

The Maxo Joseph Excellence in Direct Care Awards Thursday, July 13, 2023



About Maxo Joseph



These awards are named in honor of Maxo Joseph, a direct care staff at MAB for more than 19 years, who died of COVID 19. Maxo exemplified all the qualities we value most in direct care staff:

- He was dedicated to ensuring that participants lived their best lives and went above and beyond to support the activities they loved.
- He gave his all and was a supportive team player, helping make his group home a great place to work.
- He was committed to ensuring that his work reflected the very highest standards of quality.

Maxo Joseph made a difference by working in our residential homes and providing care. Maxo cooked and cared for our clients; he supported fellow workers, and when he wasn't at work, he, along with the other members of his tight-knit family, cared for his 83-year-old mom.

Maxo Joseph was the ideal residential counselor. He was loving and nurturing, reliable, skilled, and beloved by all who knew him. He worked for MAB providing direct care because caring for the participants was what he loved best.

Maxo was well known throughout Adult Disability Services. He always was the top vote-getter for his Haitian casserole at the Annual Picnic. He took pride in his Haitian cooking and decorated his entry with a miniature plastic palm tree. When he was on shift, Maxo always did the cooking at West Milton because he loved feeding everyone and taking care of them.

Maxo loved his work. He knew it was important.

Maxo Joseph
Excellence in Direct Care Awards

Welcome

Pam Goodman
MAB Board of Directors

The Life of Maxo Joseph

Heller Shoop
Executive Director, MAB Adult Disability Services

Creating The Maxo Joseph Legacy

Jay Lupica, Trustee
Patricia W. and Alfred E. Farah Charitable Gift Fund

Impact of Direct Care

Talya Nevo-Hacohen, Family Member

Repair the World - Tikkun Olam

Barry Shrage, MAB Board of Directors

Awards Presentation

Awardees & Nominators

Closing Remarks

Katherine Craven
MAB Board of Directors

Photo credits: Darlene DeVita Photography

Maxo Joseph Excellence in Direct Care Awards

Maxo Joseph Direct Care Staff Award Eligibility Criteria

Be a great team member

A great direct care staff member is an asset to their team. They always have other staff's backs. They go out of their way to help other staff and will take the time to ease the load for them. They are always welcoming to other staff and make them feel comfortable and included. They would never do anything to bully other staff. Working with this staff member makes ADS a great place to work and makes other staff look forward to coming to work. Though this staff member has more experience in some areas than other staff, they never belittle others.

Being great with family members, state agency coordinators, neighbors, and other members of the community

A great direct care staff member always represents the organization in the best way possible. When family members, guardians, or DDS/MRC coordinators call or visit, the direct care staff member conducts themselves in a friendly, professional, and competent manner. They always follow through responsibly with requests that family members, guardians, and state agency personnel make, even if that means communicating the request to the residential coordinator rather than doing it themselves. They communicate with medical and day program providers professionally and helpfully. They are considerate of neighbors, professionally representing ADS even when provoked by rude behavior.

Focus on the participants

A great direct care staff member has excellent relationships with individual participants. They focus on activities that support participants' desires to achieve their goals. They make time to support the participants in activities that they enjoy. They get to know the participants as individuals and treat them with respect. They are remarkable for doing something special or unexpected for participants, going above and beyond what is required.

Quality assurance

A great direct care staff member does an excellent job complying with all relevant state regulations. They are up to date with all their required certifications, including MAP. They attend all required trainings. They do an excellent job of completing shift documentation and all assignments related to fulfilling state agency requirements. They are very careful about the quality of their work and have no history of med errors.

