



Parent Letter

July 2017

Dear Parent(s) and Guardian(s),

It's hard to believe that it's mid-summer already! Time continues to fly by for us and we are appreciative for all of the many activities we have been able to participate in. The weather continues to be in our favor for our evening baseball games. If you haven't done so yet, please consider visiting us and catching one of our games!

Development Announcements:

This year's end-of-fiscal-year appeal was a great success—our biggest ever! Thanks to those who gave, as well the generous anonymous donor who provided the \$20,000 match!

Please save the date for our upcoming fundraising events:

Sept. 16 – 7th annual Pancake Breakfast

Sept. 23 – 8th annual Angel Songs Soiree

Oct. 22 – 5th annual Run, Walk & Roll

Feb. 3, 2018 – 22nd annual Top Hat Ball

Campus Updates:

Trish Dahmen, RN, and family welcomed their new son into the world earlier this month! In the event that you have a question or concern and need to speak with someone, please contact Krissy Dolen, DON for all related needs.

We have a new QIDP who will be starting in early August. Please join us in welcoming Devyn Doering to MTH/MSH. In the interim, all case management related items can be directed to Brittany Sullivan, Social Services Program Manager.

In Loving Memory

It is with heavy hearts that we share the recent passing of three of our beloved clients:

On June 4, 2017, our dearest Heather P from the Marklund Vandermolten Home peacefully passed away. Heather was admitted to Marklund during her early childhood years. A gentle, quiet soul, Heather was incredibly loving. She deeply enjoyed playful banter with her staff and she possessed a courageous, joyful spirit. Heather was resilient and strong and her smile will be deeply missed. We are blessed at Marklund for having been given the incredible opportunity to have served her all these years.

On June 6, 2017 we lost Christopher W from Marklund Sayers Home. Chris was a resident of Marklund for many years. During his time of passing, Chris was surrounded by family and Marklund friends. Chris' love for life and glowing smile were infectious. He possessed the capability of making a cold, dreary day seem warm and sunny. His curiosity of all new things often led to exploratory pursuits, many of which became stories that staff would later recall or share. We will miss Chris beyond measure, and his memory will forever be a part of us.

On June 14, 2017, Sheila P of Marklund Sayers Home peacefully passed away. She was accompanied by members of her Marklund family at the time of her passing. Sheila was a member of the Marklund family for a number of years. Those that knew her and worked with her were always very clear of her wishes. Although she did not communicate traditionally, her facial expressions gave way to her emotional state at all times. Sheila was affectionate and she greatly enjoyed holding hands with those she trusted. Her love in life was all things music. This love created a bond with many of the Marklund staff and she thoroughly enjoyed participating in her regularly scheduled musical sessions. Our hearts are heavy, and our sorrows great. Although Sheila may not be with us any longer, her memory will forever live in each of our hearts.

Community Integration:

It's non-stop action for our Community Integration Department!

We continue our weekly camping trips to Woodhaven, and we recently began weekly picnics at neighboring parks. We have had numerous large groups of volunteers visit this summer. Just last month we received a welcomed visit from our very own Kane County Cougars. We had a blast demonstrating our awesome baseball skills. The coach shared that he intends to make it a yearly event!

This past week a youth mission group from Tennessee was on site for several days. They were so much fun and so very helpful! Next week several of our clients and staff will be attending the Crosstown Classic. We are sure to have lots of fun watching the Cubs take on the Sox at Wrigley Field!

Developmental Training Updates:

We are beyond THRILLED to announce that we received a grant which has allowed for the purchase of seven Smart Boards, one for each DT classroom! At this time, we are actively preparing for installation. By month's end, we anticipate that we will be fully functional. The addition of the Smart Boards will greatly enhance our curriculum offerings and provide us with a multitude of new activities.

In the weeks ahead, we will begin preparation for fall. DT is currently working on developing a theme for this year's entry for Scarecrow Fest. Last year we secured third place--this year we are going for GOLD! IF you have any suggestions for a theme, please share your ideas.

Parent Portal:

Please remember to check the Parent Portal for regular updates as it pertains to client activities and outings.

With Special Thanks

June 12th-16th we celebrated our Personal Support Professionals (direct care staff). I would like to thank those of you who helped contribute to this very special week for our staff!

Summer Games was huge success! We greatly enjoyed spending time with our families, friends and volunteers! Thank you all for your continued participation! Teamwork makes the dream work!

Upcoming Events:

We always have exciting events taking place. Please notify us if you are interested in participating in any activities we have to offer.

Keep up with Marklund happenings on our social media sites: Facebook, Instagram, Twitter, LinkedIn and YouTube!

- Quarterly Parent Meeting: Saturday September 23, 2017 @ 10:00 a.m. (MHC)

Update:

In an effort to reduce our carbon footprint, we are taking efforts to reduce our paper consumption here at MHC. That being said, all Parent Letters will be sent via email (for those who have email) vs, paper mailings. If you wish to receive future letters and consents via print, please share this information with our team so that we can update your preferences. We thank you for your participation in this matter.

Sincerely,

Rachelle Jewison,

Administrator of Marklund Hyde Center and Community-Based Services

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