



The PULSE

COMMENT BOX CORNER

Vaccines, QAPI and vacation days

Q: Is it possible to make the vaccine mandatory for staff? Since we all work with high risk folks in a nursing home, it seems in everyone's best interest to be vaccinated.

A: For now, getting the COVID-19 vaccine remains a personal choice. The pandemic, however, is not over, and we're faced with an aggressive new variant. Because of that, state and federal governments are strongly considering mandatory vaccination for all health care workers. If a new regulation impacts CHCC, we will do what it takes to maintain compliance, as we have throughout the pandemic.

Q: Can there be some copies of QAPI for staff to have and study and reference to?

A: Thanks for asking about QAPI, which is the system we

use to monitor and improve the way we deliver care and do business here at CHCC. An overview of our QAPI Plan is on Page 3. We do not distribute copies of specific QAPI activities or meeting minutes because those contain confidential information. I would be happy to talk with any team member about specific things we are working on through the QAPI process. Ask me anytime! You also can explore the QAPI board, which is next to the corporate compliance board and across from the kudos board in the hallway outside the recre-



by **Tonja Myers**
Administrator

Please see *Comments* on Page 4

A reminder about smoking at CHCC

CHCC is a smoke-free and vape-free care center. Vaping, smoking tobacco or using marijuana/cannabis is not allowed on the premises, whether inside or outside the building. This includes all smoking options, such as cigarettes, cigars, pipes, e-cigarettes and others.

Staff members who smoke are asked to do so in or near their car and to properly dispose of all cigarette butts.



Like or share CHCC's Facebook posts with your friends and family to help others learn about job openings, volunteer opportunities, donation requests and more.

facebook.com/christianhealthcare

LeadingAge statement on vaccinations

LeadingAge Washington, of which CHCC is a member, shared on its website recently a joint statement in support of COVID-19 vaccination mandates for all workers in health and long-term care. The opening paragraphs of the statement are printed below; the full piece is available online at <https://bit.ly/vaccinestatement>.

From LeadingAge:

“Due to the recent COVID-19 surge and the availability of safe and effective vaccines, our health care organizations and societies advocate that all health care and long-term care employers require their workers to receive the COVID-19 vaccine. This is the logical fulfillment of the ethical commitment of all health care workers to put patients as well as residents of long-term care facilities first and take all steps necessary to ensure their health and well-being.

“Because of highly contagious variants, including the Delta variant, and significant numbers of unvaccinated people, COVID-19 cases, hospitalizations and deaths are once again rising throughout the United States. Vaccination is the primary way to put the pandemic behind us and avoid the return of stringent public health measures.

“Unfortunately, many health care and long-term care personnel remain unvaccinated. As we

move towards full FDA approval of the currently available vaccines, all health care workers should get vaccinated for their own health, and to protect their colleagues, families, residents of long-term care facilities and patients. This is especially necessary to protect those who are vulnerable, including unvaccinated children and the immunocompromised. Indeed, this is why many health care and long-term care organizations already require vaccinations for influenza, hepatitis B, and pertussis.”

The statement on mandatory vaccination is co-signed by a long list of professional medical organizations, including the American Academy of Family Physicians; American Academy of Nursing; American Association of Neuroscience Nurses; American College of Physicians; American Medical Association; American Nurses Association; American Public Health Association; Association of Rehabilitation Nurses; Council of Medical Specialty Societies; LeadingAge; National Council of State Boards of Nursing; National League for Nursing; National Medical Association; Society of Hospital Medicine; Society of Infectious Diseases Pharmacists; Wound, Ostomy, and Continence Nurses Society and many more.

Visit the webpage at <https://bit.ly/vaccinestatement> to view all of them.

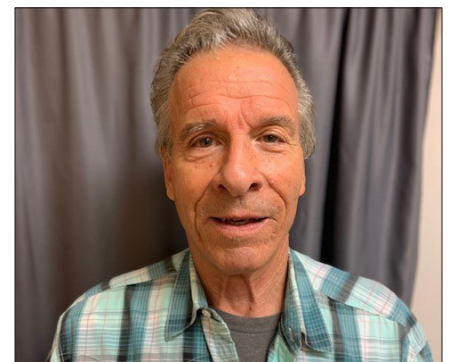
Welcome to CHCC!