Maxo Joseph Excellence in Direct Care Awards

2023 Honorees

\$10,000 awards

Said Barko – Edenfield Avenue

Olamide Taiwo – Cass Avenue

\$5,000 awards

Ifeoluwa Alabi – Brighton Street

Judithe Vital – Carol Drive

Reynissa Prince – MABWorks

Lukman Salami – Durnell Avenue

\$2,000 awards

Haley Kinnon – Individual Supports

Candice Kunneh – Fruit Street

Choice Omorotionmwan – Blanchard Road

Pearl Osasogie Oni-Edwards – Church Street

Jeremiah Veal – West Milton Street

The Rising Star Award – \$2,000

Macdonald Quaye – Brook Street

***2023 Maxo Joseph Excellence in
Direct Care Service Awards Finalists***

Babatunde Adebisi – Woodcliff Road

Samuel Ackom – Fruit Street

Cecilia Adjulo-Brown – Joan Road

Edmira Coomber – York Street

Kyra Crump – MABWorks

Lisa Fuches – Carol Drive

Stefani Kennedy – MABWorks

Kazeem Muritala – West Milton Street

Brandon Robinson – MABWorks

Romil Sanon – Edenfield Avenue

Adelaida Santos – Snow Road

Willy Wainaina – Snow Road

Sara William – Carol Drive



\$10,000 Award

Said Barko

Residential Counselor

Edenfield Avenue, Watertown

Since 2017

Nominated by five co-workers, including one former Maxo Joseph honoree and the mother of one of the participants

Said came to this country from Morocco six years ago and got a job with a temp agency owned by someone who was also from Morocco. He was such a good employee that the house manager of the group home where he worked convinced his supervisor to have MAB buy out his contract with the temp agency and become a permanent MAB employee. When he was hired as a permanent staff member, he was given six months to become certified to give participants medications. He studied hard but never could pass the test. He would almost pass, scoring one point less than required but never passing. Said was frustrated, but he continued studying and taking test after test. Finally, after three years, he passed the test.

Said is extraordinarily kind to the participants. He engages with each of them in a caring and personally attentive manner. When Jane, a family member who lives out of state, came to visit her elderly brother, Ross, she observed Said walking with him during a trip to the zoo and was moved by the quality of their interaction. Said was caring for Ross the way someone provides care to a loved one. Jane couldn't have hoped for anything more.

When David, one of the participants, was dying, Said would go into his room and talk with him. He was kind and loving, always saying something to make David laugh. At the end of David's life, Said would spend a long time feeding him, waiting patiently 'til he was ready for another spoonful. He would spend time in the room after David had gone to sleep, quietly praying in Moroccan.

When a new participant, Akim, moved in, the participant's mother worried about how much care he would receive. He previously had lived alone with his mother, and now he'd be competing with four roommates for attention. Initially, Akim's mother visited the house every day. But after seeing the care and attention that Said provides to Akim, she was very pleased. Said is the only staff member Akim allows to trim his fingernails.

Said is always willing to come in to help out during emergencies and when other staff call in sick last minute. Everyone likes working with Said. He has a great personality and is fun to work with. When one of the staff got a flat tire, Said was the one who helped him change the tire. During a snowstorm, he helped an elderly neighbor shovel her driveway without being asked.



\$10,000 Award

Olamide Taiwo

Residential Counselor

Cass Avenue, Dedham

Since 2014

Nominated by her supervisor and

11 co-workers

For her first 10 years—longer than any other staff member—Olamida worked 1:1 with Robbie, a young man who lives in a separate apartment on the second floor of Cass Ave. She was committed to helping him live the life he wanted. For months, Olamida drove Robbie to his mother's house and helped him use tools to build a shed and install electricity. When Robbie, who has trouble controlling his impulses, dumped a cart full of groceries on a supermarket floor, Olamida calmly called Cass Ave for help. She never quits!

Two years ago, Olamida earned her RN degree. Cass Ave pulled together to support Olamida by working her shifts while she studied or completed clinical rotations and by driving her children from school to home.

Olamida has seen the profile of the Cass Ave participants change over the past 12 years. They are aging. One is in a wheelchair, and a second may need one soon. When a participant died, another participant moved in. Staff use a Hoyer lift to help him get in and out of bed, move him to prevent bedsores, and feed him pureed food.

Olamida decided to stay at Cass Ave after earning her RN degree. She chose to use her training to provide direct care while giving back to everyone who helped her while she was in school. Olamida not only provides expert care to the participants, she also trains other staff, giving them greater confidence in their abilities.

