

From The Director's Desk

It's been a challenging few month here at The PLUS Company, but we continue to move forward thanks to our amazing staff and clients. The PLUS Company did not close during the Stay at Home order, but we have had to find new ways to serve our clients and keep them active and safe. Our staff has really stepped up, demonstrating their creativity, flexibility, and dedication by finding new ways to teach skills, keep clients safe in their homes, and support them on the job. New safety and sanitization protocols have been put in place and adhered to and the willingness of everyone to support each other as we make changes and find new ways to operate is nothing short of extraordinary. In each newsletter we try to highlight one of our outstanding Direct Support Professionals (DSP's), but in this one we are starting a series that will highlight even more these wonderful, courageous people. Their daily duties may have changed, but they remain resolute in our mission to empower individuals with disabilities to maximize their independence. We cannot thank them enough.

As we move forward, day service our slowly opening back up on a client-by-client basis with the input or the individual and their team. The plan is to keep clients with the same staff as much as possible, reduce the client-to-staff ratio, ensure PPE is utilized at all times, and keep numbers small when indoors. We will also continue to follow guidelines put forth by the CDC and the State of NH to keep our clients safe.

We have also made the difficult decision not to hold our annual Silent Auction and Dinner Dance this year due to the pandemic. We know that many look forward to this fun night of dancing and socializing, but we are sure to bring the event back better than ever next year. Instead, we invite you to attend our virtual Annual Meeting on October 22nd. More details will be coming soon to our Facebook and website.

Thank you all for your support during these tough times. We are truly thankful for you all. 🙏

-Kim Shottes

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PLUS Summer 2020 Perspectives

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It's A Virtual World: From Art Therapy to Cooking, PLUS Company Has It All Online



THE PLUS COMPANY STAFF has been working extremely hard over the past few months to expand and improve online classes and offerings. Currently, PLUS in NH and MA offer a large variety of online learning and socialization opportunities encompassing everything from Employment Skills, Cooking, Art Therapy, Pet Therapy, Dance, Exercise, and Public Speaking to Trivia, Clubs, and other socialization opportunities. The goal has been to provide clients with a wide variety of educational, vocational, and socialization opportunities, while keeping people safe at home. "I like the Advocate for Yourself class", says Kelly, "It teaches us how and why to advocate for ourselves and others. I also like Positivity Class. It helps me think differently about situations I find myself in." 🙏

"Empower Individuals, Maximize Independence"

DSP Spotlight: Sending out Special Thanks

THIS IS THE FIRST in a series of articles that will highlight as many of our Direct Support Professionals as possible, to thank them for their strength, flexibility, and dedication to The PLUS Company and our clients. The following is just a small sampling of the amazing people we will be recognizing over the next few months, so stay tuned! To ALL of our DSP's : THANK YOU! 🙌

DSP's Keep Clients Safe, Engaged, and Busy By Sue Beaupre



PLUS COMPANY DSP'S have been incredible during this pandemic, following proper protocols, and keeping clients and themselves safe. All staff have been amazingly creative in helping clients manage their activities. Crafts, puzzles, gardening, ZOOM classes, cooking, walking and scenic drives are all ways we keep folks engaged and busy, and stave off the 'boredom blues'.

Candi, Rabi, and Jaya have shown amazing flexibility and helpfulness in transitioning to another staffed residence and working adjusted hours. They have adapted well into the Peaslee Road family and the clients and staff there are glad to have them during this crazy time. Maureen, Beatrice, Elise, and Shelyne have been the mainstay staff at Peaslee. They keep the house running, and have been selfless in their dedication to the clients.

DSP, Angel, has been living with PLUS Company Client, Susan, during this time. This has allowed Susan a safe home while hunkering down. Susan has come to enjoy Angel, her home and her pets.

All staff have shown amazing flexibility and willingness to do the absolute best for our folks. They work without complaint and without any clear idea of when we will "get back to normal." Thank you all. PLUS truly couldn't do it without you. 🙌

Residential DSP's Go Above and Beyond By Mara Blanco

DURING THESE CHALLENGING TIMES the Direct Support Professionals (DSP) in our group homes have been a great source of pride to The Plus Company. I am so proud of the amazing work they have done to keep the clients healthy, productive, and engaged. They have been flexible, learned new protocols, and kept clients safe and busy in their homes.

