



The Neighbors
of Dunn County

NEWS FROM THE NEIGHBORS

MAY - JUNE, 2016

New services offered...

Many of you may have received a call from our Social Workers at the end of April asking you or your loved one who is residing here at The Neighbors of Dunn County to enroll in one of the services we are offering here. We are pleased to announce that we will be having on site services for Podiatry, Audiology, Dentistry, and Optometry. These services will be provided by a company called Health Drive. If enrolled, you should be receiving informational material about Health Drive and what is expected from them. They will be coming periodically throughout the year. There will be a chart posted outside of the Assistant Clinical Mentor's office in East and West and outside of the Doctor's office in Central letting residents and family know when these services will be coming. If you have not enrolled and would like to, please contact the Social Worker in the Neighborhood your loved one is residing. They will have the information for you to get enrolled. If residents are having problems with their feet, ears, mouth/teeth or eyes, feel free to contact the nurse in the house get on the waiting list for the next time Health Drive Services are in the building.

Reminder to residents and family members:

If you want to hire outside professionals to provide specific services to a resident at the Neighbors, they must have a contract set up with us. Some examples include: reflexologists, message therapists, chiropractors, etc. Please talk to administration before they come to perform any services in our building. Thank you.

Mother's Day 2016

Mother's Day Social
Sunday, May 8th
3:00 - 4:00 p.m.
all houses serving
Cookies and punch



The American Health Care Association (AHCA) has selected the theme of "It's a Small World with a Big Heart" for this year's National Nursing Home Week which will be celebrated May 8-14, 2016. We have planned several special activities which include our residents, team members, volunteers and the community. The complete Nursing Home Week schedule can be found on the next page of this newsletter.



National Nursing Home Week 2016
“It’s a Small World with a Big Heart”
May 8 – 14, 2016

Sunday, May 8th: **Mother’s Day**

3:00 p.m. - Cookies and punch in all houses

Monday, May 9th: **Kick off with the Community**

10:00 a.m. - Balloon lift off with kindergarten classes from
Oaklawn Elementary

Reading of Proclamation by Mayor Knaack

Intergenerational games (Bingo) in each Neighborhood

Tuesday, May 10th: **Neighborhood Competitions**

10:00 – Family Feud in EAST Neighborhood

1:30 – Bowling in CENTRAL Neighborhood

3:30 - Bunco in WEST Neighborhood

Wednesday, May 11th: **Community Fundraiser to benefit Stepping Stones**

10:30 a.m. – 1:30 p.m. – Lunch in Community Room

Food/Money Drive throughout the week

Thursday, May 12th: **Volunteer Appreciation**

3:00 – 4:00 p.m. in Brickenridge Community Room

Friday, May 13th: **Staff Appreciation**

Casual dress day

Treats in breakrooms throughout the day

Morning trip to Stepping Stones and afternoon entertainment
for residents



From the Administrator's desk...

Welcome Spring!

This is my favorite time of year and I am so glad it has arrived. While the winter season wasn't as brutal with the cold and snow, the constant cloudiness made things very dreary. So, it is good to see the sunshine the past couple of days. Last time I wrote, I openly discussed The Neighbors' financial position and how we were working with the consulting firm of Clifton, Larson, Allen & Pinnacle Innovative Health Solutions to determine what, if any, recommendations might be made and what may occur as a result.

As of this writing, the Standing Committee of The Neighbors of Dunn County was presented with several recommendations, some of which are being acted upon. For example, we have hired Pinnacle Innovative Health Solutions to help us improve the process of completing the resident health assessments and to improve our restorative nursing program. These two changes, led by the MDS nurses, will help to ensure we are properly and fully reimbursed for the work we are doing resulting in increased revenues.

We have submitted our application to join the Leading Choice Network, a network of long-term care providers that will reach out to Medicare Advantage Plans, managed care organizations, integrated health agencies and insurance companies to negotiate contracts, rates and plans that would be advantageous to The Neighbors, bringing in additional sources of payment and potentially additional residents improving census and resulting in improved revenues.

Another recommendation is that we lower our cost of food services. We are in the process of testing whether there might be significant savings in out-sourcing our food services. We are also looking at the potential to change our group purchasing organization to see if we can improve savings on food costs or change vendors, increase prices in our Red Cedar Bistro or other cost-reducing measures in the dietary department that result in reduced expenses.

The suggestion/idea about changing one of our households to assisted living has been put on the back-burner to see if we can improve census during the year. So, we are working on the things we can affect at this point in time and the Standing Committee has discussed other strategies concerning the 2017 budget. As always, we will continue to put forward our best efforts with respect to the financial issues of The Neighbors and the well-being of the residents and employees.

Over the past year or two, we have come to the realization that just as urgent as the need is for helping The Neighbors be financially successful, there have been workforce issues that have been brewing for some-time and have now reached crisis proportions with many facilities facing difficulties in recruiting, hiring and retaining employees to work in long-term care. This has resulted in some facilities not being able to admit residents at times. Please see *The Long-Term Care Workforce Crisis – a 2016 Report* included in this newsletter. It is important that people know about this issue so that nursing homes can receive the support needed to continue to care for the elders in our communities who require our services.

I hope many of you enjoy the upcoming Mother's Day holiday and perhaps the planting of your gardens soon. In the meantime, it is a pleasure for us at The Neighbors of Dunn County to be at your service. Should you have any questions, comments or suggestions regarding this newsletter, please call me at 715-231-4564 or email me at amanzella@co.dunn.wi.us Thanks!

Anthony Manzella, Administrator/Community Mentor

National Nurses' Day is May 6th!

National CNA Day is June 12th!

We would like to take a moment to recognize all the wonderful nurses and nursing assistants working at The Neighbors.

Our residents depend on you every day and we thank you for your dedication to providing quality care to the individuals we serve!



Father's Day 2016

FATHER'S DAY SOCIAL

Sunday, June 19th

3:00 - 4:00 p.m.

all houses featuring

“Build your own Sundaes”



Join us for lunch as we raise money for Stepping Stones of Dunn County...



Wednesday, May 11th
10:30 a.m. – 1:30 p.m.
at The Neighbors of Dunn County
Central Community Room

lunch for \$5.00:

grilled hotdog on a bun, potato chips,
baked beans, dessert and a water

We will also be collecting donations of food and money throughout the week. If you are interested in donating, please bring food items to the nurses station or see Life Enhancement staff. The residents will take an outing to Stepping Stones to deliver our donations on Friday, May 13th.

Spring and Summer Outings



Now that Spring has officially arrived, the staff and residents are eager to add some more outings to our activity schedule. In addition to our weekly trips to the Senior Center, our monthly shopping trip, and mystery trips; we are planning fishing trips to Bullfrogs, a trip to Turtle Lake, picnics, trips to the Fair, the movie theatre, and some simple joyrides through the country side. Any family members who may want to come along should contact the Life Enhancement staff for more information. All outings are listed on the monthly calendars. You can pick up a copy of the monthly activity calendar at the nurses' station, or they are also posted on our website: www.Neighborcdc.org

Volunteer Opportunities...

We are looking for volunteers for the following positions:



- Gardening/planting activities
- Assisting with Outings
- Gift Shop worker
- Library Upkeep

Contact Sally at (715) 231-4589 for more information.



The Neighbors
of Dunn County

Generations of caring since 1892

2901 Forbes Avenue

Menomonie, WI 54751