From ear infections to early stages of gout, Olamida diagnoses medical problems before they become emergencies. This is critical with largely non-verbal participants. When speaking with doctors, Olamida uses medical terms and makes sure the staff carry out the medical plans prescribed.

Olamida often works at Cass Ave on weekends. Family members who visit their loved ones are relieved and pleased that someone with her skills works there. Now studying to become a nurse practitioner, Olamida works full-time at Cass Ave, plus 20 hours a week overnight in a nursing home and takes care of her 10- and 14-year-old kids.



\$5,000 Award

Ifeoluwa Alabi
Residential Counselor
Brighton Street, Belmont
Since 2019

**Nominated by his supervisor
and five co-workers**

Ifeoluwa loves the participants at Brighton. When he comes on shift, he greets each one, joking and talking with them. He asks them to tell him about their day and listens intently to their response. He plans activities with the participants, including bingo, movie night, music time, and church services on YouTube.

He is always up for taking participants out into the community for activities they enjoy. He takes participants to basketball games at the high school the house manager's son attends. He makes sure to take them to the bathroom first so that they won't be uncomfortable. He knows each participant and knows he has to stay close to them, so the crowd won't make them anxious. He is so caring, and there have been no behavioral problems with participants out in the community.

He volunteers to shave each participant, so their hygiene and grooming are always good. He takes them for a haircut every two weeks at Supercuts because they make the guys feel welcome there. They make sure to use the barber who is best with the guys. He makes sure they have a haircut to look great for weekend family visits.

Ife is always welcoming when family members come to visit on the weekends. He fills them in on their loved one's mood and health.

He is always careful to follow the doctor's orders for each participant, looking out for any symptoms to report.

Ifeoluwa is the consummate professional. He knows exactly what to do and needs little supervision. When Joe came back from a hospital stay with bedsores, Ife taught the other staff how to treat them. When staff from temp agencies are on shift, filling in for vacancies, Ife isn't afraid to take charge to make sure everything goes well.



\$5,000 Award

Judithe Vital

Residential Counselor

Carol Drive, Dedham

Since 2015

Nominated by her supervisor/Director of Residential Programs, seven co-workers, and the mother of one of the participants

Judithe goes above and beyond her job responsibilities to make sure that Carol Drive is operating as well as possible. She's a natural-born leader. Of all the staff at Carol Drive, she has the most potential to become a house manager.

She is a model for the other staff and shapes their sense of how the job should be done. Everyone relies on her; she is respectful and supportive of other staff, helping them improve. She is great at instructing staff in areas they need training, patiently explaining things until they get them. She does everything she can to boost morale. She never complains or blames anyone. She takes the initiative to correct problems and settle conflicts. She is friendly and works well with all staff. Other staff loves working with her. She has the highest standards for how work should be done, but she always has the staff's back, making them feel good about meeting those standards.

Judithe is always on top of everything at the house, making sure everything is done right. She is the one who will let the house manager (residential coordinator) know about what needs to be addressed at the house. She is willing to do whatever is necessary. She's always the first to get her work done. She takes the initiative on projects at the house, such as changing participants' seasonal clothing and ensuring the house is cleaned regularly. She manages the medication system well, making sure all medications are accurate and in good supply.

Judithe prioritizes participants' needs and promptly addresses requests from family members and participants. Her extensive knowledge of each participant enables her to accompany them to doctor's appointments effectively, advocate for their needs, and relay comprehensive information to the house. Judithe ensures an ample and accurate supply of medications aligned with doctors' orders. She excels at fostering independence in participants, providing encouragement and support for their endeavors. Additionally, she demonstrates patience when dealing with challenging behaviors from the participants.



\$5,000 Award

Reynissa Prince

Assistant MABWorks Director

MABWorks, Allston

Since 2017

**Nominated by ADS' program trainer,
the father of a participant, a co-worker,
and a supervisee**

Reynissa works at MABWorks, our day program for individuals with intellectual disabilities. Reynissa was working at Starbucks and told her co-worker she'd like a job that would give her life meaning. Her co-worker was Anastasia Kanistras, MAB's Director of Day Services and Quality Assurance. Anastasia told her about MAB. The rest is history.

