Dear Friends,

Welcome to the Senior Buzz- our June newsletter!

We truly cannot begin to express our sincere gratitude for this amazing community of caring. As an essential service, our agency is facing a myriad of challenges due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Thanks to all of you and your kindness, we are able to meet these challenges while helping those in need. From charitable donations, to volunteer service prepping food and delivering meals, to donations of masks (including hundreds that were handmade) and other materials, you are indeed a community of caring!

As many of you know, to protect the health and well-being of our staff, volunteers and clients, we have also reconfigured our daily operations. This has helped us continue to serve current clients as well as the new ones we are now serving. Our heartfelt thanks to our staff- this was a significant undertaking. Each day our team comes to
work with a singular purpose: to support the needs of our clients in helping them age safely and securely at home.

Thank you and be well.

Sincerely,

Meghan Brady

jon eriquezzo

Help Build Awareness!

June 15, 2020 is World Elder Abuse Awareness Day

Every year on June 15th, communities around the world join together to raise awareness of elder abuse, neglect, and exploitation. World Elder Abuse Awareness Day (WEAAD) is an opportunity to renew our commitment to preserving the rights of older adults – including the basic human right to live with dignity, free from abuse and neglect.

St. Joseph Community Services is proud to protect our seniors, by working each day to support healthy aging across Hillsborough County. To learn more, please visit: https://nationaltoday.com/world-elder-abuse-awareness-day/

EVENTS YOU CAN'T MISS!

Please consider a donation to SJCS during NH GIVES from Tuesday, June 9th, at 6:00 PM to Wednesday, June 10th at 6:00 PM. This year, there has been an exciting addition! Matching

In 2016, Home Instead Senior Care Foundation established GIVE65 to inspire greater charitable giving in support of nonprofit organizations that serve low-income, vulnerable seniors. Since
donations from a fund of $260,000 which is first come-first served. So the earlier you donate, the better chance for your donation to be matched, up to $1,000. NH Gives, is an initiative of the NH Center for Nonprofits. This is a powerful, statewide 24-hour online fundraising event that is designed to build community, connect donors to local nonprofits and generate excitement about the nonprofit sector. To learn more, or to support us in this campaign, please visit: https://www.nhgives.org/organizations/sjcs-mealsonwheels

then, more than $1.6 million has been raised and awarded to senior-focused nonprofits throughout the United States. Home Instead Senior Care Foundation is proud to present GIVE65, in collaboration with generous sponsors sharing our mission, to help seniors in need. St. Joseph Community Services is excited to be part of this nationwide event being held July 15th-17th. Mark your calendars! For details, please visit: https://www.give65.org/sjcsnhmow

Start your engines!
Smokin' Wheels for Hot Meals is on the fast track for Sunday, October 11th, 9:00 AM-5:00 PM

SAVE THE DATE!
Sunday, October 11th, 9 AM to 5 PM
Smokin' Wheels for Hot Meals
Charity Lap Rally, Classic Car Zone, and Parade Lap!
Club Motorsports, Tamworth, NH
benefiting SJCS Meals on Wheels
Tickets on sale now!
https://www.mealsonwheelsnh.org/

We’re excited to announce that our signature event—Smokin' Wheels for Hot Meals is off to a smokin’ start! This unique fundraiser will take place in scenic Tamworth, NH at Club Motor Sports, an amazing racing venue: http://www.clubmotorsports.com/
Keeping Seniors Safe: Donors and volunteers are at the heart of our cause

The COVID-19 pandemic has profoundly impacted our state, changing the way we go about our daily lives. Along with generous financial support, SJCS has experienced an outpouring of community support and kindness. From making masks to volunteering as Meals on Wheels drivers, many have worked to keep seniors safe at home. In the photos below, you can see that the ongoing meal delivery was a well-choreographed undertaking. And here are a few of our COVID-19 numbers:

Number of meals delivered relative to C-19 initiatives: **14,169**
Number of additional volunteers to help deliver these meals: **40**
Number of homemade masks donated to our drivers: **Over 800**
In the Community
Out and about with St. Joseph Community Services

Prior to the stay at home COVID-19 order, the SJCS Meals on Wheels team was active throughout the community.

