

TAYLOR MARCH 2019 NEWSLETTER

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Don't forget to like us on Facebook at: www.facebook.com/miarkay.org

Executive Director: Kevin McGuckin

Program Director: Antoinette "Toni" Posie-Nelson

Case Manager: Carol Sproles

The Staff That Proudly Serves Our Individuals:

Deborah "Debbie" Anderson

Marcelline Williams

James Medaris

Dollie Germer

Yolanda Durden

James Kendrick

Sade Jackson

Julie Williams



Mission Statement

“Our Mission is to assist the Developmentally Disabled and the Elderly Disabled to achieve community inclusion that

enhances personal potential, employment opportunities and/or volunteerism”

*If you would like a digital/mailed copy, please let Toni know.

Program Director's Notes

Hello Great People!

As told to you not to long ago, there is a major change in payroll for you all. We can no longer pay you for building clean-up. We will let you know of any changes when they come to us. We will also do our best to help you find employment outside of Arkay if you are interested.

Because of the change in weather, colds and the flu can easily spread. Please keep in mind of Arkay's Illness Policy and stay at home so that others do not become infected.

If there is an outing or activity you would like to do on the days you are not scheduled to attend, please make arrangements with myself to make changes in your schedule.

As a reminder: If you are going to be **late or early**, please call and let us know right away. This will help us get our schedule out on time.

Morning half day: 8:30am to 12:00pm

Afternoon half day: 11:00am to 2:30pm

All day individuals: 8:30am to 2:30pm

Sincerely,

*Antoinette "Toni" Posie-Nelson, BSW
Program Director*

Psssssst its
someone's Birthday!
Please wish:

**John J.- 03/01
Brenda C.- 03/04
Michelle W.- 03/26**

A Happy Birthday!

Business Developers Corner:

We are happy to say that February has been a busy month with the Liberty tax sites! Unfortunately, the Liberty tax sites will be coming to an end soon. We will be working on finding employment for the individuals we serve. Please notify the directors at any of our programs if you know of any businesses hiring and, or, any bazaars coming up for our individuals with micro businesses to participate in. We appreciate your help with that.

Also, we have information about receiving social security disability benefits for individuals who are working. Please call us and we can give you the information. It's important to know how much an individual can make without it disrupting their benefits. Thank you!
Your Arkay Business Development Department:
Kyra, Kim, Mark, Megan & Tammy
734-258-8966

JUST SOME FRIENDLY REMINDERS:

Arkay Bowling League:

Arkay Bowling League started back up **January 31, 2019!** The league will be held every Thursday for **14 weeks** at Skore Lanes in Taylor, MI. The cost is **\$70 for the league (paid up front) or \$5 paid each Thursday.**

PJ & Movie Party at Arkay Unity

We will be joining our sister program, **Arkay Unity** for a PJ & Movie Party on **Saturday, March 9, 2019!** There is no cost for this event. You need to provide your own lunch, but we will provide the movies and fun! We **will also not** be providing transportation on this day. The drop off time is **8:30 am** and the pick-up time is **no later than 2:00 pm.** Sign up as soon as possible if you will like to participate!

St. Patrick's Day Party:

On **March 15, 2019,** we will be having an **ALL DAY** party at our sister program, **Arkay Unity.** The cost of this party is **\$8.00,** with lunch being provided. The drop off time is **9:30 am** and the pickup time is **2:30 pm** at **Unity** for those we don't provide transportation for. Let's wear green and have some fun!

Penny Wars Fundraiser:

Thanks to everyone that participated in Arkay's Penny Wars Fundraiser. Due to the weather I have to push this announcement back until the April. Keep bringing in your coins.

Tiffani's Tasty Treat:

Tiffani is still open for business! She is selling different candy selections for a **\$1,** once in the morning. Help her reach her goal she sets for herself.

Gina's Mart:

Gina's Mart is now opened for business! She is selling different snack selections starting at **\$0.50.** Help her reach her goal she sets for herself!

WE ARE ACCEPTING DONATIONS OF ANY KIND (napkins, plates, cups, silverware, pop, food, paper, arts and craft materials etc.). Thanks in advance for your support!

We would like to thank those who continue to donate towards our van transportation. We will be there to pick you up, if for any reason we need to cancel van transportation, we will call you as soon as possible. **Due to weather conditions and changes that arise, the times may vary for pick up and drop off. PLEASE BE READY BETWEEN 7:45-9:00 am for PICK-UP and DROP OFF WILL BE BETWEEN 2:45-4:00 pm.**

**Kevin's Corner:
March 2019**

Arkay is seeking to expand its reach and its services. We are reviewing the feasibility in having a location in Monroe County for Supported Employment, Skill Building, & Respite Care. Further, we have been panelized by DWMHA for new services such as Supports Coordination, Transportation, Community Living Supports, & Respite Care. One of the services being phased in currently is Respite Care.

Soon, Arkay is looking to set up independent integrated living apartments that could allow for families (i.e. aging parents) to live there as well. We are seeking to address a long-standing issue of what happens when a consumer's parents, guardians, and caregivers are no longer able to take care of their loved ones. This need has existed for decades, and Arkay is looking at ways to address that need. Yet, it is more than simply providing housing, these independent living communities will provide much needed supports & social interactions as well. Currently, this project is in the feasibility stage, and the site for this community has been established.

At the Federal level, the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) published a new set of rules for the delivery of Home and Community Based Services through Medicaid waiver programs. Through these new rules, the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services aim to improve the experience of individuals in these programs by enhancing access to the community, promoting the delivery of services in more integrated settings, and expanding the use of person-centered planning.

These rules will ensure individuals who have disabilities have the same access to the community as individuals who do not have disabilities. It allows individuals the opportunity to make decisions about the services they receive and who provide their services. The goal of the HCBS Final Rule is to make sure that the services individuals receive, give people the opportunity for independence in making life decisions, to fully participate in community life, and to ensure that individuals' rights are respected. This requires statewide compliance by March 17, 2019.

Arkay will need to continue to emphasize community integration with supported employment and skill building services. Full participation in community life: All individuals are supported to take part in their community and have the same access as other individuals in the community. This requires full participation in community life. Our goal is now to focus on integrated and unsubsidized employment for our consumers.

Best Regards,

Kevin McGuckin

