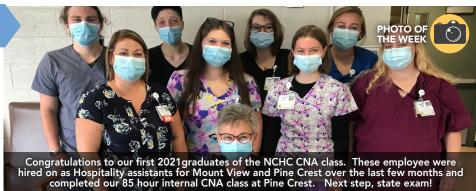


A Weekly Update For The Employees of North Central Health Care



NEWS YOU CAN USE

WEEKLY CONNECTION WITH OUR TEAM

PLANNING YOUR PAID LEAVE TIME



Jill Meschke Interim CEO, Chief Financial Officer

North Central Health Care supports and encourages the use of earned PLT. Having time off from work has several important functions including improving mental clarity by resting your brain, refreshing your passion to return to work ready to be productive, maintaining a positive work-life balance supporting your sense of self, time to refocus on your goals and gain a fresh perspective, and allowing you time to unplug to spend quality time with your loved ones.

Your health is affected by not maintaining a health work-life balance. Its critical that we all have the time to take care of ourselves. Studies demonstrate a correlation between skipping time off and increased risk for heart disease, for example. To care for our residents, patients, and consumers effectively we must take care of ourselves first.

Years of Continuous Service	Accrual Rate (per Hour)	Annual Hours	Annual Days	Maximum Carry Over
0-1	0.06154	128	16	168
1-3	0.06923	144	18	184
3-5	0.08077	168	21	208
5-10	0.08846	184	23	224
10-15	0.09615	200	25	240
15-20	0.10769	224	28	264
20+	0.11539	240	30	280

As of the end of last year, NCHC is no longer making annual PLT cash outs available. Work with your manager to get some dates on the calendar to take time off. Don't wait until the end of the year to

ADMINISTRATOR ON-CALL x4488 or 715.848.4488

In the event of Phone System Outage, reference the O:drive "On-Call Information Folder for Schedule and Cell Phone #'s.

Monday, August 9 – Sunday, August 16

Jaime Bracken



address your PLT balance. Adequate staffing will need to be maintained regardless of vacation balances and may result in forfeited PLT hours. Employees should monitor their PLT balance and schedule time off throughout the year to avoid accumulating more than the maximum carry over amounts.





Stephany Tatro,

Why: Helping a consumer

with unpleasant tasks

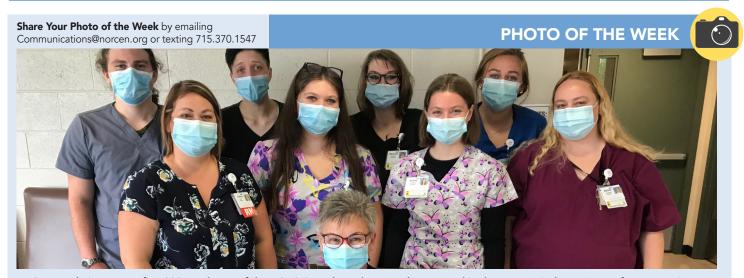
the rule

Submitted By: Karissa Nelsen

that aren't typical within

Community Treatment





Congratulations to our first 2021graduates of the NCHC CNA class. These employee were hired on as Hospitality assistants for Mount View and Pine Crest over the last few months and completed our 85 hour internal CNA class at Pine Crest. Next step, state exam!

VISIT 211.ORG FOR FOOD ASSISTANCE AND OTHER RESOURCES



Wausau, WI- United Way of Marathon County is proud to support a 211 Call Center. Last year 211 answered 19,099 requests for help from residents, providing 32,523 referrals to community resources. The call center had a 22% increase from the previous year.

211 is a free and confidential service that helps people across North America find local resources they need. With more than 200 agencies and thousands of caring local experts across all 50 states, 211 is the most comprehensive source of information about local resources and services in the country. Whether you lost your job during the pandemic or you're experiencing another financial or emotional hardship, the 211 team is here to help. Visit 211.org or call 211 to get connected to a specialist.

211 connects people from all communities to the essential health and human services they need, 24 hours a day, seven days a week, through phone, email, text and webchat. Our 211 serves residents of Marathon County and seven others.

