COMMUNITY LIVING OPTIONS



March 29, 2021 Employee Newsletter

March Madness

On March 16, 2020 we closed the Alcott Center due to the pandemic which was spreading across the country. Shortly thereafter the State of Michigan closed down and life as we knew it changed significantly. Being the exceptional essential workers that you are, the CLO staff kept working – calming fears and the occasional angry outburst that occurred when explaining we would not be able to go visit the mall today or go to lunch. No annual traditions like Growlers, Shipshewana, Camp Amigo or Tigers happened. We dealt with outbreaks at homes – we lost Bob, but cured Tony and kept others from becoming infected at Oakcreek. We learned about Microsoft Teams and Zoom meetings and started to become better at technology. We had a few times over the course of the year that Covid



seemed to be receding, but then it would get worse. We kept masking up, washing our hands and sanitizing everything, but outbreaks still occurred. Gail and David are gone too soon – but others at Misty, Lovell, Portage and Darmo recovered and we moved forward.

Board of Directors

Our Mission

We assist individuals

in achieving their

life goals by building

relationships through quality services

in supportive

environments.

Ed Wilson Suzanne McPeek Louise Kenny Casey Blair Debbie Dawson Melissa Gilbert Dawn Pantaleo Ron Ryan Joe Walls As of March 18, 2021; almost a year to the day of our initial program shut down, 92% of individuals receiving residential services from CLO will have received, or have been scheduled for, their second vaccine. Approximately 40% of staff can say the same and this number continues to increase. In so many ways this has been the shortest long year of our lives. While we cannot let our guard down – even though so many are vaccinated, we need to continue to mask up, wash our hands and sanitize!! We should also take a moment to give each other and ourselves a moment of grace. Thank you to everyone at CLO for getting our residents, our staff, our co-workers and ourselves through this very difficult year. Covid weariness is a real thing, but vaccine availability, the spring weather and the sunnier days can bring hope. Take a moment to appreciate yourself. You've done an exceptional job.

Next Board Meeting April 28, 2021

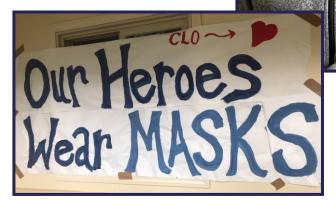


626 Reed Street Kalamazoo MI 49001 269.343.6355 Phone 269.343.0054 Fax











Better at Technology

CLO completed our strategic planning process right before Covid caused face to face meetings to become a thing of the past. One of the operational areas needing improvement was technology - from internet connectivity and inventory to software. In the next few months we will be changing some software programs and adding others. First up - Relias Learning - which will become our primary training source. They offer live training management, tracking, reporting, automated compliance and customized training plans services. The curriculum is large and varied - everything from improving professional skills, to learning more about specific diagnoses to learning how to provide personal care skills. Much more on this next month!

As we continue to move toward a paperless environment, using your Community Living Options email on (at least!) a daily basis becomes more important.

Make your job and our job easier!! Here is an easy way to stay in touch with the latest news and updates from your supervisor and the Admin office:

- Download the Outlook Email App on your cell phone and load your CLO email account on to it.
- For iPhones: go to the App store, and download the Microsoft Outlook App.
- For Android phones go to Google Play store and download the Microsoft Outlook App.
- Log in using your email address and password you use for logging in on the computers at work.

Did you know you can log into ECP from your cell phone as well? If you are having trouble connecting on the terminals or laptop, you can go to ecp123.com and log in directly from there.

If you have issues logging in on the laptops or terminals, you can log in as the generic Training User, but please call Omega so they can help you fix log in issues.

Please download this app to your phone to assist you in checking your CLO email frequently! Your supervisor can assist you or put you in touch with someone who can. Many of our technology and information updates will be shared by email and/or require it for access. Get in the habit now of being informed!



2021: 21 Healthy Lifestyle Tips

1. Drink a glass of water first thing in the morning 2. Take the stairs. It strengthens and tones your legs and core while you're at it! 3. Make half your plate veggies 4. Get a fitness tracker and track your steps 5. Take a probiotic daily 6. Eat real food: unprocessed foods like an apple, a cucumber, soybeans or a steak 7. Stand up every 30 minutes while working 8. Get sunlight every day 9. Fill your home with houseplants, which help to cleanse your indoor air 10. Sweat every day: running, biking, dancing, hot yoga, or any other physical activity you enjoy **11.** Have a daily green smoothie 12. Cultivate a positive mindset 13. Get enough sleep 14. Start your day with a healthy morning routine 15. Floss your teeth daily 16. Spend time alone to get to know and stay in touch with yourself 17. Manage stress with self-care activities 18. Choose **19.** Work on overcoming your fears **20.** Practice gratitude organic foods when possible **21.** A walk around the block is better than no walk at all



Staff Birthdays

Jovita Adewale April 4

Marcia Vaden April 6

Felicia Evans April 7

Gwenieth Perry April 10

Gabrielle Marsh April 11

Andrea Adams April 13

Karen Burpee April 14

Fred Hakulinka April 19

Corrina Edmonson April 20

Kristina DeLucenay April 22

Mohamadou Diallo April 23

> Sue Ameluxen April 26

Lazaria Landen April 28

Renee Lindsay May 17

Carol Durren May 18

Kristin Bauer May 21

Asyia Cochran May 27

Kelvin Singleton May 28

Robert Britigan May 29

Yvonne Nunoo May 29