

# CAMPUS CONNECTIONS

## EMPLOYEE NEWSLETTER

Issue 2

Vol 6

### FEBRUARY 2026

#### WHAT'S INSIDE

2

##### COMMUNITY SHOWCASE

SIERRA WHITE SINGS BROADWAY, TEAM SPORTS AT WALSH, GOLDEN STREET REGGAE, UPCOMING EVENTS, STAFF TEN AND UP EVENT

3

##### HIGHLIGHTS & OPPORTUNITIES

NEW LEAD JOB COACHES, OUTWARD INCLUSION, FIT FOR SUCCESS: TIER 2, PHI WINTER BOOSTERS

4-5

##### EMPLOYEE RESOURCES

OIG INVESTIGATION, NEW MIS PASSWORD REQUIREMENTS, AVOID PHISHING SCAMS, ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES PROJECT, EMPLOYEE ASSISTANCE PROGRAM, WELLSKY, SHIFTWIZARD

6

##### FOR YOUR CONSIDERATION

LOCAL BUSINESSES, WHY BLACK DISABLED HISTORY MATTERS, MISERICORDIA STAFF ON WHEEL OF FORTUNE

7-8

##### MONTHLY RECOGNITIONS

DEPARTMENT APPRECIATION, ANNIVERSARIES, WARM WELCOMES, IN MEMORIAM

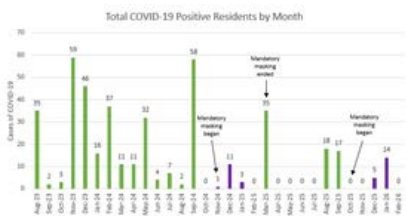
#### MESSAGE FROM THE HEART

"All that you touch, you change. All that you change, changes you."  
—Octavia E. Butler,  
American sci-fi author.

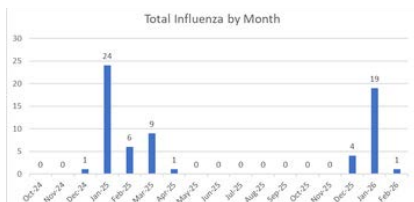


**Pictured:** Misericordia residents, staff, and families participating in several events in February: Valentine's Day Party, Golden Street Reggae, Greco Gardens Activities, Staff Appreciation Lunch, BHM Activities, Gym Wheel at Conway, Sing-Along, Sports Games, Maot Chitim of Greater Chicago.

## THANK YOU FOR PROTECTING OUR COMMUNITY



**Pictured:** Graph of COVID-19 positivity rates among residents. Click the image to enlarge. We had 190 resident COVID-19 cases in 2024, 92 cases in 2025, and 14 cases so far in 2026.



**Pictured:** Graph of influenza rates by month. Click the image to enlarge. By this point last flu season, we had 31 resident influenza cases. So far this season, we have had 24 cases.

Mandatory masking ends this Sunday, March 1. Given the low levels of acute respiratory illness on campus and across Chicago, this end date will remain in place. After March 1, masks will no longer be required when working with residents unless specifically indicated due to an illness or infection.

We thank everyone for supporting this initiative and helping to keep our residents healthy. We'd also like to share encouraging data related to respiratory illness trends at Misericordia. The number of COVID-19 and Influenza cases has been trending downwards over the past few years. While multiple factors contribute to this improvement, it is clear that staff attentiveness to masking, hand hygiene, and appropriate use of PPE has played an important role in protecting our community. So again, thank you for all that you do!



# COMMUNITY SHOWCASE

## SIERRA WHITE SINGS BROADWAY



**Pictured:** Residents, family, and staff at the Sierra White Concert (feat. Michael McBride) in Jean Marie Ryan Center on 2/1.

