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*Information, Referral, Education, Supported Employment and
Rehabilitation Services
Serving Central and Eastern Massachusetts*

March 31, 2018

Hello Again,

Happy New Year! I am hoping that winter is coming to an end. The month of March was pretty tiring for us this year. So glad we only had to close twice. Hoping Mother Nature will be a happy camper soon so we can all enjoy the outdoors and spring.

From my year-end review, there is not much new during the quarter. Overall, we have been able to maintain our current work load with some minor changes with no disruptions.

I am very optimistic moving into the coming months as we have been able to sustain our relationship with our stakeholders for the fiscal year 2019. We have received referrals and may increase our census for both of our programs in the coming months

The team and I continue to look at new buildings in the surrounding areas. It has been a difficult venture to say the least. We are looking for buildings that are 8000 square feet or larger. Just recently we have looked at potential buildings that are similar to the one we are in. If we go with this option, we would have a satellite. **Please stay tuned!!!**

Employment

Other good news is that we can still support our individuals in group employment in sub-minimum wages. However, our mission is to move to minimum wages and placement. We have had a CVS worksite agreement for years and they want to hire the three individuals. We are currently working with Wegmans to hire part time. We continue to work with BayPath to hire.

ACTIVITIES

We have scheduled a few tours with channel 5 and Charles River museum.

Joy of Golf is starting in May and ending in October. 10 participants will be participating.

We are planning a few trips to the aquarium and Franklin Park Zoo.

Currently everyone has been enjoying going to malls, libraries, Davis museum, Sky land Park, art galleries and watching the Bruins Practice.

We continue to explore arts and crafts activities and a group has been exploring green thumb activities.

- Annual trainings have begun and CPR/First Aid and AED completed.

We are looking at software to have our daily data be electronic to make all reports more efficient. Hoping to have this completed and set up by July 1.

Looking at Enhancing our Website

We have had some sad news this year a staff who worked here for over 15 years died in January and another participant who has been with us for many years died in March. I will be going to his service at the end of April.

Last but not Least our Annual Meeting is May 16, 2018. Please **MARK** your Social Calendars. We will be giving out awards to “worker of the Year” “employer” and most improved in both our Day habilitation and Community Based Programs.

Any suggestions or ideas that would add to what we are doing, please share with me.

Again Thank You from all of us at ASA for your support.

Sincerely

Sheela Smith, Executive Director.