information about past and present-day figures and groups who have made Black history in the United States and around the world.



VIRTUAL EVENTS AND FIELD TRIPS

- [Chicago Public Library](#)

Find resources and COVID-conscious events related to Black History Month.

- [Google Arts & Culture](#)

Explore the history, arts and culture of Black life in the United States

QUARTERLY HEALTH BENEFITS UPDATE

[Click here](#) for a short video that highlights the information below.

PREVENTATIVE CARE

Maintaining personal wellness and preventing illness is a key component to feeling good and planning for a healthy future. Because of that, we want you to know that whether you are enrolled in a Misericordia-sponsored plan or another ACA (Affordable Care Act) compliant plan, there are specific preventive care visits that are covered at 100%.

Annual wellness exams are available to all enrolled members regardless of gender or age. Other preventive care is offered for free but is subject to meeting gender and age requirements. To view the Preventative Care Summary, [click here](#).

EMPLOYEE ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

Did you know that Misericordia offers **free** resources to you and your household through our Employee Assistance Programs (EAP)? EAP support is available 24/7, 365 days/year. Whether you are enrolled or not enrolled in a Misericordia Medical Plan, you can access EAP services. [Click here](#) to learn about how EAP can help you!

HEALTH BENEFITS WEBINAR

We welcome you to join our Health Benefits Webinar! All webinar participants will be entered in a Raffle for a GIFT CARD!

When: 2/18/2021 2:00 – 3 PM

Where: Virtual. [Click to join](#). Please mute your mic when joining. **Meeting ID:** 980 7937 5919 **Passcode:** 577951
If dialing in, use this number: 312-626-6799

COVID VACCINATION SITES

We want to thank all the staff who participated in receiving either first or first and second doses of the COVID vaccinations during the vaccination clinics held in January and February. The March 4th vaccination clinic will only be available for staff who have already received the first vaccination. No first vaccinations will be available on March 4th. We understand that there may be individuals who initially declined to get a COVID vaccination and might want to know how to get the vaccine now or in the future.

- If you live in Chicago and are interested in getting the first vaccination, [click here](#) for guidance from the city on how you can get started.
- Additional links for:
 - [Cook County outside of Chicago](#)
 - [Lake County](#)
 - [DuPage County](#)



Clockwise: Edwina W., Sarah P., Consuelo T. and Tasha H. telling us why they got vaccinated. [Click here](#) to view the "I Got Vaccinated For..." slideshow.



Left to right: CDS Instructor Teri B. and Jimmy V. making smoothies; CDS Instructor Lynette V. and Gianni R. next to the No-Snow Snowman "No-Snow Snowman Challenge." [Click here](#) to view other "No-Snow" highlights.

MONTHLY REFLECTION

"We have been working on our Activities of Daily Living skills. We help set up for lunch, put away supplies and load the dishwasher. Continually working on these skills helps to keep us sharp and ready to work on bigger tasks.

Staying active and limber is an important part of our day to day lives. We have been learning about the importance of staying active. We have practiced this through yoga, dance, stretching and going on walks.

Through these difficult times we have learned that sticking together and helping each other is the best way to get through tough times. When we support each other we can get through anything we face."

- CDS Instructors Teri B. and Ricardo B.



CURRENT ON KNOWLEDGE OWL

An online library that provides access to learning resources and lesson plans, created and shared by Misericordia and other organizations.

Coming soon!

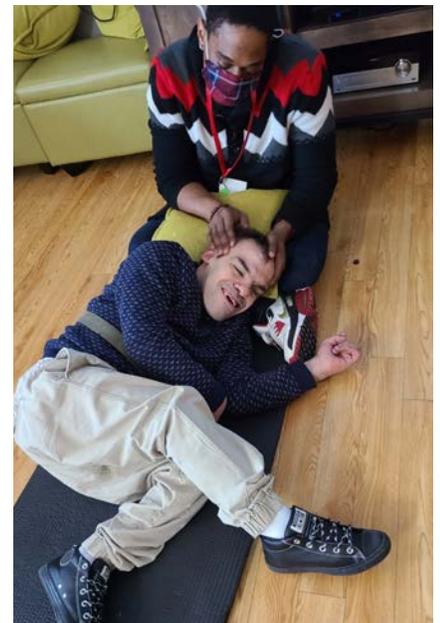
COMMUNITY DAY SERVICES

Formerly referred to as Developmental Training, Community Day Services (CDS) is a program that focuses on the development and enhancement of daily adaptive living skills, economic self-sufficiency, greater independences and personal choices of people with Developmental and Intellectual Disabilities. Misericordia's CDS branches of education and vocational training include Lifelong Learning, GRACEful Living, PEP, Community Access, MisWorks, HeART Studios, Beyond Boundaries, and Learning in Motion. To learn about the CDS programs at Misericordia, [click here](#).

