## **HCBS Community Update Newsletter**

Issue 10 | August 2019



### **August Updates**

We remain on track with the timeline for transitioning sites into the community. Transitions South completed its shift to new services and community based supports at the end of July. Individuals at Transitions North are participating in pre-planning processes in preparation for their shift into the community at the end of September.



Join us for **FREE** event at the Potter Park Zoo for activities, animal exhibits, information stations, and all the fun the Potter Park Zoo has to offer!

Saturday, September 14, 2019
1:00pm – 4:00pm
Potter Park Zoo
1301 Pennsylvania Ave, Lansing, MI
48912

#### **Spotlight Stories**

Erin Parcell, MA, LPC | Transitions Coordinator

I am excited to share another amazing story of skill building with all of you. This month, we would like to recognize Lashanda. Before the shift in our service delivery, Lashanda was attending our Transitions Mason site and, while there, she was focused on staying active in her community.

Lashanda has had the opportunity in the past 15 years to both work at the Transitions North workshop



as well as step out as an entrepreneur to run her own business. Her business was called "Lashanda's Sanitary Supply" and she worked with pride along with supports from Transitions staff to stock the sanitary supplies in the women's restrooms at the CMHA-CEI buildings. Along with this paid work, Lashanda had been volunteering weekly at her church assisting in the assembly of the Sunday bulletins.

In the past 6 months, Lashanda has been exploring what types of volunteer work appeals to her and she has found a spot at the Holt Senior Center helping to clean their bingo cards as well as any other tasks that they need her to do when she arrives. She finds meaning in her time and states "I'm glad I can stop the germs from spreading when I help clean the cards." When asked how she feels about volunteering, she states, "I like it a lot! I don't want to sit at home!" She goes on to share that her end goal is to "get a paycheck and work at an office. This volunteer help will give me experience." When asked what she is looking for in a place to work, Lashanda replied, "I like working with people and meeting new friends." With her determination, positive attitude and motivation to problem solve any barriers to success, Lashanda is well on her way!

#### **Independent Facilitation**

An Independent Facilitator is an individual who facilitates the Person-Centered Planning (PCP) process in collaboration with the individual. Individuals' receiving support from CMHA-CEI have a right to choose an independent or external facilitator for their PCP. An independent facilitator must not have any other role within CMHA-CEI and must be trained to be an Independent Facilitator. You might use an Independent Facilitator when: you want your needs and desire put forward by someone who doesn't decide what will be paid for, you are concerned that your plan will not become action, you need changes in your life, or you want control of planning your life. CMHA-CEI contracts with the Disability Network Capital Area (DNCAP) to offer the option of independent facilitation to our recipients. Learn more about DNCAP in the community resource section of the August newsletter.





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# Check out these community resources!



Learn more about DNCAP here: www.dncap.org (517) 999-2760 **Disability Network Capital Area (DNCAP)** is your community resource. They combine experience and peer-support in delivering services to people with disabilities and their families. On a larger scale, they partner with community agencies, schools, and businesses to improve quality of life. Services are provided onsite and various community locations.

**Independent Facilitation:** DNCAP contracts with CMHA-CEI to offer independent facilitation of Person Centered Planning as an option to our recipients. To learn more about independent facilitation, please refer to the article in the August Newsletter.

**DNCAP Mission**: "Transforming thinking to improve the environment and quality of life for people with disabilities."