Amber - Housekeeping



Ella - NAC



Peter - Transportation



Reagan - DRA

Reminders about driving speed, parking

Now that we have visitors here again, it is time to leave the parking spaces on each side of the rehab entrance open. Many of our visitors are older people who would benefit from priority access to the parking spaces that are closest to the building. Thank you for your help.

In addition, please be sure to watch your speed in the CHCC parking lots. People have been observed going too fast in the parking lots and driveways. When cars are driving faster than 10 mph in the lots, that can create unsafe environments for those walking to or from work and/or visits. Thank you for your cooperation!

#CHCCTeamwork



**TREATS
INCOMING!**

**LOOK FOR:
POPCORN AUG.
16, NACHOS AUG.
18, POTATO CHIPS
AUG. 19 AND ICE
CREAM AUG. 20.**

HEALTH & SAFETY

CHCC QAPI Plan overview

The CHCC QAPI Plan is designed to establish and maintain an organized, facility-wide program that is data-driven and that utilizes a proactive approach to improving quality of care and services throughout the facility.

The plan is a living document that will continue to be refined and revisited. It is written in accordance with the facility's mission statement.

The plan was established on June 16, 2021, and will be evaluated at least annually and as needed.

The objectives of the QAPI Plan include:

1. Maintain and grow a facility-wide process to identify opportunities of improvement through continuous attention to quality of care, quality of life and resident choice and safety.
2. Address gaps in systems or processes.
3. Ensure adequate provision of staffing, time, equipment and technical training resources.
4. Establish clear expectations around safety, quality, rights, choice and respect.
5. Continually improve the quality of care and services provided to our residents.

The current goals in the QAPI Plan are:

Goal 1: Develop a stable workforce by increasing nursing assistant (NAC) class graduate retention over a year from 56 percent to 65 percent by June 1,

2022.

Goal 2: Reduce the percentage of resident falls with major injury by June 1, 2022.

Goal 3: Identify current shower transport plans for all residents and decrease use of shower chair transport practice by June 1, 2022.

Goal 4: Have fewer than 20 employee incidents resulting in claims from July 1, 2021, to June 1, 2022.

Goal 5: Clarify our emergency communication action plan and ensure all staff are aware of and able to access it as needed by June 1, 2022.

Goal 6: Sixty-five percent of residents who participate in the biking program will see a decrease in their PHQ9 Depression Scale scores during the months that the program is running (approximately May through September). Sixty-five percent of residents who participate in the program will report an increase in positive emotion as measured by a brief questionnaire given before and after each ride. Positive comments or indicators of enjoyment such as smiles and laughter will be recorded by the pilots for each resident ride to include those who are unable to participate verbally in the questionnaire.

For more information about Christian Health Care Center's QAPI processes, or to read a complete copy of the QAPI Plan, please send an email to chccqapi@chcclynden.org.

COMMENT BOX

Continued from Page 1

ation center.

Q: I finally sat down to figure out some vacation days in Paycom, but the request was denied. Why?

A: First, any questions about vacation should be referred to your supervisor. There was probably a conflict with other employees who had already been granted vacation on those days. We must grant vacation on a first come, first served basis to be fair to all. We must ensure we have enough staff here each day to take care of our residents and facility. Be sure you are asking well in advance. Always get approval before buying tickets, booking hotels, etc. Also, please understand that we must do our best to grant holidays off in an equitable manner. So, if you have Christmas off, for example, it is not likely that you also will get New Years' Day off, too.

KUDOS



CHCC team, thank you for being here and for doing what you do: caring for people (residents, each other) with compassion and love in Christ's name. Because of you, people find it easy to be here. That means a lot.

Attached: Participant Surveys

Our mission is to provide skilled nursing care with compassion and love in Christ's name, and we hope that each person who receives care here experiences that.

One way that we measure our team's effectiveness is by asking for feedback from people who have been therapeutic rehab patients here. When they share their experiences, they help us learn and grow and remain a trusted resource for our community.

Attached to this edition of The Pulse, you'll find the results from rehab patient surveys that were collected from April through June. Please note that COVID-19 operations continue to impact some of the survey results.

As always, the results of the survey show that there are a few areas for improvement. If you have suggestions for any items that produced "average" or "improvement needed" results, please email chccqapi@chcclynden.org. CHCC's QAPI committee may select and assign Performance Improvement Projects (PIPs) based on your feedback!