THEY ARE AMAZING! I like to personally thank each of the staff!

MUSQUASH RD STAFF:

Anita Pokharel
Biraj Pun
Carolyn Culture
Din Premy
Grace Mucheru
Sandip Rayamajhi
Susila Joshi
Yubica Ghimire

THE OSGOOD B STAFF:

Emelia Forkuo
Giselda Akrofi
Javier Aguilar-Gil
Jony Yonjan
Joseph Nsoah
Paul Dubye
Shree Bhattarai



Your dedication and support to the clients is greatly appreciated. 🙌

ICR Direct Support Professionals Are Second to None! By Shawna Sousa

THE DIRECT SUPPORT PROFESSIONALS in ICR are second to none when it comes to their willingness to work with clients and their ability to think outside the box to keep PLUS Company clients safe and supported.

Larry is checking in with his clients, while also working with gentleman at high risk.

Lauren has been working with clients who present with needs completely different than the individuals she has supported before, helping them to keep their homes clean and keeping them safe.

Jill has been working with a client that needs one-on-one daily support. She and the individual have been giving back to the community by doing Meals on Wheels, three times per week.

Rick went outside the scope of his regular job duties and stepped right into providing direct support for multiple individuals. He also took on the responsibility of delivering much needed supplies to our residential homes.

Shannon supported a client who needed help with remote schooling for her kids and kept the client from becoming overwhelmed.

Brittanni, Sabrina, and Giselda stepped in to provide help in residential. Brittanni took on the additional and unprecedented task of providing home supports to two clients virtually.

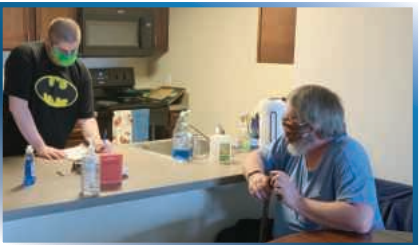
Cora is developing and teaching virtual classes, which allowing us to stay connected with our clients.

Ramona is supporting one of our high-risk individuals, ensuring her needs are met.

Rachel is virtual running activities, while maintaining a full schedule of face-to-face supports.

Karen, Pam, Laura, Matt, and Jill G continued to provide in person support for clients, helping them maintain their independence, and keeping them safe and active.

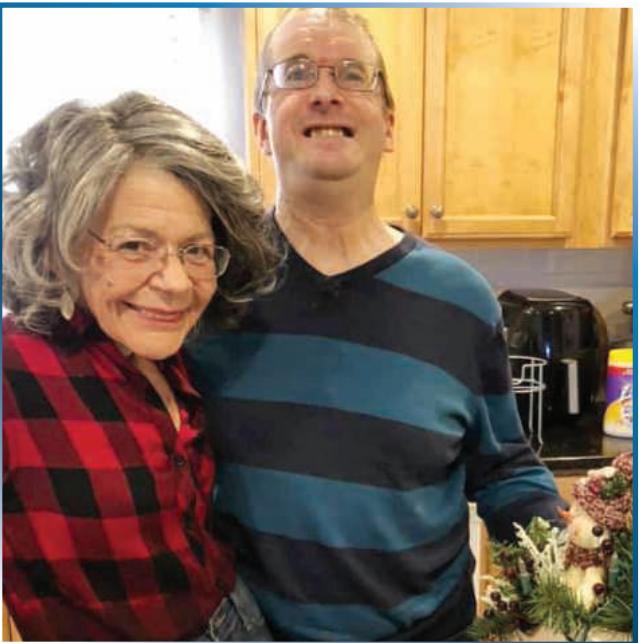
Thank you all for your hard work and dedication! We are so proud to work with you! 🙌



Saying Goodbye To Denise

THE PLUS COMPANY IS SAD TO ANNOUNCE

the passing of Denise Morrison. Denise began working at The PLUS Company in 1984 as a Behavioral Specialist. In 1989 she was promoted to Clinical Director. Denise was with PLUS for over 30 years and was much admired and loved. PLUS Company Client Donald remembers Denise and their time together, saying "We had so much fun over the years, and I'm glad she is now in a happy place. Denise was always one of my strongest advocates." Our deepest sympathies go out to her friends and family from all of our staff and clients. 🙌



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