

Newsletter

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Spring
2020

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S MESSAGE



Ann Sprague

My time as Executive Director has been a meaningful and rewarding one, and these last few months have been bittersweet, especially as we navigate the challenges of continuing our services during an historic pandemic.

I am grateful for having had the privilege of a leadership role with Interlakes Community Caregivers, an organization with such a worthwhile purpose. One of the best things about being the Community Caregivers' director is this state of gratitude and the many opportunities to say thank you. Thank you to the terrific staff I've had the pleasure to work with over the years; especially Audrey Wedick, Queen of Coordination, Kindness and Calmness and Janet Pratt, our professional and thorough administrative assistant. Thank you to the compassionate and enthusiastic volunteers – from Board members to direct care volunteers to those who help in the office. Thank you to the generous donors – individuals, civic organizations, businesses and grantors. Thank you to the neighbors who have written such kind notes expressing their appreciation. Thank you to all these amazing people that have made my world a better place.

Interlakes Community Caregivers is in a good position as it looks to the future. The organization is financially stable, has comprehensive operations and is a well-run and promoted program. During my tenure, with the help of a terrific team of Board members, volunteers, and staff, many successful outcomes have been achieved, including collaborative community relationships, a variety of successful fundraising programs, good business standards, cloud-based technology making efficient use of our resources, and an excellent reputation, known for the organization's experience and expertise in the volunteer program it provides.

I am proud and happy to have been a part of these successes and my passion for the Community Caregivers' mission continues. It's been a good seven plus years and I am now looking forward to many new experiences with family and friends and opportunities to continue to make a difference in our community.

Thank you! *Ann Sprague*

Community Caregivers Participates in NH Gives Day on June 9-10

Interlakes Community Caregivers, Inc. will participate in NH Gives Day starting on June 9 at 6pm and ending at 6pm on June 10, 2020. Visit www.NHGives.org for more information and select Interlakes Community Caregivers from the many nonprofits participating across the state to see how you can support their mission. To visit the Community Caregivers page directly, visit bit.ly/2FcOqu7

NH Gives, an initiative of the NH Center for Nonprofits, is a 24-hour, online fundraising event to celebrate local nonprofits, build community and amplify the generosity of NH citizens, and generate excitement about the nonprofit sector.

Thanks for supporting Interlakes Community Caregivers' award-winning volunteer program!

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



David Hughes

The times they are a changing, some good, more not so good. We here at ICCI are endeavoring to continue our service to our communities during this pandemic and are in hopes we are meeting our Neighbors' needs.

ICCI is also in the travel lane of change as well. **Ann Sprague, our Executive Director for the past 7 years is retiring the end of June.** We will miss her enthusiasm and energy that has helped guide ICCI grow technologically and organizationally. She is still supportive of ICCI and hopefully we can encourage her to support some of our various fundraising events and programs.

We are also very pleased to announce that the ICCI Executive Board has, with some help from our Search Committee members, asked **Rachel Howard Saliba to become our new Executive Director.** She comes to us with an impressive and varied background of experiences. She and her family reside in Moultonborough. She is scheduled to start work the first week of June. Over the following weeks she will be working with Ann Sprague integrating into how ICCI does all the various aspects of providing services to our communities, as well as grant writing and fund raising.

Please welcome Rachel to Interlakes Community Caregivers when you can. I know this Pandemic and Social Distancing is not an easy lifestyle to adjust to and accept, but we stubborn Yankees can overcome quite a bit. Besides, many of us kind of 'hibernate' over the cold winter months so we are used to some social distancing anyway. Please try to be safe and healthy and follow all the precautions and guidelines from all health professionals. ICCI is committed to doing the same.

ICCI Receives Generous Response to Funding Request

When Interlakes Community Caregivers' spring fundraising events had to be cancelled due to the Coronavirus pandemic, the nonprofit made an urgent request to the community, and the response exceeded expectations, raising over \$16,000.

While adapting to the many challenges the pandemic has forced upon all of us, the need for ICCI to raise funds to provide essential services was important. We are very grateful for the generous support from the community which is a testament to the value of our services.

The two spring fundraisers previously scheduled were the "Spring Fling" at The Mug Restaurant in Center Harbor and Free Cone Day at Ben & Jerry's-Meredith. The loss of these two fundraising events meant Community Caregivers would be short on income on which we were relying and asked the public to make a special donation to offset this shortfall.

Local businesses and individuals had already donated several gift baskets for the Spring Fling event, valued up to \$265. As a thank you for a donation of \$25 or more, donors were entered to win the gift basket(s) of their choosing. Gifts and Gift Baskets were generously donated by Abbott Farm, The Barnstormers Theatre, Ben & Jerry's-Meredith, Chickadee Station, Common Man Family of Restaurants, and Lamprey Septic Services, and Board Members Connie Cunningham, Marie Samaha, Peter Van Winkle and Robin Woodaman. Thank you to all for your support!



