

Connections

The internal newsletter of Community Living, Inc.

A word from our CEO

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On June 25, Community Living will host the #CommunityStrong Walk 2017. This event, new for us, lends itself to fulfilling multiple goals of CLI. First, it promotes health and wellness – a principle to which we have been dedicated for years for both staff and people we support. Second, it's an opportunity for people we support to participate in a community event – as we hope the public will participate in this walk. And, it's an opportunity for us to continue to increase our exposure in the community.

CLI has been making a concerted effort over the past year to become more visible through both events and social media. If you are not directly involved with us in some way, you may not know about the wide range of services we provide. We offer not only supports that are important for people – housing, meeting basic health and safety needs, and completing thousands of medical appointments each year – but also supports that

are important to them. These include helping with finding and maintaining jobs – something that defines most of us – or making sure people have access to the activities and recreation that makes their lives more meaningful.

I wonder how many people, when they hear the name Community Living, understand what we do. Do they know that we support individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities? Or do they think we're a home for seniors? My goal is to make sure the community becomes more aware of what it is our hardworking staff does on a daily basis.

So, if you are receiving this issue of Connections, you already have a relationship with CLI and understand what we do. I'm asking you to help us reach all those people who don't know. Sign up for the walk, share our social media posts, or just tell your friends - and help Community Living share its story. We are counting on your support.

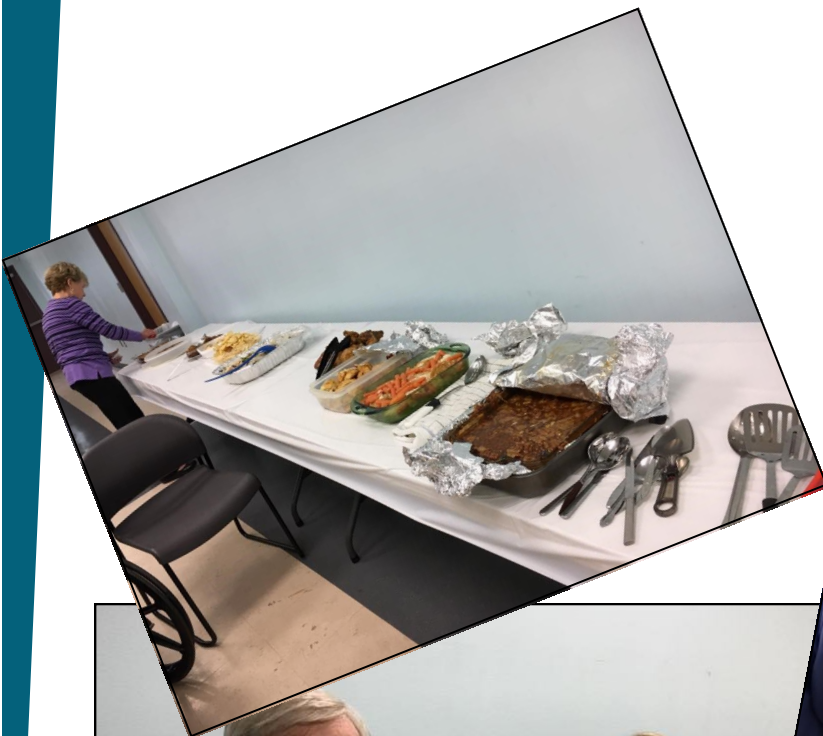


—Michael Planz

Recent events

Pot Lucks

In April, we held our quarterly pot lucks. These events are always a blast! Everyone brings their favorite dish, and we all get to enjoy good company and delicious food. This time around, we had the good fortune to be joined by three amazing volunteers — board member Pat Barbarowicz and her husband Chuck, and Jenny Channell, who has been volunteering with us for the past few months. The trio helped set up, serve food and drinks, and clean up. We are so grateful for their help and participation!



Alex & Ani fundraiser

We were so honored to be invited back to Alex & Ani, at Montgomery Mall in Bethesda, for another fundraiser! The event was held on May 9, right before Mother's Day. A portion of the proceeds from sales while we were there will be donated to CLI. Thank you to our amazing friends at Alex & Ani for inviting us out again for this opportunity. We can't wait to come back!



Recent events

Spring Fling

April was a busy month for us! Among our many events was a Spring Fling held at our Vocational and Support Services Building on Wisner Street. Everyone had a great time enjoying delicious food, hanging out and playing games! It was also a very special time to say “thank you” to our amazing staff. They do so much and we are so appreciative!



