

A Holiday Affirmation!

Better to Give Than Receive



- Holiday Tree: Put up what would historically be known as a Christmas Tree, but keep redecorating the tree for each season/holiday the community would like to celebrate. There can be one, or multiple in the community based on individual interests and culture.
- Ask residents to give random kindness cards to people as part of promoting kindness during the holiday season.
- Would residents like to paint a mural? Ask families, and volunteers to paint a mural outline on the outside of the resident windows and residents can paint the inside of the window mural from their rooms. This can easily be done and washed away for something different throughout the season.
- Share favorite Holiday stories.
- As family members to purchase holiday cards they can record their voice on. So the resident can listen to them whenever they would like. Request recording empowering loving messages to support one another.
- Take a picture of a resident's hands, as a personalized gift for their loved ones.
- Have leadership take a moment with each care partner, to express how much they mean, and all the sacrifices they have made, celebrate them.
- Virtual Concerts and Caroling, through zoom, have residents, family members, employees and outside agencies call in to sing a song together.



Open morning meeting and huddles with a community or daily mantra.

- Set up holiday outdoor experiences like a fall festival, pumpkin patch or a celebration of lights.
- Set up a thankful tree somewhere in the community. As any individual passes the tree, have leaves available for them to write one thing they are thankful for, and place them on branches of the tree.
- Think about hosting a community clean-up day outdoors. Enjoy the outdoor weather, but take pride in the community, and work on taking care of it together. At the same time, we could decorate the outdoors together to reflect the specific season.
- Celebrate the season by offering opportunities to write to one another. Set up a mailbox indoors where all community members can write letters to one another. Encourage hand drawn artwork on letters and envelopes.
- Host a food or clothing drive to give back to the external community.
- Offer in room seasonal crafts to bring nature in, such as seasonal corsages and boutonnières that anyone can wear around the community with fresh flowers, leaves, berries, herbs, etc.
- Host community socially distanced walks outdoors, look at the decorations neighbors might have put up, reminisce as we walk in the outdoors.
- Ask community members (living and working in the community) to bring in their favorite holiday recipes. Work with the food and nutrition department to make the recipe, and cut into bite sized appetizers to offer as snacks, making sure to honor and share the name of the individual who shared the recipe.



Think about all the holiday celebrations around the world we could learn more about, hone into your curious child inside, and ask questions to learn more about how members of your community celebrate the time of year.

The following are some of the upcoming holidays your community may identify with.

Halloween: (October 31st)

Veterans Day (November 11th)

Native American Heritage Day (November 27th)

Christmas Eve (December 24th)

Kwanzaa (December 26th-January 1st)

New Year's Eve (December 31st)

Day of the Dead (November 2nd)

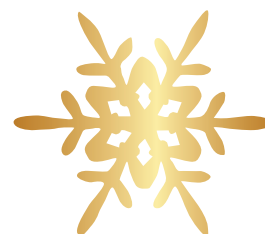
Thanksgiving (November 26th)

Hanukkah (December 10th-Dec 18th)

Christmas Day (December 25th)

New Year's Day (January 1st)

**Some of these recommendations came from gatherings of The Eden Alternative and The Pioneer Network*



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