

# CADES COMMUNITY UPDATES

Issue 5

| January 15, 2021

## A MESSAGE FROM THE CEO

Dear Friends and Family,

On Wednesday morning this week I woke up with an anticipation I have not felt for the last 11 months. It was an anticipation similar to the day I got married and on the days my two daughters were born. Anticipation wrapped up in excitement for what was to come, and also some fear about what I did not know. When I sat in the chair to get my first Moderna vaccination for COVID-19, I started to cry (not my normal reaction). I felt relief. I felt hope. I felt like I am part of making history as one person who is a part of a greater whole to get one step closer to healthiness and connection again.

It is a goal to reach a 100% vaccination rate at CADES. That being said we realize not everyone is ready to get a vaccine. Our goal is to help the CADES community to make an informed decision. Over the upcoming weeks and months we will be sharing personal vaccination stories that include how we feel after each vaccine dose. We will also be sharing cohort data on how groups of individuals responded to the vaccine. Our hope is to provide comfort and information to our community as everyone navigates the road out of the Pandemic.

Stay Safe and Well,

Julie Alleman  
CADES CEO

## CADES UPDATES

• **Vaccine Update:** Over 70 CLA residents and 120 CADES staff will receive their first vaccine this coming Monday at Divine Providence Village!

CADES will be hosting a vaccine clinic on Saturday and Sunday, February 13 and 14 through a partnership with Walgreens (yes, we switched from CVS). The Pfizer vaccine will be distributed at the clinic by Walgreens staff who will return again in March and April to administer the second dose. Pfizer is approved for children 16 years and older. Next week we will be contacting GCMS families with students ages 16 and above as well as our Adult Day residents living at home to determine your interest in participating in the clinic.

• **New Minivans Join the Fleet!** 3 new 2021 Grand Caravans have been deployed to the community. The wheelchair accessible vans can accommodate up to two wheelchairs. They are made there way to Norwinden, Havertown Hill Condos and Sickle.

• **Good Things 2020:** All CADES staff received an email on 1/11/2021 inviting them to call in and share something good that happened to them in 2020. It was launched as an exercise in gratitude and positivity and to remind all of us of the good things we have in our lives. If you received the email, be sure to call in and leave a message! Be on the lookout to listen to our stories on Facebook in February!

• **Development:** CADES is celebrating a \$5,000 donation through the Commonwealth's Educational Improvement Tax Credit (EITC) Program! This donation benefits our Transition Program in GCMS.

## CLA UPDATES

**Recognition Program:** CLA is happy to announce their Recognition and Acknowledgement Program! Starting at the beginning of January, CLA staff can earn points for completing certain job duties that impact the daily care of our individuals. Points can be redeemed for cool CADES spirit wear including T-shirts, hoodies, masks, and CADES blankets. We are looking forward to seeing the CADES swag at work and around town!

## ADULT DAY PROGRAM UPDATES

**Future Planning:** Please look forward to an interest survey to begin next week as the Adult Program team gathers data to plan our future re-opening.

## GEORGE CROTHERS MEMORIAL SCHOOL UPDATES

- **WE ARE OPEN!** We welcomed back 7 classrooms this past Monday 1/11 with the remaining classes returning on Tuesday 1/19. We are so excited to have our classrooms buzzing with learning again!
- **Kindness Challenge:** GCMS will be participating in the "The Great Kindness Challenge" which stemmed from students from Carlsbad, California to complete small acts of kindness in their daily lives whether it's in the classroom or at home. The students who created the challenge are a group called 'The Kids of Peace' where their platform has reached classrooms across the world. The challenge is one week-long, occurring at GCMS January 25-29 this year. Families can read more about it on our school-wide curriculum website, "ULS" under the 'Current Issues' section. Classrooms will decorate their outside doors and windows with positive and kind messages that students and staff can safely walk to view.
  - Parents and teachers can enroll for a checklist of kindness to-do activities at: <https://thegreatkindnesschallenge.com/>

## COMMUNITY CORNER

"I am thrilled to share that I have accepted a new position as administrative assistant to Julie Alleman. I have worked as a para educator since 2008. Although I will miss the direct everyday work with the students, I am excited to spread my wings. I am thankful to have the opportunity to learn new skills. I look forward to participating with CADES from a different perspective."

- Stacey Brown, CADES Administrative Assistant

*"My mission in life is not merely to survive, but to thrive; and to do so with some passion, some compassion, some humor, and some style." – Maya Angelou*