Kristy Badger
of Assisted Living Locators

Meet the New Executive Director

Please join us in welcoming **Rachel Howard Saliba** of Moultonborough as our new executive director of Interlakes Community Caregivers!

"We're proud to welcome Rachel Saliba who will take over the executive director position in June from retiring Ann Sprague," stated David Hughes, Board President. "Rachel's skills, warm personality and experience leading programs for a number of non-profits will benefit our organization and are essential to this position as we move forward in our changing community."

Rachel will direct and oversee service delivery, fundraising, volunteer recruitment and management, and community relations for the Community Caregivers.

"I am honored to be named the Executive Director of Interlakes Community Caregivers," Rachel said. "This is an incredibly exciting opportunity to utilize my experience and leadership abilities to fulfill the mission of ICCI and make a difference in my community."

Rachel's background includes leadership positions at a variety of nonprofits. She most recently was Director of Institutional Stewardship and International Student Programs at Tilton School. After graduating from William Smith College, she worked for U.S. Congresswoman Claudine Schneider before becoming volunteer for the US Peace Corps in the Dominican Republic. Since then she has worked for various organizations including the Harvard School of Public Health, the Appalachian Mountain Club, Holderness School, Sage Hill School, Berwick Academy, and York Hospital. She has also served on the board or as a member of the United Way Community Impact Committee, Rotary International, Hall Memorial Library, and the Winnepesaukee Public Health Council. She lives in Moultonborough with her husband and three children.



Rachael Saliba

The Search Committee received several applications from candidates for the position. Over the past four months, the committee conducted a rigorous and thorough process of reviewing applications and holding interviews with well-qualified candidates. Thank you to the Search Committee: Board members Robin Woodaman, Marie Samaha and Connie Cunningham and Board President David Hughes and Board Vice President and Treasurer George Jewell.

Rachel will be working with Ann in the month of June to ensure a smooth transition prior to June 25th when Rachel officially takes over the position. To welcome Rachel, please email Director.Caregivers@gmail.com or call 603-253-9275, ext. 4 after June 25, 2020.

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ICCI Continues to Fulfill its Mission During Historic Pandemic

Interlakes Community Caregivers continues to provide essential services during the current Coronavirus pandemic, thanks to our compassionate and flexible volunteers.

In order to meet the needs of our neighbors, we are continuing to monitor our program and services and making adjustments accordingly during the current health crisis. Staff and board members have kept abreast of local, state and federal authorities' guidelines which have required the ability to strategize and modify protocols and procedures to address health and hygiene concerns.

We have been focusing on grocery shopping and running errands for our neighbors. Due to physical distancing, volunteers are not taking neighbors for these essential services, but have been willing to shop for or pick-up and deliver groceries and prescriptions to our neighbors. All include implementation of guidelines provided by public health authorities.

Although most medical appointments have been cancelled by medical providers, some are deemed urgent and neighbors need rides to them. New procedures such as sanitizing the volunteer's vehicle before and after the ride and having the neighbor ride in the back seat have been implemented. Rides to medical appointments typically are the #1 requested service by neighbors, making up about 90 percent of services. Friendly visits have been temporarily suspended, but friendly check in calls have been encouraged to address isolation.

We continue to communicate with medical facilities regarding pending appointments and with local grocery stores to understand and communicate best shopping procedures. Prior to the ultimate temporary lock down of local nursing homes and 55+ communities, we reached out to learn their transitioning requirements.

ICCI Receives Grant Award

"We are very grateful for the \$3,000 grant from the NHEC Foundation. These funds will be used to support the production of our quarterly newsletter," indicated Ann Sprague, ICCI Executive Director.

Sprague went on to say, "The ability to effectively inform the public, our donors, volunteers and neighbors about our services, activities and fundraising events is key to supporting our program which improves the quality of life for so many in our community."

The NHEC Foundation is a non-profit, tax-exempt 501(c) 3 foundation that provides grants to improve the quality of life for its members and the communities it serves.

MISSION STATEMENT

Interlakes Community Caregivers, a 501(c)3 nonprofit volunteer organization, provides supportive services and information for our neighbors to assist them in their daily lives.



Linnie Paige, Volunteer from Sandwich

Thank you to the Meredith Altrusa Club for providing free, hand-made face masks and Liz Breton, Manager of Ben & Jerry's-Meredith, for creating ear savers – a band that loops around the neck and attaches to the mask, making it more comfortable to wear.

