

Connections

The newsletter of Community Living, Inc.

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

Fall bingo wrap-up	2
Recognizing the Riders	3
CLI & the Community	4, 5, 6, 7
Stories from CLI	8
News from Residential	9
Coming up at CLI	10
Useful information	11, 12, 13
Merch/Stay in Touch	14

A word from our CEO

With Thanksgiving now passed, we turn our thoughts to the rest of the holiday season.

While I personally am thankful for my family at home, I am also grateful for the Community Living family, both inside and outside the organization.

We recently asked for your support for #GivingTuesday, and we will soon be sending out the mailing for our annual Snowflake campaign. I am confident that, as in years past, you will keep Community Living in your thoughts.

I am also thankful to people in many other ways, though. Our staff take on difficult jobs day in and day out because of their dedication to the people we support. Our Board of Directors gives their time, talent and expertise to make CLI a better organization. And, our community supports us through donations and volunteer work.

To show our appreciation, we have been making an effort to

give back. The people we support and our staff have participated in a suicide prevention walk, donated items to Heartly House and Toys for Tots, and are getting ready to participate in a cookie walk for seniors. As an organization that values what we receive from others, I strongly believe that, to whatever extent possible, we should also try to contribute to our community. Not only does it show our appreciation for the things we get, but it also helps the public see the valuable contributions people with disabilities can make in their communities.



This holiday season, all of us at CLI have a lot to be thankful for. And that certainly wouldn't be the case without the support of this community.

From our family to yours, we wish you a wonderful holiday season and a happy new year.

—Michael Planz

Recent events

Fall 80s-themed bingo

We had so much fun at our fall bingo fundraiser in October! The event had an 80s theme, and everyone had a blast with the decorations and costumes. Attendees got to enjoy a delicious spread of food, including mac and cheese, chicken soup, chili, and ham and cheese sandwiches, as well as a dessert table that featured mini apple and pumpkin pies, apple crisp, and pumpkin parfaits. We even had a candy buffet!

And the best part? The bingo. Prizes ranged from a brand new recliner from Wolf's Furniture to an assortment of candles from Yankee Candle.

Everyone had a blast, and we can't wait for our spring bingo in May!



Recognizing the Legion Riders

As fun as our fall bingo was, we also took some time to get a bit serious.

The event was hosted by the American Legion Riders of Steadman-Keenan Post 96, in Brunswick. The Legion Riders didn't just provide the venue — they prepared and helped serve a great deal of the food, helped set up, and assisted us the day of the bingo. Their support has been invaluable, not just at our event Oct. 29, but through their various donations and volunteer work over the years.

To show our appreciation, during the intermission, we presented the Legion Riders with the William O. Lee Presidential Award for Community Service.

The award is given annually to an organization or individual who makes outstanding contributions, not just to CLI, but to the community in general. The Legion Riders have long been great supporters of CLI's mission, and showed their ongoing commitment at the event on Oct. 29. In addition to their volunteer work on the day of and leading up to bingo, the riders also donated \$500 to CLI during the event's intermission.

Special thanks to the Legion Riders of Post 96 for all they do!



Pictured, from left, are Legion Riders Shane Powers, Rick Fuss, and Hugh Powers.

CLI & the Community

Community Forum Night

Community Forum Night

Join local nonprofits for a monthly educational networking event the first Tuesday of every month. Enjoy a complimentary dinner while you learn about local organizations. Each month's event will be hosted by a different participating organization.



December spotlight on: Daybreak Adult Day Services

January spotlight on: Fredericktowne Players

When: This month's event will be held Tuesday, Dec. 6 from 5 to 7 p.m. Please plan to arrive between 5 and 6 p.m. for networking and dinner, followed by a presentation by the featured organization until about 6:30, and more networking until 7.

Where: The Community Room of the C. Burr Artz Public Library, 110 East Patrick Street, Frederick, MD 21701

Cost: Free, but donations are welcome

For more information: Contact Elaina Clarke at 301-663-8811 or elainac@communitylivinginc.org

Presented by Community Living, Inc. in partnership with the Grant Seeker's Resource Center of Frederick County Public Library. Special thanks to Changeup Marketing for sponsoring tonight's dinner! Learn more about Changeup Marketing at www.changeupmarketing.net.



CLI & the Community

Community Forum Night

CLI is proud to be partnering with the Grant Seeker's Resource Center of Frederick County Public Library to present a monthly Community Forum Night.

Held from 5 to 7 p.m. the first Tuesday of every month in the Community Room of the C. Burr Artz Public Library, the event is free, and dinner is provided.



We're lucky to have several participating organizations who attend each month to offer information and insight into what they do in and for the community.

