



A letter from our Administrator

Dear Family and Friends,

I pray this letter finds all of you safe and healthy. During this holy season, I wish you a very Merry Christmas filled with love and blessings from above.

Year, 2020 was unprecedented and difficult for all of us. Life has changed in so many ways. Through these arduous times, when we stop and pray, we realize we have much to be thankful for, and here at St. Edmond's, we count God's blessings every day.

We are blessed by all of you who have given selflessly to support our mission. We thank you for your on-going prayers and support. We are blessed by an amazing staff who have made sacrifices every day during this pandemic to support and love those entrusted to our care. And we are blessed to support beautiful children and young adults who teach us and remind us about the gifts of love, faith, and hope that God has given to each of us.

May God's grace guide us and strengthen us all as we work together for good health, unity, and peace in 2021.

May the blessings of Christmas bring peace, love and happiness to you and your loved ones.

Sincerely,

Denise Clofine

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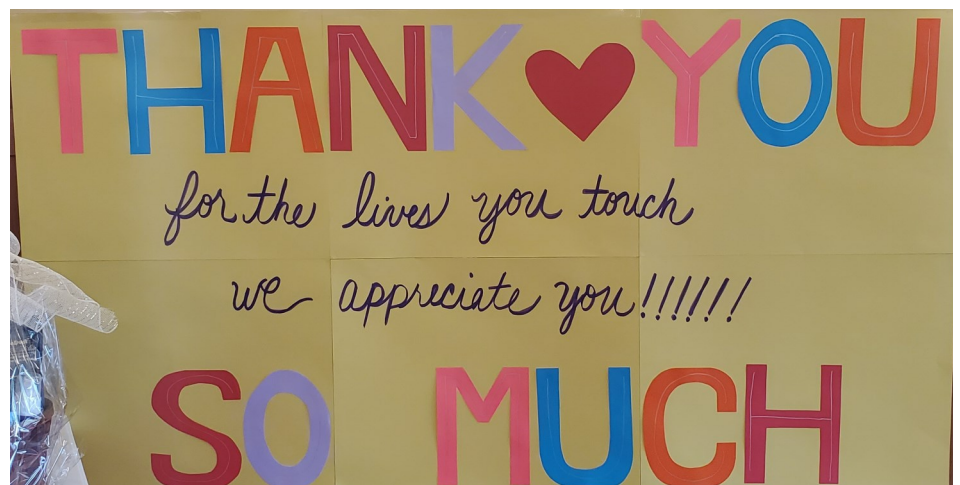
Staff Appreciation
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A sign of appreciation for our staff who support children and young adults with intellectual and physical disabilities.

STAFF APPRECIATION DAY

Every year at St. Edmond's, we celebrate our dedicated and hardworking staff team with a special day full of fun activities and delicious food. Due to the continued threat of COVID-19, we were briefly worried that we would not be able to hold Staff Appreciation Day this year, as we typically gather in the Great Room to socialize as a large group. However, we managed to still make this Staff Appreciation Day (Friday, September 25th) special for everyone with fun socially-distanced activities and plenty of chances to win prizes!

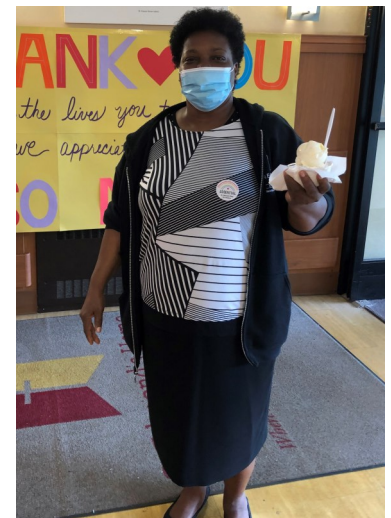
All day, employees were encouraged to participate in a scavenger hunt for hidden rubber ducks around the building. All employees received a sweatshirt, an Amazon gift card, and a pin that read "Essential." Our Activities Coordinator, Julia, read Bingo and St. Edmond's-themed Guess Who over the loudspeaker so that staff could play from anywhere in the building. Employees were invited to submit baby pictures as part of a who's-who guessing game. A delicious lunch was served and local ice cream shop Scoops N Smiles catered out of an ice cream truck! Employees also participated in a door-decorating contest throughout the week, and the winners were chosen by a team of judges on Staff Appreciation Day. The judges certainly faced a challenge in picking the winners because our creative and talented employees did such a great job!



