

COMMUNITYLINE

A PUBLICATION OF HODAN COMMUNITY SERVICES, INC. | FALL/WINTER 2019 | VOLUME XV, ISSUE 2



INSIDE: COMMUNITY EMPLOYMENT



It is the mission of Hodan Community Services, Inc. to provide and promote opportunities for work and personal development so that persons with disabilities can achieve individual life goals.

Upcoming Calendar

Thanksgiving Potluck Luncheon,
Volunteer Recognition &
Client-Employee Awards
Wednesday, November 27th

Thanksgiving Holiday
(HCS closed)
Thursday & Friday
November 28 and 29

Christmas Holidays
(HCS closed)
Tuesday, December 24, 2019
through Wednesday, January 1, 2020

Hodan Community Services
Programs resume on:
Thursday, January 2, 2020

Board of Directors 2019

Bob Boyle • Chair

Earl Barnes • Vice-Chair

Brad Wells • Secretary/Treasurer

Members:

Judy Fillback • Montfort

Margaret Galle • Mineral Point

Laura Jenkins • Darlington

Sherry Kudronowicz • Gratiot

Jerry Larson • Platteville

Tim McKinley • Dodgeville

Curt Peterson • Dodgeville

Lori Pittz • Mineral Point

Linda Rowley • Mineral Point

COMMUNITYLINE is published
two times a year by Hodan
Community Services, Inc. Available
in alternative formats by request.

Call (608) 987-3336.

Editor: Denise Ostergrant

Hodan Community Services

941 West Fountain Street

Mineral Point, WI 53565

Phone: (608) 987-3336

Fax: (608) 987-3082

Email: hodancs@mhtc.net

Website: www.hodancs.org

FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR:



Hodan Community Services has been fortunate in its 47 years of existence to have strong leadership at the top of the organization. For the last three years Tom Schmit has served as our Executive Director, a second career that he will tell you he never expected. Tom made a concerted effort to further our community based services in his time as Executive Director and we are very fortunate that he will be continuing at Hodan in the Community Employment department on a part-time basis. We cannot thank Tom enough for his leadership and his continued service to our mission.

Hodan is guided by its mission, a mission that holds as true today, as it did when it was written.

“It is the Mission of Hodan Community Services, Inc. to provide and promote opportunities for work and personal development so that persons with disabilities can achieve individual life goals.”

We continue to strive to meet our mission, but where and how we provide services is quickly changing. There is a push to have more community based services and we have made strides to meet these demands. Our work floor and the Wisconsin Innovation Kitchen give our consumers real hands-on opportunities to develop work skills that they can translate to community employment. We also provide cleaning services to nine local organizations and businesses. All of our work service programs exist to lead to community employment, which will be covered more in depth in the featured article of this issue. As well, our Bargain Nooks, whose goal is to provide funds towards our mission, can offer community employment opportunities for persons with disabilities.

Our day services programs have taken great strides to have numerous weekly outings. Between Enrichment and Activities and Shades of Silver our consumers can regularly be seen at local libraries, the Mississippi River Museum, shopping at garage sales, participating at local senior citizen events, and hiking or fishing at our local state parks.

Our Supportive Home Care program allows our consumers to live independently in the community. These services involve helping consumers grocery shop, prepare meals, schedule/attend medical appointments, and light duty cleaning.

While we are happy with the steps we have taken towards more community based services, we are far from satisfied. With input from our consumers, and support from our dedicated staff, we will continue to become more integrated into our communities.

Lastly, thank you to all those who have supported and continue to support our mission.

Chris Mitchell, Executive Director

STAFF CHANGES **Julie Hedstrom:** part-time Clerk, Bargain Nook M
Mark Rasmussen: Bus Driver • **Lillian Jungels:** part-time Clerk, Bargain Nook Moun
Tina Yerke: part-time Clerk, Bargain Nook Mineral Point **Miranda Muchow:** Support

STAFF MEMBER PROFILE:

Ray Guenther



Ray Guenther has worked as our Assistant Director of Food Service for over ten years. He has helped our Wisconsin Innovation Kitchen to achieve its success as a local foods processing leader in southwestern Wisconsin. Above all, he is respected and loved by all of his co-workers at the Kitchen.

Ray was born in Fairfield, California on an air force base where his father was stationed. He grew up in Iowa and graduated from West Union High School in that state. He enjoyed sports, but started working regularly at H & H Foodservice in West Union at age 16. He worked in shipping and receiving and then sales (covering southwestern Wisconsin) for 33 years total. He left H & H in May, 2009 to join our Hodan food team.

Ray has been married to Diane for almost 19 years and together they have a family of four children (Adam, Michelle, Alan, and Ryan) and 8 grandchildren (7 girls and a recently born baby boy). They also have a dog named Abby and a cat named Kit at their home in rural Fennimore.

