1<sup>st</sup>, 2023

# Thursday, June The CORrespondent Latest news and updates from COR Health

Issue #16

# **PRIDE MONTH**

Happy Pride! All of us here at COR Health look forward to recognizing and celebrating Pride Month. During the month of June, Maine is offering Pride events all over from Ogunquit to Presque Isle – check out the event calendars on **OUT Maine and EQME sites below!** 

Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender and Queer (LGBTQ) Pride Month is currently celebrated each year in the month of June to honor the 1969 Stonewall Uprising in Manhattan. The Stonewall Uprising was a tipping point for the Gay Liberation Movement in the United States. In the United States the last Sunday in June was initially celebrated as "Gay Pride Day," but the actual day was flexible. In major cities across the nation the "day" soon grew to encompass a month-long series of events. Today, celebrations include pride parades, picnics, parties, workshops, symposia and concerts, and LGBTQ Pride Month events attract millions of participants around the world. Memorials are held during this month for those members of the community who have been lost to hate crimes or HIV/AIDS. The purpose of the commemorative month is to recognize the impact that lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender individuals have had on history locally, nationally, and internationally. (https://www.loc.gov/lgbt-pridemonth/about/#annual-pride-traditions)

Here are some great resources for you and your family, as well as for your clients and their families!





- EqualityMaine www.equalitymaine.org Our mission is to secure full equality for lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender people in Maine through political action, community organizing, education, and collaboration.
- OUT Maine www.outmaine.org OUT Maine works toward a welcoming and affirming Maine for all rural young people of diverse sexual orientations, gender expressions and gender identities.
- GLADD (Gay & Lesbian Alliance Against Defamation) www.glaad.org GLAAD works through entertainment, news, and digital media to share stories from the LGBTQ community that accelerate acceptance.
- The Trevor Project www.thetrevorproject.org The world's largest suicide prevention and crisis intervention organization for LGBTQ young people.
- Human Rights Campaign <u>www.hrc.org</u> HRC envisions a world where lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and queer people plus community members who use different language to describe identity are ensured equality and embraced as full members of society at home, at work and in every community.
- PFLAG www.pflag.org The first and largest organization for lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, and queer (LGBTQ+) people, their parents and families, and allies.

CDC's LGBT Health resource page: <u>https://www.cdc.gov/lgbthealth/index.htm</u>

From Section 28

### **Emily Merryman, BHP**

June's Employee of the Month

Emily has been a part of the COR Health team for about six months now! She is a part time BHP who has worked with the same client since she has started, within our agency. Emily has put a lot of hard work and dedication into COR Health and the client she is serving. Emily has built a great relationship with her current client and has seen a lot of progress! Emily has overcome many challenges as a BHP and has handled them with consideration and respect. We are lucky to have Emily here at COR Health and thank her for all her hard work!

## **Office Closure**

The COR Health Office will be closed on Monday July 3rd, and Tuesday, July 4<sup>th</sup>, in recognition of Independence Day! If you need immediate assistance on these dates, please call our **On-Call** Services at (207) 347-6106.



As we believe Good People Attract Good People, we value our caregiver's feedback. Click Here to Leave a Google Review, each person who leaves a review will be entered to win a Snappy Gift valued at \$100!

### **Requesting Time Off**

Plan ahead! With summer right around the corner and everyone planning vacation, make sure to submit your time off request two weeks in advance to provide adequate time for office staff to find coverage for your client(s) and for PTO approval. Follow this <u>Attachment</u> to learn how to properly request PTO through your ADP portal.

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Lincoln's Emancipation Proclamation of June 1, 1863, declared that all slaves in the rebel Confederate States were free. The State of Texas rejoined the Union at the end of the Civil War on April 9, 1865.

**On June 19, 1865** – over 2 years after President Lincoln declared all enslaved persons free - Major General Gordon Granger and Union Army troops marched to Galveston, Texas, to enforce the Emancipation Proclamation and free the last enslaved Black Americans in Texas.

