



MHC Summer 2019

Newsletter

A Letter from the Administrator

Greetings!!

As we welcome another season, we hope that all of your families are enjoying the warmer (and drier!!) weather. We have quite a few updates here on campus to share with you all.

At the beginning of May, we underwent our accreditation survey with CARF International (Commission on Accreditation of Rehabilitation Facilities). Through accreditation, CARF assists service providers in improving the quality of their services, demonstrating value, and meeting internationally recognized organizational and program standards. The accreditation process applies sets of standards to service areas and business practices during an on-site survey. Accreditation, however, is an ongoing process, signaling to the public that a service provider is committed to continuously improving services, encouraging feedback, and serving the community. Accreditation also demonstrates a provider's commitment to enhance its performance, manage its risk, and distinguish its service delivery. The surveyors applied over 800 standards to Marklund's program of service and overall organization. I am very proud to share that the surveyors found no deficiencies and made no recommendations; **a perfect survey.**

This summer our bedrooms in the Group Homes will be receiving a makeover. All of the bedrooms in the homes will be getting a fresh coat of paint. If you have any new decorations, art, pictures, etc. for your loved one's bedroom, please refrain from bringing in any new items until after painting has been completed. All of the homes are scheduled to be completed by August 1st. Please contact your Group Home Manager for questions specific to the painting schedule in your home.

Baseball Season is upon us!! Every Tuesday and Thursday evening during the summer we invite you to join us for a fun-filled game of baseball on Miracle Field here on campus. Please contact your Group Home Manager if you would like to participate with your loved one.

A reminder regarding reimbursements for items you purchase for your loved one. To be reimbursed from the resident's account, please submit the receipt to your Group Home Manager. They will complete the necessary form and submit the paperwork to our Finance Department. This will avoid receipts being lost and expedite the payment being made to you. Please contact your Group Home Manager, Britt Sullivan, or myself should you have any questions.

Staffing continues to improve; since our last newsletter, our turnover has dropped again from 68% to 58.4%. The commitment and incredible amount of work that has gone into our retention initiative is evident. We are continuing to provide new staff with a longer orientation period and onboarding with managers and Lead PSPs to provide them with mentorship and a better understanding of how to care for our guys and gals. Thanks to all of our families who continue to support our Staff Appreciation fund!! Your support continues to fund our House of the Month and Classroom of the month challenges, as well as staff appreciation events such as Nurse's Week and PSP Week.

As always, should you have any questions or concerns please don't hesitate to call, email, or schedule a time to meet with me. I am always available to ensure that your concerns are addressed.

-Krissy Dolen, Administrator, MHC

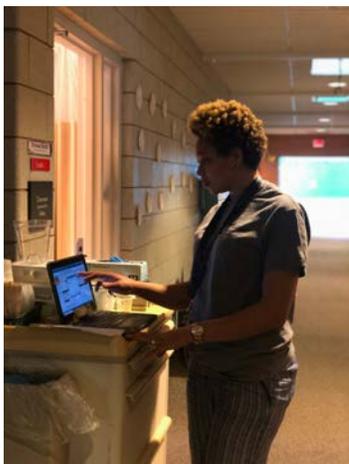
IMPORTANT!! If you have gift ideas for the Christmas Giving Tree tags, please get them to your Group Home Manager by July 31st

Nursing Services Updates



- Effective 7/1/19 we will be changing pharmacies from Pharmacy Alternatives to Symbria. Along with the change in supplier, we will have a change in packaging. Our medications will now come in strip packaging. Each scheduled medication pass will have a strip with all pill/capsule medications enclosed. Bottled/Liquid/Powdered medications will continue as they were. Our goal is to continue to reduce medication errors and that has been proven effective. If you are one of our families that regularly take your loved one home, please stop and see your nurse, so that they may show and explain the new style to you.
- Please follow all feeding guidelines for your family member while on campus. The regulations collectively make our facility responsible for client safety, following orders, etc. You can do as you wish at home or in the park across the street, but on campus, we have to follow regulations. Thank you in advance for your complete cooperation.
- It's finally warming up! Please remember to use sunscreen on our residents, even for short walks. Each home has plenty available.
- With all of our wet weather, the mosquitos are out in full force. Bug spray is recommended for resident safety and comfort.
- Please feel free to reach out to me with any nursing concerns you may have on campus. My direct extension is 5483.

-Bev Gallagher, Director of Nursing



Important Dates & Resident Birthdays

Upcoming Events:

7/9/19- Marklund Day School
Groundbreaking ceremony

Baseball Season has begun!!

Games will begin at: 6:00 PM

Tuesdays: MVH, MSH, MRH

Thursday: MHH, MTH, MDH

Parent/Guardian Group Meeting:

(NO MHC STAFF): 8/11/19 at 1:00PM

Parent Meeting (with Gil and Krissy):

9/21/19 at 10:00AM

Upcoming Resident Birthdays

Maurice P	Kate H
Kathleen L	Albert L
Delaunce D	Tyesha M
Tammy L	Ashley N
Mike B	Shelia
Theresa H	Sue A
Tracy C	Kristen J
Chrissy F	Joy P
Jack H	Matt S
Tish S	Tyler S
Adam W	Kitt Z
Fatima A	
Jimmy M	
Paige O	
Tom R	
Rosie R	
Lauren S	



Social Services Update

Hello! My name is Natalie Rubino and I am the Social Service Manager at Marklund. I am new to this position, but have worked at Marklund for almost 17 years! I have had a few different jobs throughout that time, but the majority of time was spent being the QIDP for the 21 residents at the Bloomingdale campus. I made the transition to my new position at the beginning of March and have been learning the ropes ever since! If you have any questions about Medicaid, guardianship, or Social Security, let me know! My direct line is 630-593-5484 and my email address is nrubino@marklund.org. I'm looking forward to getting to know everyone!

