



Eldridge Press

Message from the Executive Director

by Karen Faria

This special edition of the Eldridge Press is dedicated to the staff of Sonoma Developmental Center. Even though the reality is that we will be down-sizing and eventually closing, it is important for all of us to acknowledge and appreciate one another for the hard work that we do all day, every day. Without the daily demonstration of professionalism, dedication, expertise and even creativity, we would not be able to provide the high quality services that is now our standard expectation of performance. Please read, enjoy and congratulate those staff mentioned and not mentioned in this edition for the great work that is being done at Sonoma Developmental Center.

THIS ONE'S FOR YOU!

The SDC Executive Team would like to take this opportunity to say **"THANK YOU, SDC STAFF!!"** As we continue on this journey, your dedication, professionalism and commitment to the men and women living here is much appreciated by the Department of Developmental Services, Parent Hospital Association and other stakeholders of SDC. Thank you again!

Executive Team:

Top row, L to R:

Susan Schrier, Acting Quality Assurance Director

Brad Backstrom, PhD, Senior Supervisory Psychologist

Chris Gephart, Coordinator of Nursing Services

Mike McClellin, Commander, Office of Protective Services

Middle row:

Karen Clark, Administrative Services Director

Karen Faria, Executive Director

Aleana Carreon, Clinical Director

Bottom row:

Valerie Dunn, Assistant Administrative Services Director

Carol Castillo, MD, Medical Director

JJ Fernandez, Assistant to the Executive Director & Public Information Officer

Marni Sager, Assistant to the Medical Director



Special Edition

Thank you, SDC staff!

SummerFest

On June 3, 2015, the town of Eldridge celebrated the employees of SDC by thanking them for all of their hard work and dedication to the men and

women living in town of Eldridge. There was live music by Harvey and the Wallbangers, food trucks, and a raffle. The event took place in front of and around the iconic and historical previous administration building. The PM and Noc shift staff were delivered meals. At 12:30 PM a photograph was taken in front of the PEC Building with hundreds of employees to memorialize the event.



dining. Yeah!

- Thanks to new painter supervisor Joe Coronado who recently transferred from Lanterman Developmental Center for personally sprucing up the areas surrounding his home at Palm Court. He has been cleaning, raking and weed-eating the entrances and many other locations to assist with the campus looking pristine. Nice job!



*Joe Coronado
Painting Supervisor*

- Kudos to the Poppe, Malone, Smith and Corcoran employees for ensuring every single individual went on a community outing during the month of March. Way to go, everyone!

Take Pride Moments by SDC Staff

Taking Pride means:

- Taking Pride...in the difference you make in the lives of those who live, work and visit SDC!
- Taking Pride...in coming to work and doing the job you do each and every day!
- Taking Pride...in the positive difference you are making!

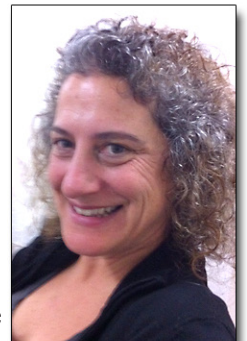
Taking Pride is about recognizing all of the good that occurs throughout our community of staff for the people who live and work in the town of Eldridge. There were numerous submissions of many employees...below are some of them. Way to show your pride and find the good in one another SDC!

- To Josephine White, Maria Crossland and Sheila Charton from Nutrition Services for increasing active treatment and developing person-centered dining experiences for the individuals who live in the Roadruck home by encouraging independence and offering choices during cafeteria style



*Maria Crossland & Sheila Charton
(Josephine White not shown)
Nutrition Services*

- To Gabrielle Beneitone, MDSC for the Nelson B home who has and is doing a great job with a new Nelson B team. She keeps everyone on track and ensures the residents' plans are being followed and implemented. Way to show your pride!



*Gabrielle Beneitone
MDSC, Nelson B*

- To Clinical Records staff, Ali Hernandez, Kayla White and Kelly McGrew for going above and beyond to provide professional and positive services to SDC. Nice!