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

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

The list of participating organizations is constantly growing. So far, we are joined by Daybreak Adult Day Services, the YMCA of Frederick County, the Frederick Rescue Mission, The Frederick Center, the American Red Cross — Western Maryland, the Asian American Center of Frederick, The Door to HealthCare, and the Fredericktowne Players.

Interested in learning more? Feel free to call Elaina Clarke at 301-663-8811 or email her at elainac@communitylivinginc.org for more information.



CLI & the Community

Out of the Darkness Walk

On Oct. 8, Community Living was proud to participate in the American Foundation for Suicide Prevention's annual Out of the Darkness suicide prevention walk. The outpouring of support, even in the rain, was breathtaking.

As an organization, we think it's critical to raise awareness, not just for our own mission, but for other worthy causes, as well. We think it's extremely important that we do our part to help out our community in whatever way we can.

We were so honored to be able to be a part of such a worthwhile fundraiser.



Recognizing amazing volunteers

We are so fortunate to belong to a community that is so dedicated to giving back. Over the years, we've been lucky to have the help of selfless volunteers who so freely give their time, energy and love to help the people we serve. From setting up and serving food at our pot lucks, to painting houses, our volunteers are so vital to our mission, and really prove just how kind this community is.

Thank you to our amazing volunteers!



Stories from CLI

Congratulations!



It's been quite a year for Nathan Thompson.

Nathan, who has been working in the Frederick Regional Health System since the spring, was honored with the Employee of the Year award on Nov. 15 at the Ninth Annual Employment Awards Luncheon sponsored by Maryland Works, Inc.!

Hard-working and accurate, Nathan started working part-time in his position in April, and has been an integral part of the staff there ever since.

Nathan is pictured above with Pam Hanline, case manager, and Randy Kiser, job developer.

We're so proud of you, Nathan!



News from Residential

CLI residents continued their busy schedules this fall. Many individuals have been to football and basketball games in Towson, at FedEx field, and at M&T Bank Stadium, as well as the occasional wrestling match and other sporting events. Everyone loves sports!

In addition, many of the residents have taken advantage of "craft night" at the local Michael's. Some craft projects have included making holiday decorations and getting creative with Halloween T-shirts.

Some of the ladies have joined up for overnight "pajama parties" and other houses have teamed together to go to Toby's Dinner Theatre.

Now that Thanksgiving is over, we are excited about our upcoming holiday parties. After all, nothing beats a visit from Santa!

Life is never dull for anyone at CLI!



Coming up at CLI

Shop for a cause!

Still have some shopping to do?
Looking for a gift for that special someone?

CLI will be at Alex and Ani, in Montgomery Mall in Bethesda, from 5 to 7 p.m. Monday, Dec. 19. 15% of the proceeds from sales during our time there will go to CLI!

Alex and Ani sells one-of-a-kind eco-conscious jewelry and accessories. We are so grateful for the opportunity to partner with them for this fundraiser!

Stop by between 5 and 7 p.m. to get some last-minute holiday shopping done and help out your local nonprofit at the same time.



Shop. Support. Shine.

YOU'RE INVITED...
TO A CHARMED BY CHARITY SOIREE

Come sip refreshments, snack on small bites and shop with others who share your passion for giving back.

15% of all proceeds* will be donated to support
COMMUNITY LIVING, INC

MONDAY | DECEMBER 19 | 5-7PM

ALEX AND ANI MONTGOMERY MALL
7101 DEMOCRACY BLVD. | 301-365-0570

HOSTED BY: ELAINA CLARKE
RSVP: ELAINAC@COMMUNITYLIVINGINC.ORG

ALEX AND ANI | CHARITY BY DESIGN

*excludes CHARITY BY DESIGN, Amalty, and Bangla of the Month.

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
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:

**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

Styles by CLI

We are so proud to now be able to sell both CLI t-shirts and hoodies! With the weather turning cold fast, our super soft hoodies are a great way to rep CLI while staying nice and warm! Hoodies can be customized to your size and color preferences. If you'd like to order one, contact

Elaina Clarke at elainac@communitylivinginc.org or 301-663-8811.



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!



Giving Tuesday

#GI♥ING TUESDAY

On Tuesday, Nov. 29, Community Living participating in #GivingTuesday for the first time. #GivingTuesday is a global social media-based day dedicated to giving back. It falls right after Black Friday and Cyber Monday, and serves as a way for people to turn their focus to philanthropy and helping others during the holiday season.

We are happy and so very grateful to say that we raised more than \$1,000 through this campaign! We are so thankful to all of our amazing supporters who made our first #GivingTuesday a success!

Thank you!