

### June Updates

Have you checked out the new Recreational Resource Directory yet? You can find this resource on CMHA-CEI's website by following the link on the HCBS Information page at <https://ceicmh.org/services/csdd/hcbs-information>.

[Link to page with Recreational Resource Directory \(PDF\)](#)

This resource highlights local resources in our community, featuring opportunities for anyone who may be interested -- many of which are free or low cost.

The timeline to transition sites into the community remains on track. Transitions Central completed the transition into the community at the end of May. Pre-planning is underway for recipients at the Transitions South and North sites which are on track to transition into the community at the end of July and September respectively.

Additionally, the Transitions Program survey project progresses. Surveys are currently being completed with the randomly selected participants from Transitions South.

Notifications to selected recipients for participation in the survey from Transitions North will be sent toward the end of June.

Please remember that if you have any questions or concerns you can contact your case manager or reach out to our Customer Service Unit at [hcsbtransition@ceicmh.org](mailto:hcsbtransition@ceicmh.org) or 517-346-8244.

### Spotlight Stories

Erin Parcell, MA, LPC | Transitions Coordinator

I am excited to share with you one of many stories to come of people who are reaching the goals that they are setting for themselves with the support of skill building. I would like to recognize and introduce you to Ben.

Before the shift in our service delivery, Ben was attending our Transitions Mason site and while there, shared the desire to not just volunteer but to get paid. He took the opportunity, on his own, to submit an application at McDonald's in Mason/Leslie. As he shifted to his new community-based supports, he was in limbo waiting to see if he would get an interview. The focus that he advocated for with his skill building goals was to "get paid".

Three weeks ago, he was set to go out and explore job applications with a skill building technician staff. He asked to stop and check on his application. Upon checking in, he found that the position had been filled. He headed back to the car, disappointed, but looking forward to other opportunities. Unexpectedly, the area manager ran out to their car and knocked on his window and stated that she had overheard his conversation with the store manager and that she wanted to offer him a job. Ben was of course elated! He and the staff person reached out to his team to work out how he would get to orientation and training. He got through training with flying colors and was given a 17-20 hr/week schedule working alongside natural supports that are now part of his community. He started in the front lobby and the bathrooms, but has quickly moved into food preparation.

When asked about why he wants to work, Ben stated, "I want money to take care of the house, I love my job. I love getting a little bit of free meals." When asked about his future plans for working, he said, "I feel blessed and more uplifted. I want to stay there my whole life." Ben is truly an example of how self-advocacy, courage, and patience can pay off in the end. Congratulations Ben!





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# HCBS COMMUNITY UPDATE NEWSLETTER

Issue 8 | June 2019



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## Check out these community resources!



**Michigan 2-1-1** is a free service that connects Michigan residents with help and answers from thousands of health and human services agencies and resources right in their communities—quickly, easily, and confidentially. Last year Michigan 2-1-1 helped 500,000+ people find the help they need, fast.

Mission: “To connect people with the information and resources they need to build healthy, safe communities.”

Website: <https://mi211.org>  
Dial 211 or 844-875-9211  
Text your zip code to 898211

Visit the 2-1-1 website or give 2-1-1 a call to find information about healthcare, transportation, housing, day program centers, or other services right in our community.