*Ali Hernandez, Kelly McGrew &
Kayla White
Clinical Records*

continued next page

Take Pride Moments by SDC Staff

- To the Parmelee staff for the notable improvement during the dining experience for the residents they serve. The translocation from Lathrop to Parmelee has also improved. Thank for all that you do!
- Erin Dunross in Accounting and Procurement Services is effective at working with different departments and making a positive impact, with nothing but positive results that benefit SDC employees and residents alike. Thanks for all you do!
- On recent rounds it was noted that the dining experience at Bemis home was person-centered and calm, with a focused atmosphere. There was also an arts and crafts group occurring that was very positive. Great job!
- To the Brent team for encouraging an individual who finds it difficult to get out, resulting in his participation in Casino Night and Train Rides. He has even started attending his day program. Congratulations on your efforts!



*Erin Dunross
Accounting*



*Carrie Brown
Sonoma Regional
Project*



*Laura Crafter
Unit Supervisor*

- Carrie Brown from Sonoma Regional Project for her professionalism and excellent communication skills with a community provider during the transitioning of a resident from SDC into community living. Yeah!

- Aleah Ryan, Social Worker, was observed providing a rights group. Her training skills and interactions were excellent. Way to go, Aleah!



*Aleah Ryan
Social Worker*

- Laura Crafter, Unit Supervisor, researched and developed documentation information cards for her staff, bringing the residence in greater compliance. Way to show initiative!

- Thanks to Ken Woodle and Charles Enlow for the repair work

done in the Johnson B home. They were very conscientious of the impact to the residents, and finished the work in a very timely manner. You guys rock!

- To the Roadruck Team for overcoming barriers and increasing the time the front door is unlocked, which has increased access to the people living there, while still keeping people safe! Way to go!
- Teresa Young, Custodian, for keeping the Lathrop home immaculate. She always goes that extra mile ensuring the safety and well-being of the residents. Her positive demeanor is appreciated by all the residents and staff. Yeah!
- To the Cromwell staff who work really hard to come up with positive approaches to assist the individuals to achieve their potential. That's dedication!



*Teresa Young
Custodian*



Cromwell staff

- Brian Kabaker and Clarita Marquez for consistently leading a music group in the Bentley home. A great time is had by many of the men and women residing there. Great Active Treatment!
- To Adriane Thomas, Residence Manager for the Cohen home, for completely reorganizing the medication room with staff, ensuring compliance with medication storage. That's dedication!
- Cynthia Dinglasan, Central Program Services Teacher, for supporting the Bentley residents in the Snedeger Day Program with engaging, interesting and



*Adriane Thomas
Residence Manager
Cohen*

continued next page

Take Pride Moments by SDC Staff

appropriate activities for all to enjoy! Good job!

- All the residents of the Bemis home attended off-residence activities, including those that usually decline. Congratulations on your efforts; they paid off!
- To the Lathrop team for the hard work during the consolidation process. All residents have had planning meetings, many have had transition meetings, and several have moved into their new homes. Thanks for all you do!
- To the Smith Team for getting all the folks in the home to a Starbucks activity on the weekend! A great time was had by all!
- To the Corcoran team for their tai chi activity during their coffee group. Both the residents and staff participated. Great Active Treatment!
- To Kim Garcia and Dr. Kramer for going above and beyond by processing and ordering an ABI vest for a resident that was moving out, making the transition safe and successful. They also coordinated with the company to have a representative train the providers. This type of teamwork and communication is needed for our residents to have the very best outcomes. Awesome work!
- In the Quality Assurance Committee study on oral hygiene, 24% of individuals improved their oral hygiene in the last quarter! Kudos to the level of care staff for providing services to these individuals and to Joanne Alex, Dental Hygienist, for providing resident training, problem solving and coaching to staff! It's all about teamwork!
- Robin Cohn, Recreation Therapist for the Malone home, for providing a rocking and rolling time for



*Cynthia Dinglasan
Teacher*



*Above:
Dr Kramer
Left:
Kim Garcia*



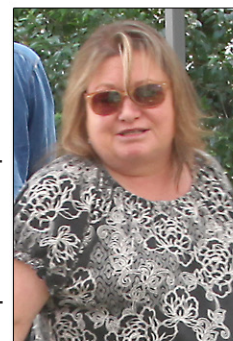
residents and staff during their karaoke activities! A great time was had by all!