2.1.1







Wear a Mask – Maintain Social Distance – Wash Your Hands – Stay Home If You Are Sick. Report Symptoms and Covid-19 Exposures to Employee Health and Manager

Staff will continue to screen appropriately, report symptoms and not report to work if experiencing any signs of illness. Staff are required to use PLT or take unpaid leave due to symptoms or exposure. Employee Health: 715.848.4396

PPE GUIDELINES

Visitors: Cloth face covering or surgical masks required by all. Visitors to Nursing Homes & Adult/Youth Inpatient Hospitals will be screened using the COVID Screener (Version 3). All other visitors will only require temperature check.

Employees: Face coverings required while entering the building. Self-screening required using temperature kiosks procedures. Surgical masks at a minimum required while within all NCHC buildings. Staff may remove masks while working alone in private offices.

Employees Working in Direct Patient/Resident Care:

Each patient/resident care area will be designated as being in Standard, Enhanced or Covid-19 Confirmed/Suspected Precautions. Units on Enhanced or Covid-19 Confirmed/Suspected Precautions must have it clearly posted on the entrance to the unit.

- o Standard Precautions Surgical Mask and Gloves required. Eye Protection (face shield, goggles or safety glasses) required during applicable isolation precautions.
- Enhanced Precautions Surgical Mask, Eye Protection (Face shield, goggles or safety glasses), Gloves and Gown during patient encounters required.
- o Covid-19 Confirmed/Suspected Precautions N95 Mask, Eye Protection (Face shield, goggles or safety glasses), Gloves and Gown during patient encounters required.

NCHC COVID-19 WEEKLY CASE REPORT

Confidential Employee Report

Employee Cases Reported through August 6, 2021

Cases reported below are current active employee cases. All employee cases previously reported that are no longer shown below have been cleared to return to work from NCHC Employee Health and local health officials based on a review of the individual case details.

Program	Current Active Employee Cases	Date Reported
New Cases		
Pine Crest - Maintenance	1	8/3
Pine Crest – Housekeeping	1	8/6

Previously Reported

All previous reported cases with employees have been cleared to return to work.

Total Active Employee Cases

GENERAL OPERATIONAL GUIDELINES

Program admissions, closures, and operations will be determined by Incident Command daily. Updates provided to staff at least weekly.

Direct Care/Visitors

- Essential visitors and contractors only.
- In-person treatment allowed in all programs. Masks and social distancing required. All areas require departmental cleaning procedures for pre/post in-person visits. Virtual treatment optional.
- In-Person Visitation allowed at Nursing Homes, Inpatient Hospitals, CBRF and Residential Homes (unless noted to right).
 - Program-established visiting hours.
 - Visitation limited to designated visiting areas or resident rooms only. No other travel throughout facilities. 2 visitors maximum per resident/ patient at any time. Length of visit is determined by program.
 - Indoor, window, compassionate care and outdoor visits allowed.
 - Outdoor visits are weather-permitting and determined by program.
 - Screening, masks and social distancing required.
- Volunteer programming allowed. Limited to 5 max at a time in building. Covid-19 vaccination required.

Meetings or Groups

- NCHC in-person meetings and treatment groups allowed. Masks required. 6-foot social distancing or physical barriers between individuals required.
- Non-NCHC groups or meetings are not permitted (i.e., AA, NA) in care areas (nursing homes, outpatient clinics). Wausau Campus Theater is allowed to be scheduled for outside group use. Contact Administration Office 715.848.4405.
- Group sizes for meetings or treatment limited to 50 people or less. Social distancing required. Meetings or treatment greater than 50 requires Operations Executive/Incident Command approval.

HR / Remote Work

- On-site interviews and Orientation are allowed with an option for virtual participation provided.
- Remote Work limited to those requiring exceptions. Please work with Manager and Human Resources if exceptions are required.

PROGRAM-SPECIFIC OPERATIONAL UPDATES

Programs with Operational Changes

Follow General Operational Guidelines (left) in addition to changes below.

- Mount View: In-Person Visitation allowed on all units. Visiting Hours: M-F: 9am - 6 pm, Weekends: 11am - 5pm.
- Pine Crest: In-Person Visitation SUSPENDED until Further Notice due to positive case reported: Maintenance Employee.
- Residential Services: Open and operational.
 - o Contact Precautions due to presence of bed bugs: Forest Street.
 - Riverview Towers and Riverview Terrace: Visitation allowed. Visitors and residents must wear a mask when outside of their apartment, in any indoor shared space..
- Lakeside Recovery/MMT: Closed. No Admissions.

