

News from our Education Chair

Greetings from Education,

I hope everyone is staying warm and planning lots of fun activities for your Residents during this time of year. Our 2015 Conference is well underway. After going through all the surveys of the last conference, and getting ideas from you, our speakers are getting lined up. Please make sure to mark your calendar for this year's conference will be on Wednesday, October 14th-Friday, October 16th.

I would like to thank you for your input for speakers, themes, etc. for this year. Without you, RAP would not be possible. Again, it's never too late for ideas.

Please feel free to email me at kimberly.cline@genesishcc.com if you have ideas for speakers or topics you would like to hear. I appreciate all of your input.

Thank you,

Kim Cline Education Chair

2015 Banquet News

Happy New Year everyone! I hope everyone is staying safe and warm. We are working on narrowing down a theme for next year. Thank you so much for all your suggestions. Make sure you set aside the dates for this year's conference.

Tammy Point Banquet Coordinator Activities Director Lima Manor

Publicity and Legislation

Hello everyone! The winter weather is upon us and cabin fever is settling in the residents. Let us pray for an early spring!

As Publicity Chair, I would again like to remind you about the Facebook page. Slowly but surely most of you have "liked" the page, but please use it as a forum to connect with others and ask questions. RAP also has a LinkedIn account now so be sure to check that out. RAP has a long and strong history of education and connection, and technology has allowed us to gather in the comfort of our homes. Also, share this page with your staff. Don't forget how important it is to have top notch educated staff. They are the front line and to save yourself time (and sometimes headache) encourage your staff to educate themselves through RAP.

As the Legislation Chair I have a couple topics to discuss this quarter:

1. The use of antipsychotics is still a hot topic in long term care. We have all heard the effects of antipsychotics on the elderly and know we need to reduce them. Make no mistake, YOU are the leader in your facility in this. Many of you know that I am an Administrator. I want you to know that administrators are being told that ACTIVITIES are the #1 way to reduce antipsychotics. You must educate all staff. Create activity bags for the staff to use. Have aromatherapy and music programs easily accessible. There is a post started on Facebook, how do you help with antipsychotic reduction? Share your expertise and let's reduce antipsychotics state wide!!!

2. Family satisfaction surveys are available online at

http://aging.ohio.gov/ltcquality/inc/docs/2014ResSat_Overall.pdf

If your admin has not shared this info with you, take a look at it. Your score on the family satisfaction survey may give your facility a quality point. Your facility needs a certain number of quality points in order to receive certain funds from the state. This survey is very important and statistics of the individual questions should be available soon. Also, take a look at <http://ltc.ohio.gov/> to learn more about quality points. There are a potential for 20 points, and activities can assist the facility in gathering some of these points. If you have specific questions, please email me at amerriman@vancrest.com and I would be happy to help you as It is a little confusing.

Stay warm Ohio!!

-Amber Merriman