FEBRUARY COMMUNITY DAY SERVICES HIGHLIGHTS FROM THE MARIAN CENTER



Matt L. and Apartment 103 learned how to make banana pudding from scratch. Vanilla pudding, vanilla wafers, and bananas is all it took to make this delicious treat. This was an activity that all the 103 gentlemen enjoyed making and eating!



Derrick D. of Apartment 101 pictured with Direct Service Professional Ed G., practicing self-care. Residents have enjoyed sensory hand massages, yoga, stretching, and listening to guided meditations. They have benefited from learning how to reach a calm space and relax.



PHI instructor
Mary Ann
Goode

PHI TRAINING

Almost half of our employees have had an opportunity for at least some PHI Training, but for those of you that have not, "PHI" is the shorthand title for our Building a Supportive Workplace Culture program that began two years ago. PHI, a consulting firm, developed the materials that form the basis of our training. But what exactly is PHI Training and, more importantly, why are we doing this?

These days, perhaps more than ever before, we know that how we speak to each other really matters. Through PHI, we strive to build a respectful, supportive environment where all of our employees feel valued and appreciated. We aim to achieve this through training in skills such as active listening, self-awareness and self-management, and clear communication. Together, we share responsibility for shaping the culture we work in!

Be sure to check this corner of **Campus Connections** for a short PHI reminder, pointer or video to help develop your PHI skills!



DON'T MISS OUT ON SHARING YOUR IDEAS

Please remember to sign up for the upcoming discussion sessions that will be held on the additional **Community of Believers Value - Diversity and Inclusion**. See your supervisor for sessions that are still available. Additional sessions have been added, so be sure to look to future communications.

- 2/9 3:30-4:30PM
- 2/10 6-7AM
- 2/12 6-7AM
- 2/16 10-11AM, 1-2PM, 3:30-4:30PM
- 2/17 10-11AM, 3:30-4:30PM
- 2/18 10-11AM, 1-2PM, 3:30-4:30PM

JOIN US IN THE 2021 CHICAGO MARATHON

Misericordia Heart of Mercy is proud to be a charity partner for the 2021 Bank of America Chicago Marathon. Scheduled for **Sunday, October 10, 2021**, don't miss your opportunity to be guaranteed a spot in the Chicago Marathon and go the extra mile for Misericordia!

The deadline to register as a charity runner is **May 31, 2021**. Runners commit to raising \$1,250 if registered before February 2021; \$1,750 after February 2021. Choose Misericordia as your charity and be a part of the Heartracers! Our team grows bigger every year and is up to 75 runners! If you are interested in joining the team or need additional information, please contact Martha Floberg, Development Officer at 773-273-4125 or via email at marthaf@misericordia.com.



The Misericordia Heartracers Charity Team
2019

JOB POSTINGS & RECRUITMENT

To learn about current job openings, email careers@misericordia.com, check your local time clock, or visit us in HR. Job postings may also appear in the **Campus Connections** weekly email updates.

Be sure to tell your friends and loved ones about our openings!



Lukas W. from Behavior Support Services, conserving color ink by printing in black and white.

COLOR PRINTING ON CAMPUS

COVID has changed many things around campus in the last year. As people and activities have shifted around campus, how and where documents are printed have also changed. These changes have significantly increased the amount of money we spend on printing. For instance:

- Printing a page in color typically costs 10 times more than printing in black and white.
- Printing a black and white text page with a single color image (e.g., Misericordia red heart), triggers this 10x cost difference
- Printing costs vary by printer. Generally larger machines cost less per page to print. So smaller desktop printers are more expensive per page than the larger higher volume printing/copying machines.
- Desktop printers fine for small print jobs but larger jobs (20+ pages) should be printed on larger printing/copying machines.
- Larger printing/copying machines can also print on both sides, saving paper.

If you don't need color, print to a black and white printer or send the print job in black and white. For larger print jobs, consider printing to one of the larger machines around campus.

IT can assist you with your printing needs, just email IT_Department@misericordia.com for support.

FOOTHOLD
TECHNOLOGY

Coming soon!

A secure, paperless solution to charting, documenting, and managing resident information.

FOOTHOLD'S AWARDS includes:

- Communication
- Goals & Outcomes Tracking
- Resident Care Information
- Medical & Nursing
- ISPs and Monthly Summaries
- CDS Records
- And much more!

Trainings will begin this month in the Shannon Apartments and CILAs.

Stay tuned for additional information to be released in the coming months.

DID YOU KNOW?