Reynissa is a natural leader who balances improving operations at MABWorks while providing direct care. She organizes the day and ensures that each participant engages in activities that match their interests, so they fully participate in the community and in their lives.

Many participants were at home during COVID with little socialization and stimulation. Getting participants out into the community made a big difference for the participants and for day programs that couldn't fully re-open until November 2022.

Not only has Reynissa developed beloved activities, including volunteering at Meals on Wheels, her energy and enthusiasm are powerfully contagious. The number of MABWorks participants who want to go to the YMCA each week for swimming, Zumba, and workouts has increased significantly.

To get participants moving, Reynissa started Walk-a-Thon month. She gave everyone a pedometer and posted step totals each day. Participants walked through Allston, indoors and out. The competition was high-spirited, and the awards celebration was a hit.

Reynissa makes sure that activities are accessible to all participants regardless of their disability. She is great at communicating with families about what their loved one did at MABWorks, and the families love the difference that she and MABWorks make.

Reynissa put systems in place so participants have a full and meaningful day. The itinerary helps them develop the skills to achieve their ISP goals, including social interaction.

And though Reynissa focuses on program quality, she also forms relationships with each participant. She works 1:1 and lifts them out of a bad mood with a spirited game of checkers.

Reynissa also supports other staff with encouragement and praise when they do a great job. She helps them become their best and created a morning group huddle to build team spirit and retain talented staff.

\$5,000 Award

Lukman Salami
Residential Counselor
Durnell Avenue, Roslindale
Since 2005

Nominated by his supervisor and 5 co-workers

Caring for individuals with disabilities is Lukman's life. He has worked with the same group of guys at Durnell for over 18 years. Though this is his full-time job, he has another full-time job working overnights for another provider.

Lukman makes Durnell a joyous home for the participants. He's fully engaged, making sure that the participants feel loved and happy. When the guys come home from their day programs, between 3:00 and 4:00 in the afternoon, Lukman chants their names as his welcoming ritual: "Der-bee, Dee-bee!" until he sees smiles break out on their faces. They're home in their happy place. The stress of their ride back from the day program is forgotten.

Lukman always makes sure that each of the participants has a special birthday. He's in charge of making the arrangements to take them to their favorite restaurant for dinner, along with the other participants and staff, and family members.

Even when he's not scheduled to be on shift, he pitches in to make sure that each participant has the life they want to live. On holidays, he makes sure to drive one of the participants from Durnell in Roslindale to his sister's house in Charlestown, before driving back to Brockton for a celebration with Lukman's own family.

Lukman also takes the time to make sure that all the participants are as independent as possible, doing their own laundry and setting the table for each meal. He cues them through each step of loading the washing machine, adding the detergent, and starting the machines. At dinner time, Lukman coaches the participants in setting the table, giving them a sense of pride in their contribution to making the house run well.

Since COVID it's been difficult to hire staff, especially certified staff who administer medications to all the participants multiple times a day. Lukman is always willing to fill in and provide med coverage at Durnell or other houses that are shorthanded.

Lukman is very easygoing; all staff love working with him on shift. If another staff person doesn't want to do something, Lukman is always willing to do it. One of the participants, Joe, has been part of this group of five roommates for more than 20 years and now has Alzheimer's. He's difficult to clean, and the staff hate doing it. But Lukman knows how to redirect Joe and is always willing to clean him.



\$2,000 Award

Haley Kinnon

Assistant Program Director

Individual Supports

Since 2020

Nominated by her supervisor

Haley works to move individuals who have experienced brain injury from nursing homes to community apartments. She does whatever needs to be done to find a home for them and continues to support the individual once they move in. She puts together a plan for the supports that these individuals need in order to live in their apartment without 24-hour care.

Haley is a strong advocate for the people she's assigned to, and they all want her to continue to provide support once they're situated in their new home. She loves problem-solving, especially when it involves research in order to come up with a solution. And when she learns about new services, she's eager to share the information with her colleagues, so their clients can also benefit from these services.

