



# Rooster Club

**Administrator:**  
Ms. Pamela Bates

**Generations of Red Bay, LLC**  
106 10<sup>th</sup> Avenue NW  
Red Bay, Alabama 35582  
(256) 356-4982

**Sponsored By:**



**IntegraCare**  
**Pharmacy**



## “Rooster Club”

***In 100 words or less describe your Best Practice:***

Any Activity Department will tell you that there are challenges they face in providing activities to residents. One is to provide meaningful activities to our male population, and another is to have activities that will bring our community into the facility. Our Rooster Club accomplishes both. The Rooster Club is a multidisciplinary program that brings male members of the community in to eat breakfast with our male residents once a month. By having the men of the community come to eat breakfast with the men of the facility, we are addressing both these challenges with success.

***What problem does your Best Practice address, and what is its primary purpose?***

The Rooster Club addresses the problem of meaningful activities and socialization for the male residents in our building. It also addresses the challenge of involving community members in the activities in the facility. We identified several years ago that we had many gentlemen from the community who visited their family members, who were residents in the facility. These gentlemen developed relationships with the male residents of our facility and we adopted these men as part of our facility family. After several lost their family member, we noticed they continued to visit. We made a decision to start a breakfast club and call it the Rooster Club in an effort to continue the relationships with these men and to continue those friendships with the male residents of our facility. The primary purpose of the club was to provide support and inclusion of the gentlemen who lost their family member as well as continue the already established relationships with the facility residents. The purpose has also been to grow the Rooster Club by inviting more men from the community and fostering new relationships. We feel we are serving our purpose and average approximately 25 men in our monthly Rooster Club breakfast meetings.

***What group of residents and others are involved in your Best Practice and how does it work?***

Male residents are often difficult to involve in group activities. They tend to choose to stay in their room and not participate with a population that is primarily female. The Rooster Club allows men from the community to join the male residents for breakfast in a private dining area. The male residents get to catch up on all the local “gossip”. Most of the residents know the men from the community and their family members. Some of the men from the community have had loved ones in the facility previously and want to stay connected to the facility. The Rooster Club meets the socialization needs of the male residents and allows the men from the community to give back to the facility with their time once per month. The men from the community remind each other of the breakfast. This may be the only time many men from the community socialize with each other.

***What has your Best Practice accomplished and how have you been able to tell this?***

The Rooster Club has allowed men who have lost loved ones that were residents in the facility to continue to be a part of the facility. The mood of the male residents on Rooster Club day is excited. They know that they have a special day just for them, where they can feel like they are part of the community. For the men from the community, they can feel like they are giving back.

***What problems, obstacles, or challenges might other facilities face in replicating part or all of your innovation?***

We have a sister facility that has a Rooster Club also. Any facility wanting to begin this activity may find it challenging if the men from the community do not feel a connection to the male residents in the facility. Since the breakfast is provided by the dietary department, we encountered an obstacle when our dietary department was contracted out to another dietary service. This activity is multidisciplinary and requires all the departments to be united in making it successful. We recently resumed the management of our dietary department and this problem has been corrected. We would suggest for another facility starting this program to begin identifying the male sponsors and family members who visit frequently. Ask them to join the Rooster Club and invite them to breakfast. Encourage them to bring a friend from the community. This is how we started our program and we continue to have participation from several of the men who were among the founding members of our program in 2009 even after their loved ones have passed.

***What was the cost to implement our Best Practice?***

The cost of implementing Rooster Club was included in the facility budget. The activities department included seasonal decorations in their budget. The dietary expense was approximately \$2 per person to provide breakfast for the men from the community. No extra staff was used. Administration and management staff help serve the men. So there is no staff expense. To make our men feel special, the facility purchased dishes with roosters on them for approximately \$50. However, this is not a necessary expense.

***What are the reasons you consider this Best Practice to be excellent and innovative?***

Activities for our male residents are always a challenge, as is getting the community to be involved in the facility. We believe Rooster Club meets both these challenges with minimal expense to the facility. We believe this activity has enhanced the lives of both the men in our facility as well as the men in our community.



