

Project with a Purpose

Create a purposeful project/activity for Manor Care residents. This project (creating a product that can be later donated to local charity, or sold for a profit that would be donated to local non-profit) is intended to fulfill the lives of resident and to bridge the gap between MC residents and staff with Independent Living residents and staff.

- 1) The project idea was to create a program in Capital Manor's Resident Care Facility (Manor Care) that filled two goals. 1. Bridge the gap between Manor Care residents and staff with Independent Living residents and staff, 2. Provide a program/activity for residents of Manor Care that had purpose. I was informed that a similar project had been happening (residents were making blankets to be later donated to kids at Head Start during our Christmas celebration). However, the project needed some revitalizing.
- 2) As a result of this specific project, there has been an increase in communication and collaboration (with additional projects and events) with both departments' staff. In addition, within the planning of the Leadership Academy project, I learned that an activity with similar objectives had just started. Thus, the idea came about to improve the already existing program.
- 3) In order for this project to be completed I needed the help of several coworkers, including: Life Enrichment Staff in Manor Care, Administrator, residents of Manor Care, residents from Independent Living, and nursing staff in Manor care.
- 4) Communications was done initially with emails sharing the idea and then lead into brief meeting with Life Enrichment staff to explain in further details. This gave us the opportunity to further share ideas.
- 5) Challenges faced in completing the project include:
 - 1) Time- sometimes this project was not able to be put on the top of the priority list. Additional job duties and tasks were of priority
 - 2) Money for supplies- The planned project has been put on hold for lack of funding. The materials and supplies cost money and currently, both departments have not allocated to fund this project.

- 3) Interest- It can be difficult at times to get others excited or interested in projects.
- 6) To overcome these challenges I did the following:
 - 1) Allocate time. When there was a moment of time that could be used to meet and plan, I would. When meeting with staff from Manor Care concerning other topics, I might catch them at the end of that meeting to discuss the project.
 - 2) Better planning in the future will help with funding. Asking Independent Living residents for donations and using coupons for a local craft/fabric store will and has helped.
 - 3) Keep talking about the project.
- 7) I didn't really encounter any big surprises. It all was to be expected.
- 8)
 - a. 1. Develop cooperative relationships among the people I work with
 - b. Paint the 'big picture' of what we aspire to accomplish
 - c. Make certain we set achievable goals, make concrete plans, and establish measurable milestones for the projects and programs we work on.
- 9) I am definitely more aware of the leadership behaviors that need more focus. This awareness makes me more conscious of my leadership behaviors, which in turn has made me