## THE LATEST AT KDC

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#### Let's Grab Coffee With LISA MORGAN

2022 is flying by, and yet with everything that has been going on these past 6 months it feels like it's been years! It seems that the worst of the storm is behind us, and there is a greater sense of stability in our day-to-day operations. We made it here because of **you**. KDC is filled with an amazingly dedicated team. It has been an absolute pleasure getting to know all of you, learn about the programs, and see the impact that KDC has. Impact for life!

July is the start of a new fiscal year and the launch of our Strategic Plan. As we make progress on the goals in the Strategic Plan, we look forward to making KDC the best place to work. One of the many things we learned during our strategic planning sessions was an overwhelming desire for increased communication. We hope you enjoy these bi-monthly newsletters as a way to keep you informed about everything going on at KDC. We anticipate a strong financial year with new initiatives and opportunities. We are eager to get started in developing a comprehensive Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion program, as well as becoming a Trauma Informed agency. I hope that you will be fully engaged in these important initiatives. We will continue to seek your input and feedback as we report out on our progress each quarter. Enjoy the summer months!

#### July is KDC Spirit Month!

#### **REP YOUR KDC SPIRIT**

Each week will have a unique theme and activity at each of our KDC locations. Dress up throughout each week and upload your pics to our Mission Central Intranet to show off your spirit outfit and enter for a chance to win **PRIZES!** See intranet post for more details and to view each location's activity calendar.



#### **HBD! AND MANY MORE**

Shoutout to our July and August birthdays, Happy Birthday!

#### JULY

Gina Shea Danielle Bayer Sarah Collier Elizabeth Rose Susan Turner Samantha Dean Alison Caruso Kerry Grelle Caitlyn McBride Kristina McKenna Ingrid Thompson Kathleen Costello Lamar Tammy Silva Susan Gartzke Christina Murphy Luke Desautels Jill Richards Gail Belaief Rebecca McDonald Priscilla Hartshorn Maria Lunt Nadine Gills Doreen Blouin Jacqueline Monteiro

#### AUGUST

Olivia Kass **Jill DeCarteret** Joan Long Sara Fredette Sheetal Patel Tori Ponte Makenzie Kenneally JoAnn Rus<u>se-</u> McDonagh Rose-Marie Millwood Kristin Spence Edith Benisty Amanda Perkins Evelyn Byrnes Joan Colon Samantha Deschenes Kimberly Sinclair **Diane Fisher** Lisa Morgan **Elizabeth Spanner Rachel Williams** Natalie Grannum Shannon Bell **Denise Parsons** Kim Nelson Stacy Daponte Margaret Connors Kira Fernandes Ellen Breen Julia Moniz Sara Carter Susanne Racicot Elizabeth Lafrancois Morganne Olson **Ruth Bryer** 

#### Word on the Street



#### **CELEBRATE WITH PRIDE**

June was PRIDE month, and the New Bedford South Campus celebrated by repping the PRIDE colors in the County Street kitchen!

# Donovan

#### **KDC MERCH FAIR SUCCESS**

KDC's first traveling Merch Fair was a huge success! Tons of great swag items were available to employees and program participants. Here is Cynthia from Day Hab showing off her very own KDC lunchbag!



#### **BABY DRIVE FOR SUPPLIES**

Healthy Families held a Baby Supplies Drive and the KDC team generously came through with donations! Several of our locations filled their donation bins with baby clothes, diapers, toys, and formulas. Thank you to everyone who lent a hand and donated!



#### **SCAVENGING AT THE CAPE**

Cape Adult Services had a blast at their recent scavenger hunt! Cape staff members shared laughter and fun during this team-building exercise.



#### **PICNIC AT THE LAKE**

Early Intervention staff at the Attleboro center know how to have a good time! They enjoyed a team-building outing filled with kayaking, sailing, and above all, great company!



#### ANNUAL BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

KDC's Board of Directors held their annual June meeting at the Fireside Bar & Grille in Middleboro, where they celebrated KDC's year of accomplishments and formally adopted the FY2023 Strategic Plan.

