## **EMPLOYEE BUZZ**

### **HUMAN RESOURCES MONTHLY NEWSLETTER**





### December 2021 Employee of the Month

Pictured from left to right: Steve Cook, Sharon Boone, Bill Zukovsky and Gifty Boamah





January 2022 Employee of the Month Not Pictured

### EMPLOYEE OF THE MONTH

### **December 2021 - Sharon Boone**

Sharon was nominated by SIX people this month! She is an exceptional person who shows compassion and dedication to the consumers on a daily basis. She always makes sure that the day is planned ahead of time to keep the consumers focused, engaged and busy with creative and educational ideas. She takes the time to meet each consumer "where they are" and plays to their strengths so that all are able to participate in activities. She never fails to put a smile on her face regardless of any situation and brings positivity to the team. She is always on the job, kind hearted and caring; willing to help each and everyone she comes in contact with.

### January 2022 - Oluwaseun Adejola

He is called Olu for short and is a dedicated employee. Olu has been with The Arc Mercer for almost a year now and we wanted to make sure that the impact he has made at the agency was known to all. He is very passionate about the consumer's well being and cares for their daily needs like no other. From their personal hygiene and nutrition, to their doctor appointments and outings, he goes above and beyond. More importantly, his attitude at work puts a smile on the consumers' faces and brings them laughter. His dance moves gets the consumers on their feet! In a crisis, he is engaged and remains positive until the situation is deescalated.

### **CONGRATULATIONS!**

Nominations keep rolling in for Employee of the Month! January: 9

February: 7

Go to the Employee Resources page to nominate one of your colleagues.



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December 2021 Rising Star Winner Picture from left to right Steve Cook, Bill Zukovsky, Amy Brangs and Gifty Boamah



January 2022 Rising Star Winner Pictures from left to right Steve Cook, David Kydd and Erin Flynn

# The Arc. Mercer

## Thank you to all staff...

for working so hard with the consumers to excel and reach their full potential each and every day!





### **Nomination Forms**

Can be found in
EmployeeXperience
under the Communications
tab in General Documents or
at arcmercer.org under
Employee Resources at the
bottom of the page



### **Submitting Nominations**

Fill out your form online or scan or take a picture of the completed form and send to <a href="Mailto:TAC@arcmercer.org">TAC@arcmercer.org</a>, give it to your manager, drop it off or email to <a href="Mailto:HR@arcmercer.org">HR@arcmercer.org</a>

### RISING STAR OF THE MONTH

### **December 2021 - Amy Brangs**

Amy has significantly improved her listening and coping skills. Her improvement was noticed as she was nominated by 4 people this month. She has become a peacemaker when needed among her peers. Amy has been achieving the goals set for her and accepts assistance when it is given. Her outlook has improved and staff, as well as her fellow consumers, have taken notice. We are all very proud of Amy!

### January 2022 - David Kydd

David is always upbeat! He does his best and is enthusiastic about going to work. He is a committed consumer, as he does his chores and follows directions of staff and management to the best of his ability. He is a happy person and very polite to everyone he meets!

### **Employee of the Month and Rising Star Awards**

All front line staff are eligible to be nominated for the Employee of the Month award. It is a great chance to honor your peers for their hard work and efforts. The Rising Star award goes to one of our wonderful consumers. The consumers work very hard and this is a perfect way to show them that what they do makes a difference

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### **Opportunities at Arc Mercer**

Shenika Rogers - A Career at Arc Mercer

This month we are shining the spotlight on Shenika Rogers, a spectacular employee with a heart of gold. Shenika started with the Day Program as a DSP in 2013 where her kindness and character drew the attention of her supervisors. There was something special about her and her work so she was challenged to advance in her career with promotional opportunities. Staying within her beloved Day Program, Shenika moved up through the ranks to her current role as Community Engagement Manger. We asked Shenika to share some words of encouragement with those that want to advance their career's here at The Arc Mercer. She said," you really want to be in this work field. There is always room for too move up. Continue to demonstrate your potential and apply yourself!"

