

GMSS REPORTER

Volume 9, Issue 10

April 2024



MAKING art

Join us at the office, 93 James Rd. in Morrisville on Tuesday, April 9th from 10 a.m.-12 p.m. for a fun filled art event! All materials will be provided. If you are willing to share your work, there will be staff available to take photos of your work. Your work will then be featured on a card! Snacks and drinks will be provided. If you have questions, please contact Makayla Carpenter by email at makayla.carpenter@gmssvt.org. We look forward to seeing you there!

GMSS REPORTER

Spring season bringing exciting events

Dear GMSS Community, As we move into Spring, I'm pleased to share that there are many exciting events upon us. We'll be hosting an Art Day event on Tuesday, April 9th from 10 a.m.-noon. This event is for everyone we serve, as well as their families and team members. Hats off to Makalya Carpenter for this great idea. We hope to see many of you for what will surely be a fun morning. Bingo is also being hosted regularly at the office now, also open to all. Come for the company and the laughter! Your host, Kristine, does an outstanding job. The next game day is Wednesday, April 10th from 9:30 a.m.-10:45 a.m. On Saturday, May 11th, we'll be hosting a Makers' Market and Vendor Fair. We thank Danielle Tinker and Fawn Lanpher for this idea, as well as for spearheading the planning. We've already had many artists, makers, and vendors sign up and it's shaping up to be a super event. We hope you'll be able to attend.

One year on, we are continuing to evolve and improve. We're adding a new position this month, the Nurse Care Coordinator. Please welcome Rebecca Agone, LPN, to GMSS. Rebecca will provide support to both the

nurses and the service coordination team by taking on tasks that promote improved quality and compliance with medical oversight standards. Some of her duties will include the entry

of medication orders into the EMR, QA review of medication administration records, and monitoring of medical documentation to ensure quality standards are met and necessary follow-up is completed. We are also pleased to announce that Hellen Bard has been promoted to the position of Supported Employment Coordinator. Hellen's experience as a DSP, SLP, and as our DSP Coordinator equip her well for this new position. That she is a local business owner herself means she also understands the needs of our partner employers. At the same time, we extend hearty thanks to Stephanie Lindgren who has been wearing an extra hat and who has ensured Social Security reporting and other key Supported Employment tasks have been kept up.



ELIZABETH WALTERS
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

We have reconstituted our training committee and are updating our training plan now. We would very much like to add additional participants and shared living providers to the committee so if you are interested, please let me know. The commitment is for just a few meetings a year, but your input is vital. The committee has already identified some new focus areas for the next training plan including training for managers, LGBTQ+ awareness and sensitivity, and improved onboarding and training for new employees.

In closing, as are the area schools, we will be treating April 8 (Eclipse Day) as an inclement weather day, as we have been advised to expect significant road congestion. Most community support will be canceled, though residential and employment supports will be provided. The office will be open but we are encouraging office staff to work remotely if possible.

Please reach out with any questions and suggestions. Our goal remains timely, truthful, and transparent communication. If there is something you'd like to know more about, all you need to do is call or send an email to let me know.

Happy Spring!

UPCOMING GMSS BOARD MEETING

The next GMSS board meeting will be held Thursday, April 25th, 2024, from 6:00 p.m.-7:00 p.m. via Zoom. All members of the GMSS community are welcome to attend board meetings. The board will designate a public comment period at each meeting during which community members may ask questions or offer comments.

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NEW EMPLOYEE SPOTLIGHT

**GMSS welcomes
Rebecca Agone!**

Professional background that brought you to your current position: I am passionate about nursing and assisting with coordination of care services.

Passion(s): I love Vermont, walking in the woods, kayaking, time with family, and snuggling with my fur babies.

Physical location: Vermont.



Rebecca Agone
NURSE CARE
COORDINATOR

NEW EMPLOYEE SPOTLIGHT

**GMSS welcomes
Mariah Tracey!**

Professional background that brought you to your current position: My mom.

Passion(s): Swimming, hiking, and arts and crafts.

Physical location: Morrisville but I now live in Hyde Park.

A random tidbit of fun: I'm a mom of 2 amazing kiddos.



Mariah Tracey
DIRECT SUPPORT
PROFESSIONAL

SAVY MEETING

Come join us for a SAVY meeting! Meetings are held on the second Thursday of every month at 10 a.m. in the Roberts Room at GMSS. SAVY is a member-run group for individuals with disabilities which gives them a voice to speak on issues that are important to them. The group teaches members to speak up for themselves, spreading the word about self-advocacy and providing the opportunity to work on projects that benefit themselves and their community.



MAKERS MARKET & VENDOR FAIR

Seeking makers, bakers, artists, vendors and more!

May 11th, 2024 9am-3pm

GMSS, 93 James Rd Morrisville VT

In an effort to limit duplicate products, Applications will be reviewed before they are accepted. 10ft spaces are \$35

Message for an application.

To benefit and sponsored by Green Mountain Support Services



Makers, Bakers, Artists and More

May 11th, 2024 9am-3pm
93 James Rd Morrisville, VT

Name: _____ Business Name: _____

Address: _____

Email: _____ Phone #: _____

Product you will sell: _____

Would you be willing to donate to our raffle table: Yes ___ No ___

Will you need electricity? Yes ___ No ___

Any special requests? _____

Set up can begin at 7am. 6ft table available by request. Chair will be at your spot. Each 10ft space is \$35.

Make checks payable to: Green Mountain Support Services.
Mail payment (cash or check) to: GMSS, 93 James Rd Morrisville VT 05661.

Discussion Panel on Ableism

Wednesday, April 10th, 2024

4:00 PM - 5:30 PM

Morrisville Centennial Library

WHAT IS ABLEISM? ABLEISM IS THE DISCRIMINATION AGAINST PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES.

Please JOIN us for a panel moderated by members of Green Mountain Self Advocates about ableism. The panelists are Vermonters living with disabilities who will share their experiences in our community, what it's like to be discriminated against, and what they would like non-disabled people to know. There will be time for questions from the audience.

***Refreshments will be provided

***Childcare will be available

***Please let us know if you have accessibility needs that we may be able to accommodate



PLEASE EMAIL RACHEL SIEGEL WITH ANY QUESTIONS AT rachel@towardliberation.net

April Shared Living Provider Anniversaries

Brandon Baptiste – 4/1/2018 (6 years)

Dylan Archbold – 4/2/2021 (3 years)

Kevin Bryant – 4/1/2017 (7 years)

Mindy Staples – 4/16/2021 (3 years)

Sarah Doty – 4/8/2019 (4 years)

Sonja Crowe – 4/1/2021 (3 years)

Green Mountain Support Services
93 James Road
Morrisville, VT 05661

Phone: (802) 888-7602

Fax: (802) 888-1182



Ensuring Our Neighbors with Disabilities
are at Home in their Community.

gmssvt.org

Follow us on Facebook!

Bingo Dates

9:30 A.M. to 10:45 A.M.

~~February 28th, 2024~~

~~March 13th, 2024~~

~~March 27th, 2024~~

April 10th, 2024

April 24th, 2024

May 8th, 2024

May 22nd, 2024

June 5th, 2024

June 19th, 2024