Open & Operational

Follow General Operational Guidelines (left).

- Adult Day Services Antigo
- Adult Day Services Wausau
- Adult Day/Prevocational Services Merrill
- Adult Protective Services
- Aquatic Therapy Center
- BHS Adult Hospital
- BHS Youth Hospital
- Community Treatment
- Clubhouse
- Crisis Center
- Crisis Stabilization Units (Adult & Youth)
- Hope House Wausau / Antigo
- McClellan House
- Outpatient Clinics
- Pharmacy
- Prevocational Services Wausau
- Transportation

Program Hours and Operations Online: www.norcen.org/Covid-19





WELCOME THESE NEW EMPLOYEES TO THE TEAM!

These employees were welcomed at Orientation on August 2, 2021

Residential Care



Timothy Baumann - Care Assistant



Chelsea Fleischman - Care Assistant



Shawna Servi - Care Assistant



Fredelyn Jesse - CNA



Ashley Ninnemann - CNA

Community

Treatment Adult

Community **Treatment Youth**



Kong Mong Yang - Crisis Tech



Amber Powell - Employment Specialist

Pine Crest Nursing Home



Leona Unger - CNA



Savana Radtke - CNA

Lindsey Price

- Dietary Aide

Food Services



Melissa Winterfeldt – CNA

Safety & Security



Dom Quartaro - Safety & Security Supervisor

Protective Services



Rebecca Hehling - Administrative Assistant



Emily Zomer - Protective Services Rep





Raemarie Muro - Case Manager







JOINT COMMISSION SURVEY UPDATE Thank you to all who participated

The Joint Commission began their survey of North Central Health Care this week beginning on Monday August 2nd and exited our organization this Thursday, August 5. We had a total of four surveyors visiting our programs during their time here.

The number of wonderful things they had to say about our organization, our staff and our services was simply overwhelming and something to be truly proud of. We are an organization committed to excellence and high quality care and we demonstrated that this week in our interactions, preparations, documentation, environment and welcoming spirit.

Next week, more information about the results of our survey with be released. Thank you to all those who participated either directly or indirectly in the survey process.



ON THE MOVE! **Celebrating These Amazing Employees' Recent Transfer or Promotion!**



Congrats Anna Lyn Thielman! Congratulations to Anna for a recent promotion from a Legacies by the Lake CNA to a Registered Nurse!



Congrats Megan Arrowood! Congratulations to Megan for a recent promotion from a Long Term Care CNA to a Graduate Nurse!



Be Sure to Visit Our Website at norcen.org/Careers for the latest Job Opportunities!



SHARE NCHC JOB POSTINGS ON SOCIAL MEDIA!

REFERRAL BONUS

The Human Resources Team receives lots of questions pertaining to the Referral Bonus Policy. We are excited our staff are taking advantage of this and sharing the great opportunities we have at NCHC in all three counties. Here are some answers to commonly asked questions:

- Per the Referral Bonus policy, previous employees (that have been an employee of NCHC at any time) and contract employees (that have been here the last year) are not "eligible hires" for current employees to receive a referral bonus on. See highlighted area below:
- Eligible employees will be rewarded a referral bonus when they refer a qualified candidate for successful employment at NCHC.
- The candidate must be hired into a budgeted full-time equivalent (FTE) position of 0.50 or greater, and remain employed in good standing and in the status of 0.50 or greater. Market sensitive positions can be hired at less than 0.5 FTE and still receive referral bonus.
- The referring employee must be employed by NCHC and in good standing at the time the bonus is paid to be eligible for payment.
- The referral bonus does not apply for inhouse transfers or promotions or referring prior employees. The referral bonus does not apply for referring former students, contract employees or temporary employees within one year of separation.
- Only one employee will receive an Employee Referral Bonus per candidate.





SIMPLE STEPS TO

STOP FALLS

RECOGNIZING EMPLOYEES WHO GO ABOVE & BEYOND **TO PREVENT FALLS**



TRACEY NELSON

RIVERVIEW TERRACE

Tracey is always working with the residents to ensure that they are using their walkers or other assistive devices when she may notice that they don't have them. She is always looking at the environment when she is around to look for potential areas that could cause possible falls. She communicates well with everyone on the team as well.