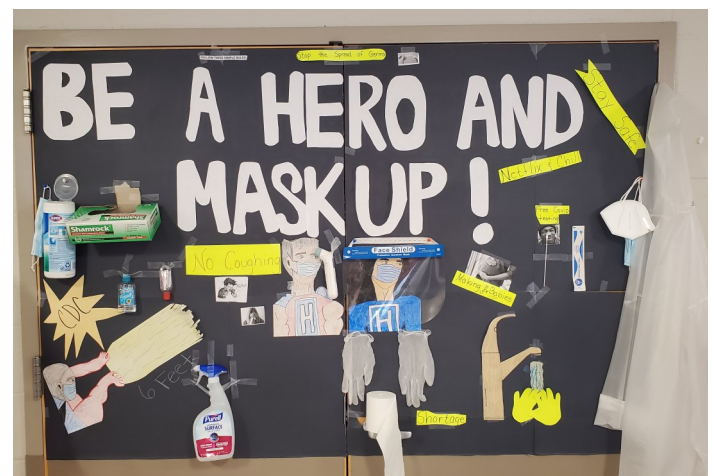
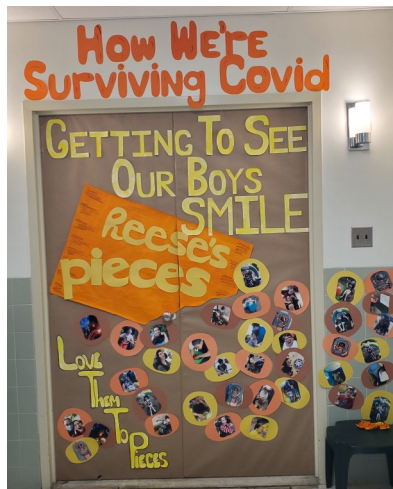
This sign greeted employees as they arrived to work!



Employees excitedly wait in line for Scoops N Smiles ice cream!



Lumene, a direct support professional, is ready to enjoy her ice cream!



A few of our favorite doors from the door decorating contest!

ST. PHILOMENA COTTAGE BLESSING

On Friday, October 23rd, Most Reverend John J. McIntyre celebrated the blessing and dedication of St. Philomena Cottage in the presence of the Cottage's residents, their family members, employees who work at the Cottage, and representatives from the Women's Auxiliary and from Catholic Social Services.

Denise Clofine shared that it was a long-held dream to open a place like St. Philomena Cottage, where those we serve can continue to be with their friends and the staff who have become like family to them. There is true love and compassion shared between the two. We thank the Women's Auxiliary of St. Edmond's Home for their generosity and commitment to our mission. We ask for God's blessing upon this new venture, in hopes that this is just the first of other such homes to come.

St. Philomena, pray for us.

The two photos at right were taken by Susan Scovill and can be found at:

<https://www.susanscovill.com/2020/10/seh/>



James Amato (Secretary of Catholic Human Services), Denise Clofine (SEH), The Most Reverend John J. McIntyre, and Auxiliary members Robin Conicella, Carolyn Slota, Marti Rodgers, and Chere Onofrio.



The residents and caregivers of the Cottage.



St. Philomena



Zoe in her room.

