

Activities Report March 2025

Workforce Wellness

The Activities Department is currently staffed as follows:

• Activities Coordinator: M-F 8am-5pm

• Activities Aide: M-F 11am-7pm

We currently are down to one activities aide as of 1/31/25. We have hired another activities aide set to start June 1^{st} .

The departure of an activities aide has been most notable when staff are out sick or on PTO, as well as on the weekends.

The weekend currently does not have any designated activities staff here with the exception of holidays/special events that occur on weekends. To make up for this and ensure resident safety there has been an extra Certified Nursing Assistant staffed on the weekends and the Activities Coordinator has been providing materials for low-stress activities over the weekend.

Looking forward, the activities department is looking for volunteers specifically for Little Norway Festival Weekend, as we will be short a staff member that weekend and we are hoping to get residents out and about for the festivities.

Community Engagement

The LTC Activities department is always looking for new ways to get our residents engaged within the organization as well as the community.

Below are some highlights of our work in community engagement

- Youth collaboration with Kinderskog, Girl Scouts, Petersburg School District, and other local youth groups.
- Monthly staff lunches with the residents
- Every other week an LTC update goes out on the community Facebook page
- Pioneers of Alaska assisted with the annual LTC Ice Cream Social
- LTC attended the 2024 Rotary Christmas party with the MVM residents

We are hoping to resume the LTC radio show this summer as the KFSK schedule allows.

Patient Centered Care

Each of our residents came to LTC with a unique life story and set of interests. The LTC activities department makes it a goal to find ways to incorporate life-long interests, values, and occupations into each resident's plan of care. The LTC activities coordinator creates a monthly newsletter to keep resident families in the loop of upcoming activities and events.

Resident Volunteer Work: We have one resident who spent a large portion of her life working down at the Petersburg Pilot. The Pilot continues to work with LTC to foster a volunteer opportunity for this resident—providing an important social outlet.

Family Events: When residents have kids or grandchildren in local events (plays, dance recitals, sporting events), the LTC Activities staff have been able to help facilitate opportunities for residents to attend these events.

Writing: LTC activities along with the help of other PMC staff have helped a resident who is a lifelong author write a manuscript.

Facility

Like other departments, the activities department deals with space constraints. We have been able to reorganize and pair down our supplies, but space continues to be an issue. Aside from storage space, the physical space in LTC is not laid out ideally for big events like our holiday dinners. For Thanksgiving, we had roughly 70 people present and ended up having to seat some parties in the conference room.

Financial Wellness

The Alaska Hospitals & Healthcare Association (AHHA) has provided Alaska activities directors with a complimentary one-year membership to the National Association of Activities Professionals. This membership has been incredibly helpful—providing resources on regulations and assessments, granting access to webinars, and facilitating an opportunity to meet other activities directors and share ideas.

Submitted by: Alice Neidiffer