

SOFTWARE SELECTION TEAM

By Blanche Mae Couture

And.....they're off....

The Requests for Proposal for our new Clinical / Case Management Software were emailed to 8 software vendors on January 14th. This is a huge milestone in our software search and the culmination of a lot of hard work on the part of the Software Selection Team.

While we wait until February 24th for the software vendors to respond, the team will be developing a plan for "scoring" the responses when they arrive so we can do that quickly and efficiently. The team will also be developing a "script" for the software demonstrations that will be done by the 3 or 4 vendors who come closest to meeting all of our needs at a reasonable price. The demonstrations will take place between March 15th and April 2nd and, assuming we are able to identify a vendor/product package that comes very close to meeting all our needs, the final decision will be made by April 12th.

Once we select a vendor, the implementation process will begin. It will likely be late 2010 or early 2011 before we will be up and running with the new software.

The software team is made up of Melissa French, Melody Swank, Wendy Nemet, Barbara Alberda, Margaret Brochu, Nancy Gavel and Blanche Couture. If you have any questions about the software or the process, feel free to ask any of us.

HALL OF FLAGS RALLY

By Margaret Cardoza

CPI is a non-profit agency so we have some responsibilities in respecting boundaries to perform our roles well when it comes to conversations about politics:

This info is intended to be non-partisan and educational, guidelines:

Provide full information but not promote a specific party or candidates.

Learning the issues: don't use phrases like, right side, wrong side, but rather support or opposes. Don't promote the right or correct position on an issues, rather encourage voters to identify what the individual and community needs are and look for elected officials whom support those needs.

Offer equal information about officials, such as voting records and unedited statements by legislators.

Don't wear or use symbols of a particular party or issue on t shirts, buttons, signs or insignia while representing Community Partners, Inc.

In example: what an employee can say or not:

Housing is a critical issue in this election, and not all of the candidates support affordable housing. Yes, this can be said as it encourages a person to learn about the candidates.

Or

If you do not vote, the candidates who are elected into office may make decisions that adversely affect you. Yes, this can be said as no particular party is mentioned and the emphasis is on voting.

This is how I demonstrated the use of the above techniques recently:

A press release rally was scheduled on Jan 12th at the Hall of Flags at the State House capital in Augusta.

CPI is a member of "Maine can do better" which opposes state budget cuts. The Maine heritage Policy (MHP) center opposes tax increases and is in favor of the budget cuts.

I obtained a copy of the Governor's proposal that was presented to legislators. I called for clarity on one item. The item stated that direct care hours would be reduced. When I called, it was explained that this item would affect Alpha one service. Whereas another statement in the budget proposal says "reduces funding based on a 10% reduction to the rates paid to providers... which does affect CPI.

With this info of both sides, I presented it to the people we serve and asked them if they would like to go to the rally. Their decision was yes.

I provided each person with the names of their legislators and we went to the rally. Some people found their legislators some did not. Others wrote letters to their legislator.

As a friendly reminder, a majority of people we serve are citizens and have the right to vote and practice democracy. Did the MHP center convey this message? Did the Maine can Do Better convey it? Some TV stations did not present this information in a politically correct manner.

My question is; did anyone see me on TV with my poster? Was my poster politically correct?

BINGO!

Emily, Alex and Jesse are looking for small new donated items to give as Bingo prizes. Please bring items to Community Inclusion Program in the Central Office Building. Our extension is 104 if you need to call. We will be hosting Bingo on the last Monday of the month unless we put out a memo. *Thanks!*

JAN 2010

PARTNERS IN PRINT



A MONTHLY PUBLICATION BY COMMUNITY PARTNERS, INC

GOING GREEN IN THE NEW YEAR

By Melissa French

Everyday I walk by the wall in the business office that has a handwritten version of our updated Vision, Mission and Values. Over the past few months I have found myself particularly drawn to the following pieces:

Mission: *We commit to the sustainability of the larger community through conscious exchange in resources and commodities.*

Value: *Contributing to a peaceful and sustainable world through social responsibility*

I thought about what the definition of sustainability really was so I went to the dictionary and found the following:

Sustainability: *it is the potential for long-term maintenance of well-being, which in turn depends on the well-being of the natural world and the responsible use of natural resources.*

As I began to wonder exactly how CPI was committing to this Mission and Value of sustainability and social responsibility I discovered in myself a need to take it one step further. So, here I am taking ONE big step forward. I have decided to start a 'Go Green' Campaign within CPI as we embark on this new decade. I have spent the last couple of weeks trying to figure out just how to move forward and find myself both excited and a bit overwhelmed by the amount of information, resources and opportunities that are available to us. In order to not get 'snowed under' I decided to start with something that is already in the works within CPI and that is **Green Cleaning**. Back in November there were four programs that participated in a pilot program to "green clean" for a month. The feedback we received about how well it worked was very positive. In response, we will go to Green Cleaning throughout the agency. If you have not already heard about this initiative more information will be coming your way very soon.

