



Parent Letter

July 2018

Dear Parent(s), Guardian(s) and Families,

Summer is finally here! On June 9, 2018, we held our annual Summer Games. Despite the weather, we managed to have a wildly successful day. We loved all of the participation from our families and volunteers. Thank you to everyone who volunteered to make this event happen!



Development:

Please check website for updates.

Campus Updates:

We have a few new faces on campus! Please join me in welcoming Sara to our MSH and Sammy to our MRH.

Similar to your summer projects, we too have been busy updating our campus. Our Developmental Training classrooms have received a new coat of paint, giving them a fresh new look. We continue painting of our homes and updating of our Snoezelen rooms.

Client Confidentiality: Please remember that the safety and security of your loved one is of paramount concern to all of us here at Marklund! I ask that all parents, guardians, and families help keep your loved ones safe by helping us keep confidential information private at all times. All visitors shall sign in at the front desk of the Hyde Center or the nursing station in each of the homes. Only those individuals whom the guardian has approved for visitation shall be permitted access to any of the homes or DT. Additionally, no client photographs may be taken in any area of DT. If you have any questions about any of the above information, please reach out to me.

Nursing Updates:

Summer is finally here!! We hope you are enjoying the weather and staying cool. We have had a very healthy first half of the year and preparations are underway for our fall flu vaccine clinic. There are some changes being made this year; in addition to our residents and staff, Marklund will also be offering flu vaccines to our volunteers. Flu vaccine consents for your loved one should be coming out later this month. Please contact your QIDP or Nurse Manager with any questions.

The nursing department would like to welcome Alexis as the new 5-day nurse in our VanDerMolen Home. Alexis is new to Marklund and is very excited to be joining our Team. Please join me in welcoming her!

- Kristin Dolen, Director of Nursing

Community Integration:



Summer at Marklund is a fun and busy time! We have had numerous groups volunteering along with our daily volunteers for our home and DT outings. We have been celebrating clients' birthdays with a special outing just for them. The Birthday Club has gone on food outings, movie and bowling outings celebrating their special Birthday Month. We have also visited the Brookfield Zoo and have plans for several more trips. Our camping season is also underway and the clients have enjoyed visiting our campsite in Woodhaven Lakes. There have been

numerous upgrades making the day trips even more enjoyable for our clients. If you stop by on a Tuesday or Thursday evening, you will find the clients on our Miracle Field enjoying baseball! We have up to 24 volunteers on each of these nights assisting with baseball! Lots of smiles and laughter for sure!



We are continuing with our many Vocational Outings this summer. We are volunteering at the Northern Illinois Food Bank several times a month, packaging and labeling food for those in need. We have also collaborated with Chapelstreet Church assisting with their pantry doing various jobs that they have for us. We are also continuing at the Hope Chest and weekly trips to Walmart to stock our vending machines. In July and August, we will be going to Funway to bowl with a group of volunteers every Wednesday and Thursday morning. The clients really enjoy these recreational and vocational outings as we continue to fulfill our mission "Making everyday life possible for individuals with profound disabilities".

-Codi Ash, Community Integration Program Manager

Developmental Training Updates:



In February, residents started selling bagels for \$1.00 the second Tuesday of the month. This has been a hit with both residents and staff. If you happen to be at the MHC on the second Tuesday of the month, stop by our table in front of DT and grab a bagel! In May, we began our monthly birthday celebration acknowledging all staff and client birthdays for the month. We have posted pictures in the DT hallway; please make sure to stop by and for a peek! In a collaborative effort, DT and Community Integration

have been working hard to ensure that offsite experiences enhance our onsite programming. It has been a pleasure working with Codi Ash, Community Integration Program Manager to implement new and exciting opportunities for our residents and staff. One of these opportunities is allowing classroom Personal Support Professionals (PSP's) the opportunity to attend occasional outings such as camping and zoo trips. This has been a tremendous hit with staff, and residents have enjoyed spending time with their PSP's outside of the classroom in a recreational setting. Our Developmental Instructors will also be creating a binder for recreational outings and vocational outings that include appropriate resident goals that volunteers and staff can work on while in the community. We have teamed up with the STEPS Program in Naperville to encourage meeting new friends and socialization while on our recreational outings. July will be full of newly implemented outings such as our Wasmond Buddies Program, which allows residents at the Marklund Hyde Center to visit residents at the Marklund Wasmond Center. Our Developmental Instructors will be working closely with the residents to generate enthusiasm and encourage the use of communication devices during these visits. We will also start our Phillip's Pals Program, which is an opportunity for our Marklund Hyde Center residents to visit the children at the Marklund Phillip's Center. This program provides our Marklund Hyde Center residents the opportunity to "give back" as they are often the recipients of volunteerism and generosity. They will have short stories and jokes loaded on their communication devices, ready to share with the children. We will be keeping a digital journal of our visits to both sites, so we can share these outings with the classrooms. Finally, July begins our new monthly theme concept at DT. Each month alongside our regularly scheduled curriculum, we will be focusing on a theme that transfers from Developmental Training to Community Integration. July's theme is Culinary Arts, which is full of fun activities, both onsite and off. Please reach out to me for more information on this new concept, and how to get involved!



Jeannie Stefanik, Developmental Training Manager

Social Services Updates:

Happy Summer!

I hope you are all getting to enjoy the nice weather in between the rainstorms!

QIDP Gina Allen is currently on Maternity Leave, for anything you may have contacted her for please contact myself, or Bridgette Tyndall (btyndall@marklund.org). Gina's tentative return will be at the end of July/beginning of August.

My next big project is going to be obtaining birth certificates for those that we do not have. I will be sending out consents for the guardians to sign in order for me to obtain them. Thank you!

Brittany Sullivan, Social Services Program Manager

Parent Portal:

Please remember to check the Parent Portal for regular updates as it pertains to client activities and outings. You can also find relevant contact information for our staff and a copy of our Parent Letter.

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!

Save the date:

Marklund's Run, Walk & Roll Geneva
October 21, 2018 Start Time: 8:00am

2018 Parent/Guardian Quarterly Meeting Schedule:

Please note that all meetings are held at 10:00 a.m. in the Hyde Center Board Room on the following dates:

- September 22, 2018
- December 1, 2018

The Marklund Hyde Center
wishes you all a fun filled
Summer!

