

## Welcome to Our Community



Dear Readers:

I'm so proud to introduce the first issue of our community "OUTREACH" newsletter. Our goal is to keep you informed about our innovative medical, therapeutic rehabilitation and recreational programs, as well as how we're planning to better serve our community.

In this issue and upcoming issues, we'll tell you about our community outreach programs where we provide blood pressure, vision and diabetes screening to organizations and churches at no cost. We'll tell you about our intergenerational programs where school children visit our residents and the positive impact that it is having. And, we'll invite experts to utilize the "OUTREACH" Newsletter to advise you about the latest in eldercare planning.

Over the years, Schnurmacher Center for Rehabilitation and Nursing has kept the focus on the well being of our residents and our community here in White Plains. Through a special collaboration with Burke Rehabilitation Hospital, we are able to provide unparalleled rehabilitative care. Our rehabilitative services allow our residents to return to the community and engage in the most active and productive life possible.

We are continually developing new programs to improve the care of our residents. For example, Schnurmacher was the first in the community to introduce the "Culture Change" concept which balances regulatory compliance with providing an environment that mirrors the safety, comfort, warmth and pleasures of home. The primary goal of the culture change model is to increase the resident's control in decision-making, while developing a positive social environment that fosters meaningful relationships between residents and caregivers alike. We also offer restaurant-style dining where residents can view the daily meal choices and then make their selections.

Recently, Schnurmacher held its annual Family Council dinner. The outpouring of warmth and appreciation from the family members of our residents letting us know that we are, in fact, improving the quality of life for their loved ones, was deeply gratifying.

To further enhance our community outreach program, we are in the process of establishing a Schnurmacher Advisory Board to help us better assess our community's changing healthcare needs and find ways in which we can better serve our neighbors.

Finally, I want to stress again the commitment by all of us at Schnurmacher to do all we can do to give our residents the best quality of life. We invite you to visit us or call with suggestions on how we can further help make our community a better, healthier place to live.

Linda C. Murray, Administrator

*A Member of the Beth Abraham family of Health Services*

## Free Screening Available

Once again, Schnurmacher Center for Rehabilitation and Nursing is volunteering their health care services to religious groups, organizations, and businesses in the Westchester area.

As part of their on-going commitment to contribute to the well-being of the community, Schnurmacher is volunteering its services to provide free blood pressure, diabetes and vision screenings and speakers who will discuss the importance of nutrition, exercise and how to improve the quality of one's life. Speakers can also address topical concerns such as implications of Medicare D or warning signs of heart disease or high blood pressure. These services are available at Schnurmacher's facility, or can be arranged at health fairs, church gatherings or at organizational meetings.



If your group has a specific health need or you want more information on these services, please call Schnurmacher's Administration at (914) 287-7205 so they can help you address your group's concerns.

## Our Family to Care for Your Family

Families who want to go on vacation, but are responsible for the care of an elder, now have an option. They can leave the medical, nursing, rehabilitation and



recreational care of their family member to Schnurmacher's skilled and nurturing staff. In a way, it's a temporary "home away from home" while a family is vacationing.

If you would like more information or know of another family who would benefit from this service, please call us at (914) 287-7229.

## "YES" Program Brings Teens to Schnurmacher

Schnurmacher selected eight White Plains High School students to work there from July 5-Aug 11 as part of the Youth Employment Services (YES) program of the City of White Plains Youth Bureau. This is the ninth year Schnurmacher has participated in the YES program.

For most of these bright, ambitious students, it is their first real paying job. Sara LaMattina, who is 16 years old, worked at Schnurmacher last summer in the Quality and Regulatory Management Department assisting with Power Point presentations and other clerical work. Lucille Donovan, her supervisor, said she was so quick and accurate that Sara would ask to help out in the Recreation Department after she'd complete her daily assignments.

"It was a great experience all around," said Sara, "starting with orientation on my first day of work, and learning what is considered good work ethics, proper dress and what my employer expects of me. What I didn't anticipate," she continued, "was to get so attached and involved with the staff and patients."

Last fall, when Sara began her sophomore year at school, she came back to Schnurmacher, but this time as a volunteer, and yes, it was in the Recreation Department.



*A Member of the Beth Abraham Family of Health Services*

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