North Central Health Care COVID-19 Notification

NCHC Covid-19 EMPLOYEE PRECAUTIONS REMINDERS

With fall just around the corner we need to prepare ourselves for a potential rise in COVID-19 and Influenza cases this year. Let's help protect one another and those that we serve. Please share and discuss these reminders to help keep us all safe and healthy. Our patients, residents and clients are counting on us!

Gloves When Self-Serving Food

Bit by bit we're getting more and more back to normal and now have hot food available in the cafeteria at the Wausau Campus. This is great to have this again, so please do your part and make sure you and other's know that when self-serving during meals that gloves are required to handle serving utensils. Hand hygiene should be done before and after as well.

Social Distancing When Dining

It's been reported that staff are dining at tables in groups during lunches in the cafeteria, breakrooms, and outside on the patios. Remember, social distancing is still required in these settings and that there should only be 2 people seated per table.

Conference and Meeting Room Cleaning

After your event or meeting has concluded, please make sure your space has been cleaned as a courtesy for the next group using that space. Make sure to only use a facility-approved cleaner and to clean all tables, chairs, and computer equipment before leaving.

Maskina

There has been a noticeable decrease in masking compliance among staff, particularly in halls, nursing stations and shared workspaces. Please remember that masking is required in all spaces other than private offices, and that your mask must cover your mouth and nose fully.

As always, if you have any questions, please reach out to the NCHC Incident Command NCHCIncidentCommand@co.marathon.wi.us or Tim Holzem tholzem@norcen.org, Infection Preventionist for further clarification.

VARIOUS LINENS AVAILABLE!

Laundry is cleaning house and getting rid of outdated items like:

- Bath blankets
- Draw sheets
- **Bedspreads**

IF YOU ARE INTERESTED IN ANY OF THESE ITEMS. PLEASE CONTACT DAWN AT EXT. 4431









SCHOOL SPORTS

YOUR STUDENT ATHLETE CAN BE SEEN AT THE EMPLOYEE HEALTH AND WELLNESS CENTER AT NCHC FOR SPORTS PHYSICAL EXAMINATIONS AND ACUTE INJURIES. PLEASE CALL TO SCHEDULE AN APPOINTMENT AT 715-843-1256.

As sports practices begin, be aware of potential sports related injuries such as overuse, heat related illness and concussion. Over-use injuries such as tendonitis of the shoulders and elbows, shin splints and plantar fasciitis are often due to: "too much, too fast", improper form in an activity and improper foot wear. Ensure use of proper techniques when doing activities that require appropriate form. Shin splints or pain in the front of the lower leg can occur from running long distances without proper training. Shoe design and footwear are important when getting back into running or court activities. Plantar fasciitis or heel/arch pain can be more pronounced after sitting or when first getting up in the morning. The appropriate treatment of these conditions is to ease back into activity and perform the appropriate upper and lower body stretches after a workout. Commonly people have some amount of fatigue with the new onset of an exercise but take note that pain is an indication to stop. Ice areas of soreness after working out. Acetaminophen (Tylenol) and Ibuprofen (Advil, Motrin) or naproxen sodium (Aleve) can be taken if needed to ease discomfort.

Always be sure to drink plenty of fluids, including Gatorade or a similar electrolyte replacement type of beverage prior to working out. "Start the trip with a full tank". Don't fill up in the middle of the activity; this can lead to an upset stomach. Starting out hydrated and adding fluids little by little to maintain hydration throughout the workout will help prevent the heat injury. Water works in the body the same as in the radiator of an automobile. It keeps the engine cool. Sit out of an activity if feeling excessively hot, light-headed, nauseous, and with muscle cramps. Sit in the shade, take off some layers of clothes, including the shoes, and sip fluids until cooled down. Heat exhaustion can lead to heat stroke which is life threatening.

