
ARKAY OAKLAND



MARCH 2021 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: Tiffany Jenkins

Case Manager: Carli Gilliam-Wood

The Staff That Proudly Serves Our Individuals:

Taquilla Irvin

Alexandria Carr

Jaquiline Pride

Dallas Oneal

Allen Smith



Mission Statement

To assist the Developmentally Disabled and the Elderly Disabled to achieve community inclusion that enhances personal potential, employment opportunities and/or volunteerism

We are coming to the month of March & hopefully Spring is around the corner. Some of us are probably glad to see February gone with the cold & snow. March is the month when spring officially begins and Daylight Savings takes root typically the second Sunday in the month. It can be a dramatic month with sometimes wild and shifting weather as Mother Nature tries to shed her winter coat. But as the seasons change from winter to spring, it's the perfect time to review & reflect on how the Pandemic has brought many challenges to Arkay.

As we continue through the pandemic, the future is looking brighter for all of us due to the vaccine. At this point in time, Arkay has had approximately 40% of our staff receiving the 2nd COVID vaccine. This tells us that someday in the future we will get back to normal. Currently, Arkay is at 25% of our former consumer capacity, & we hope to grow our consumer base further in a safe & healthy environment. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and the state of Michigan have established a prioritized list of who will get the vaccine and in what order. The priority groups may be revised by the state of Michigan. Wayne County will follow MDHHS guidance on this distribution strategy and priority group classification.

The Michigan Disability Rights Coalition signed on to a Jan. 14 letter written by Self Advocates of Michigan, a group that advocates for the rights of people with disabilities, pushing state officials to move people with disabilities higher on the priority list and ensure they can get to vaccine sites safely. In Detroit, residents with documented intellectual or developmental disabilities were eligible for vaccines on Feb. 11. Michigan is expanding COVID vaccine eligibility to residents with intellectual and developmental disabilities. The Mayor said residents 18+ with disabilities can call to schedule an appointment at the TCF center for next week. Wayne County Public Health is presently vaccinating individuals in Phase 1A and select subgroups of Phase 1B of the COVID-19 vaccine distribution plan. Wayne County seniors are also eligible to receive the vaccine. Seniors should coordinate with their hospital group or Meijer to schedule a vaccine appointment. Supplies are still limited to all providers so please be patient.

Virtual Skill Building & Supported Employment

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 loved 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. Please make note: Arkay has received funding to work on a new curriculum for our consumers.

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

Business Developers Corner:

We are happy to report that two of our Individuals are now back to work at Henry Ford Community College in Dearborn, supporting the Culinary Arts classes.

We have two important webinars coming up that are employment related. On March 5, 2021 the webinar is about Work place accommodations. On March 11, 2021 the webinar is regarding paid employment and SSI benefits. The information for these webinars will be on Arkay's website and Arkay's Facebook page. If you have any questions regarding these webinars please call Arkay Business Development Department at 734-258-8966, we will be happy to help you.

Your Arkay Business Development team: Kyra, Kim, Mark, Megan, Tammy &Ken.

WE ARE ACCEPTING DONATIONS OF ANY KIND
WE ARE ALSO ACCEPTING MONETARY DONATIONS TO GO TOWARDS
ACTIVITIES FOR THE PROGRAMS.

BIRTHDAY GREETINGS TO
BIRTHDAY GREETINGS TO

CHRISTIAN W

SAMUEL K

FRANCES R

LINKOYA V

RICKY S

HOPE YOU HAVE A GREAT BIRTHDAY MONTH

ARKAY OAKLAND MARCH 2021 ACTIVITY CALENDAR

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SAT.
	1 Welcome March	2 Supported Employment	3 Bell Creek Park	4 Bingo	5 REGULAR OUTING DAY Math Skills	6
7	8 Zumba	9 Ikea Free	10 ROTARY PARK	11 Family Feud Team Building	12 Current Events Interaction	13
14	15 Karaoke	16 REGULAR OUTING DAY Healthy Lifestyle	17 ST Patty's Day ENJOY Green Ice Cream	18 Hang Man Team Building	19 Birthday Celebration	20
21	22 Zumba	23 REGULAR OUTING DAY Healthy Lifestyle	24 KELLOGG PARK FREE	25 Board games Team Building	26 Supported Employment	27
28	29 Karaoke	30 REGULAR OUTING DAY Healthy Lifestyle	31 HINES PARK FREE			

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