



Winter 2017/2018

The CO-OPerative Advantage

A MESSAGE FROM OUR COO & INTERIM PRESIDENT



Living in New England, one becomes acutely aware of the passage of time as summer comes to a close and we settle in for a cold winter. However, at CO-OP we have little time for looking in the rearview mirror and are excited to look to our future.

This year, we've seen explosive demand for new and existing services resulting in the opening of a new center at 82 Ingell Street in Taunton. To meet this demand, we now offer supplemental supports such as transitional assistance, peer support, prevocational services, and supported employment. You will read more about this on page 6 of this newsletter.

We are also excited about our new focus on health. Thanks to two generous donors, Reebok and RecycleHealth at Tufts University, we now have a wide variety of sports equipment and new technology to add some fun.

As usual, we close out the year with an Annual Meeting at which we celebrate our employees and our community partners, without whom none of our work would be possible. We hope you learn more about our staff and enjoy the pictures included in this newsletter.

Thank you for your continued support and enthusiasm and we wish you all a healthful and happy 2018.

Sincerely,
Joyce Faria
COO & Interim President

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OUR SERVICES

Since 1972, Cooperative Production, Inc. (CO-OP) has served as an important resource for local citizens with disabilities and their families with a variety of residential, employment and day program services. Today we support close to 300 people throughout southeastern Massachusetts with developmental and other challenges, as well as individuals with brain injuries. Our services receive the highest levels of licensure and accreditation from the Massachusetts Department of Developmental Disabilities and the Commission on Accreditation of Rehabilitation Facilities (CARF). For more information about CO-OP's programs and services, please visit our website at www.co-op.cc.



*Are you on our email list?
Contact Jeanne Connolly
at jconnolly@co-op.cc for CO-OP news!*

OUR MANAGEMENT TEAM

Joyce Faria
COO & Interim President
jfaria@co-op.cc
508-824-1717 x222

Anna Cole
Chief Financial Officer
acole@co-op.cc
508-824-1717 x205

Lucy Andrade
Director, Human Resources
lfandrade@co-op.cc
508-824-1717 x220

Jeanne Connolly-Horrigan
Director, Marketing & Development
jconnolly@co-op.cc
508-824-1717 x107

Lucy de Oliveira
Director, Day Services
ldoliveira@co-op.cc
508-824-1717 x230

Gail Gordon
Director, Residential Services
ggordon@co-op.cc
508-824-1717 x201

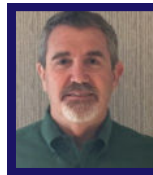
FROM OUR BOARD

CO-OP is governed by a volunteer Board of Directors, who contribute time, talent and experience in support of the agency's commitment to local citizens with disabilities.

WELCOME NEW BOARD MEMBERS

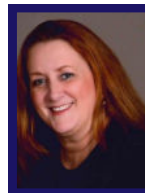
Over the past year, CO-OP welcomed three new Board members with valued professional expertise and a personal commitment to CO-OP's mission. We are excited to have them join us.

Andy Donellon, Partner, Donellon, Orcutt, Patch & Stallard. Andy's expertise is so valuable for our Finance, Administration and Property Committee.



Jim Riley, Advisor and Broker from Cross Real Estate. Jim advises us as we explore opportunities for day programs and residential properties in a competitive real estate market.

Margaret Szewczyk, Director of Human Resources, Maxon Precision Motors. In addition to Margaret's expertise in human resources, Margaret recently hosted a career-exposure group from CO-OP to explore the operations at Maxon USA, an international company producing motors that appear in diverse products like the Mars Rovers, robots, and cardiac pumps.



2017 Board of Directors

Chair Raymond Pelote, Wynn & Wynn, P.C.

Vice Chair Darlene Boroviak, Professor Emeritus, Wheaton College

Treasurer Micheal Ferrara, Mechanics Cooperative Bank

Clerk James Riley, Cross Real Estate

Don Backlund, FBinsure

Michael Browner, Consultant

Andy Donellon, Donellon, Orcutt, Patch & Stallard

Paul Hodge, Probation Officer (retired)

Russell Latham, Gosnold School Superintendent (retired)

George Mendros, Bristol County Savings Bank

Jacqueline Scungio, Providence Community Health Centers

Margaret Szewczyk, Maxon Precision Motors, Inc.

PROPERTY UPDATE

⇒ CO-OP Milestones opened at 82 Ingell Street, Taunton (read more on p. 6).

⇒ Construction begins on a Wareham residential home to open in 2018.

SHINE A LIGHT: COURTNEY ARNOLD, RN

Congratulations to six-year CO-OP employee, Courtney Arnold. Courtney recently earned her nursing degree from Bristol Community College and is now licensed as a registered nurse by the Commonwealth of Massachusetts. Courtney knows the ropes at CO-OP, after having performed a number of roles as an LPN in the CO-OP residential program. We are all pleased to see Courtney take on new responsibilities and remain a valued member of our CO-OP nursing team. She inspires us all with her dedication and commitment as she worked at CO-OP, attended classes and studied, while always finding time for her family, including her 10-year-old daughter. Thank you, Courtney!



CO-OP'S 2017 ANNUAL MEETING

CO-OP held its Annual Meeting on Wednesday, October 18, 2017 at Venus de Milo Restaurant in Swansea.