The Juneteenth Flag has the date of June 19, 1865, displayed on it. The date on the flag represents that of General Order No. 3 issued in Galveston, Texas in 1865.

General Order No. 3 was an American

legal decree issued in 1865 enforcing the **Emancipation Proclamation** to the residents of the U.S. state of Texas and freed all remaining slaves in the state. The order was not read aloud by the Union Army, but it was posted around town, and communicated to most African Americans by slave masters. News of the Emancipation Proclamation had reached Texas and been covered in Texas newspapers, but due to the lack of Union military presence, it had not been enforced.

The official flag uses the colors of **red**, white, and blue from the American flag. Featured prominently in the center of the flag is a **bursting star**. Running through the center of the flag horizontally, is an **arc** that is meant to symbolize the new horizon of opportunity for black people. According to the president of the National Juneteenth Observance Foundation Steve Williams, the star is a **"Bursting**" star of freedom."

Williams also states that the arch representing horizon shows blue above and the red color below is symbolic of the ground soaked with blood; the blood which was shed by the African American slaves for the United States. The red, white, and blue colors were meant to convey the message that all enslaved people and their descendants are American.

The **five-pointed star** refers both to Texas (nicknamed the "Lone Star state") and to the "freedom of African Americans in all 50 states". Surrounding it is a **nova** (or "new star") representing a new beginning for all.

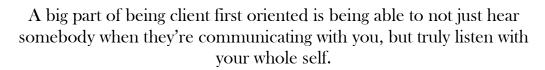
One year later freed slaves in Texas celebrated the first Juneteenth on June 19, and it was called "Jubilee Day".



# **ClientFirst Food for Thought**

LISTENING VS HEARING





You can hear what somebody said, without really listening to the full meaning behind the message and there could be many things such as tone of voice, body language, or facial expression.

If you are only hearing, you are using only one aspect of your person to give them the attention they deserve, and often times you are listening for a chance to say what you need to say next.

## Anniversaries



Congratulations on another year!!

Jordan Balkansky, PSS – 13 Years

Barbara Bilodeau, RN - 4 Years

Paul Casaba, PSS - 7 Years

Francine Garnier, RN - 4 Years

Parame Limvattanalert, ADON - 6 Years

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When you truly listen, you invest yourself in the whole situation. Investing sometimes takes sacrifice, it takes attention, patience, an open mind, and a willingness to understand without the intention of interjecting.

To truly listen is to show that you genuinely care.

Kayce Darling, Senior Client Services Coordinator

Email: kdarling@corhealthservices.com

Tel: (207) 536-2564

Coleen Pudlo, PSS - 3 Years

Lauren Shorey, RN – 2 Years

Joanna Sutton, RN - 7 Years

Erika Webster, RN – 5 Years

Kailah Malcolm, CNA – 2 Years

Allison Neal, CNA/M - 4 Years

Monica Duclos, TCM - 4 Years

Alison Morin, Field Supervisor - 6 Years

Brenda Beaulieu, BHP - 1 Year

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## <u>Mask Update</u> <u>Effective June 1<sup>st</sup>, 2023</u>



COR Health will no longer require staff to wear masks when working with a client. This will take effect June 1<sup>st</sup>, 2023. You will still need to wear a mask if the client's parent/guardian requests it. We feel with the warm weather approaching, flu season ending, and the decline in COVID-19 cases, it is a safe time to make this change!

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to reach out to Tammy Polakowski, RN ADON/Infection Control Nurse via email at <u>tpolakowski@corhealthservices.com</u> or via TigerConnect.