My hope is to introduce a new focus each month that is centered on sustainability. If you are interested in supporting this campaign in any way (whether meeting with the green team, sharing resources, ideas, etc.) please give me a call, send me an e-mail or leave me a note on RECYCLED PAPER!

Check out the green tips now being included on your paychecks and for future green articles in the PIP.



JANUARY 2010

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2010 HOLIDAYS

New Year's Day	January 1st
Memorial Day	May 31st
Independence Day	July 4th
Labor Day	September 6th
Thanksgiving Day	November 25th
Christmas Day	December 25th

DEMENTIA SUPPORT GROUP

3rd Monday of the Month

3:00 PM

Classroom 3 Community Partners, Inc.
443 Main Street
Biddeford, Maine 04005

January 18, 2010 Alzheimer’s Disease and Down Syndrome—An overview of the correlation between Down Syndrome and Alzheimer's Disease and the tendency for People with Down's Syndrome to develop Seizures along with Alzheimer's Disease. Presented by Betsey Palmer, Clinical Team Leader and Laurie Peterson, RN, Community Partners, Inc.

February 15, 2010 What is Hospice?—An overview of hospice, who is appropriate, and having a conversation before the crisis. Presented by Bonnie Cloukey, LCSW, Outreach Coordinator, Hospice of Southern Maine

March 15, 2010 Finding and Accessing Community Resources—There are many supports and services in the community for people helping someone with dementia. This class will highlight available resources and explain how to access them. Presented by Ann O'Sullivan, Family Caregiver Specialist with SMMA,

April 19, 2010 Spirituality, Rituals, and Stress Coping Strategies—Many caregivers have trouble taking care of their own needs as they provide so much care for the needs of others. Whether you feel guilty for taking time out for yourself, or if you just feel like you don't have the time to take, consider this perspective: If you don't take care of yourself, you won't have anything left to give. Join us for a discussion of coping strategies that include holistic approaches to stress reduction and the importance of rituals. Presented by Lee Donovan, Clinical Coordinator, Community Partners, Inc.

May 17, 2010 Visual Changes with Aging and Perceptual Changes with Dementia—Presented by Caitlyn Blodget and Kathy Clarrage, Mobility Specialists, DHS, Division for the Blind and Visually Impaired.

Do you know someone with Dementia or Alzheimer’s Disease? Are you a family care giver? Are you a paid caregiver? Are you a friend? Are you a daughter? A sister? A brother? A nephew? What ever your relationship, join us for information, to share your story, or to just listen.

FMI Contact Barbara Alberda, Support Group Facilitator, at 229-4308.

CPI employees that support individuals with Dementia may be paid to attend these educational/support groups

JANUARY MILESTONES

1 year anniversary: Jane Bradley Nancy Quindelan Timothy Sirois Jason Tuthill	2 year anniversary: Lauri Berry Nicole Libbey	3 year anniversary: Kathy Marcial Sarah Searle	5 year anniversary: Faith Pelletier Harri Sterling 7 year anniversary: Holly Ayoob Steven Caya 8 year anniversary: Karen Keefe Shiloh Legere 10 year anniversary: Jodie Goulet	Dawn Wrisley Linda Desmond 12 year anniversary: Joseph Gallant Angela Hamilton 13 year anniversary: Rikki Pease Lorenzo Raffa 21 year anniversary: Paulette Sterling Harley Thibodeau Community Partners Inc. welcomes: Michelle Thomes Leroy Tripp Casey Blanchette Sandra Chick
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FEBRUARY MILESTONES

1 year anniversary: Lawrence H. Coolidge Jr.	2 year anniversary: Tina A. Cote	3 year anniversary: Nitasha L. Bobb Jaymi M. Sullivan	5 year anniversary: Theresa L. Burgess Donna M. Cogill Norman Paradise	7 year anniversary: James H. Ferjet Ricky A. Musial	12 year anniversary: Cynthia L. Chase Jennifer L. Staggs 13 year anniversary: Margaret E. Cardoza 14 year anniversary: Pamela G. Foster 16 year anniversary: Karen A. Sullivan David VanTassel 18 year anniversary: Janet Boudreau James J. Campbell Jr. Danny B. Willey	22 year anniversary: Patricia L. Christman Community Partners Inc. welcomes: Traci K. Anderberg Lorrie A. Berube Bernarine Davis Jeanna C. Davis Norman B. Fisher Andrew S. Foss Kathleen B. Harrington Laurie J. Hatch Stephanie J. Jackson Leslie A. Lacasse Kent D. Lipka	Brittany L. Martineau Barbara T. McMullin Lorraine K. Moore Joshua J. Nadeau Amy L. Purington Vincent S. Ratsavong Ricky P. Robitaille Jessica M. Smith Jessica M. Villandry Robinson I. Whitney
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