- Smith staff for being diligent in providing consistent encouragement to individuals in using their mobility equipment.



*Diane Kane
Teacher*

- Teacher Diane Kane for her leadership at the King Day Program. She has been instrumental in providing a variety of activities to the folks in King including pottery classes and arts and crafts projects. This environment is stimulating and welcoming. You are a star!



*Robin Cohn
Recreation Therapist*

- Monica Damsten for her on-going leadership in the staffing office. She coordinates the offsite staffing every morning for all sites and ensures coverage from both the residential programs and Central Program Services. Her communication with all is very positive and productive. Nice job!



*Monica Damsten
Staffing Office
Supervisor*

- Lerma De Leon, PTA on Poppe, for returning during her vacation to support an individual who moved to a community home. The individual was extremely happy and beaming throughout his transition. Way to go, Lerma!



*Lerma De Leon
PTA*

- Stacey Dunham, Supervisory Registered Nurse (SRN); Beth Maciel, SRN; Eric Jones, Assistant Coordinator of Nursing Services (ACNS); Ceasar Cortez, Respiratory Therapist (RT) and IT all worked together to develop a Health Care Objective and Plan (HCOP) to help guide staff on a new practice

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Take Pride Moments by SDC Staff

(an apparatus that was designed by the RT to provide oxygen in a safe manner to an individual). The HCOP was developed with photos which clarified the proper and safe use of the device and the policy was revised to include the device and the proper set up. This all resulted in improved quality of life for the person living in Program 2. It's amazing what can happen when great minds come together!



Above L: Eric Jones, ACNS



Above R: Ceasar Cortez, Respiratory Therapist



Above L: Stacey Dunham, SRN



Above R: Beth Maciel, SRN



Britt Berg, PT

- Britt Berg, PT at Parmelee, for the great job of covering for her vacationing shift lead. She has stepped up to complete the morning staffing, medications administration and monitoring of activities in a professional and positive manner. Thank you Britt!

- Becky Zyskowski from Central Program Services for stepping up as the Acting Program Director (PD) in the PD's absence. She kept everything running and didn't skip a beat. She will be missed during her loan to Program 4! Thanks again!



*Becky Zyskowski
Program Assistant*

ated by many of the employees. Kudos and thanks to Reneé!

- Richard Ruiz at Parmelee for providing excellent services to individuals. During rounds he



*Richard Ruiz
Parmelee*

was observed carrying out training objectives with enthusiasm and skill and was able to speak to each objective and their purpose! Way to show your pride!

- Kudos to the Employee Recognition Committee for the organization and implementation of the SDC Summerfest. The festivity was well attended and a great time was had by staff and residents! Way to go!



*Renee Claire
Volunteer
Coordinator*



Employee Recognition Committee

- Public Health has taken on more of a role in the scheduling of candidate physicals and the whole process of getting candidates cleared for employment has been going really well. They are doing a great job with making the whole process flow as smoothly as possible. It's all about teamwork!



Public Health

...and thanks to all of you for all you do!! Group photos of various departments and programs throughout the SDC campus follow on the next page...more pictures in future issues of the Eldridge Press!

Thank you, SDC staff!



General Acute Care Unit (GAC)



Clinical Records



Department of Medicine



Program 4 management



NF Services



Central Program Services (CPS)

Thank you, SDC staff!



Human Resources



Impressions Clothing Store



Central Nursing Services



Motor Pool



Office of Protective Services



Pharmacy

Thank you, SDC staff!



Quality Assurance



Sunrise Industries



Trust Office



Rehabilitation Therapists



Foster Grandparent/Senior Companion Program

Submitting articles to the *Eldridge Press*:

The *Eldridge Press* gladly accepts submissions of articles about events at Sonoma Developmental Center, news about the Center's departments and programs, employee recognition, and other information of interest to the Center's employees, consumers and other stakeholders. Articles may be edited for grammar, punctuation, and clarity. To submit your article, send it to the Office of Planning and Communications, Room 102, Sonoma Developmental Center, P.O. Box 1493, Eldridge, CA 95431. Deadlines are the 15th of the month prior to the publication date (for instance, September 15 is the deadline for the Fall 2015 issue).

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