## TEAM SPORTS AT WALSH



**Pictured:** Residents, family, and staff playing basketball at a Team Sports event at Walsh.

## GOLDEN STREET REGGAE



**Pictured:** Residents, family, and staff at the Golden Street Reggae show in Jean Marie Ryan Center.

## UPCOMING EVENTS



- **MARLENE AND COMPANY LIVE!**
  - *In celebration of Black History Month*



- **SPECIAL OLYMPICS ILLINOIS**
  - *Powerlifting Event*
  - *Swim Meet Event*

Check Campus Connections Weekly Updates and Mis Biz for ongoing resident and staff events happening throughout the month, and visit the [Misericordia Facebook](#) page for recaps.

CELEBRATING

# TEN YEARS & UP

STAFF ANNIVERSARIES

16 APRIL 2026

*All staff celebrating their tenth anniversary or more at Misericordia are cordially invited to join the celebration!*

MISERICORDIA'S  
DEDICATED LONGTIME EMPLOYEES

**INVITES WILL BE SENT VIA MISERICORDIA EMAIL SOON**

## CAMPUS CONNECTIONS



# HIGHLIGHTS AND OPPORTUNITIES

## NEW LEAD JOB COACHES



**Pictured L to R:** Alma M (McGowan/OVN) and Sandra Y (McGowan/AM)

Congratulations to our newest Lead Job Coaches. Lead Job Coaches provide a high level of support and guidance for our new hires throughout their first year of employment. They are also active participants in developing and growing our new staff.

If you would like to learn more about being a Lead Job Coach, contact [shernandez@miserericordia.com](mailto:shernandez@miserericordia.com) and look for its job postings in the Campus Connections weekly updates.

## OUTWARD INCLUSION

### ARBINGER INSTITUTE

In an effort to continue upholding our value of inclusion, Misericordia is pleased to offer a professional development opportunity that centers on self-reflection and belonging. Created by the Arbinger Institute, Outward Inclusion will be a quarterly, half-day seminar geared toward "safe, honest, reflective, and productive conversation."

Additional information will be included in a later Campus Connections, so please be on the lookout and sign up to attend!

## FIT FOR SUCCESS: TIER 2 ESSENTIAL SKILLS FOR TEAMWORK

Graduation for Fit for Success is scheduled for March 19 (Group A) and March 26 (Group B). Twenty-four employees are currently enrolled in this quarter's FFS class. See their names below, and stay tuned for their graduation pictures.

Group A / (Area)	Group B / (Area)
Amy G / (DT)	Cris H / (DT)
Elena R / (DT)	Jasmine V / (DT)
Anthony P / (DT)	Cicley M / (DT)
Alyssa M / (Shannon)	Etina H / (Shannon)
Paulie G / (Behavior)	Kamden P / (Behavior)
Karina L / (CDS)	Adrienne G / (CDS)
Tim W / (Marian Center)	Allyson B / (Marian Center)
Joe T / (Marian Center)	Sarah T / (Shannon)
Babatunde O / (CILA)	Sandra Y / (McGowan)
Kayode O / (CILA)	Guido G / (Village)
Kevin I / (RCH)	Marina G / (CILA)
Sonnie N (Village)	Tanya W / (Marian Center)

## COMMIT TO YOUR OWN LEARNING AND GROWTH JOIN US AT AN UPCOMING PHI BOOSTER

We've all been to webinars and trainings that perhaps have not been that helpful to our day to day tasks. In our PHI Boosters, we strive to make the trainings relevant and pertinent to the work of leaders like you at Misericordia. Give yourself 90 minutes this season to invest in your learning and growth.

Look for an upcoming flyer next month!



# EMPLOYEE RESOURCES

## THE ROLE OF MISERICORDIA STAFF IN AN OIG INVESTIGATION

When an allegation of abuse or neglect is reported, Misericordia's trained internal investigators may conduct an investigation on behalf of the Office of the Inspector General (OIG). These investigators are Misericordia staff members who are certified to complete investigations in accordance with OIG requirements.

