

Connections

The internal newsletter of Community Living, Inc.

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

Barnes & Noble fundraiser	2
Community Fun Day	3
Stories from CLI	4, 5
Spotlight On	6
News from Residential	7
Coming up at CLI	8, 9
Useful information	10, 11, 12
Cookbook Update; Stay in Touch	13

A word from our CEO

How many of you have been in the same job for more than 25 years?

At a time when people and jobs are increasingly transient, probably not many of you can say you have been. I am proud to say, however we have several staff who have been with us (some in the same position) for at least 20 years. Plus there are a number who are approaching the 20-year mark. That, to me, is pretty impressive in a field notorious for high turnover.

Direct Support Professionals week 2016 is September 11-17. Each year that is a time for us to celebrate and reward the direct support staff who every day work hard to support the people we serve.

When you ask those “long-timers” why they continue to do what they do, the consistent response is – “I care about the people I support.” Staff who have that mindset are the ones who truly make a difference in the lives of individ-

uals with intellectual and developmental disabilities.

For those staff, what they do is more than a job. I have heard people say this is their calling.



Whether it’s residential services where a staff person makes sure the people in their care are healthy, happy and safe in their homes; vocational services, where a job coach shares in the joy and pride someone gets from a new job; or support services where someone gets to experience a new activity they never did before, our staff are dedicated to the work they do.

So, as Direct Support Professionals week approaches, please be sure to say “thanks,” and recognize those people who give of themselves every day.

—*Michael Planz*

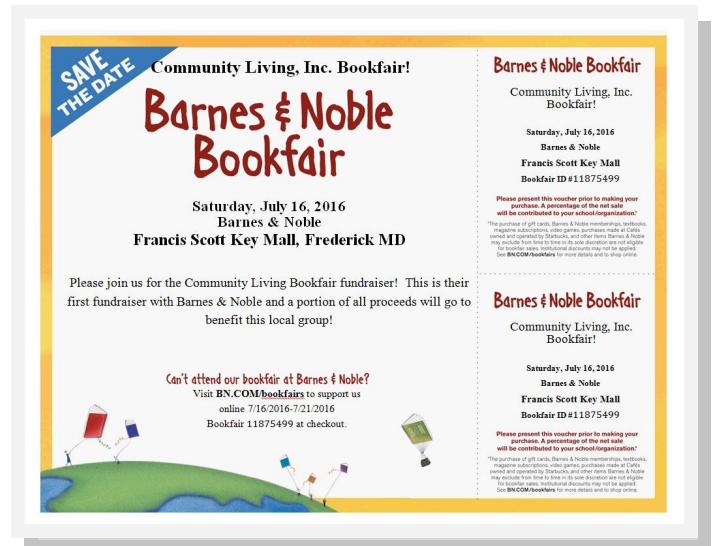
Recent events

Barnes & Noble Fundraiser

We were so thrilled and appreciative to have the opportunity to host a bookfair at Barnes & Noble at Francis Scott Key Mall in July.

It was great to get out in the community, meet some wonderful people, and share a bit about what we do.

Thanks so much to the great folks at Barnes & Noble for the opportunity!



Community Fun Day

Community Living hosted its first-ever Community Fun Day on Saturday, Aug. 6. The event, held at Trinity United Methodist Church in Frederick, featured games, tons of food, and sno cones from the Let it Sno sno cone stand. Two talented artists served as face painters for the afternoon, providing beautiful designs and heartfelt smiles alike. We debuted our new short documentary film about CLI at the event, as well.



The free fun day was held as a way for CLI to say “thank you,” not just to our amazing staff for all they do, but to the community for its ongoing support of our organization, as well.

We look forward to making this an annual event!



Stories from CLI

Happy birthday!



David Smith celebrated his 50th birthday in style with a party in the Middletown Fire Department activity room July 31. The Let it Sno sno cone stand was there to provide cool, tasty treats, and everyone had a blast!



Stories from CLI



The kayaking team decided to have its own small tribute for Dennis Oetter, who passed away earlier this year, on July 30. It was very meaningful for his teammates.

After a few words were spoken, his empty kayak was pulled to the middle of the lake and all of his friends threw flowers in the water together.

His kayak was repainted and his birthdate and date when he passed were added.

Previously, Dennis was honored by his friends at snowshoeing and bocce, as well as at the Frederick Running Festival.





Nathan Thompson

Nathan Thompson, who has been with CLI for a little over a year, has had quite the eventful summer.

Several months ago, he took a volunteer position at a local company that dealt with non-fossilized fuel lobbying. They needed someone to relate the photosynthetic process as it would apply to these types of fuels in an article for publication in their newsletter.

Nathan took to the work quickly and easily and really enjoyed it. A while later, a volunteer data-entry position opened at Habitat for Humanity's ReStore in Frederick. Nathan jumped at the opportunity. His job was to input the hours of the volunteers into a customized database.



Nathan was hard-working and accurate, and transitioned to independent work in no time at all.



More recently, a paid position opened up in the Frederick Regional Health System. At his interview, Nathan made an excellent impression with the supervisor of physician practice at the Parkview Medical Group, Desiree Thompson-Boyle, with his courteous and friendly demeanor. Nathan was offered the position of medical records clerk – emergency relief, and began working part-time in April.