### COR Health Welcomes... May Newcomers!



Ameliah Guppy, CNA Carolyn Bell, RN Maureen Hopkins, BHP Deniel Kennedy, CNA Dianne Fazio, PSS Mya Koch, PSS Shirley Lavoie, RN Blake Rothwell, BHP Benjamin Braasch, BHP Erica Daigneault, BHP

### **COR Health Services Flu** Vaccination Policy

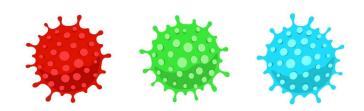
#### **PURPOSE:**

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The purpose of this policy is to minimize exposure to and transmission of the influenza virus in the workplace by providing protection to employees and thereby preventing exposure to members of the community which we serve. Annual influenza vaccination has been found to be both safe and effective in reducing the risk of influenza and health-care related transmission. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) recommend vaccination of all workers in health care settings. Influenza vaccination is mandated for all healthcare workers in the State of Maine. Research has shown that vaccination programs limited only to employees who actively seek the vaccine have lower effectiveness in protecting patients and employees.

#### **POLICY:**

Employees (full time, part time, per diem) who work in the



This policy has been written under the guidance of the CDC and The State of Maine vaccination mandate.

#### COR Health will:

- 1. Complete full implementation of the program in order to obtain 100% compliance by all employees required to be vaccinated.
- 2. Monitor CDC recommendations about the timing of flu season and may alter this policy accordingly.
- 3. Provide each employee annually a reminder of this policy.
- 4. Provide new employees with information about the annual mandatory influenza vaccination policy during orientation.

home health department (including corporate staff) are required to either be vaccinated or provide a medical waiver by October 15 of each calendar year. Employees hired after this date will be required to show proof of immunization before onboarding. Any employee hired after February 28 of the following calendar year will not be required to be immunized until October 15 of that calendar year. Any employee not vaccinated by October 15, will be ineligible to work until they comply. <u>COR Health encourages</u> <u>vaccinations for all staff but does not require it for BHP, TCM,</u> and PSS staff.

Records regarding vaccinations and waivers are kept in the employee file. If national vaccine shortage occurs, COR Health may suspend or revoke all or part of this policy.

- 5. Notify managers/supervisors regarding those employees who are not in compliance with the requirements of this policy.
- 6. Address in a timely manner employees who fail to comply with this policy.

The policy goes into effect immediately. All vaccinations are required by October 15 of each calendar year. Waivers for medical reasons must also be turned in by that date.

If you have any questions regarding this policy, please reach out to Tammy Polakowski, ADON/Infection Control RN via email at <u>tpolakowski@corhealthservices.com</u> or TigerConnect.

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### **CNA Week**

June  $14^{\text{th}}$  – June  $20^{\text{th}}$ 



<u>What is a CNAP:</u> Certified nursing assista

#### Certified nursing assistants are essential caregivers who provide vital physical and emotional support to patients of all ages and disabilities and assist nurses with daily complex tasks. While a CNA's job is fast-paced and can be exhausting, their work does not go unnoticed. Patients are forever thankful for the assistance and support CNAs provide them daily. They are indispensable to patient care.

#### Why do facilities choose Medical Staffing?:

Healthcare facilities need adequate and safe levels of staffing to function well and administer care both, safely and efficiently. Adequate staffing levels ensure better care for patients, reduces caregiver fatigue, prevents burnout, and increases patient satisfaction. COR Health provides facilities with qualified and thoroughly vetted staff members; helping them save time and money, and to ensure their facility has the right personnel for the job!



Why work for COR Health Medical Staffing Agency?

We're partners! COR Health prides itself on the relationship we build with our caregivers; your success is our success! We work one-on-one with our Medical Staff to ensure proper facility placement and shift schedules. We provide flexibility, continuous support, and overall knowledge to help you get your career where you want it to be!

If you are interested in learning more about Medical Staffing and CNA work, please reach out to Stephanie Hubsch, Medical Staffing Coordinator via email at <u>shubsch@corhealthservices.com</u> or TigerConnect!

# **Recent Happenings**

What have we been up to??

#### **COR Health Paint Day Bangor Area!**

COR Health held its first ever event in the Bangor area on May 13<sup>th</sup> at Generations Art Studio & Boutique! Staff were treated to lots of yummy snacks

and were given the choice to paint 2 wine glasses or mugs. There were lots of laughs and everyone had a great time! We look forward to our next event in the Bangor area!