All athletes are susceptible to a concussion. A concussion is a condition of the brain caused by a force on the head. That could be due to getting a direct hit to the head or a hit to the body that causes the head and brain to move quickly back and forth. This fast movement can cause chemical changes in the brain and sometimes



stretching and damaging brain cells. It can cause confusion, memory loss and a headache. The athlete may appear dazed and confused, move slowly, forget instructions or what happened, and may even lose consciousness. If there is concern for a concussion, remove the competitor from play. If the symptoms persist, seek medical care evaluation before returning to play. This can be done at the Employee Health and Wellness Center. Changes in the brain can occur for days, weeks and months after the impact. It is important to avoid a second impact during this recovery period. Athletes with a concussion who are evaluated by a health care provider will be given written instructions on what steps should be taken to return to play once the symptoms resolve. This will include avoidance of aggravating activity, including mental work such as reading or screen time with electronics. The athlete will return to the sport gradually as they are able to perform activities without symptoms. It is recommended that there be an initial period of 24-48 hours of relative physical and cognitive

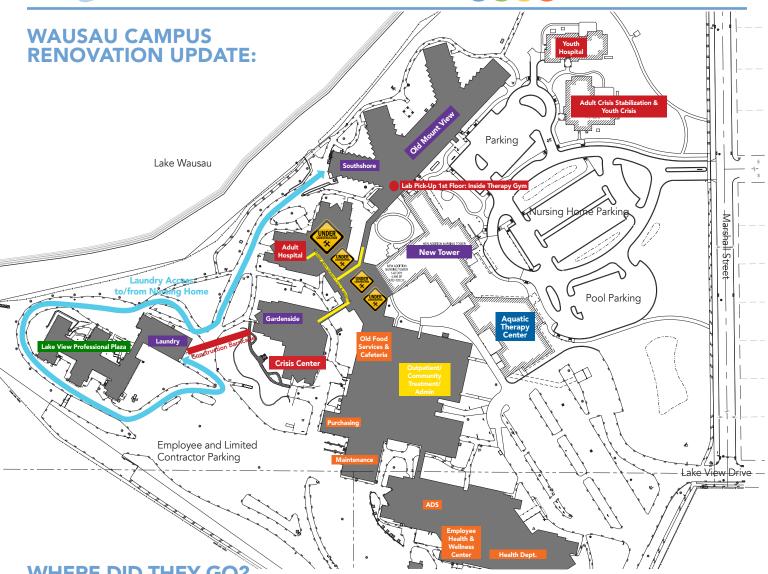
rest with 24 hours between each step. Symptoms that require urgent follow up evaluation include: a worsening headache with nausea and vomiting, unequal pupils, drooping face, slurred speech, stumbling, weakness, or unconsciousness. These should be addressed in the Emergency Room. See the video on concussion at cdc.gov/headsup/basics/concussion_whatis.html



WELLNESS CORNER Article Provided by Sherry Hughes, PA-C







WHERE DID THEY GO?

Locating staff may be a little trickier than finding the new Crisis location. Staff are a bit more spread out, but we hope this chart helps you find who you are looking for. Staff may enter the Crisis Center from the hallway. The door is not locked and accessible to everyone from the inside.

WHO OR WHAT?	NEW LOCATION	WHO OR WHAT?	NEW LOCATION	WHO OR WHAT?	NEW LOCATION
Crisis Call Center	Inside Crisis Center.	Social Workers, OT, Linkage, etc.	D105-106 Left side of Hallway on way to Inpatient Hospital	Crisis Interview Rooms	Inside Crisis Center
Youth Crisis Leadership Staff: Trisha S., Barb K. Kimberly Moore	Operating out of New Youth Crisis Stabilization Facility Building			Courtroom	Crisis Center
				Vending Machines from Hub	Moved to Cafeteria
		Security Officers	Inside Crisis Center at round desk on right when enter	Irom nub	Caleteria
	Hub Hallway Offices Inside Crisis Center. Office on left when enter.			ATM	TBD - Will Soon Be Moved
				Fashion Boutique	Storage Area. If staff or clients have a need contact Volunteer Services.
		Miron Office for Renovation Planning	D107 - Left side of Hallway on way to Inpatient Hospital		





TRAININGS & EVENTS



Ascension

Ascension WI EAP Presents 2021 Lunch & Learn Series

Session 4: Food as Medicine



LUNCH & LEARN

CAN FOOD BE MEDICINE TO YOUR BODY?

August 17, 2021 | 12:00-1:00 p.m. CST | Jennifer Houtz & Steve DeClark

Do you feel better when you eat certain things? Do you feel worse when you eat other things? This session explores what constitutes a "healthy diet" and explains how a healthy diet can improve your quality of life.

OBJECTIVE: Discuss what constitutes a "healthy diet." Describe the ways that a healthy diet can improve your quality of life.