Ray loves the outdoors and does a lot of fishing and hunting in his spare time. He especially enjoys fishing trips with Diane and others to Minnesota. Ray is also a sports fan of the Chicago Cubs and the Oakland Raiders and Green Bay Packers.

We thank Ray for his dedication, hard work, great sense of humor, and especially for his kind heart. ●

CLIENT-EMPLOYEE PROFILE:

Ben Meyer



Ben came to HCS as a referral from Division of Vocational Rehabilitation for assistance in finding community employment. Through HSC, he obtained a job with Saether's Funeral Home in Blanchardville in April of 2016. He assists them in cleaning, taking out the trash, and setting up chairs for services and other events. In 2017, he took a second job with RBS Activewear in Argyle. He cleans, vacuums, and takes out the trash there as well.

In 2018, Ben started attending HCS and currently comes two days per week. He participates in our Adult Education classes, and is one of our "go to" clients when help is needed for our cleaning crews performing work at various businesses in and around Mineral Point.

His employment has given Ben the opportunity not only to gain meaningful work skills, but he has also developed friendships with his co-workers. He enjoys meeting new people, and being part of the team and getting the job done on time.

Keep up the good work, Ben! ●

2019 EMAIL DIRECTORY

- Chris Mitchell, Executive Director
cmitchell@hodancs.org
- Tom Schraeder,
Director of Development
tschraeder@hodancs.org
- Tom Schmit, Community Employment
Consultant • tjschmit@hodancs.org
- Cheryl Greenwood,
Assistant Director of Work Services
cgreenwood@hodancs.org
- Vicki Clark, Employment Specialist
vclark@hodancs.org
- Jamie Potterton, Deputy Director/
Case Manager
jpotterton@hodancs.org
- Lauren Graber, Employment Specialist
lgraber@hodancs.org
- Melissa Gile, Employment Specialist
mgile@hodancs.org
- Roxanne Harris, Director of
Enrichment Activities/Case
Management • rharris@hodancs.org
- Karen Wells, Director of Retail Sales
kawells@hodancs.org
- Mary Gordon, Director of Senior
Services • mgordon@hodancs.org
- DeAnna Halverson,
Assistant Director of Senior Services
dhalverson@hodancs.org
- Diane Kliebenstein,
Director of Transportation
dkliebenstein@hodancs.org
- Bob Pilling, Assistant Director of
Transportation • bpilling@hodancs.org
- Tina Mitchell, Director of Business
Services • tmitchell@hodancs.org
- Pat Stacey, Assistant Director of
Business Services
pstacey@hodancs.org
- Denise Ostergrant, Business Office
Assistant • dostergrant@hodancs.org
- Kent Genthe, Director of Food Service
kgenthe@hodancs.org
- Summer Hamille, Marketing Specialist
shamille@hodancs.org
- Steve Arn, Director of Operations
sarn@hodancs.org

ount Horeb • **Deb Custer:** part-time Cook • **Heloise Idstein:** part-time Clerk, Bargain Nook Spring Green
nt Horeb • **Jean Muller:** part-time Clerk, Bargain Nook Platteville • **Alaya Hummel:** part-time Clerk, Bargain Nook Platteville
rted Home Care • **Chris Mitchell:** transferred from Deputy Executive Director to Executive Director

COMMUNITY EMPLOYMENT

Hodan Community Services has been a strong supporter of community integrated employment for many years. Together in partnership with the Wisconsin Division of Vocational Rehabilitation (DVR) we have been able to help many individuals reach their employment goals.

Our community employment team offers a variety of services to high school students as a vendor for DVR. We provide job shadows to businesses of interest so students have the opportunity to explore potential careers options. We establish temporary work sites, and permanent job placements in accordance with the consumer's job interests. In addition, we can also provide job coaching and follow-along services to assist students as they learn to work. In conjunction with DVR Counselors we individualize services to assist individuals reach their employment goals.

Hodan Community Services offers vocational skills training. This is a work readiness program that combines class lecture, business tours and community job trails to prepare individuals for competitive, integrated employment. Program outcomes include: resume and reference building, identifying job interests and potential job sites. We also assist

individuals with connecting to other programs/services i.e., the Aging and Disability Resource Center and DVR.

Hodan Community Services also teaches a class through the Division of Vocational Rehabilitation that focuses on high school age students. The basic structure of the class consists of hands-on, engaging activities that focus on six key skills areas: communications, enthusiasm, attitude, teamwork, networking, problem solving, critical thinking and professionalism.

A few years ago Hodan Community Services was asked to participate in an exciting new program in Southwest Wisconsin, Project SEARCH. This was a program that was being established at UW-Platteville.

So what is Project SEARCH??

