Looking for More Hours?

4 Easy ways to find more hours:
1. www.gsil.org >Home Care Attendant Hub>Submit your availability
2. Email > mwhittemore@gsil.org
3. Call Maureen Whittemore @ 603-410-6512
4. Search our Job postings at www.gsil.org >Home Care>Attendant Hub>Home Care Job Openings

Kudos Korner

This edition’s winner of the Kudos Korner Award is Ashley LaClaire! Ashley was nominated by her consumer because:
“Ashley is always bringing joy and dedication every time she comes to my home. She truly cares about my physical and mental wellbeing and strives to help me improve my life and enjoy each moment.”

A sincere thank you and congratulations to Ashley for all you do!

Other Nominations for this Edition:
Ashley Leclaire
Kassandra Stackpole
Shannon St. Onge
Christina Ross

Thank You to all nominees for a job well done!

Do you have a worker who goes above and beyond?
Nomination form available on the GSIL website “My GSIL” portal.
All the News You Can Use

Quarterly Newsletter for GSIL
Care Attendants | Fall 2016 Issue

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What’s New?

Professional Development & Appreciation Day September 2016

GSIL had our Third Professional Development and Appreciation Day for our attendant care workers. North Country’s event was held at the Littleton Senior Center, the south held their event at Wentworth Douglas Hospital in Dover.

Agenda for the day consisted of a welcome to all workers, heartfelt speeches by our guest speakers on the importance workers have in their lives, 3 trainings: Dementia, Shifting the Paradigm: Meeting the Consumer Where They’re At, Hoyer Lift & Foley Bag, then a homemade lunch, and raffles/gifts were handed out.

It was a fun filled day for everyone, with one worker sending a nice email stating:

“I want to say thank you for the very nice day on Friday! GSIL is a great place to work!”

Our next event will take place in Spring 2017… Stay Tuned!

www.gsil.org     |     Granite State Independent Living     |     603-228-9680
Hoarding

Understanding the complexity behind the disorder!

The word “hoard” means to accumulate for future use; to stockpile. “Hoarder” - This term was typically used to describe individuals who were survivalists; storing food and other items in a secret place in case there was a natural/unnatural disaster. Present day, we now know hoarding as a mental illness.

Imagine walking into a consumer’s home and seeing piles of various items stacked to the ceiling. There is barely a path to walk from room to room. The odor is offensive. There are so many different items that you can’t even call it a “collection gone wild”. Not knowing if anyone has tried to have a discussion about the stockpiles, you try to talk to the consumer about maybe weeding out some of the unnecessary items, possibly starting in one corner of the room and working your way through, but think again! The consumer’s resistance to any change is quick, determined and emotional.

Because hoarding is a mental illness, there is no magic answer to most hoarding issues. Severe cases of hoarding require professional help.

Top 10 Fire Safety Tips

October is Fire Safety Awareness Month. Here are some tips to remind you how to stay safe around fire hazards.

1. Watch your cooking. Stay in the kitchen when you are frying, grilling or boiling food. If you need to leave for a short time, turn off the stove or have someone else watch it. If you are simmering, baking, roasting, or boiling food, check it regularly, remain in the home and use a timer. Keep anything that can catch fire-like pot holders, towels, plastic and clothing-away from the stove.

2. Give space heaters some space. Keep portable and fixed space heaters at least three feet from anything that can burn. When you leave the room or go to sleep, turn off the heaters.

3. Smoke outside. Ask smokers to go outside and smoke and have sturdy deep ashtrays. *Never smoke when there is someone with an oxygen canister present!*

4. Keep matches and lighters out of reach. Store them high or locked away so children can’t reach them.

5. Inspect electrical cords. Replace cords that are cracked, damaged, have broken plugs or loose connections.

6. Be careful when using candles. Keep candles at least one foot away from anything that can burn. When you go out of the room or go to sleep, blow the candle out.

7. Have a home fire escape plan. Make a plan and practice it at least twice a year. If you have two exits, ensure that all household members know the two ways to escape.

8. Install smoke alarms. Install smoke alarms on each floor of your home. Place inside of bedrooms and outside sleeping areas. Interconnect smoke alarms throughout the home. For best protection, use both ionization and photoelectric alarms or combination of both. Teach your children what smoke alarms sound like and what to do when they hear one.

9. Test smoke alarms. Test smoke alarms at least once a month and replace conventional batteries once a year or when the alarm “CHIRPS” to tell you the battery is low. Replace any smoke alarm that is more than 10 years old.

10. Install sprinklers. If you are building or remodeling your home, install residential fire sprinklers. Sprinklers can contain and may even extinguish a fire in less time than it would take for the fire department to arrive.
During the month of September a memo went out to staff regarding the recent N.H. Department of Labor audit GSIL completed. GSIL was found to be out of compliance with D.O.L.’s RSA 275:43 as a result of late timesheet submission. RSA 275:43 requires that GSIL is to ‘pay all wages due to employees on regular paydays designated in advance by the employer.’ In order for GSIL to comply with this rule, timesheets must be submitted weekly and by the deadline.

We ask that employees whose consumers have them submitting their own timesheets to do so by the Tuesday at 5pm deadline for the prior week worked. Submission information can be found at the bottom of the timesheet. Timesheets being submitted to the Home Care Department are due by Monday at 5pm.

For those employees whose consumers are submitting their timesheets, please feel free to contact the Payroll Department to confirm timesheet was received on time. If in the event the timesheet has not been received by the Payroll Dept., please follow up with your consumer as to the status of your timesheet.

Please support GSIL and our ability to comply with the D.O.L. and confirm your timesheet is submitted by the deadline each week. We appreciate your cooperation in ensuring that all Labor Laws are upheld.