ZOOM MEETING: https://ascension.zoom.us/j/95582673732

MEETING ID: 955 8267 3732 **DIAL:** 888 788 0099 US Toll-free

UPCOMING SESSIONS

SURVIVING THE HOLIDAYS | Sylva Lee, LPC & Jennifer Houtz, LPC October 12, 2021, 12:00pm-1:00pm

> SLEEP | Bob Carroll, LCSW & Jennifer Houtz, LPC December 14, 2021,12:00pm-1:00pm



QUESTION. PERSUADE. REFER.

QPR is a training program designed to enhance the general awareness about suicide through public education. Whether a teen or elder adult, we can all become aware of the warning signs of suicidal thoughts and learn three basic intervention skills that can help avert the tragedy of suicide.



Question

Learn how to see the signs of suicidal thoughts and learning to ask the important question -"Are you thinking about killing yourself?" and listening to the answer without bias or alarm.



Offer the person hope and Offer the person hope and alternative solution. Suicide itself is not the problem - it is a perceived only solution by a person in crisis to what they see as an insurmountable problem.



Refer

Have the knowledge of how and where to go to help the person get help. "I want you to live, let me help you get help."

Three Options Available!

August 3rd 11am-1pm 1.5 FREE CEUS & Junch included. **August 17th** 8am-10am Breakfast included

August 31st 6pm-8pm

All trainings will be held in-person at Northcentral Technical College Conference Center - Wausau Campus located at 1000 Campus Drive, Wausau 54401. COVID-19 prevention practices encouraged.

Registration requested by Aug. 1 at https://bit.ly/AugQPR

Free Virtual **Trainings**





#1 Substance Use in the Workplace on **Sept. 8 from 10a-12p**

In this program, we will discuss effective prevention policies and programming to establish a recovery positive culture, increase productivity, and improve safety. Register for Session #1

#3 Substances of Abuse on Sept. 22 from 10a-12p

In this program, we provide an overview of synthetic drugs, misused prescription medications, and naturally-occurring substances that may be viewed as "legal highs" or a way to evade legal restrictions. Register for Session #3

#2 Peer Support Workers in Motion on Sept. 15 from 10a-12p

Explore the intersection where evidenced-based clinical practices merge with the experiences, strength, and hope of peer support workers in the treatment of Substance Use Disorders. **Register for Session #2**

#4 Stigma of Addiction on Sept. 29 from 10a-12p

In this program, we discuss internal bias, de-stigmatizing language, and the conflation of mental health disorders and dangerousness which can help persons with addiction seek help. **Register for Session #4**

Register for them all at no cost! 2 NAADAC-approved CEUs available for \$40 per session. Click here for more details!



Substance Misuse & the Wisconsin Workforce Report & Recommendations Wednesday, Sept 1 from 12-1 Presented by Michelle Devine Giese, CEO of Apricity, Contributor

In May 2020, the Wisconsin State Council on Alcohol & Other Drug Abuse (SCAODA) Prevention Committee released a report that includes recommendations and analysis to address and reduce substance misuse in the workforce. In this report it was concluded that effective prevention policies, practices and programs implemented in the workplace can improve safety and productivity while reducing worker injuries and healthcare costs. This effort holds the potential for reducing productivity loses as the result of absenteeism, impairment at work, workplace injury, and reduced productivity. Research and experience support comprehensive approaches that include professional groups, labor organizations, and management working towards common goals. and management working towards common goals.

Attendees of this session will:

- Understand the impact that substance use has on the workforce – including absenteeism, employee readiness and insurance premiums
- Learn best practices and policies for all employment stages from recruitment through recovery-supportive interventions for employers and their employees

 • Receive tools to assess individual workplace needs – plus real-life examples of moving plans
- into action



Register today at <u>bit.ly/Sept1KickOff</u>

Download the entire SCAODA report online at www.dhs.wisconsin.gov/scaoda/workforce-adhoc-report.pdf

Hosted in partnership with:









TRAININGS & EVENTS



Space is limited.

Apply between 8/9/2021 - 8/22/2021.

The program begins on 9/6/2021.





Location: River Park Gazebo, Mosinee

Time: 10am

SATURDAY, AUGUST 14

It has been a crazy past year and we want to recognize you for all that you have done, we are grateful for all your hard work and dedication. Please join us for this event as a way for us as a community to say thank you. Bring your friends and family and enjoy a day of fun, live music and food.