Spring Party

Once again this year, the amazing folks at Trinity United Methodist Church, in Frederick, hosted a Spring Party for the people we serve. The May 18 party featured a “Take me out to the ballpark” theme, complete with peanuts, Cracker Jacks, and a visit from the one and only Keyote! Thank you, Trinity, for being such amazing supporters of CLI!



Recent events

Pizza Party

The Friends of CLI came through again this season with an amazing pizza party! This time, they went down to treat the folks in the Vocational Services and Support Services building on Wisner Street. Pizza + cookies + amazing humans = a terrific time!



Spring Bingo

On May 13, we had our annual spring bingo at American Legion Post 96, in Brunswick. This year, we partnered with the Religious Coalition for Emergency Human Needs, and a portion of the ticket sales went toward their programs and services.

The event, sponsored by the wonderful people at PSA Insurance & Financial, the Frederick County Association of Realtors, and Frederick County Bank, was a huge success. We sold out once again, and everyone had an amazing time. Special thanks to our sponsors and all the generous businesses that donated prizes for our event!



Special Thanks

Volunteers

We've been fortunate to have had the assistance of almost 40 volunteers since the beginning of the year. These amazing individuals have done everything from assisting at our pot lucks to laying mulch at one of our homes. We are so grateful to them for their dedication to helping the community!



Special Thanks**The Rotary Club of Carroll Creek**

Last month, the Rotary of Carroll Creek generously awarded Community Living a \$2,000 grant to go toward emergency supplies. These funds will be used to purchase items that will be of utmost importance in the event of a disaster or emergency situation.

Thank you, Rotary Club of Carroll Creek!



CLI & the Community

With more than 20 participating organizations, the **Community Forum Night** is growing by the month!

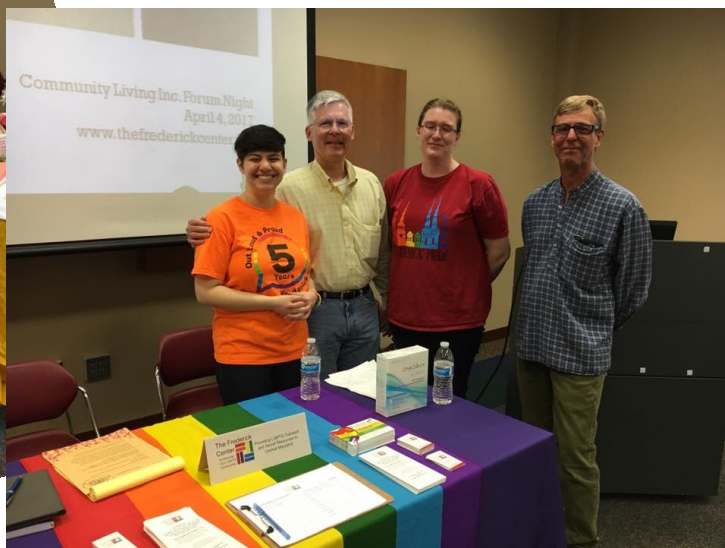
CLI partnered with the Grant Seeker's Resource Center of Frederick County Public Library to start this monthly event last November. The purpose is simple: to make connections. Attendees get the chance to network with agencies, nonprofits, and businesses in the community, while enjoying a delicious free dinner!

The free event is held from 5 to 7 p.m. the first Tuesday of every month in the Community Room of the C. Burr Artz Public Library.

Each month is hosted by a different organization, but at each event, all partner organizations are present to hand out information and talk with attendees.

This is a great networking opportunity for businesspeople, organizations, community members, and interested volunteers.

To learn more, visit communitylivinginc.org/news-events/community-forum-night or email Elaina Clarke at elainac@communitylivinginc.org.



News from Residential

As winter turned to spring, the residents at CLI were busy as ever. We started the springtime by welcoming a new resident into the CLI family. Karli took the leap of moving out of her parents' home in Montgomery County at the end of March. She is now living with two ladies who have become her good friends. She is meeting a lot of new people and becoming acclimated to all of the many activities that come with sharing a home and starting a new chapter in life.

Karli and all of the residents had a blast at the recent Spring Party hosted by Trinity United Methodist Church. Everyone enjoyed the "Take me out to the Ballgame" theme!



Another individual we serve, Susie, shown below with residential coordinator, Martha, enjoyed participating in an afternoon Fashion show as part of a fundraiser for cancer research. She showed off different outfits and entertained the guests.



Many residents, including Wanda, shown above with staff Fatou, have already enjoyed early vacations to the beach and to Yogi Bear's Jellystone Park Camp-Resort where they met Yogi Bear and friends.