CO-OP Community Awards were presented to Mary Lou Ventura from The Arbors Assisted Living in Taunton for her kindness when working with CO-OP volunteers; Matthew Freitas from Charlton Memorial Hospital who shows compassion and commitment to CO-OP consumers as they navigate a complicated health care system; and Homes for Our Troops who has exemplified our values of integration and inclusion by opening its doors to so many from CO-OP as

we work together to give back to those who sacrifice for our country.

According to COO & Interim President Joyce Faria, "The CO-OP Annual Meeting is special in that each year we honor those who are positive role models in the fulfillment of our mission. Beginning with our 2017 Employee of the Year Megan Pacheco and our many staff receiving years of service awards, to our outstanding community partners, this meeting gives CO-OP the opportunity to formally recognize those who exemplify the promise of engaging people and enhancing lives."



EMPLOYEE OF THE YEAR: MEGAN PACHECO



Regina Lopes and Joyce Faria, with Employee of the Year Megan Pacheco

...this meeting gives CO-OP the opportunity to formally recognize those who exemplify the promise of engaging people and enhancing lives."

Joyce Faria
COO & Interim President



CELEBRATING YEARS OF SERVICE



Joyce Faria and Lucy de Oliveira congratulate Kathy Carpenter

35 YEARS

Katherine Carpenter

30 YEARS

Sharon Boiros

25 YEARS

Rae Caldwell
Lucia De Oliveira

20 YEARS

Marguerite Lapierre
Susan Rounds
Frank Sweeney
David Wilding
Brenda Smith

15 YEARS

Kimberlie LeBreux
Raymond Vermette

10 YEARS

Jamie Desrosiers
Katelyn Eagan
Edwina Hoeg
Lisa Louro
Larissa Ponte
Jean Seekell
Sandra Tower

5 YEARS

Nicole Dubois
Taneisha DaRosa
Courtney Arnold
Brittany Bean
Joanne Carr
Amanda Clark
Sarah Dansereau
Stephanie Drenniak
Justin Goff
Jamie Levesque
Patrick Maher
Lisa McCaffery
Dori McClellan
Melissa Orellano
Kayla Paquin
Phillip Pereira
Sarah Rodriguez
John World

FITNESS TRACKERS COME TO CO-OP



Who needs a New Year's Resolution? We've decided to start early, set some fitness goals, get active, and live a more healthful life.

Thanks to Dr. Lisa Gualtieri, Assistant Professor at Tufts University and founder of RecycleHealth, we received a generous product donation of fitness trackers. Up to 100 of us are now sporting new Fossil Fitness Trackers to count our every step. The trackers also let us know if we are getting enough restorative and healing sleep.

Thank you Dr. Gualtieri and RecycleHealth!

NOW FOR THE SPORTS EQUIPMENT...

CO-OP also received a treasure trove of sports equipment, both new and gently used, from Reebok International Manager Ronnie Bartkiewicz. As Reebok and the adidas Group prepared to move its corporate headquarters from Canton to Boston, a Facebook message from CO-OP to Reebok resulted in equipment that will be enjoyed for years to come.

Thank you, Ronnie, Reebok and adidas!



Let's learn more about...



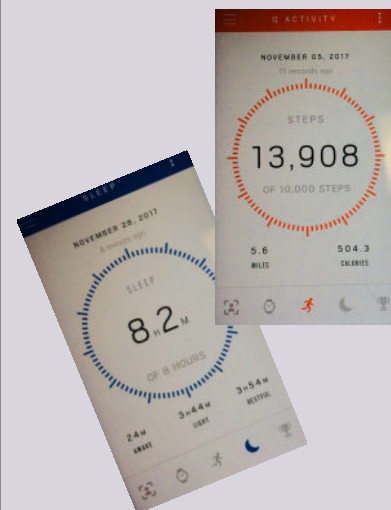
RecycleHealth provides refurbished fitness trackers to underserved populations to help improve their health and fitness.

Tufts University's Dr. Lisa Gualtieri began the program with two questions: (1) What if those least likely to buy wearable activity trackers benefited most from their use to improve health and fitness, and (2) Would people who owned wearables that they don't use donate them to help others?

From those simple questions, RecycleHealth was born.

To learn more or to find how you can help, go to www.RecycleHealth.com

#SharetheHealth



Donations play an important role in supporting CO-OP's many programs and services. For information on ways to help, go to

www.co-op.cc.

CO-OP

455 Somerset Avenue
No. Dighton, MA 02764-0506

Phone: 508-824-1717
Fax: 508-822-0919
E-mail: info@co-op.cc



NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATION

U.S. POSTAGE

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02780

PERMIT NO. 614

Our Mission

The purpose of Cooperative Production, Inc. (CO-OP) is to support people with developmental and other disabilities, including brain injuries, to become valued members of their communities, with opportunities for meaningful participation in areas of personal pursuit.

DAY HABILITATION PROGRAMS

North Dighton

455 Somerset Ave. 508-824-1717

Norton

399 Old Colony Rd. 508-223-4080

Taunton

97 Ingell St. 508-880-0352

60 Main St. 508-880-0015

COMMUNITY BASED DAY SERVICES

North Dighton

455 Somerset Ave. 508-824-1717

Taunton

97 Ingell St. 508-880-0352

EMPLOYMENT SERVICES

North Dighton

455 Somerset Ave. 508-824-1717

BRAIN INJURY SUPPORTS

Taunton

97 Ingell St. 508-880-0352