### How will I know if I am being asked to participate in an investigation?

You may receive a text from an investigator explaining who they are and asking to schedule an interview. The text may look something like this:

Hello, my name is \_\_\_\_\_. I assist with investigations at Misericordia. Are you available for a phone call with me today?

#### If you are contacted by one of our investigators:

- **Please respond promptly.** Timely communication is essential to ensure investigations are completed within required timelines.
- **Make yourself available.** Investigators may request interviews or written statements.
- **Be open and honest.**
- **Maintain confidentiality.** Information related to an investigation should not be discussed with coworkers or others who are not involved.

Not responding to an investigator can delay the investigation and may require follow-up from leadership.

These investigations are in place to protect the health and safety of the residents we support. Thank you for doing your part to help us maintain a safe environment.

[Click here](#) to enlarge and save for future reference.

## NEW MISERICORDIA PASSWORD REQUIREMENTS

To strengthen our overall security posture, we are updating our domain password requirements. All new passwords must meet the following criteria:

- Minimum of 14 characters; at least one uppercase letter; at least one lowercase letter; at least one number; at least one special character; a password cannot contain your first or last name.

TIPS: Here are a few methods to create a strong password you can actually remember.

1. Use the "Passphrase Method."
  - Pick 4-5 random words and connect them with unusual separators.
  - Example: Cactus!River-Window3Dance
2. Turn a Sentence You'll Never Forget Into a Code
  - Take the first letters of a memorable sentence or lyric you make up, not from copyrighted material.
  - Example: Sentence: "My dog Luna wakes me up at 6 every day!"
  - Password: Mdlwmu@6ed!
3. Mix Unrelated Concepts
  - Think of two totally unrelated themes and mash them together.
  - Example: Volcano\_TeaParty94
4. Use "Chunking."
  - Break the password into memorable pieces.
  - Example: Fox-17-Glass!Run

These requirements will be enforced immediately for all new staff. For current staff, the updated policy will take effect the next time you are prompted to change your password or have to reset your password.

## 8 TIPS TO AVOID EMAIL PHISHING SCAMS

- **Verify the sender's email address.** Scammers may pretend to be your bank, a colleague, or even a family member.
- **Call to verify requests.** If you are skeptical of any requests made in an email, call the source to verify.
- **Look for spelling errors.** Various spelling or grammatical errors within an email can indicate fraudulent activity.
- **Avoid opening unsolicited attachments.** Attachments can be embedded with malware, which, if opened, can steal information.
- **Never give out sensitive information.** Most legitimate companies will avoid asking for personal information via email.
- **Verify hyperlinks.** Before opening a hyperlink, hover over the link text to verify the linked web address.
- **Be wary of urgent messages.** People are more likely to give up sensitive information when pressured by a sense of urgency.
- **Contact IT or security teams.** If unsure of an email's validity, report it to your IT dept. or security team to have them investigate.



# EMPLOYEE RESOURCES (CONT'D)

## ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES PROJECT

The Environmental Services Project is underway with a clear focus on strengthening our operations and improving the quality of products used across our campus. The project goals include:

- **Strengthen Vendor Relationships:** Build collaborative partnerships for better service, innovation, and access to technology.
- **Save Money:** Leverage higher volumes to secure better pricing and terms.
- **Improve Efficiency:** Simplify operations, streamline workflows, and reduce campus traffic.
- **Enhance Quality:** Standardization ensures consistent results across all facilities.
- **Reduce Risk:** Simplify supply chain management and improve visibility.

It is important for our staff to know that some of the most used products may look different and come in different packaging, but Misericordia is committed to getting the best product at the most efficient price.

[Click here](#) to learn more.

## NEW RESIDENT CARE SYSTEM: WELLSKY

As Fr. Jack and Campus Connections previously shared, Misericordia has selected WellSky Specialty Care as our new Resident Care System, which will replace the current AWARDS platform. This decision follows several months of evaluation and vendor demonstrations with support from our consulting partner, A&M Consulting. **Our formal implementation work with the WellSky team will begin in early March 2026.** Please [click here](#) to read more.

