UCP of Maine to Host Annual Spring Dance for the Adults Services Community

Andrew Lohman
Marketing & Community Relations Manager

On Friday, April 13, 2018 from 7pm to 9pm UCP of Maine’s Board of Directors presents UCP of Maine’s Annual Spring Dance at the William S. Cohen School located on 304 Garland Street in Bangor. Andrew Lohman, Marketing and Community Relations Manager for UCP of Maine, recently shared “UCP of Maine invites all adults living with physical and intellectual disabilities, in the community and at our partner agencies, to come out and enjoy a wonderful evening at our annual Spring Dance. The event is free to attend though we are asking for a $2.00 donation to help cover our costs. At the event, attendees will enjoy dancing and music from DJ Jeff Bosse, free refreshments, door prizes and much more!”

For any questions or comments regarding the dance please contact Brenda Wilson-Denning at 941-2952 ext. 308 or at brenda.wilson-denning@ucpofmaine.org. All of the proceeds from this event will benefit UCP of Maine in supporting the needs of children and adults with physical and intellectual disabilities in our community.

UCP of Maine and Community Health and Counseling Services Collaborate to Serve Clients in Rural Areas of Maine

Andrew Lohman
Marketing & Community Relations Manager

UCP of Maine and Community Health and Counseling Services (CHCS) have come together in a collaborative effort to better serve children waiting for Home and Community Treatment Services (HCT) in rural areas of Maine. This home-based treatment service is critical to preventing out of home levels of care and transitioning children back home. The long wait list is largely due to staffing shortages in these areas. In the Spring of 2017 Children’s Behavioral Health Services (CBHS) staff made an appeal to providers to try to share their resources to serve these children. When CBHS made their appeal for collaboration it became an opportunity to break down barriers in making HCT available in Piscataquis County.

Bonny Dodson, Director of Clinical Services for UCP of Maine, recently shared “I had a conversation with Stephanie Doore, Program Coordinator for CHCS, sharing that I had a clinician in Piscataquis County but no Behavioral Health Professional (BHP) and CHCS had BHPS but no clinician. We talked about two children in particular that we had watched on the HCT waitlist for over a year. We got permission from Mainecare, cleared the staffing collaborative with the upper administration at CBHS, cleared any potential concerns with mental health licensing and created a contract with CHCS and UCP of Maine. After about 6 months of leg work we are launching the HCT Staffing Collaborative and opened our first case in January!”

UCP of Maine and CHCS are the only two agencies approved in the state to provide HCT services in collaboration and are working to make sure this model is successful, so it can be duplicated across the state. The collaboration is focused on serving children and families in the upper half of Piscataquis County and will increase the number of children serviced by HCT and reduce their wait time.

(Stephanie Doore, Program Coordinator for Community Health and Counseling Services and Bonny Dodson, Director of Clinical Services for UCP of Maine.)

Upcoming Events

- Autism Awareness Month: April
- UCP of Maine’s Annual Spring Dance: April 13
- Administrative Professionals Week: April 22 - 28
- 16th Annual Walk for Autism: April 29
- Mental Health Awareness Month: May
- Bangor Savings Bank PB&J Drive: May
- UCP of Maine Theme Week: May 6 - 12
- Teacher Appreciation Week: May 6 - 12
- Nurse’s Week: May 6 - 12
- Speech Pathologist Week: May 13 - 19
- Financial Professionals Week: May 20 - 26
- ELC Spring Fling: June 2
- Certified Nursing Assistant Week: June 10 - 16
- Active Treatment Professionals Week: June 17 - 23

Recent Events

- ELC residents and staff celebrated Valentine’s Day with a dance hosted by Amicus at the Bouchea Center for Learning.
- ELC residents and staff teamed up to fundraise for Camp Capella’s annual polar dip fundraiser by holding a bake sale on Valentine’s Day.
- Five ELC staff took the plunge into the icy lake while several residents got the pleasure of watching for Camp Capella’s Annual Polar Dip on February 24th.

FIND LITTLE AL!

Since Al Sowa is such a familiar face around UCP of Maine, we have this fun little game called: "Find Little Al" See if you can find him!

Share your UCP of Maine story: office@ucpofmaine.org
Andrew Lohman
Marketing & Community Relations Manager

The Maine Health Care Association (MHCA) announced that Kim Dionne, Director of Nursing at the Elizabeth Levinson Center, recently graduated from the Association’s 2018 Nurse Leadership Institute. This 8-week course was created for nurse leaders looking to grow their leadership, communication and management skills, improve understanding of the long term care system, network with peers, and enhance the skills and competencies necessary to be successful in a Director of Nursing role.

Kim has worked as the Director of Nursing at the Elizabeth Levinson Center for 3½ years and has been a nurse for 20 years. She recently shared “Coming to work every day and caring for the residents and the staff are what I love the most. Making sure we are operating at a high standard each day and continuing to raise the bar in order to always be improving the quality of lives of our residents is so rewarding. They say if you love what you do, you never work a day in your life. That statement truly reflects my work here at UCP of Maine and the Elizabeth Levinson Center.”

According to MHCA President and CEO Richard Erb, “Nurse leaders play a critical role in providing quality, consistency and compassionate care to our state’s elderly and disabled citizens. According to a 2017 America’s Health Rankings report, Maine nursing home care was ranked number one in the country for quality. There is no doubt that we have inspirational nurse leaders, like Kim Dionne to thank for that distinction.”

Research has shown that leaders in our nation’s long term care facilities have a powerful, vital, and decisive role in creating a quality culture for employees and residents. Recognizing this link, MHCA created this opportunity for long term care nurses to promote quality of care through the cultivation of good leaders within the long term care profession. Since the inception of the program in 2008, MHCA has graduated 114 nurses from the Institute.

The Maine Health Care Association is a statewide trade organization representing 250 long term care providers, including nursing homes and assisted living facilities.

Recent Long Term Care Social Events

Andrew Cassidy
Director of Long Term Care Services

The Elizabeth Levinson Center and our Adult Residential Program staff work hard to provide the best quality of life for our residents. We do this by integrating into the community for social events and by celebrating at home. Some recent happenings for our long term care programs in February include, our Adult Residential Program getting together for the Super Bowl, ELC staff and residents enjoyed the annual Maine Principals’ Association Sports Basket Ball Tournament at the Cross Insurance Center, and ELC staff braved the freezing water, as residents watched, to help raise money for Camp Capella during their annual polar dip. In March ELC staff and residents attended the Harlem Globetrotters and the Professional Bull Riders at the Cross Insurance Center. There is always something to do and we are ready for a good time whether it is concerts, sporting events, or trips to the library.

Spring BOGGLE

• The letters in the words must be connected in the same order in the grid.
• The letters can be connected by an edge/corner.
• The word doesn’t have to appear in a straight line. It can be tangled around.
• Each letter in the word must uniquely appear in the grid. An example, if the word is ERASE, the letter E must appear twice in the grid. The word can’t loop back and re-use the same E.
• Words must be at least 3 letters long.
• Words cannot be a proper noun, such as a name or place.

Find 7 Spring related words

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Diana Ziegler, Family Care Staff Aid