More locally, residents are enjoying the start of Special Olympics bocce, going to karaoke and wrestling matches, and now Keys baseball that has

recently started up again. In addition, many of the residents had a blast at our spring bingo, where they enjoyed a big meal and, again, lots of prizes.

News from Support Services

The Frederick Running Festival has become something the people we serve really look forward to each year. This year's festival was held the weekend of May 5. Both our Support Services staff and the folks we serve had a blast! They volunteered at the shirt distribution stands and the kids' fun runs, and participated in the event itself, too. This event is great for the folks we serve. They love meeting new people and greeting familiar faces, handing out medals to the kids, and getting better and better running times each year. We can't wait until next year!



Stories of Success

Two years ago, Burt was given the opportunity to work at Renn Kirby in a paid janitorial position. After the job term ended, Burt began serving as a volunteer at the Salvation Army. His job coach noted that he paid close attention to detail and was very particular in hanging and placing the merchandise.



On April 21, Burt was hired to roll silverware at Madrones Restaurant. He originally started working two 2-hour shifts each week, but because of his outstanding work ethic and the support of his job coach, Edna, his managers gave him an additional shift.

In addition to his job at Madrones, he also works on the janitorial team at CLI once a week, and in the laundry department in the Vocational Services Department as needed.

We are so proud of all of his hard work!



Coming up at CLI — #CommunityStrong Walk 2017

We are so excited for our upcoming #CommunityStrong Walk 2017! This is our first-ever walk fundraiser — and we are super pumped! Here are the deets:

Where: We're starting at 24 S. Wisner Street in downtown Frederick and looping around Carroll Creek

When: Check-in and on-site registration are at 9 a.m., and the walk will begin promptly at 10 a.m. Allow for about 90 minutes to 2 hours for the walk.

Registration: You can register online by visiting www.crowdrise.com/CommunityStrongWalk2017 or you can email Elaina at elainac@communitylivinginc.org to fill out a paper registration.

Cost: There is no cost to register, but participants must raise or donate a minimum of \$25 by June 24 to participate.



Join Us!

#CommunityStrong Walk 2017

Sunday, June 25

9 AM Check-In/Registration  10 AM Walk Starts

Community LIVING

Join Community Living, Inc. for our first-ever 5K fundraiser walk along scenic Carroll Creek in downtown Frederick, Maryland. Refreshments will be provided.



Presented by CLI through the generous support of
Potter Baseball
and
In The Dirt Baseball




FMI: 301-663-8811
www.communityliving.org
 Register at www.crowdrise.com/CommunityStrongWalk2017

Useful information:

If you have a family member who lives in CLI housing, your first point of contact after the direct support staff is the residential coordinator.

Here is how you can reach them:

RC Brittany Long — 301-663-8811 x 1218

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 —
farhana@communitylivinginc.org
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
827 Motter Ave.	240-457-4190
7219 Rainbow Lane	240-578-4671
5012 St. Simon Court	301-798-8941
246 Wyngate Drive	301-732-5709
1501 W. Tenth St.	240-651-0278

Useful information:

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

RC Assunta Hage — 301-663-8811 x 1216
assuntah@communitylivinginc.org

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
marthaw@communitylivinginc.org

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

Fond farewells and warm welcomes

After 23 years of service, Marty Young, director of trainings, will be retiring at the end of June.

Marty has been a huge part of the CLI family over the years, and her presence will be missed.

Happy retirement, Marty!

If you'd like to send best wishes to Marty on her retirement, please feel free to contact her at martyy@communitylivinginc.org.

Matt Cora, who has served as a residential coordinator for CLI for the past several months, will be taking over as director of trainings.



Congrats on your new position, Matt!

Brittany Long, who served as a job coach for more than a year, recently took over Matt Cora's position as residential coordinator.

Congrats, Brittany!

GONNA MISS YOU!



Welcome, new employees!

Isaiah Eurie
Sylvia Youa-Djoke
Laura Parker
Marcelline Njagu
Berthe Djuendji
Kelly Brown
Gloria Pinnix
Sandra Reyes
Martin Osei-Appiah

Alberta Corneh
Frank Biggs
Vickie Williams
Caitlyn Mears
Annita Takwe
Janny Donfack
Massa Baxter
Shamika Waters
Jason Crowl



We'd love to stay connected!

Please send us your updated contact information (phone number, address and email) so we can keep you up to date on everything going on at CLI!

**Send your info to
elainac@communitylivinginc.org.**



**And be sure to follow us
on social media:
www.facebook.com/CLIFrederick
[@CLIFrederick](https://twitter.com/CLIFrederick)**