



# Magnolia Matters

News from Magnolia Community Services | Spring 2022



## "We're Back!" Residents Return to Campus for Daily Activities

Eight months after Hurricane Ida caused significant damage to the work centers and the Nims Center, Magnolia Community Services residents finally returned to the River Road main campus for daily activities on April 18.

With the vocational department leading the way, instructors and residents returned to a full week of activities. Group homes rotate among the work centers and the Wellness Center, so that all residents have a chance to participate in various work.

On some days, the entire group of residents gather for a fun, social activity. Whether it is snowballs or karaoke, Magnolia residents have a good time with their friends and instructors before departing campus.



Recreation has begun bowling again, with hopes of resuming the league soon. It's starting to feel more familiar and more active on River Road.

After COVID-19 and Hurricane Ida, Magnolia residents are happy to be back on campus and in the swing of things once again.

*A Note from  
Executive Director,  
Jennifer Conrad*

Yes, we are back. We are getting back to daily routines, although they differ from what they were pre-Covid.

Our day program is far from where we would like it to be, as we do not have the staff to accommodate our needs beyond our current residential census.

Our recruiter is working tirelessly on getting us staffed up so that all may return to the day program as soon as possible.

Meanwhile, we celebrate our fabulous staff who have stuck with us and our clients through the pandemic, Hurricane Ida, and beyond.

I am super-proud of their dedication to and love for our people. Many of them are working more hours than ever and continue to do so. Please join me in expressing our heart-felt thanks!



On Tuesday May 3, Magnolia Community Services joined non-profit and charitable organizations across the Greater New Orleans area in participating in the annual Give NOLA Day. Now in its ninth year, Give NOLA Day is led by the Greater New Orleans Foundation. We are grateful for the support and leadership of GNOF.

To support its high quality services and support, Magnolia set a goal of \$17,000 for the 2022 Give NOLA Day. Early giving brought in 97% of the goal, so the day was shaping up to be a great success when the clock struck 12:01 a.m.

By noon, Magnolia was nearing \$20,000 in donations from generous individuals across the city and country. The campaign soon passed the 2021 total and continued to climb. By the end of the day, and with offline donations received on May 3, over \$28,000 was raised for Magnolia Community Services.

These funds will provide a much needed boost to the residential, vocational, recreational, wellness, and supported employment programs for adults with intellectual and developmental disabilities. On behalf of their clients, Magnolia Community Services thanks all who supported them on Give NOLA Day 2022.



**Hail Magnolia! The Krewe of Tucks, a longstanding partner in making Mardi Gras accessible to all, invited residents to the Tucks den for a tour and King Cake party in January. Several residents also got the chance to ride in the Krewe of Centurions in Metairie on February 19, 2022. It was a festive season for Magnolia clients!**



*Stuart poses with volunteers from IMO - UCF.*



*Rebecca participates in music therapy with the LPO.*



*Carl with RJ, the Budweiser Clydesdale. Everyone enjoyed the Spring Eggstravaganza.*



*Kinta and her sister, Yvonne*

## Now Hiring!

Magnolia Community Services has not been immune to the hiring crisis affecting its industry and community. To provide high level of care for their clients, Magnolia is hiring in these key positions:

- Direct Care Staff (DSP | CMA | CNA)
- Instructor in Day Habilitation Program
- Licensed Practical Nurse (LPN)
- Residential Case Manager

To apply, please email [careers@mcs-nola.org](mailto:careers@mcs-nola.org) or visit: [www.mcs-nola.org/careers](http://www.mcs-nola.org/careers)

## Hurricane Prep

Like most in Southern Louisiana, Magnolia Community Services administration is diligently preparing for the 2022 hurricane season. As you prepare your own homes, please keep Magnolia in mind. Items of greatest need include:

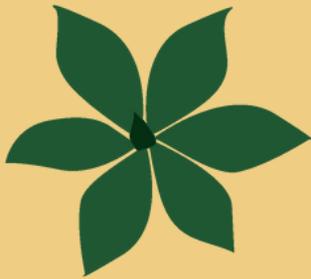
- Batteries
- Flashlights and Lanterns
- Bottled Water

Donations can be dropped off to the site manager's office. You may also purchase supplies on our Amazon Wish List.

# Calendar

**May 15 - Growing Magnolias  
Fundraiser, Colonial Lanes**

**May 21 - Mardi Gras in May  
Dance, Nims Center**



# Support Magnolia

Please consider becoming a  
**RECURRING DONOR.**

Monthly or quarterly giving ensures steady funding that Magnolia can count on. Magnolia clients can rely on their dedicated staff because they can rely on generous donors.

**[www.mcs-nola.org/support](http://www.mcs-nola.org/support)**



**Magnolia**  
COMMUNITY SERVICES

Leading the way for people with  
developmental disabilities

Magnolia Community Services  
100 Central Avenue  
Jefferson, LA 70121

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