Project SEARCH was established at the Cincinnati Children's Hospital Medical Center. In 1996 the hospital which served individuals with disabilities felt they should also hire individuals with disabilities to work there. Since its beginning Project SEARCH has grown to be a national and international program. The program focuses on employment preparation and takes place entirely at the workplace, a business or institution. Southwest Wisconsin is so fortunate that UW-Platteville agreed to be the host workplace and is in its second year.

The goal for participants is to acquire competitive employment at the end of the program. The program



is for one year and is frequently geared to students in their last year of high school. The program can also be tailored to serve recent high school graduates and young adults.

The program is staffed by a special education teacher and skills trainers to meet the educational and training needs of the participants.

The program consists of one hour of class room time each day focusing on employment skills such as team building, work place safety, self-advocacy, financial planning and preparing for employment. The remainder of the day the interns participate in work which allows them to rotate through three different experiences throughout the year. Collaboration between the teacher, skills trainer and business partner is key to successful internships.

Of course the ultimate goal of the program is competitive employment. Towards the end of the program, interns will focus their strengths and interests complete their career profiles and begin to work more closely with their DVR Counselor and job developer in order to take the next steps to reach their employment goals.

Project SEARCH at UW Platteville is truly a beneficial program for our area. Hodan Community Services provides the skills trainers and job development services.

Although many of these services appear to be focused on youth, Hodan Community Services assists all age groups and individual abilities in achieving their employment goals. ●

Community Employment Partners

THANKS TO:

- A&W in Dodgeville
- A&W in Platteville
- Alliant Energy in Mineral Point
- Bargain Nooks
- Barnscrapers in Mineral Point
- BEC Controls in Mineral Point
- Citgo in Montfort
- Cobb Library
- Cobb Methodist Church
- Country Kitchen in Platteville
- Culvers in Dodgeville
- Culvers in Platteville
- Cummins Emissions Solutions in Mineral Point
- Deer Valley Lodge in Barneveld
- Dodgeville Library
- First United Methodist Church in Mineral Point
- Grey Dog Deli in Mineral Point
- Hartzell's IGA in Warren, IL
- Hollandale Grocery
- Hollandale Legion Hall
- Hope Lutheran Church in Mineral Point
- House on the Rock Inn in Dodgeville
- Kwik Trip in Cuba City
- Kwik Trip in Dodgeville
- Kwik Trip in Mineral Point
- Kwik Trip in Platteville
- Lafayette County Health Department
- Midway Bar and Grill in Mineral Point
- Midway Lanes in Mineral Point/Dodgeville
- Millennium Cinema in Platteville
- Mineral Point Library
- New Horizons in Darlington
- Piggly Wiggly in Dodgeville
- Pit Stop in Mineral Point
- Platteville School District
- Point Foods in Mineral Point
- Popolo's Pizza in Mineral Point
- Premier Cooperative in Mineral Point
- RBS Activewear in Argyle
- Saether's Funeral Home in Blanchardville
- Upland Hills Hospital in Dodgeville
- UW-Platteville
- Walker House in Mineral Point
- Walmart in Dodgeville



SECOND ANNUAL ERICKSON GOLF OUTING IS A GREAT SUCCESS!

The Second Annual Alex and Kelsi Erickson Golf Outing for Hodan Community Services was a great success...in so many ways. 184 golfers (including honorary hosts Alex and Kelsi, as well as two HCS client-employee golfers) teed off at the Dodge Point Country Club near Mineral Point beginning at 10:00am and concluded rounds by 4:30pm. This "Inclusive Event" had client-employees greeting, thanking, and cheering on golfers at four different holes.



Following a "Happy Hour" with accompanying music, a delicious steak and chicken dinner was served to about 280 attendees, including golfers and many HCS client-employees and their families. Golfing awards were presented, including the winning golfing foursome: Bill Mitchell, Tom Mitchell, Jon Mitchell and Josh Mitchell. Over 30 door prizes were awarded which were donated by local businesses. A 50-50 raffle winner was announced as well as high bidders for 25 terrific silent auction items. The evening concluded with a live auction of five select items. The final item live auctioned was an autographed, framed Alex Erickson jersey. Alex announced that he would match dollars of the high bidder for this item. After spirited bidding, with the help of volunteer auctioneers from On Point Auction Service, Steve Fink from See-Mor Grain had the final high bid of \$3500 (which was then matched by the Ericksons). Steve Fink then announced that he wanted the framed jersey given to Hodan Community Services for display in honor of our client-employees! It now hangs proudly in our Center's reception area for all to see.