#### MILE AFTER MILESTONE

Happy Work Anniversary! Here's to many more years to come!

#### JULY

Tammy Wunschel • 32 yrs Jocelyn Cote-Medeiros • 30 yrs Sharon Mendonca • 28 yrs Judy Cromwell • 24 yrs Shaun Albuquerque • 15 yrs Bethany Arsenault • 15 yrs Michael Cribari • 14 yrs Kelly McGuinness • 13 yrs Jill Richards • 13 yrs Susan Cadieux • 12 yrs Sarah LeVergne • 10 yrs Susan Prunier • 10 yrs Linda Sarni • 10 yrs Nadine Gillis • 9 yrs Julie Wyman • 8 yrs Amy Abdalla • 7 yrs Justine Marsh • 7 yrs Candace Teague • 7 yrs Melissa Perrotto • 6 yrs Judith MacDonnell • 5 yrs

#### AUGUST

Susan Hurley • 30 yrs Laurie Niro • 22 yrs Tammy Silva • 12 yrs Emily Foley • 9 yrs Jennifer Wilson • 9 yrs Susan Rohnstrom • 8 yrs Melody Fabian • 7 yrs David Pereira • 7 yrs

#### **NEW FISH IN THE POND**

Give a warm welcome to our newest KDC team members!

**Courtney Arruda** Developmental Specialist Early Intervention, New Bedford

Hailey Arruda Registered Nurse Early Intervention, New Bedford

**Shaylah Bartlett** Occupational Therapist Early Intervention, Plymouth

**Brea Caisey** Developmental Specialist Early Intervention, New Bedford

#### Meet BETSY HUNT

Betsy is a Case Manager for Individual Support and has worked with KDC for three "really fun years!" We asked Betsy to shed a little light on who she is and what she loves about being part of the KDC team.

### What do you enjoy most about your job?

I love the freedom to grow, learn and have fun along the way. I love the uniqueness of all of my individuals, the joy they bring to my life ,and the experience that they have within our community. I am always surprised by some of the things my individuals can say and do!

## What advice can you give someone who is just joining the team?

Ask lots of questions, especially ones that require more than a yes or no. It is great fun to learn about your individuals and this will help you both to grow.



## Any binge-worthy shows or good reads you recommend?

"Seven Dirty Secrets" by Natalie Richards.

## What's the one meal you could eat every day for the rest of your life?

Anything with shrimp and rice.

## What's the next place on your travel bucket list?

A repositioning cruise!

What's one thing – industry-related or not – you learned in the last month?

Put the phone down and look up! :)

#### What You Ought to Know About ADULT FOSTER CARE (AFC)

Adult Foster Care supports individuals ages 16 or older with medical needs and/or intellectual disabilities living in the home of a family member, friend, a caregiver of choice, or a KDC-trained caregiver. Here are a few things you may or may not already know about AFC!

- AFC is a MassHealth funded program
- Referrals may be made by a primary care physician, facility, family member, and/or other community agencies
- Caregivers may not be a spouse or legal guardian
- Caregivers are eligible to receive a daily non-taxable stipend

AFC is a program that can benefit so many families in need. Allowing your loved one to remain at home with family is truly a rewarding feeling. Our AFC team is incredible and they provide supports with so much care and compassion.



TERRI LEMAIRE, AFC PROGRAM DIRECTOR

## WALK For KDC

empowering individuals one step at a time

#### **3RD ANNUAL WALK FOR KDC**

Save the date for Sunday, October 2nd! Join in the fun at one of our dedicated walk sites to raise critical funds for the life-changing KDC programs you help make a success each and every day. Your commitment has the power to empower!

Visit www.WalkforKDC.org for details.

#### **Did You Know?**

Want to know what Day Hab has been up to? Missed last week's "An Hour with IT" session and want to watch the video recording? Or are you looking to watch Lisa's weekly communication video? You can find it all on KDC's **Mission Central** Intranet!



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