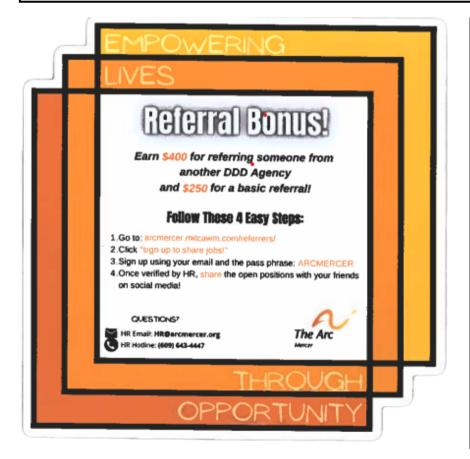
We would like to thank Shenika for sharing her story with us and wish her all the best in her future endeavors.

### **New Hires**

In February we welcomed **32** new people to our team

Join us in Welcoming all the new staff that joined The Arc Mercer family

**CONGRATULATIONS!** 



### Planned OT

Residential continues to look for staff to cover open weekend shifts

Day Program is also looking for staff to help fill additional available shifts

Contact
Human Resources
to discuss availability

HR Hotline 609-643-4447 hr@arcmercer.org



### Panama

# by Milo Segura and Marllury Diaz Milo and Marllury shared some highlights about their Panamanian heritage

The Panamanians celebrate the Easter season with several events. Most famous is the "Carnival" which is held over four days before Easter and is celebrated by

almost every Panamanian to celebrate the Passion, Death, and Resurrection of Jesus. In late September, the Majorcan's Festival is one of Panama's most popular and celebrated in Guarare. The Panamanians get a chance to show off their cherished ancestral traditions. Panamanian parades are performed along with musicales and artistic competitions. Food is very important to Panamanians. They love big, healthy meals that include rice and meat, such as chicken, beef and pork, traditionally served with tomato sauce. Breakfast commonly includes fried dough with a fried hotdog or stewed meat. Eggs with onions and peppers or sweet oatmeal is a popular breakfast meal. Many people from China have migrated to Panama, so it is common to find Chinese dishes like fried rice in the area along with many Chinese restaurants.

Senator John McCain was born in Panama and is the first Latin American country to adopt US currency as their own. Panama is the only place in the world where you can see the sunrise over the Atlantic and set over the Pacific and the first country outside of the US to sell Coca-Cola.

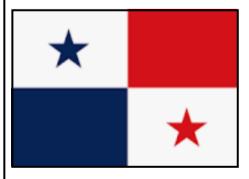
We would like to thank Milo and Marllury for taking the time to share this information with us and wish them and their family health and happiness.





- The Panama Canal was built by between 1904 and 1914. It is considered one of the seven modern World Wonders.
- Their rainforest is the second biggest on the continent and Panama City is the only city in the world that can say it has a rainforest within the city limits.
- There is one Volcano called Baru.
- Panama grows some of the finest coffee, which can be tasted at coffee houses world wide like Starbucks
- The climate in Panama is 100% tropic and can range from 80-90 degrees.
- Panama celebrates 2 independence days, the first from Spain in 1821 and the second from Columbus, in 1903.
- Panama culture has a strong emphasis on family, many generations will live together and share responsibilities









Martin Luther King Luncheon February 18th

Fun was had by all who attended the lunch in the 180 cafe. Ebony Bynum, a consumer from Buttonwood even dressed up as Ms. Johnson to commemorate the occasion

# February's Perfect Match Referral Contest Winners!

We are in the process of gathering this information and will announce the winners in April!

Thank you to all that participated in the contest. Your efforts and contributions to the growth of the agency are appreciated!

### Tie Dye Event February 24th

The Tie Dye event was well attended. We had consumers come from several homes, such as Ewing Independent and Greenwood. Everyone was able to create their own design on their shirt and while visiting with other consumer and Arc Mercer staff from around the agency.



# Arc Mercer Residential Platinum and Gold Star Awards January - March 2022

The next award period is coming to a close at the end of March, and all group homes participate in these awards!

The Platinum and Gold Star Awards evaluate:

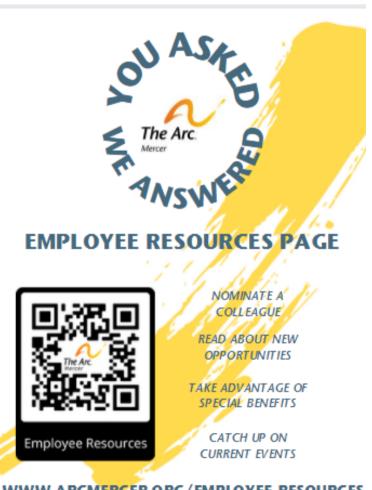
-the quality of medication administration

-attendance at recreational activities

-adherence to progress reporting

Group homes can achieve Platinum or Gold Star status by making sure that staff are always forward thinking when it comes to their dedication to the consumers and the homes is which they serve.