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#### Kennebunk Beach Classic Annual 5k Race

On Sunday, May 21<sup>\*</sup>, COR Health had the opportunity to be a proud sponsor at the Kennebunk Beach Classic 5k Race! The event is a fundraiser for The Center, a nonprofit that has been serving seniors in the Kennebunk area for over 30 years. Known as "one of the best 5k's in the region," some of our staff spent the day supporting a great local cause and got to socialize with the community to bring awareness to the services we provide all over

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the state!

#### **CORCares Volunteering**

On May 11, 2023, COR Health/CORCares volunteers joined efforts in assisting this organization in filling requisition orders placed by local Case Managers and other volunteer groups. We truly appreciate the collaboration and teamwork of *Alison Morin, Field Supervisor, Stephanie Hubsch, Medical Staffing Coordinator, Katherine Dearden, Field Supervisor and Carlos Aristy, Director of First Impressions.* 

Visit this website for additional information on donations and volunteering: <u>https://www.maineneeds.org/</u>



## **COR Health Social Events!**

### **COR Health Company Picnic** Raffles, Food, & Fun!

Thank you for being a part of the COR Health Team! Join us for our 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Company Picnic on June 17<sup>th</sup> to kick off summer with a celebration of your hard work!

Bring your family or a friend and let's get together at Lost Valley in Auburn to enjoy some sunshine, food, and beverages. There will be lawn games and fun for all ages and, of course, raffles! We will be raffling off COR Health apparel, Snappy Gifts, and PTO! Don't miss out!

### **COR Health Softball**

COR Health's annual softball season has begun. The teams' games are played on Monday evenings starting May 1, 2023, the regular season will last 10 weeks, and the playoff season will last 2 to 3 weeks (weather dependent). The games are played around the Portland area at either Payson Park (Portland), Fraser Field (Westbrook), or Kiley Field (Portland)! The games rotate start times each week and either start at 6:30pm, 7:45pm, or 9:00pm!

If you are interested in participating or want to come watch a game, please reach out to Jordyn Pomerleau via or **TigerConnect!** 

#### When:

Saturday, June 17<sup>th</sup>, 2023, from 11:00am to 3:00pm EDT

Where: Lost Valley 200 Lost Valley Rd Auburn, ME 04210



Please click on the link below to RSVP.

#### **Register Now!**

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact Jordyn Pomerleau at info@corhealthservices.com or (207) 347-6106

## **2023 Monthly PSS Gatherings!**

#### **COR Health looks forward to hosting Monthly PSS gatherings this year!**

Please join us in the office *the last Monday of every month* [every 4<sup>th</sup> Monday] to enjoy friendship and food. The times will vary depending on the Month (Morning or Afternoon) so stay tuned for more details to come! Please feel welcome and encouraged to bring friends who may want to join our COR Health Team as a PSS!

Please do not hesitate to reach out to Nancy Colson, Client Services Coordinator with any questions via email at ncolson@corhealthservices.com or TigerConnect!

# **EVV Shout-Outs!!**

We appreciate the ongoing efforts our staff have in complying with EVV regulations and continuous improvements with KanTime. We would like to shout out the below caregivers for their dedication, accuracy, and progresses....

Ameliah Guppy, CNA Jack Garrett, BHP

Marguerite Walker, RN Alison Abbott, RN



Did you get the answer right to last month's trivia question: What holiday is often confused with Cinco de Mayo?

Gabey Ibrahim, PSS Abdinoor Hussein, PSS Mariam Mohamed, PSS Patrick Connor, PSS Lawrence Dupuis, PSS Dianne Fazio, PSS

Joanna Sutton, RN Kimberly Beisaw, RN Emily Gower, RN Patricia Young, RN Jordan Balkansky, PSS Hope Albert, RN

Answer: Mexico's Independence Day!

Shout out to one of our BHPs Brenda Beaulieu for being the first to guess correctly!

Ready for this month's Trivia question?

### What name is given for the time period when the Sun is the farthest north in the Northern Hemisphere?

Send your submission into Bich Dinh via TigerConnect for a chance to win a Snappy Gift!