## NEW TO SHIFTWIZARD

ShiftWizard offers a site called Knowledge Base. [Click here](#) to view multiple resources/user guides/videos to increase your understanding of how ShiftWizard works. Users can learn about MyCalendar, how to use the app, and how to utilize ShiftSwap. On this site, users can navigate to any of the offered resources that they wish.

## EMPLOYEE ASSISTANCE PROGRAM (EAP)

We understand that life can be challenging, and sometimes we all need a little extra support. If you feel that you need to speak to someone, you can use our Employee Assistance Program (EAP) for confidential services to help navigate personal and professional stressors or challenges.

### For employees enrolled in the medical plan offered by Misericordia

Health Advocate ([Click here](#) Health Advocate Flyer):  
Phone: 1-866.799.2728  
Email: [answers@HealthAdvocate.com](mailto:answers@HealthAdvocate.com)  
Web: [HealthAdvocate.com/members](http://HealthAdvocate.com/members)  
Employees who are not registered:  
registration code: SMJSELW

### For employees not enrolled in medical benefits through Misericordia

Employee Resource Systems or ERS doing business as AllOneHealth ([Click here](#) Core Service Flyer):  
Phone: 1- 800-292-2780  
Web: [ers-eap.com](http://ers-eap.com)  
Code: misericord

If you have any questions, please email [HRBenefits@misericordia.com](mailto:HRBenefits@misericordia.com).

## BREAK THE ICE WITH THESE CONVERSATION STARTERS WITH CO-WORKERS



Courtesy of [TeamBuilding.com](http://TeamBuilding.com)



What was your best class in school?



Which show do you remember most from your childhood?



What is your go-to TV show to watch at night?



# FOR YOUR CONSIDERATION

## LOCAL BUSINESSES FROM AROUND THE GLOBE

### BHM NATURE PLAY DAY

**Caldwell Woods Wellness Center**  
6350 West Devon Avenue, Chicago, IL 60646  
[details here](#)

### LUNAR NEW YEAR PARADE

Chinatown, Chicago, IL 60616  
[details here](#)

### TAZA BAKERY

3100 W Devon Ave. Chicago, IL 60659  
[details here](#)

### DOMINION DESIGNS & MEDIA

6127 S University Ave, Chicago, IL 60637  
[details here](#)

### LUNAR NEW YEAR AT 2D RESTAURANT

3155 N Halsted St, Chicago IL 60657  
[details here](#)

### NYC HALAL EATS

2657 W Devon Ave. Chicago, IL 60659  
[details here](#)

Additionally, check out these links from Choose Chicago and ABC7 to read about how the city celebrated the following:

[Black History Month in Chicago](#)

[Lunar New Year in Chicago](#)

[Religious Holidays Celebrated in Chicago](#)

Send us a tip! If you have recommendations for any local minority and women-owned businesses that Misericordia should know about it, [click here](#) and tell us about their goods and services. We may highlight your suggestion in future issues of Campus Connections!

## WHY BLACK DISABLED HISTORY MATTERS

Courtesy of [World Institute on Disability](#)

Black disabled history is an aspect of Black history that informs world history. Black History Month is officially celebrated every year in the U.S., Canada, Ireland, and the UK. During this month, we celebrate the achievements of Black leaders throughout history, and while many of these leaders also had a disability, that aspect is often minimized or overlooked. Black disabled people are multiply-marginalized, and more prominent awareness of the accomplishments of Black leaders, who are often also disabled, can help drive and inform systems change for the current and future generations of disabled people around the world.



Abolitionist Harriet Tubman (top left) and pianist and composer Thomas Wiggins (bottom right) are good examples to consider here. Tubman had epileptic seizures since she was 12, and is remembered for leading enslaved Black people through underground passageways to freedom. Wiggins was born blind and is celebrated for being the first Black person to perform at the White House.

