

UNITY JANUARY 2021 NEWSLETTER

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Website: ****CHECKOUT THE NEW REVAMPED WEBSITE AT: miarkay.org**

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 Managers: Amanda Witchelhouse and Jared Hamilton

The Staff That Proudly Serves Our Individuals:

Angelo Bivings, Brenda Capps, Femi Dada, Dollie Germer,

Lisa Green, Lee Green, James Kendrick, Dea Laitis,

Geri Loree, James Medaris, Heather Spraga, and Marcelline 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, Amanda or Jared know.**

Program Director's Notes

Happy New Year Great People,

2020 is over and 2021 is here! This new year gives us a new start and a continuation of growth. I would like to thank everyone that helped last year run as smoothly as it did considering the pandemic that the world faced. Like always, my door is always open and I am always open to insight of ways to better our program. Myself and my team will not stop doing our very best to assist you with achieving your goals or having a better quality of life.

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 and everyone out of the building by 9:30am and again at 12:30pm. We ask that you are here no later than 9:00 am and 12:00pm.

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

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

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

Program will be CLOSED New Year Day, January 1, 2021!

Sincerely,

Antoinette "Toni" Posie-Nelson, BSW

Psssssst its someone's Birthday! Please wish:

Mark B.-1/4

Mike B.-1/8

Brandon F.-1/8

Jessica H.-1/12

Cristina L.P.-1/14

Todd M.-1/17

Mustapha S-1/25

Myles "MJ" M.-01/30

A Happy Birthday!

Business Developers' Corner:

Arkay Business Development wishes everyone a Safe and Healthy, Happy New Year - 2021!!

Our focus remains on supported, employer paid, integrated community employment as we continue to serve our Arkay Individuals and Customers in the 2021 New Year!

Your Business Development Team: Kyra, Kim, Mark, Megan, Tammy & Ken

Kevin's Corner:

We are beginning a New Year. Many of us are probably glad to see that 2020 is now in the past with its many challenges that COVID 19 has brought to all. You probably hear it every New Year's—but what does “Auld Lang Syne” mean? The short answer: “Auld Lang Syne” is the title and key phrase of a 1788 Scots poem by Robert Burns, typically sung on New Year's Eve around the world. The phrase “auld lang syne” literally translates to “old long since,” and basically means, “days gone by”. It is well known in many countries, especially in the English-speaking world. Its traditional use being to bid farewell to the old year at the stroke of midnight on New Year's Eve.

“Auld Lang Syne” is a work which essentially calls for the preservation of our oldest, dearest friendships; perhaps observed in the reflective quality of New Year's Eve itself. It's a time when people come together to recall past joys and sorrows, specifically those spent in each other's company. It's a song that elicits feelings of goodwill towards man.

As Auld Lang Syne teaches us, Happy New Year messages should speak to new beginnings and fresh starts, as well as a time of reflection for all of us at Arkay. As we continue through the pandemic, the future is looking brighter for all of us because two companies, Moderna & Pfizer have been approved for Emergency Use Authorization at the FDA for the Covid-19 vaccine to be distributed. It's my understanding that each of these vaccines has been proven to be effective. This tells us that someday in the future we will get back to normal. Arkay will be moving forward with new plans to accomplish. We had to put some of our planning on hold due to the pandemic. In 2021, Arkay has some great dreams for our consumers, & we look forward to putting them into practice soon.

Again, if you have a loved one who can't attend in person, Arkay has virtual skill building (VSB) which can assist your loved one. I want to emphasize VSB because it would be so good for your love one to interact & learn with others during this time period. We have a great team who has put together a great curriculum for the people we serve. I really think you would enjoy being part of this program. These sessions have been very welcomed by our participants. Our team is very dedicated to helping our consumers to connect with others using technology. We will soon have the January calendar for VSB

We wish our consumers & staff a positive and successful New Year. Never ever surrender to your problems because they may be amazing opportunities that can take you ahead in life. May you enjoy the coming year with new hope and happiness surrounding you. The start

of each new year is a time to reflect on the year just past, and make plans for the future. It holds the promise of new opportunities and the possibility to change our lives for the better. And given how challenging 2020 has been for us all with COVID-19, it feels especially important to express our hopes and dreams for better days ahead in 2021.

Lastly, consider setting aside part of your budget to support the work of Arkay with a tax-deductible charitable donation. We've simplified the donation procedure, allowing supporters to donate online or by mail. Visit www.miarkay.org to make a gift using a credit card or send a check to Arkay. Every gift matters. We thank you in advance for responding to this need.

Very Sincerely,

Kevin McGuckin

Arkay CEO