One of her participants is an amputee living in an apartment complex with frequent elevator breakdowns. Once, he had to pull himself up two flights of steps to get back to his apartment after a medical appointment. Haley was so upset about this that she reached out to the apartment management and first responders in the area and learned about Enhanced 911. She has since registered all her participants in Enhanced 911 so that first responders and building management know the location of any vulnerable tenant who needs additional support in an emergency. She also makes sure that the participant routinely wears his life-alert pendant so he can get help when he needs it. This has made a huge difference in his life, as he was reluctant to go out after his harrowing experience with the malfunctioning elevator.

Haley's drive to make her participants' lives as good as possible makes her a legend among Mass Rehab service coordinators.. They always request that she be assigned to their clients. She is so smart and compassionate; she can get on top of a problem quickly and come up with an amazing solution. She has one participant who is a U.S. Army veteran. She reached out to Veterans Affairs and got all the documentation necessary to make him eligible for a large array of services that add tremendously to his life. The participant was thrilled.

Haley is a great communicator and forms strong relationships with family members and the care team. She follows up on family requests and coordinates care so everyone knows what's happening.



\$2,000 Award

Candice Kunneh

Assistant Residential Director

Fruit Street, Hopkinton

Since 2022

Nominated by a co-worker

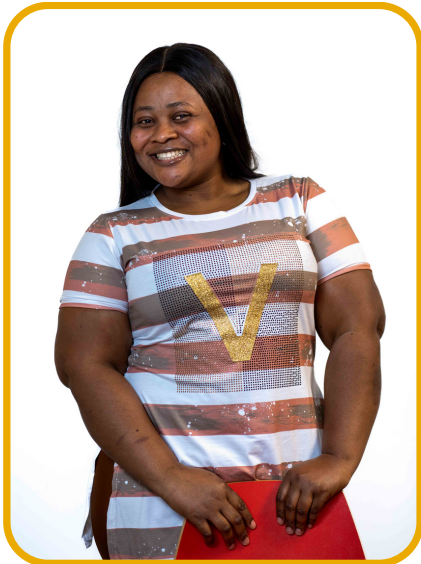
Many direct care staff avoid taking participants out into the community. There are too many moving parts to pay attention to. Things are more under control when you stay home. Out in the community, anything can happen. Half of our participants are in wheelchairs which makes moving around difficult. It's hard to find parking for the handicap van. It is hard to find bathrooms.

Candice is undeterred by these challenges. Her priority is taking participants out into the community to go wherever they want. She always says, "A happy house is an empty house. Living is outside. Let's get out of here."

She pays special attention to what each participant wants to do. Rather than planning group activities, she focuses on each participant. She takes Lisa to chorus because singing strengthens her vocal cords. She took Jesse and John to a Gentleman's Club for Jesse's birthday, where they could see nude dancers. They loved it and want to go back. It was the first activity John was willing to spend his money on. Candice isn't judgmental about what the participants want to do. She knows it's all about them. Sometimes they just want to go for a ride and see the countryside or visit the old neighborhood where they grew up. Sometimes they want to go to another group home for poker night.

Candice loves to cook but focuses on helping the participants cook rather than cooking for them. She asks them, "What can I help you cook?" She's taught a number of participants to make homemade lasagna.

Candice is happy to work extra shifts when other houses are short-staffed. She brings joy to every house she works in. She's a leader. She's a positive role model for other staff and motivates them to do more. She's very patient with staff and participants. Everyone has a different personality, and Candice gets along with everyone.



\$2,000 Award

Choice Omorotionmwan
Residential Counselor
Blanchard Street, Belmont
Since 2021

**Nominated by her Supervisor/ Program
Support Director**

Choice has a wonderful attitude toward her work. She comes in full of energy, wanting to give her all.