"Ink is one of the most expensive liquids to buy on earth right now, coming in at a whopping \$2,700 per gallon! That is more expensive than the fuel we use in space shuttles!" - econoprint-racine.com



STAFF SPOTLIGHTS



Posted weekly on Facebook, **Staff Spotlights** acknowledge and celebrate the hard work and uniqueness of the individuals who help make us #MisericordiaStrong. Our **Staff Spotlights** for the month of **January** included:

Edwina Watkins - Thome and McAuley Receptionist

Mon Ryan Teh - Direct Service Professional in the Connelly Home

Hilda White - Community Day Services Instructor in McAuley

Get to know them by clicking the underlined names above. You can also scroll the Misericordia [Facebook](#) page to see our previous Spotlights.

LOOK WHO'S ON THE MOVE

Veronica Amattey, former Bakery Packaging Staff, now Kitchen Aide in Food Service

Michelle Braswell, former Housekeeping staff at CDS, now Housekeeping Staff in Quinlan Terrace

Kujuan Byrd, former Lifeguard in Pool/Fitness, now QIDP Assistant in Quinlan Terrace

Shermaine Casimiro, former DSP/Lead Job Coach in Shannon Apts., now DSP/Lead Job Coach/Relief Supervisor in Shannon Apts.

Jennifer Griseta, former CDS Aide at CDS, now Laundry Staff in Laundry/Housekeeping

Heather Kauss, former DSP at CDS, now Instructor at CDS

Amy Vonderembse, former Instructor/QIDP at CDS, now QIDP at Shannon Apts.

WELCOME NEW STAFF

Rosemary Connelly

Ashlie Hawkins

Quinlan

Sonja Hampton

Andrea Cosma

Marian Center

Nettie Harris

Tonia Sonie

Tierra Horton

Village

Nyomi Spears

Ryan Walls



WELCOME NEW RESIDENTS

Mary G. of Maxwell Home

Fun Facts:

- Enjoys singing, dancing, and acting
- Loves spending time with family
- Big fan of cooking and baking



Marty S. of Conrad Home

Fun Facts:

- Enjoys drawing, sewing, embroidery, and creating short stories and songs
- Likes sports and Pokemon
- Loves pizza, seafood, and hamburgers



FEBRUARY ANNIVERSARIES

50 Lois Gates

37 John O'Brien

31 Mila Hernandez

30 Nadine Downs

26 Melissa Cooper, Charlene Nunn-Tucker

25 Carolyn Sheehan

24 Beverly Blackwood

23 Lynette Coleman-Eaton, Johnny Williams, Adrienne Carter, Berthina Smith

22 Jessica Potas-Biewer

21 Shereese Schaeffer

20 Yvonne Jordan

19 Lorletha Eggleston, Judy Cavada

18 Laura Goschy-Kos, Redith Adraneda

17 Mirsada Gutosic

16 Cristina Roman Martinez, Rita Alviar

15 Easa Smith, Ryan Rio

13 Ana Roman, Rosa Pacheco

12 Cathy Williams

11 Stephanie Catain, Ashley Meeker, Azra Colpa

10 Michael Baldwin, Nicholas Paulin, Victor Ramos

9 Angela Brown, Daniel Driscoll, Sara Mulloy, Antoinette Oden, Darnika Scott

8 Stephanie Tagle, Valerie James-Campbell

7 Jason Black, Ray Mayol, Teranikia Wade

6 George Field, Tan McKay, Jena Cahill, Maricela Guzman

5 Shinobu Nomura, Kevin McCartan, Henry Enriquez, Liam O'Donnell, Robert Prevatt, Gregory Wagner, Shannon Vidra, Kristen Rice

4 Jeremy Hill, Katherine Alexander, Laera Benard, Shermaine Casimiro, Robert Cruz

Mary Givens, Adam Herges, Loveth Igboanugo, Lizbeth Juarez, Jade Kroniger-Walker, Monika Marek, Yvette Robles, Jillian Victorn, Shenika Walters, Alecia Young

3 Briana Fisher, Afreen Siddiqui, Monica Cerney, Joyce Phiri

2 Raquia Tyler, Joana Aleman Delgado, Michelle Campos, Nikola Chung, Adam Holloway, Patrick McKenna, Thomas McManus, Tychina Moore, Mon Ryan Teh, Lea Weiner

1 Schamika Hampton, Maricruz Avila, LaKenya Brown, LaKeelah Clark, Nicole Donahue, Jennifer Flores, Amy Johnston, Miles Lindholtz, Imran Makani, Joel Manko, David Minsky, Olabanji Salaudeen, Noah Styer, George Tonyi, Tsehayens Tsegaye, Jeremy Wyatt, Abdirahman Hassan, Hyacynth Salazar, Brandon Coburn

Stay tuned for weekly **Campus Connections** updates sent via email. Please reach out to tiffanyj@misericordia.com if you have issues accessing the newsletter or you would like to contribute to future issues.