Highlights included:

**Boston Billiards Club and Casino** hosted a week long fundraiser for our agency which raised approximately $61,000. Thank you to Kurt and Susan Mathias, Gia Bonilla and the team at Boston Billiards!

SJCS President Meghan Brady and Vice President Jon Eriquezzo met with NH Congressman Chris Pappas re: federal support for our work. Thank you congressman for your commitment to seniors in need.

Benefit concert at Nelson's Candy and Music in Wilton. Organized by SJCS Driver.
Curt Simpson, area bands played 10 hours in support of our agency - thank you Curt for organizing! The show raised nearly $1,000 for vulnerable seniors.

Vice President Jon Eriquezzo spoke to a number of community groups about our mission, engagements included the Queen City Rotary Club and the Nashua Breakfast Exchange Club.

Heart warming—our good friend Barbara Walden and her colleagues at the Nashua Breakfast Exchange Club, along with our former SAC Coordinator, Steve Ayotte organized a donation of hundreds of carnations to our clients in the Nashua area, just in time for Valentine’s Day!

Volunteer Spotlight

"It just fills your heart."

SJCS volunteer and new board member driven by agency’s cause

For Kayla McDonald of Access Pointe, there’s no such thing as a “typical” day as a volunteer Meals on Wheels driver. “I love my work and the challenges it offers each day,” she said recently.
"I absolutely love this role," she says, the enthusiasm evident in her voice. “Over time, you bond with clients. I know they look forward to seeing us, but to be honest, we are just as much looking forward to seeing them too and finding out how they are doing.”

Earlier this year, Kayla stepped up and joined the SJCS Board of Directors. “She’s been a wonderful addition to our volunteer leadership team,” said Joan Barretto, Director of Development. “She brings a great depth of knowledge of our work to the table.”

With the percentage of NH’s senior population among the highest in the country, Kayla is gratified knowing that the volunteer service she is providing is helping people remain in their homes as long as possible. “To be able to live safely and independently is so very important to our clients,” she said. “To be able to play even a small part of that, just fills my heart.”

A Community of Caring
Our heartfelt thanks to the individuals, foundations and businesses who made donations from 1/1/20 - 4/30/20*

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Though we appreciate all of our donors and have taken great care to compile this list, mistakes do happen. If you have made a donation and do not see your name on this list, please contact Joan Barretto at j.barretto@sjcsinc.org.

Step-Up 5k Run-Walk canceled

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, our 5K Run-Walk scheduled for May 30th had to be canceled. Thank you to our kind sponsors and supporters, we look forward to "lacing up" in 2021!

We are so sorry to have to make this announcement but St. Joseph Community Services has made the difficult decision to cancel our 2nd Annual Step-Up 5K Run-Walk for Meals on Wheels scheduled for May 30th, 2020 due to the COVID-19 (Coronavirus) outbreak and out of concern for the health of everyone involved.

All registered runners will be refunded their full entry fee less the credit card processing fee. We ask for your patience as it may take a few weeks to accomplish this.

We would like to extend our heartfelt gratitude to those of you who have already registered or were planning to do so in the future. The Nashua Parks and Rec will kindly hold this same weekend at Mine Falls Park for next year’s Step-Up and we will be happy to welcome you back in 2021!

We appreciate your understanding and support during this unprecedented time in our history, and we encourage you to get outside and run, walk, hike, bike, or whatever you can do to stay healthy in accordance with recommended guidelines.

Thank you and be well!

Stay Connected!

To keep up with the latest news about our agency,
please visit our digital news platforms:

Facebook: https://www.facebook.com/mealsonwheelsnh/

LinkedIn: https://www.linkedin.com/in/st-joseph-community-services-b3ab9b9a/

Twitter: https://twitter.com/MoWSJCS