Choice works at Blanchard Road, an ABI Waiver home, serving men who've had brain injuries and lived for years in nursing homes before moving to Blanchard. Choice is effective in working with a resident who initially was very demanding and exhibited difficult behaviors. Choice invested in developing a relationship with him, which made him more comfortable in the home setting. She comes in to take him to church on Sunday morning. She is able to coach other staff who find him challenging to deal with.

Two years ago, the long-time manager of Blanchard left to start medical school. While a new manager was being trained, Choice assumed responsibility for taking the participants to their many doctors' appointments. She did a great job advocating for each of them with their doctor, thoroughly reporting their symptoms. She also did a great job of bringing all medical instructions back to the house to ensure compliance and follow-up were in line with what the doctor recommended.

The participants at Blanchard love Choice. She is a great cook, and the residents love the African dishes she prepares for dinner. She loves to take weekend shifts, so there's time to take participants shopping at the mall and to other activities they enjoy. She is looking forward to working with them on a full schedule of activities this summer.

She is a great member of the team and a role model for other staff. She is very engaged in her work and always asks management and nursing staff questions so she can improve her skills. She motivates other staff to improve their performance, as well. Choice is extremely vocal during staff meetings in constructively raising issues that need to be dealt with and that improve the quality of care at Blanchard.



\$2,000 Award

Pearl Osasogie Oni-Edwards
Residential Counselor
Church Street, West Roxbury
Since 2018

**Nominated by her supervisor and the
ADS Residential Director**

Pearl is very passionate about the participants. She makes Church Street feel like a family. The participants all love her. They cry when she is sick or on vacation, and they ask when she's coming back.

The staffing crisis has had a huge impact on Church Street. The Residential Coordinator was on leave for many months and then left for another job in October. From July until January, Pearl was one of three and then one of two permanent staff at Church Street. During this time, Pearl has stepped up to keep the house running well. If you visited the house, you wouldn't know that there was no manager. Everything is in order.

Pearl ensures the participants have the groceries and meals they prefer. The muffins from BJs, Cheerios and pasta, fresh fruit, and veggies. She is one of the only staff who can drive the handicap van and does the bulk of the driving, ensuring the participants get to their medical appointments, go out to get their hair done, and are able to do their shopping.

Pearl does a great job communicating with family members and medical providers and working with ADS management and nursing to resolve problems. She works many extra hours to make sure that someone MAP certified is at Church Street to give the participants their medications.

Pearl is great with new staff and with temp agency staff. They shadow her and learn everything from her. We can always rely on Pearl to step up and do what needs to be done, no matter the task, time of day, or day of the week. She's a huge help with all the paperwork needed for the participants. She's a great cook and makes sure the participants have the kind of meals they enjoy and that she'd cook for her own family.

Pearl has been the glue holding Church Street together for the past year, and as we add in more permanent staff, she is welcoming and works to help all to function as a cohesive team.



\$2,000 Award

Jeremiah Veal

Residential Counselor

West Milton Street, Hyde Park

Since 2021

Nominated by his supervisor

Jeremiah is dedicated to providing the best care to the men who live at West Milton. These men are among the lowest functioning participants at MAB, totally dependent on staff for care. And while Jeremiah goes above and beyond to provide that care, he also treats each of them as individuals.

Jeremiah engages the participants in conversation, reminiscing about cherished childhood memories like winter sledding and apple picking. Gathering on the back deck, they joyfully recall people from their time at Fernald, where they lived many years ago, creating a delightful atmosphere of shared stories and nostalgia.

By developing close relationships with the participants, Jeremiah becomes more important to them and more effective in working with them. Eugene has always had periods of uncontrollable crying, about once a month, not triggered by any external event. Jeremiah now reaches out to him and can calm Eugene down. No one has ever been able to do this in the past. During one of these outbursts, Jeremiah asked Eugene what he could do to make him feel better, and Eugene responded that he needed a hug. Jeremiah gave him a hug, and Eugene stopped crying.

Jeremiah works in the same home where Maxo Joseph worked. Jeremiah loves to cook, and though he isn't as good a cook as Maxo, he loves to cook Maxo's favorite recipes. The guys love Jeremiah's shepherd's pie, lasagna, and all the ways Jeremiah cooks chicken.

