



Adult Learning Systems

LOWER MICHIGAN

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FUTURE FOCUS NEWSLETTER

Issue 3

• Summer, 2016

Announcements



• On August 10, 2016 a few chosen people gathered together at Macray Banquet Center in Harrison Township to celebrate Sharon Duren's retirement. She was the manager at our TLH home and gave us 22 years of wonderful service and dedication. She will greatly be missed and we wish her the very best.



• Congratulations to the staff at the Sugarbush home on winning the yard beautification contest. The staff worked together to clean up and beautify their home. A group of judges from our SIP programs went around to the grouphomes and used a score card to judge each one. Each employee received four extra anniversary hours and went out to lunch with Sherri at the Sugarbush Inn.



• On August 4, 2016 the Regional Directors, main office staff and Sherri went on a team building outing to Comerica Park. After a great lunch at Hockeytown they went and watched the Tigers versus the White Sox. It was a blistering hot day, and even though the Tigers lost 3-6 they all had a great time.



• On August 19, 2016 all of the managers, main office staff, regional directors and Sherri went to the Detroit Zoo for a fun day of team building. It was a beautiful day to be outside spending time with their peers. There was an outdoor catered luncheon provided and longevity awards were given out.



Awards:

Please don't forget to nominate your favorite Direct Care Worker of the quarter. We do this each quarter and need your help in choosing our winners. Anyone, not just managers, can nominate a worker. One nominee will be selected from Macomb Co. and one will be selected from the rest of counties combined.

Who qualifies:

- Must be a DCW or med instructor
- Employed a minimum of 3 months
- Have ZERO discipline for the quarter
- Max of 2 nominees per site

Areas to consider when choosing:

- Documentation
- Interaction with participants
- Specific acts that required person initiative
- Performance above and beyond normal job duties and responsibilities

DCW of the 3rd Quarter 15-16 (July 2016 – September 2016)

Nadia John (Macomb)

Nadia is a great employee that has been with TIP Roseville since we opened the program 3 years ago. She is very committed to the participants and they enjoy having her here. She strives to keep the participants involved in the community by going on activities and outings. She is willing to work whenever she is needed, on any shift and is even there for other homes. On the 4th of July she helped out by going to pick up a participant who had to work at Meijer that lives in one of our other group homes. She always has the best attitude and a smile on her face. She is a great asset to Adult Learning Systems.



Danielle Asselin (Macomb)

Danielle has been a great asset since starting at Zachary last year. She is very dependable, and willing to adjust her schedule whenever the need arises. She is very compassionate and empathetic when it comes to the care of our gentlemen. Danielle has been an extreme helpful with household improvements and beautification. She was an enormous help with preparation for our recent Licensing and H & S audits that took place this quarter. She has been working diligently in the ICM system to help ensure that the participant information is correct and uploaded in time for our Program audit that is coming up. She is a great help to the supervisor, co-workers and the participants that reside in our home.



Colleen Goldstein (Livingston)

Colleen has been working all different shifts between TAL and Briarwood without any complaints. She comes in early and stays over late whenever she is needed. She is a true team player. The TAL guys love her cooking and her good humor. We are lucky to have her here with us. Thanks for all you do!



Cell Phone Discounts

As an employee of ALS-LM, we are excited for you to take advantage of this great offer through Verizon Wireless. You are eligible to get an 18% discount on your Verizon plan amount (NOT the total bill) and a 25% discount on all of your phone accessories. In order to take advantage of the discount, start by typing www.verizonwireless.com/discounts into your computer browser. Scroll down to input your work email address. You will then need to log into your email and click on the link that Verizon sends to you in order for the discount to be completed. It will take 1 to 2 billing cycles for the discount to show on your bill.



What's Been Happening???

Sherry Turner and Tracie Shier attended a luncheon with U.S. Senator Debbie Stabenow hosted by the Ann Arbor Chamber of Commerce on August 8, 2016. Ms. Stabenow spoke to a roomful Chamber member's regarding the current economic status of Michigan and Washtenaw County in addition to national issues facing the nation.