All told, this one-day special event's golfing and activities **raised over \$44,000 for Hodan Community Services**, which over doubled last year's profit! It was a truly special and inclusive day and evening that will be long remembered by all in attendance. Excitement is already building for next year's **Third Annual event to be held on Saturday, June 27, 2020.** ●

USDA THREE YEAR GRANT AIDS WISCONSIN INNOVATION KITCHEN

Wisconsin Innovation Kitchen (WINK) has just finished its first year of a three year grant it received from the USDA. The grant was one of only two Wisconsin funded projects by the USDA's Local Food Promotion Program for the grant period of October, 2018 to September, 2021. The \$488,315 grant helps to fund staff marketing of local food products made at WINK as well as the cost for various new food processing equipment items. **Pictured below is Paul Bailie bottling Bob's Bitchin' BBQ Sauce with our new automatic liquid filling machine at Wisconsin Innovation Kitchen.**

The three goals of the grant are:

- ☞ To expand the capacity of Wisconsin Innovation Kitchen for existing and new local food growers/entrepreneurs through new equipment, technologies, and efficiencies;
- ☞ To work with new local food entrepreneurs/enterprises/organizations that source ingredients from local and regional growers; and
- ☞ To begin/increase local food processing of new/existing products, as a result of new sales/distribution channels into retail and wholesale opportunities.

Any local food grower or entrepreneur who would like to learn more about working with our Wisconsin Innovation Kitchen should call Kent Genthe at 608-987-3558 or email him at kgenthe@hodancs.org. ●





When you shop with us at **BARGAIN NOOK**

You are creating revenues for Hodan Community Services to provide and promote opportunities for work and personal development so that persons with disabilities can achieve individual life goals ... and **WE THANK YOU!**

2019 BARGAIN NOOK HOLIDAY HOURS:

Closed Thanksgiving Day - Thu, Nov 28
Close at 1 p.m. Christmas Eve - Tue, Dec 24
Closed Christmas Day - Wed, Dec 25
Close at 1 p.m. New Year's Eve - Tue, Dec 31
Closed New Year's Day - Wed, Jan 1, 2020
Closed for Inventory - Thu, Jan 2, 2020

STORE HOURS:

Monday - Friday: 10 to 5:30
Saturday: 10 to 5
Sunday: Noon to 4

Open 7 days a week at the following locations:

Mineral Point Platteville Spring Green
Darlington Mount Horeb



BARGAIN NOOK GIFT CARDS

Available in any \$\$ amount
Perfect for the holiday gift-giving season!
(They are rechargeable too!)



CONGRATULATIONS

SAL!

on your 40 Years with Hodan & Bargain Nook!
Thank you for your hard work & dedication!

The Hodan Legacy

HODAN COMMUNITY SERVICES, INC.
PLANNED GIVING



Named in honor of Tom Hodan, *The Hodan Legacy* is a group of devoted friends of Hodan Community Services, Inc. Everyone is welcome to join *The Hodan Legacy*. With planned gifts, those who value our mission can contribute to establishing a strong future-sighted direction for our services.

The Hodan Legacy recognizes friends of Hodan Community Services who have established a life income gift, charitable remainder trust, have included us in their wills, or have named Hodan Community Services in any other type of estate plan, such as a gift of life insurance or real estate. Planned gifts and bequests to Hodan Community Services may provide significant benefits not only to us, but to you and your family as well.

List of Hodan Legacy Members:

Joen Greenwood*
Herb and Irene Harris*
Becky Heck
Jeff and Theresa Helm
Florence Herman*

Mary and Ted Hodan
Harry and Patricia Ivey*
Dorothy Meisenheimer
Bob and Marianne Monson
Paul Radtke*

Lyle Rees*
Al* and Chris Revenig
Grace* and Bob Schmid
Tom and Trici Schraeder

Carolyn and Stephen
Van De Wiel
Jim and Kandy Wallace

*deceased

If you have already included Hodan Community Services in your estate plans, if you would like to become a member of *The Hodan Legacy*, or have questions about planned giving, please contact Tom Schraeder, Development Director at 608.987.3336 or e-mail: tschraeder@hodancs.org.

Ten tips to leaving a legacy

1. Prepare a will.
2. Consider your loved ones first, and then reflect on those not-for-profit organizations that have had a significant impact on your life, such as Hodan Community Services.
3. Specify a dollar amount or percentage of assets in your will to Hodan Community Services, and other not-for-profit organizations dear to you.
4. Consider bequeathing appreciated stocks or other assets for your charitable gift.
5. Name Hodan Community Services as the beneficiary of your IRA or pension plan.
6. Purchase a new life insurance policy naming Hodan Community Services as the beneficiary.
7. Name Hodan Community Services as the beneficiary of an existing life insurance policy.
8. Create a trust, with the guidance of your financial planner, that serves both your estate and Hodan Community Services.
9. Remember loved ones with memorial gifts.
10. Know that every legacy gift to Hodan Community Services, Inc., large and small, is acknowledged and appreciated.