Black disabled leaders such as [Fannie Lou Hamer](#), [Brad Lomax](#) (top left), Joyce Jackson, [Audre Lorde](#) (bottom right), Lois Curtis, Johnnie Lacy and many more championed civil rights and fought hard against ableism and racism. Black disabled history adds a comprehensive component to the way we interpret historical figures and events. It gives us a richer and clearer perspective on important moments today and throughout history.



## MISERICORDIA'S ROBIN J ON THE WHEEL OF FORTUNE



Robin J (pictured left), a McGowan/Rosemary Connelly staff will appear as a contestant on Wheel of Fortune! As many staff members know, Wheel of Fortune is a favorite TV program among residents at Misericordia. **All are invited to tune in on March 9 at 6:30 p.m.** to watch Misericordia's very own compete for a chance win big!



# MONTHLY RECOGNITIONS

## DEPARTMENT APPRECIATION

February follows another round of monthly appreciation for the various departments on campus. This month we hosted special events for the following areas:

- Dental Clinic
- Dietitians
- Doctors
- Medical Clinic Clerk
- Nurse Practitioners
- Respiratory Aides
- Therapists
- Therapy Equipment Technicians

We thank these departments for all they do in the lives of the residents.

## WELCOME NEW RESIDENTS



**Jake**

*Residence: Village*

- collects hats from different sports teams
- loves music, especially Lady Gaga



**Sam**

*Residence: Village*

- loves baseball and collects baseball cards
- loves to draw different characters (his family calls them Sam-ojis)



**Maggie**

*Residence: Village*

- loves to ride horses
- loves to watch cooking shows
- loves to swim, competitively and for leisure



**Bennet**

*Residence: CILA*

- loves to get involved in the community
- coaches cross country and track at Glenbard West



**Michael**

*Residence: Shannon Apts*

- worked in Jewel Osco for 10+ years
- loves to ride his bike
- loves to play sports and video games



**Kyle**

*Residence: Mercy Glen*

- likes to research on his iPad
- likes to watch King of the Hill
- likes to cook

## FEBRUARY ANNIVERSARIES

35. Nadine Downs
31. Melissa Cooper
30. Carolyn Sheehan
28. Lynette Coleman-Eaton, Adrienne Carter
26. Shereese Schaeffer
25. Rita Alviar, Yvonne Jordan
24. Judith Cavada
23. Redith Adraneda, Laura Goschy-Kos
22. Mirsada Gutosic
21. Cristina Roman Martinez
20. Ryan Rio
18. Rosa Pacheco, Ana Roman
17. Cathy Williams
16. Stephanie Catain, Azra Colpa
15. Michael Baldwin
14. Angela Brown, Daniel Driscoll, Sara Mulloy, Antoinette Oden, Darnika Scott
13. Valerie James-Campbell, Stephanie Tagle
12. Jason Black
11. Jena Cahill
10. Kevin McCartan, Shannon Giancarlo, Liam O'Donnell, Kristen Rice, Gregory Wagner
9. Katherine Alexander, Laera Benard, Shermaine Casimiro, Lizbeth Juarez, Monika Marek, Jillian Victorn, Alecica Young
8. Monica Taylor
7. Joana Aleman Delgado, Thomas McManus, Tychina Moore, Lea Weiner
6. LaKeelah Clark, Amy Johnston, Miles Lindholtz, Noah Styer, George Tonyi, Tsehayens Tsegaye, Jeremy Wyatt, Hyacinth Salazar, Corey Kurete
5. Dannielle Geronimo, Sierra Griffith, William Bledsoe, Mario Clara, Rozeeya Rai
4. Luz Diaz De Rivera, Kayden Byard, Kevin Perry, Danny Swieca, Angel Calderon, Cecelia Mejia
3. Santiago Almada Villar, Casey Kurete, Wesley Martin, Rosemarie Aco, Ariel Magsayo
2. Adrienne Green, Adrian Ibarra, Mohemmedabrar Joly, Brittany Morris, Julius Scott, Monica Woods, Taylor Foster, Amber Harvey, Diona Johnson, Samantha Lopez, Alexandra Manzano, Madeline Morales, Dakoby Valentin
1. Lesly Arenas, Tredayne Cabanlit, Kate Cacho, Alaina Cody, Courtney Johnson, Briana McKnight, Maquita Richardson, William Russell, Lydia Uyirwoth, Timesha Walker, Jasmine Johnson, Samir Saiyad, Patricia Chavez Hernandez, Chase Gilbertson, Safina Lubango, Tatsiana Churyla, Houda Djama, Destiny Duran, Lisa Evanoff, Brianna Johnson, Danielle McCoy, Aiyana Moore, Andrea Moore, Daniel Nguyen, Bliwon Oulai, Kevin Regalado, Eric Saunders, Haven Thompson, Katie Warren, Anthony Aguinaldo

