

Andrea (“Ande”) Doerr- 2009 PHCA Excellence in Caregiving Award

Andrea Doerr (or Ande as we call her) has been with Country Meadows since 1996, working her way from Personal Care Assistant to her current position as Restorative Coordinator. Her job as RC is not just to keep people busy, but to engage them in activities that are meaningful and have purpose for them.

Ande goes the extra mile to really get residents involved and active in everything from helping them achieve more self-care capabilities to developing specific activities they enjoy. When a new resident joins Country Meadows of Hershey, Andrea leads the welcome committee! Ande takes the time to learn about each new resident and find ways to get them involved in activities they would enjoy or even create a new activity geared to their interests. From bingo to book clubs to just helping residents do more for themselves, Ande really contributes to quality of life for residents of Country Meadows of Hershey.

Ande is in tune with residents. When she recognized the need for more therapeutic activities during the evening to accommodate the “night owls”, she took charge and developed the program! She realized not everyone goes to bed early and coordinated a variety of activities and supplies to keep residents active and engaged in things they enjoyed and made them feel personally more fulfilled. This benefitted not just residents, who get to know each other through more activities, but staff also. The staff learned new skills and it gave them more time to get to know residents they care for. Ande is always looking for ways like this to create an even stronger sense of community.

Ande brings staff together to achieve high quality of care and quality of life for residents at Country Meadows of Hershey. Her commitment and genuine nature bring joy to residents and coworkers alike.