INTRODUCING OUR NEW MENUS

We are very excited to announce the implementation of new menus in the St. Edmond's Home kitchen! Read the following announcement written by our dietitian, Ann Pedersen:

“Using Menus to Celebrate Cultural Diversity”

Food has become a trope by which communities find commonality and champion diversity. By embracing the many cultural beliefs, practices, and individual needs of all families, one can create a sense of belonging for everyone involved. Our new menus at St. Edmond's were designed to celebrate our unique diversity. We envision the aromas of daily meal preparation permeating the halls of our home evoking personal memories of foods eaten in childhood or served at holiday meals. We hope each meal is an opportunity for nurturing from both nutrition and caring staff members. Menu selections offer interpretations of beans, rice and lentils providing humble, hearty meals, while fish options provide lighter fare. Seasonal favorites such as kale, butternut squash and collard greens allow dietary staff to infuse their own culinary passion, creativity, and love into a recipe. As the dietitian at St.

Edmond's, I have had the opportunity to tailor the recipes to the specific nutritional needs of our children while expressing their varied cultural mosaic. I want all children to associate our food with warm feelings and memories just as adults reflect on the smells and tastes of special food they were served as children. Dietary Director Ebony Brister, Julie Kemmler, MS, CCC-SLP and I feel these menus are an expression of love, a respect for the gifts of the earth and a way of giving thanks.

Be well!

~ Ann B. Pedersen, MS, RD, LDN



HIGHLIGHTING OUR STAFF

At St. Edmond's Home, we pride ourselves on our incredible team of hardworking and dedicated employees. Here are the staff members who are pioneering our new menus!



Ebony Brister
Kitchen Supervisor /
Dietary Director



Julie Kemmler,
MS, CCC-SLP
Speech-Language Therapist



Ann Pedersen,
MS, RD, LDN
Dietician



Two of our Kitchen Staff, Valerie and Kyra, enjoy ice cream on Staff Appreciation Day.



We celebrated DSP Recognition Week this year by serving yummy meals and desserts to staff!



Our table of giveaway goodies on Staff Appreciation Day—free pins, sweatshirts, and gift cards for everyone!



Our Activities Coordinator with a donor!



A large collection of Christmas presents from Archbishop Perez and his friends!



Gabby and her adoptive mother, our very own Medical Appointments Coordinator!

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COMPASSION

Genuine Care and heartfelt concern for those we serve



DIGNITY

Respect for each person created in God's image, regardless of color, capacity, or age



CHARITY

Generosity toward all people in need, in gratitude for God's goodness to us



JUSTICE

Defense and advocacy for the rights of the poor and disadvantaged



EXCELLENCE

Professional competence and responsible stewardship of time and resources



St. Edmond's Home FOR CHILDREN

ESTABLISHED 1916

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MISSION STATEMENT

Inspired by love and supporting the dignity and quality of life for each child, skilled professional staff at St Edmond's Home provide an exceptional holistic outcome oriented plan of care for children with intellectual and physical disabilities.

We offer a broad spectrum of medical/nursing and therapeutic services to assist each child in achieving their greatest intellectual, physical and social potential. The children of St Edmond's Home are a reflection of God's love and their lives are immeasurably enriched by the tender and compassionate care of all of our St Edmond's family.

Visit our website at:
www.stedmondshome.org

St. Edmond's Home
is a Program of
Catholic Social Services



Ways You Can Support St. Edmond's Home

Amazon Smile: Shop at smile.amazon.com, click on "select a Charitable Organization to Start Shopping" search for St. Edmond's Home for Children and select Women's Auxiliary of St. Edmond's Home

Bequest: Name St. Edmond's Home in your will or living trust. (What you bequeath to St. Edmond's Home is exempt from federal estate tax.)

Gift Retirement Assets: Name St. Edmond's Home as your beneficiary of your IRA or retirement account after your lifetime (Exempt from income and estate tax.)

Gift of Life Insurance: Change ownership on a policy you no longer need. (Receive a current income tax deduction, and possible future deductions for payment of future premiums.)

Charitable Remainder of Trust: Create a trust with St. Edmond's Home as the remainder beneficiary of principal. (Receive an immediate income tax deduction.)

Make an outright gift of: Cash, securities, personal property, retained life estate, real estate, charitable lead trust, or charitable gift annuity.

**Not intended as financial or legal advice.
Please consult your advisor.*