

# CLI Update

## November 11th, 2016

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### And now-- for John's usual excuses & apologies:

Happy Veteran's Day! It's funny, but over this whole transition the single biggest thing that makes it feel real is when CLI is open and HCBDD is closed. Just remember as we move into 2017, there WILL be differences in CLI's schedule from HCBDD's calendar. Jen, Holly and I are working on next year's calendar now. We hope to have that calendar ready to push out with the next newsletter.

CLI is really trying to push out new activities-- new services-- and new days/times for those activities. We will be scheduling a few after hours huge group activities that we hope to get lots of family and provider staff to attend so that we can talk about what CLI is doing & why. Our immediate goal is to offer everyone more choices and to help people build the life that they want.

Of course, we still believe in helping people earn as much money as possible too-- so we'll be helping you choose work as much as possible and then helping you spend that money in the community. Speaking of money-- as everyone knows, CLI has a special certificate with the US Department of Labor (DOL) that allows us to pay piece-rate for work performed even if that means the person earns less than minimum wage. Starting in December, CLI is going to pay minimum wage for all work that we ask EVERYONE to do. This may not seem like a big change, but it is for us. The up-side of piece-rate is that people can work at their own pace and spend as much time on that job as they'd like. The down-side of piece-rate is that if your disability means that you'll never be able to do a particular job fast enough-- you'll never make enough on that job. So, our plan is to create different work groups so that everyone who wants to work has the opportunity to make money. Structuring those groups according to each person's abilities and ambitions means that CLI can focus more on work-readiness skills, work exploration, and productive community-based opportunities to people that are not typically highly paid in the workshop. The upside of the new hourly pay-rate is that we'll be able to offer new types of work to try. Our goal is to provide everyone with more and different choices in 2017.

The lottery ticket is a new thing. We thought it would be a fun thing to share. If it hits, we all win!

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## Out and About

By Holly Binkley

On Thursday we had the pleasure to host a group St. Paul High School students for their schoolwide "Make A Difference Day." A group of 7th-12th graders led by theology teacher Mary Krystowski chose to spend their day at Christie Lane. The group partnered up and spent the day exploring