Lets try for 18 out of 18 Platinum Awards this Quarter!



WWW.ARCMERCER.ORG/EMPLOYEE-RESOURCES





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CU of NJ is the only credit union in NJ offering you - our members - an exclusive <a href="Perks@Work">Perks@Work</a> program designed to give you deep loan discounts, member referral bonuses, and free financial counseling.

### Learn More About Your Perks@Work Program:





Questions? Contact us at bdrequests@cunj.org

### **Music Mountain Theater**

Lambertville, NJ - 609-397-3337
musicmountaintheater.org
Prices Range from —\$10 -\$25
\$23 for Senior Citizens/Student/Military
Various Shows, Times and Dates Available



### **Mercer County Library System**

Various Library Branches
https://mcl.org
Ewing 609-882-3130
Lawrence 609-882-9246
Free Adult, Teen and Children Programs
as well as Computer Classes, are offered

at most library branch locations.



### **Exclusive Employee Offer**

Arc Mercer Inc. employees can save big on the best network.

To register for the employee discount or to validate your employment, if you are already enrolled in the program, please follow the instructions below

Employee Discount of up to 22%

Register your lines for a 19% discount and receive a 3% bonus discount by enrolling in "My Verizon" and paperless billing

### Two ways to validate: By Paystub or by Email Address

- 1. Visit verizonwireless.com/discounts
- 2. Enter you mobile phone number or My Verizon User ID in the Existing Verizon Customer field.
- 3. Click Login and Validate by Paystub and follow the instructions to upload your paystub OR Click Login and Validate by Email with your work email.

Check on the status of your validation at verizonwireless-employment validation.com Have questions? Contact your Verizon Wireless Business Specialist: Dylan Wright 610-715-2766



### **Ways to Handle Debt and Budget Money**

### Paying Off Debt (WellsFargo.com)

- Pay more then the minimum
- Pay more than once a month
- Pay off most expensive debt first
- Use snowball method to pay off debt (payoff smallest balance first
- Keep track of bills and pay off in less time

### **Tips on Saving Money (Chase.com)**

- Set a budget
- Cut down on monthly memberships and subscriptions
- Cut down on grocery spending
- Reduce utilities
- Map out major purchases

### **Current Drivers License**

It is the responsibility of the employee to maintain an up-to-date official, permanent Driver's :License on file with Human Resources at all times. The NJ MVC may issue a document that is identified as a "Interim License" pending the receipt of an official permanent Driver's License in the mail This document is <u>valid for no more than 30 days</u>, and will only accepted by HR pending the receipt of the employees official, permanent Drivers License.

It is the responsibility to notify HR, in writing, within 1 business day, when they are made aware that their driver's license has expired, been suspended and/or is revoked.

### **Enroll in EmployeeXperience Today**

As you may already be aware, HR is using the <u>EmployeeXperience</u> platform to communicate with employees regarding the updating of policies and sharing of important information.

Please make sure to either download the App through the app store or go to <a href="www.primepoint.com">www.primepoint.com</a>, click on "Need to Enroll?" and use the Enrollment Code: <a href="ARCMERCER">ARCMERCER</a>

### **Need Help?**

Contact the HR Department

### **Outside Employment**

It is the responsibility of the employee to notify HR if they obtain employment outside of the Arc Mercer. Sharing this information with the Arc Mercer enables HR to keep current records of employees in case of emergency.

You are asked to provide information of outside employment when filling out paperwork during the hiring process. If this changes during the course of your employment we ask that employees update their outside employment information with HR as soon as they are able; whether it be switching of outside employers or eliminating the outside employment entirely.



Need More Help or Not Sure Who to Reach Out to? Call 609-406-0181

#### **ID Badges**

Maria Gonzalez - X128

### **EmployeeXperience Help**

Missy Williams - X134

#### **Benefits**

Eileen Quinn - X149

**Direct Deposits - HR Hotline** 

### **The Arc Mercer**

HR Hotline - 609-643-4447
180 Ewingville Road
Ewing, NJ 08638
Calls to HR will be responded to within one business day