He's been working there ever since and is really enjoying his job! Pictured left is Nathan, middle, with Thompson-Boyle, right, and his job coach, Thomas Gaye.

News from Residential

CLI residents are busy during the summer months with several vacations, Special Olympics activities, trips to SoldierFit and the YMCA and, most recently, workouts at Anytime Fitness.

The staff at Anytime Fitness is truly wonderful, providing encouragement and support and, in the case of one of our residents in particular, inspiration.

Jon Thomas, right, tried previously to transition from his wheelchair to walking. The staff at Anytime Fitness motivated him to once again take on that challenge.

He now bench presses as much as he weighs, and his progress only continues.



Also this summer, several residents went to the Frederick Fairgrounds to see the Cirque Italia Show, and many enjoyed CLI's Community Fun Day at Trinity United Methodist Church.

While some people we serve are excited to go to pre-season football games, others just can't wait until the season gets into full swing!

Coming up at CLI

Shop for a cause!

CLI is so excited to be partnering with independent LuLaRoe consultant Cyndi Richards for an ongoing fundraiser! Starting today, Sept. 9, if you make a purchase from Cyndi's LuLaRoe collection using the code CLI2016, a portion of the proceeds will benefit CLI.



Not familiar with LuLaRoe? It's simple!

LuLaRoe is a clothing company that, similar to Avon for cosmetics, employs independent consultants to sell products.

Whether you're shopping for fall fashions or trying to get your holiday gifts early, this is a great opportunity to buy some stylish clothes and support CLI at the same time!

For more information about what Cyndi has to offer, visit <https://www.facebook.com/groups/lovelyularoecyndirichards/>.



Coming up at CLI

Direct Care Support Week

National Direct Support Professionals Week is coming up!

Sept. 11 through 17 gives us and other organizations the chance to say “thank you” for all of the dedication and hard work these talented professionals display on a daily basis.

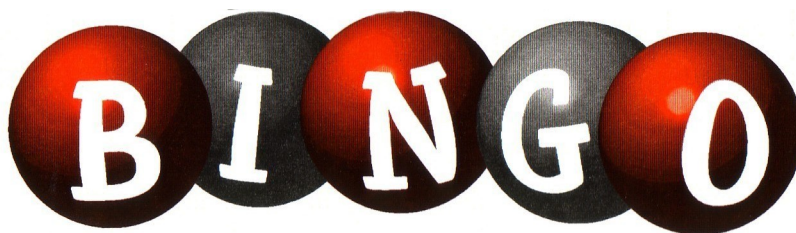


This week and every other week, too, we'd like to express just how grateful we are for everything direct care staff members do.

We appreciate you!



Save the date!



Our fall bingo is set for Saturday, Oct. 29! See the attached flyer for details!

Useful information:

**These are the residential coordinators
and the houses they manage:**

RC Matt Cora — 301-663-8811 x 1233

House	House phone number
110 Andover Court	240-578-4619
1712 Country Court	240-651-3961
590 Hillcrest Drive	240-578-4522
1331 Hillcrest Drive	240-578-4317
1848 Millstream Drive	240-578-4318
424 Pinoak Place	301-732-6499
1829 Millstream Drive	301-732-6393
1813 Beaver Creek	240-578-4572

Useful information:

**These are the residential coordinators
and the houses they manage (cont'd):**

RC Farhan Akhtar — 301-663-8811 x 1230

House	House phone number
1775 Heather Lane	240-651-0068
214 Linden Ave.	301-378-2090
3030 Mill Island Parkway, Apt. 104	240-651-0046
809-A Motter Ave.	240-457-4190
7219 Rainbow Lane	240-578-4671
5012 St. Simon Court	301-798-8941
246 Wyngate Drive	240-651-0905
1501 W. Tenth St.	240-651-0278

Useful information:

**Here are the residential coordinators
and the houses they manage (cont'd):**

RC Assunta Hage — 301-663-8811 x 1216

House	House phone number
425 Carrollton Drive	301-732-6090
208 Thomas Ave.	301-898-2017
50 Pennsylvania Ave.	240-651-5567
1401 Pinewood Drive	301-732-6406
412 Sherman Ave.	240-651-0067
1368 Hitching Post	240-578-4575

RC Martha Weeks — 301-663-8811 x 1215

House	House phone number
1112 Young Place	240-651-0386
225 Wyngate Drive	240-651-0905
1807 Meadowgrove Lane	301-378-8573
6116 Quinn Orchard	240-651-0961

Family Cookbook



We're so excited to announce the completion of our 2016 Family Cookbook! We've sent off the final copy to our publisher and are patiently awaiting publication.

Copies of the cookbook, complete with more than 250 recipes, will be ready for purchase for just \$15 beginning Sept. 30.

Contact elainac@communitylivinginc.org for more information or to order a copy!



Stay in touch!

Please email or call Elaina Clarke at elainac@communitylivinginc.org or 301-663-8811 to update your contact information. This is very important, as it helps us keep you updated on important information and what's coming up here at CLI!