The MacDD/MWL II consumers and staff enjoyed a baseball game at Comerica Park. They cheered the Tigers on as they took the win against the Chicago White Sox. Go Tigers!



The consumers from MacDD/MWLII enjoyed the open house at Day Dreams Farm in Marine City. Consumers learned about the animal rescue program at the farm and had a chance to have an up close encounter with the animals.

Meadowlane hosted a picnic at metro beach. Trombley, Sugarbush, TLH, Abraham, Zachary and St. Clair were able to attend. They played chess and volleyball, everyone had a good time and some even went swimming at the pool.



The consumers at MacDD & MWLII recently spent the day in Frankenmuth. They did some shopping, ate lunch at the Bavarian Inn and took a relaxing ride on the Bavarian Belle Riverboat. Everyone had a great time and came home with fudge!

The consumers from MacDD/MWLII and Staff said "Goodbye to Summer" with a strike at Alley 59. They enjoyed having a lot of fun together and a pizza lunch.



The Seybold home went to the annual breast cancer support walk at Washtenaw Community College on October 15, 2016. They enjoy this event every year.



The guys from Monroe CLS enjoyed a beautiful sunny day at the Calders Dairy Farm in Carlton Michigan. The consumers were very excited about being able to pet and feed the farm animals. They also got to see the milking process of the cows. While at Calder's the consumers were also able to eat homemade ice cream and sweet treats at the Eatery.

The ladies at Leelane went to the Richmond Good Old Days on September 10, 2016. DG played games, winning five times. She won stuffed animals for the ladies. MB and MW went to the petting zoo. They all walked around the craft show and had a great time.



Fun Facts of Fall:

Fact #1: Fall was called "harvest" because of the "harvest moon" that occurs when the full moon is closest to the autumn equinox. Before man-made lighting, this moonlight was essential to a prosperous harvest.

Fact #2: Weight gain around this time of year may not only be due to comforting fall foods like pumpkin pie and cider, researchers have found that lack of vitamin D reduces fat breakdown and triggers fat storage.

Fact #3: The yellow and orange colors you see actually always exist in leaves but they are overpowered by the abundance of green from chlorophyll. The amount of chlorophyll starts to decrease as the sun weakens and the days grow shorter.

Fact #4: Red and purple leaves are only that color because of the presence of sugars and sap that are trapped within the leaves. These sugars provide plants with the energy they need to survive.

Fact #5: Many birds will prepare for their winter migration during the fall. The distance they can travel is impressive; the Arctic Tern travels 11,000 miles each way for its annual migration. That's no small feat.

Fact #6: Evergreen trees such as pines, cedars, and spruces stay green because their leaves (needles) are covered with thick wax and they contain materials that prevent freezing when it gets cold.

Fact #7: You can tell if you have a sick tree, it will change color and drop its leaves earlier than other trees in the same species.

Fact #8: One gallon of apple cider takes about 40 individual apples to make.

Fact #9: The best fall colors are seen after a series of warm summer days followed by cold (but not freezing) night.

Fact #10: We can't forget Halloween! Halloween takes place in the fall and comes from ancient Celtic tradition. They believed that ghosts roamed on Halloween and people would wear disguises in order to hide from these spirits.



REMINDER: Local farmer's markets, from June through December, will give persons with a food stamp card double the amount for fruits and vegetables purchased. This is a great opportunity, not only for their budgets, but for healthy eating too! Please take advantage of this and encourage our participants to do so as well. You can look online to see which locations participate in this great benefit.

Fundraising - GIVING MORE BACK TO THE COMMUNITY



Adult Learning Systems-Lower Michigan (ALS-LM) continues to participate in the Kroger fundraiser. We are asking you to please sign up and encourage staff, friends, and family members to do so as well. Each time someone shops at Kroger and swipes a Kroger card, the shopper will receive all sales prices and ALS-LM will receive 2% of the amount spent on food and paper products. Please support our company! If you have any questions, please email Ray Krzeminski at rkrzeminski@als-lm.org. Thank you for your participation!

-- Ray Krzeminski and all the Fundraising Committee Members

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