## CAMPUS CONNECTIONS



# MONTHLY RECOGNITIONS (CONT'D)

## WELCOME NEW STAFF



**Awer, Noah** (CILA); **Flanders, Cateca** (Rosemary Home); **Flores, John Vincent** (McGowan); **Goodman-Lucker, Kerrick** (Mercy Glen); **Grissom, Deshanae** (Quinlan); **Gross, Dearriel** (Marian Center); **Harvey, Deja** (Shannon Apartments); **Jimenez, Kimberly** (Rosemary Park); **Kassis, Victoria** (CILA); **Little, Deyania** (Rosemary Park); **Loving, Alissa** (CDS); **Lyons, Cherokee** (Quinlan); **Mason, Jason** (Mercy Glen); **Moore, Avery** (CILA); **Moore, Hannah** (Connelly Home); **Mularz, Michael** (Mercy Glen); **Mwaura, Rose** (McAuley); **Oregel, Cynthia** (Marian Center); **Paz, Andres** (Rosemary Park); **Ramirez, Diana** (Shannon Apartments); **Ramirez, Lydia** (McAuley); **Rios, Ariel** (Mercy Glen); **Simmons, Rebecca** (Rosemary Park); **Stewart, James** (Quinlan); **Jimenez, Felix** (Rosemary Park); **Williams, McKinley** (Rosemary Park); **Blomquist, Aroma** (CILA); **Gooden, Shatiqua** (Main Nursing); **Ogunniyi, Titilayo (Susan)** (Main Nursing); **Barber, Tanisha** (Shannon Apartments); **Culpepper, Jason** (Village); **Foster, Morgan** (McAuley); **Garcia, Octavio** (Shannon Apartments); **Hernandez, Juan** (Rosemary Park); **Jiminez, James** (Mercy Glen); **Jones, Janisha** (CILA); **Lawal, Kyania** (Marian Center); **Oliver, Jessica** (Mercy Glen); **Owens, Quianna** (Shannon Apartments); **Phillips, Nichelle** (Connelly); **Pozen, Michelle** (Village); **Salgado, Dioselen** (McGowan); **Sumler, Ebony** (McAuley); **Velazquez, Mia** (McAuley); **Hoang, Trung** (McAuley)

## IN MEMORIAM

Our deepest condolences go to the loved ones of:



**Valerie H**  
(1969-2026)

*"Blessed are those who mourn, for they shall be comforted." Matthew 5:4*



Stay tuned for weekly Campus Connections updates sent via email. If you have any questions or feedback for us, send your messages [here](#)! Be sure to include your name, work area, and an email we can use to contact you!

Remember to use caution when opening and responding to emails. Every day, more than 3 billion phishing emails are sent out worldwide. These emails are tactics used by scammers to trick you into giving up sensitive information. [Click here](#) to find eight tips on how to avoid email phishing scams.