Jeremiah makes sure that participants are clean from head to toe. While other staff are squeamish about showering participants' private areas, Jeremiah makes sure their bottoms are clean. Now that the pandemic is over, Jeremiah is eager to work with the house manager to take the guys to Lake Winnepesaukee for a long weekend. The guys love going on the train that goes all along the lake. They love putting their feet in the water.



The Rising Star Award

Macdonald Quaye

Residential Counselor

Brook Street, Shrewsbury

Since 2021

**Nominated by the former
and by the current Director
of the Independence Development Program**

In all of MAB's group homes, we're implementing a new rehabilitation model, moving away from having staff do everything for the participants and instead training participants and supporting them to do everything themselves. An occupational therapist (OT) comes to the group home to train each participant in new skills to make them more independent. Still, it's up to the direct care staff in the home to reinforce that training by encouraging participants to practice their new skills, only relying on staff for support.

In practice, that is hard for staff to do, and many direct care staff lack the patience to hold back; it's quicker to do things themselves. Macdonald is the perfect direct care staff for this rehab model. He takes the initiative to pay attention to the training sessions so he can follow up when the OT isn't there.

He always reinforces what the OT is training the participants to do and takes the time to hang back, only coming forward when the participant needs help.

He always encourages the participants to do more. He has a different approach with each one. With Allen, it's motivating him to get out of bed. With Kevin, it's getting him out of his wheelchair to practice walking. He engages all the participants in meal prep and even gets them excited about baking muffins. He works with them to fold their laundry.

Macdonald is persistent. He doesn't give up after asking once and not meeting with success. He works with each participant until he's successful. The other staff respect him.

He has great relationships with each of the participants and has done a lot to help them to get acquainted and develop camaraderie within Brook Street. When Brook Street first opened, they were all strangers to each other and preferred to stay in their rooms. Macdonald came up with activities that got them to leave their rooms and develop friendships with each other. Wii bowling has been a popular way to build team spirit within the house. Movie night in the common room is popular. They even invited participants from other houses to come over for movie night. Participating in common room activities means walking longer to get to the bathroom and doing additional exercise.

Selection Committee

The Selection Committee included three staff, including one of last year's Maxo Joseph Award winners; three family members of ADS participants; three community leaders and healthcare professionals. The Selection Committee felt strongly that all nominees deserved to be honored.

MAB Staff

Kelsey Becker, ADS, Quality Assurance Management
Philip Ifebuzo, ADS, Director of Individual Support
Marie Joseph, Edenfield Avenue, 2022 Maxo Joseph honoree

Family Members

Anne D'Ambrosio, mother of ADS participant
Vicki Ann Frawley, niece of ADS participant
Jim Langstead, father of ADS participant

Community Partners

Jay Lupica, Senior Wealth Advisor, Principal of The Colony Group
Talya Nevo Hacoen, Executive Vice President, Chief Investment Officer,
Treasurer of Sabra Health Care REIT
Nili Shrage Davis, LCSW, Former Residential Coordinator of Dent Street

Special Thanks

Thank you to Jay Lupica, who administers the Patricia W. and Alfred E. Farah Charitable Gift Fund. His transformative gifts through this fund anchored two matching challenges, sustaining the Maxo Joseph Excellence in Direct Care Awards for eight years.

We are grateful to Talya Nevo-Hacoen, and to Suzanne and Steven Kaitz for their lead gifts, as well as Judy Paprin and Richard Anders, and Jack and Kathleen Corrigan.

Thanks to their support, the Maxo Joseph Excellence in Direct Care Award will be given annually to direct care workers who go above and beyond.

MAB Adult Disability Services provides residential supports, community-based day programming, community living supports, transitional assistance, occupational therapy, and vocational services for individuals with developmental disabilities, brain injury, and other disabilities in Greater Boston, Southeast Boston, and Central Massachusetts. The department operates more than 29 community residential homes and a community-based day activity center and supports more than 300 people to live as independently as possible in their communities each year.



MAB ADULT DISABILITY SERVICES

www.mabcommunity.org