

Employee Spotlight

Meet Dan Ouellette, Facilities Maintenance Consulting for Woodlands Senior Living

Dan Ouellette was hired as a Maintenance Technician at our Hallowell community and quickly moved up to the Foreman position. Dan did such an amazing job in his role in Hallowell that we created a new position for him – a Regional Foreman, acting in a leadership role for both the Hallowell and Waterville communities. It was no surprise that he excelled in that role as well – quickly being promoted into the Facilities Maintenance Consulting role.

Dan has an amazing ability of connecting with others. Whether it is a resident or a coworker, he makes those around him feel comfortable. He is always willing to go above and beyond what is asked of him and consistently exhibits a positive attitude. With his dedication to help problem solve issues across the company and mentoring maintenance personnel, Dan is an invaluable asset.

Thank you, Dan, for all that you do to make a meaningful difference in the lives of your coworkers and the residents at Woodlands Senior Living communities across the state. ***What you do matters!***



What is your current role at Woodlands Senior Living?

I am a Facilities Maintenance Consultant. Before coming to this role, I was the Maintenance Foreman at the Hallowell community.

Before working for WSL, what was the most unusual or interesting job you've ever had?

The most interested job I have ever had... I would have to say the job I had right before I came to Woodlands. I was working for AT&T. I was on the road 6 days a week, traveling from Michigan to Maine and to the Carolina's.

How has Woodlands Senior Living helped you in your career development?

Definitely training. Training is a major part of Woodlands Senior Living that will continue to change my career here – not just being trained, but being able to train others. I like being able to see how others respond and hear the same information that I was given. From there, we work through the static and find what will work for all of us

to get the job done. We are always learning.

If you could switch jobs with anyone within Woodlands Senior Living for a day, who would you choose?

The easy one here is to always choose your boss – but the truth is harder! I would be happy in a lot of positions here. As an Administrator I would love to try and enact positive change within the community; As a PSS or CRMA I would love to help people by giving better quality of life; As a Community Relationships Manager, I would love to help people with questions about how to get their mom or dad help.

What advice would you give to new hires?

It's important to understand that sometimes residents will be upset, but that doesn't mean that you've done your job wrong. We all have bad days, but when the residents have them, they have someone (you) in their home. Don't take it personally.

What is the most rewarding part of your job?

Making someone happy. It will often go unnoticed, but hanging a picture, bringing a hot coffee and keeping their "home" clean will instantly make someone's day. Anything you can do can be fun – but as far as rewards go, few things are better than making someone's day.

What drew you to Woodlands Senior Living originally?

I grew up "helping" in nursing homes when I was a kid. My idea of "helping," I would bring in my action figures and shoot them with rubber bands across dining rooms. From the ages of 5 through 20, I grew up and found joy in working with people in a healthcare setting. When I was ready to leave my last job, I knew I wanted to go back to when I was happy – in healthcare! I knew about Woodlands from living in the area. It seemed like the right decision to apply here. I never went to another interview – and I found happiness here.

What has been your proudest moment at Woodlands Senior Living?

At the peak of the pandemic, we hosted a car parade through the Hallowell driveway. Working with Vicki and Rose in Hallowell, we were able to get families to decorate their cars and participate. We even decorated the Hallowell vehicles to look like a sleigh, including the reindeer to pull Santa, Frosty and Woody the Bear! This made for a great day in Hallowell – making people laugh and smile!

People would be surprised if they knew this about you...

I don't have anything too surprising – I am pretty much who everyone gets to see on a daily basis!