

HAPPY NEW YEAR!

I hope that you all had a wonderful time with friends, family, and care givers this Christmas & holiday season! Thank you to all of you for taking the time out of your day to complete our bi-annual care conferences in December. The staff and I plan to meet in January to review and recap all of the important discussions we have had with many of you. The next scheduled care conferences will not be held until June of 2019.

2018 was such a fun year with you and your loved ones! This past year was filled with growth, laughter, community activities, and friendships – All of which we plan to continue with in 2019! We look forward to the beginning of a new year with all of you and are grateful we have the opportunity to be a part of your life.

In January 2019, we have a number of life enrichment outings planned. Please keep in mind that all outings are subject to the winter weather. To start, on Friday, January 11th, we will be heading to the Care Center to watch ‘Tori’s Precious Pets – Traveling Pet Show’! In addition we will be attending the Northfield Montessori on Monday, January 14th and Thursday, January 24th. All above outings are free of charge. Finally, we will be attending Jesse James Lanes on Wednesday, January 30th and Thursday January 31st. Your loved one will need \$3.50 on the days we attend the bowling alley. If you have a trust account set up with Vital Link, we will be withdrawing \$3.50 per person in case they would like to participate in bowling. If you do NOT want your loved one to attend an outing, you will need to let myself or another staff member know and we can plan accordingly.

We are thankful that we are able to continue to spend time with our wonderful volunteers in 2019! We have Josh and his kids coming, Pastor John Quam, Isabelle, David, and our newest volunteer Rachel that will be spending time with us in January 2019! Thank you to those of you who volunteered your time to enrich the lives of the clients in 2018 and to those who plan to volunteer their time in 2019, you are so appreciated!

A few Vital Link updates and friendly reminders for the future:

- Vital Link will be *closed* on Tuesday, January 1st in honor of New Year’s Day. Vital Link will be back *open* Wednesday, January 2nd.
- Reminder to wear your best hat on Tuesday, January 15th in honor of National Hat Day!
- I will be out of the office on Wednesday - January 16th, Thursday – January 17th, and Wednesday – January 30th
 - **Please call the main Vital Link number on these dates at 507-664-8869.** This will ensure your message is relayed to a Vital Link staff member. I will return all calls and emails when I return to the office.
- The Vital Link 2019 Attendance Policy starts January 2019 – Thank you for your support on our new policy.
- It’s snowy season -
 - We ask that your driveways are clear of ice and snow during the winter months. This can help prevent accidents on icy surfaces for clients and staff.
 - Please be aware that the snow / ice may hinder our route times. Vital Link staff take driving in the snow / ice seriously and will drive slower when necessary.

From our Vital Link family to yours, we hope you all have a wonderful start to a new year!

With gratitude,

Alyssa (Woo) Bandel