Community Day Services

Our annual Easter party was great fun, with crafts, games, music and a special appearance from the Easter Bunny. May brought our Cinco de Mayo celebration, which included an authentic Mexican dance performed by our very own staff Maria Garcia and Maria Gonzales. These two women danced the afternoon away as residents and Community Clients enjoyed the colorful dresses and festive music.

Our Special Events Coordinator, Stephanie Dellegrazie has included our CDS residents and community clients in a pen pal project including all 50 states. As the letters arrive, we learn about special needs classrooms and programs across the country.



Stephanie Dellegrazie has also been instrumental in our “Marklund Monarchs” project, in which we have been watching the life cycle of butterflies right before our very eyes! The residents have taken nature walks to spot and collect milkweed with eggs attached. They have been able to watch the lifecycle of the butterfly through special screened habitats. The next time you are visiting CDS, please stop in and see these magnificent insects!

For more information, please check the Marklund website for our CDS curriculum monthly calendars.



Please welcome our new Community Day Services Developmental Instructors!



Left: Classroom 2: Stephanie Mabry

Right: Classroom 4: Lorin Bergschneider

We wish Angela Williams (former Classroom 4 Developmental Instructor) well, as she has accepted the position as Group Home Manager at MDH!

The Community Integration team has completed our patio makeover. Their tireless effort and a gracious donation from the Fox Valley Council of Realtors has allowed us to make this space more inviting for residents and staff. It is now equipped with a grill for summer BBQs, and a lounging area for staff to enjoy their lunch. Our goal is to utilize this beautiful space and provide our residents the opportunity to spend time outdoors in our new gardening area equipped with a wheelchair adapted raised garden bed (constructed and donated by Andrew Schamburger, who chose Marklund for his Eagle Scout project). We are currently growing flowers, tomatoes, and peppers in this newly renovated space. Have a great summer!

-Jeannie Stefanik, Community Day Services Program Manager
jstefanik@marklund.org.



From the Homes

MDH

I am so happy to announce that Angela Williams has now begun her new position at Marklund as Group Home Manager at MDH! Angela was a DI in classroom 4 and is very familiar with our residents. MDH also has a new TAA, Natalie, that has started and is doing a great job of getting activities going. We all had a great time at Summer Games and are looking forward to baseball leagues coming up! As always, please feel free to reach out to me for anything!

-Britt, MHC Assistant Administrator



MHH

We want to give a special THANKS to Mary D. for working hard in maintaining the front garden of Haverkamp showcasing beautiful collection of plants and flowers.

Clients are enjoying the new large screen TVs in the East and West wings thanks to a private donation. All parents/guardians are invited to join the monthly potluck party at the home. The next one will be on Wednesday, 6/19/19 at 6pm. If you have any questions regarding the potluck dinners, please contact Yesli Ontiveros at 630.593.5163.

Thank you for participating in the Haverkamp patio games during our Summer Games! All of our residents had so much fun!



MRH

Hello!!

Richard Home won House of the Month for May! This is our third win for House of the Month! We have an amazing TEAM of caregivers who work very hard to give your loved one the best care and make everyday life possible.



Richard Home bedrooms will be painted July 29-31. Andrea and Gina will work together to remove items and preserve as much (stick-on) décor as possible.



Please forward any Summer Games photos with your loved ones that you might have taken to Gina Allen at gallen@marklund.org. Thank you!



MSH

Sayers Home had a great time at Summer Games this year! Everyone appeared to have a blast! Coming up, all of the Sayers home residents have been invited to the Lederer Tree dedication on 7/14 at 10:00am! We are excited to start getting outside more often and doing more outdoor activities!



-Bernadette

MTH

MTH has had a wonderful quarter celebrating birthdays and participating in Summer Games! MTH would like to welcome our new TAA, Alayah, to the team! She has been doing a wonderful job and made sure MTH was decorated perfectly for Summer Games! Thanks for all your hard work Alayah!

-Devyn



MVH

MVH has a new activity aide - her name is Shanae. She seems very excited to be here and I believe she is going to do an excellent job. She is not trained to drive the bus yet, but hopefully that will happen in July. But it is my dream to start up barbeques, porch activities, and perhaps some trips to church for those that are interested

We have 2 new people living here - Jacob and Evan. Both have added a wonderful texture to the MVH fabric, and we are so glad to have them. They both have a good sense of humor and seemed to have eased into life at MVH. Staffing is actually really good. We have only 2 part-time aide positions left to fill. The staff is beginning to form a very cohesive team, and I see the potential for a very good year ahead!

-Sue





SUNDAY
OCTOBER
20, 2019

Making *everyday life* possible for individuals with profound disabilities



Come join Marklund in Geneva's Seventh Annual Run, Walk & Roll 5K/1Mile event on Sunday, October 20th.

- USATF Certified & 5K Chipped Timing.
- New Zip-Up Hoodies!
- Placement Medals.
- Finisher Prize.
- Lots of delicious food, including: Buona Beef, Pal Joey's Pizza, Einstein Bagels, and much more!
- Live Music Provided by 101.9 The Mix.
- Soul Harbour Mini Therapy Horses.

Don't miss out on our early bird rates before prices increase on August 1st. Use code EARLY2019 to receive an additional \$5 off - limited spots available!

Event details and registration can be found by visiting, www.marklund.org/5kgeneva.

Questions? Contact Community Events Manager, Natalie Sarby at nsarby@marklund.org or 630-593-5461.